

# RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS - October

# **TAMIL NADU**

- ➤ The Tamil Nadu government is planning to conduct its first Chennai International Book Fair in January 2023
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation (TNTESC) will
  host the first edition during the annual Chennai book fair to be held next year
- ✓ The book fair will be set up on the lines of Frankfurt book fair
- ✓ A five-member team, including director of public libraries K Elambahavath, T Sankara Saravanan, joint director (translations), TNTESC, writer Azhi Senthilnathan, visited Germany recently and studied Frankfurt book fair.
- ✓ The three-day fair with several events, including talks and interaction with authors, meeting of publishers, will witness the participation from 30 to 40 countries
- ✓ The international pavilion will give an opportunity for foreign authors to exhibit and promote their books, national culture, and meet the leading Tamil publishers.
- ✓ The state government is planning to rope in international authors and Nobel laureates as guests of honour for the book fair
- ✓ It will also have an event called 'rights hub' where participants, including publishers, literary agents and authors, can sell or buy rights of books.
- ✓ Further, the state government plans to unveil its global translation grant programme during the event.
- ✓ A non-Tamil publisher from any country or Indian state can apply for funding to translate a work of fiction or non-fiction from Tamil.
- ✓ As part of the fair, a one-day international conference on "Tamil and Global Book Publishing Trends" is also planned to be held.
- ✓ The Textbook Corporation has identified more than 200 titles for joint publishing or selling of rights with reputed national and international publishers in the coming years.
- ✓ The international book fair is likely to be the launchpad for this project.

#### **NATIONAL**

- ➤ On October 30, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for the manufacturing plant of C-295 transport aircraft in Vadodara, Gujarat
- ✓ Defence minister Rajnath Singh, civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Gujarat chief minister Bhupendrabhai Patel will be present during the event
- ✓ European aviation major Airbus and India's TATA group will jointly manufacture at least 40 C-295 transport aircraft in India as part of Rs 21,935-crore deal
- ✓ After the first 40 twin-turboprop C-295s, the joint Tata-Airbus project will also manufacture more such aircraft for the armed forces and civil operators as well as for exports in the future.
- ✓ This is the first time, a private firm Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), the
  defence arm of the TATA group has been entrusted to manufacture an entire
  aircraft for the military, breaking the virtual monopoly of defence PSU Hindustan
  Aeronautics Limited
- ✓ This is the first time the C-295 aircraft will be manufactured outside of Europe On September 24, 2021, India signed a deal with Airbus Defence and Space to procure 56 C-295 transport aircraft to replace the ageing Avro-748 planes of the Indian Air Force (IAF)

#### IAF TO INDUCT 56 C-295s FROM SEPT

- ➤ 16 C-295s will be delivered in flyaway condition by Airbus Defence and Space (Spain) between Sept 2023 and Aug 2025 under Rs 21,935-crore deal for 56 medium-transport aircraft
- Remaining 40 to be built at Tata-Airbus facility in Vadodara
- ➤ First C-295 squadron will be raised in Vadodara to replace old Avro-748 fleet
- ➤ Joint Tata-Airbus project will also manufacture more such aircraft for armed forces and civil operators as well as for

- exports. 'Effort will be to make the facility the MRO hub for C-295 variants in the region,' defence secy Ajay Kumar said
- > C-295 can carry up to 9 tonnes of payload, or 71 soldiers, or 44 paratroopers; is extremely versatile with 'short take-off and landing capability from semi-prepared surfaces in hilly terrain', Kumar said
- ➤ Tata-Airbus project was pending for around a decade before CCS approval for buying 56 C-295s in Sept last year
- ✓ The 'Avro replacement programme' will require TASL to develop an entire industrial ecosystem - from manufacture, assembly, testing and qualification, to delivery and maintenance over the aircraft's lifecycle.
- ✓ Under the agreement, Airbus will deliver the first 16 aircraft in 'fly-away' condition from its final assembly line in Seville, Spain within four years between September 2023 to August 2025
- ✓ The subsequent 40 aircraft will be manufactured and assembled by the TASL in India as part of an industrial partnership between the two firms.

- ✓ The induction of 56 of these new-generation planes in the 2023-2031 timeframe will boost IAF's tactical airlift capability along the border with China and in the Andaman Nicobar archipelago.
- ✓ All 56 aircraft will be fitted with indigenous Electronic Warfare suite manufactured by Bharat Electronics Ltd and Bharat Dynamics Limited.
- ✓ The aircrafts would be tested as an integrated system by the TATA Consortium
  and will also be delivered through self-certification, a first for the country
- ✓ This contract is expected to support the development of India's aerospace ecosystem, bringing investment and 15,000 skilled direct jobs and 10,000 indirect positions over the coming decade
- ✓ The regulatory approval for the ambitious programme was accorded by the Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance (DGAQA) last week.
- ✓ The C295 is known to be a superior aircraft which can carry up to 9-tonne of payload or up to 71 soldiers or 50 paratroopers
- ✓ It can be used for logistic operations in locations that are not accessible to current heavier aircraft.
- ✓ The aircraft can airdrop paratroops and loads, and also be used for casualty or medical evacuation.
- ✓ The aircraft is capable of performing special missions as well as disaster response and maritime patrol duties
- ✓ The Indian Air Force will be the 35th operator of the C-295 worldwide
- ✓ Countries like UAE, Philippines, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Indonesia among others operate the C-295 aircraft in the neighbourhood.
- ✓ The first C-295 squadron will also be raised at Vadodara to replace the old Avro-748 fleet there.

# **CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

➤ Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah – presided over the first day of a two-day 'Chintan Shivir' (brainstorming session) on internal security at Surajkund, Haryana on October 27.



- ✓ Chief Ministers of eight states and home ministers and deputy chief ministers of 16 states gathered at the event.
- ✓ The event was attended by Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Kerala, Assam, Goa, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Manipur and Tripura-- all having charges of Home Ministry in their respective states.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address Chintan Shivir of home ministers of states on October 28 via video conferencing.
- ✓ Lieutenant Governors and Administrators of Union Territories, Home Secretaries and Director Generals of Police (DGPs) of the States and Director Generals of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Central Police Organisations (CPOs) will attend the Chintan Shivir.
- ✓ The Chintan Shivir will deliberate on issues like modernisation of police forces, cybercrime management, increased use of IT in the criminal justice system, land border management, coastal security, women safety, drug trafficking, among others
- ✓ The aim of the conference is also to facilitate national policy-making and better planning and coordination in the above-mentioned areas
- ✓ The event is organized with the objective to prepare an action plan for the implementation of 'Vision 2047' and 'Panch Pran' announced in the Independence Day speech of PM Modi.

# DEFENCE

> President Droupadi Murmu - presented the Silver Trumpet and Trumpet Banner to the President's Bodyguard, celebrating 250 years of its raising, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on October 27.



- ✓ The unit is the oldest regiment in the Army, having been raised as the Governor-General's Bodyguard (later the Viceroy's Bodyguard) in 1773 by then governorgeneral Warren Hastings.
- ✓ As the President's own guard, it has the unique distinction of being the only Army unit privileged to carry the Silver Trumpet and Trumpet Banner.
- ✓ Rather than a coat of arms, as was the practice in the colonial era, the monogram of the President appears on the Banner

### **SPORTS**

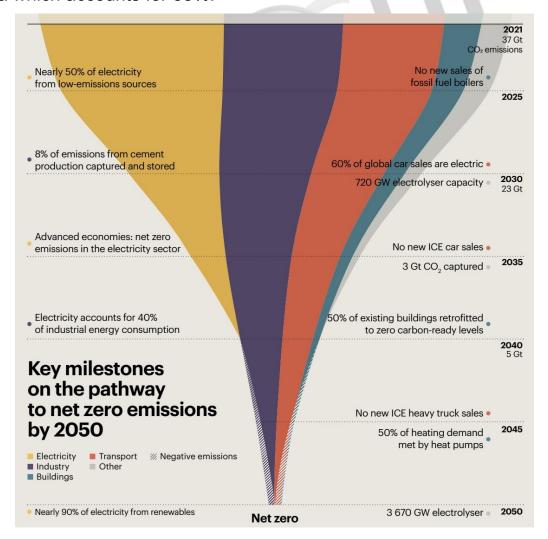
- ➤ On October 27, the BCCI announced that it is introducing equal match fee for India's centrally contracted male and female cricketers for international appearances.
- ✓ The decision in this regard was taken at the BCCI Apex Council emergent meeting held on October 27
- ✓ According to BCCI secretary Jay Shah, the step has been taken to tackle discrimination between women and men players
- ✓ As per the newly introduced system, the Indian women's cricketers will now receive Rs 15 lakh per Test, Rs 6 lakh per ODI, and Rs 3 lakh per T20I, the same as their male counterparts.
- ✓ Earlier, the women players received Rs 1 lakh each for ODIs and T20Is while the match fee for a Test match was Rs 4 lakh
- ✓ India is now just the second country in world cricket after New Zealand to introduce pay parity for its male and female cricketers.
- ✓ On July 5 this year, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) had announced that New Zealand's men and women players would be paid the same match fees across all formats and competitions
- ✓ Recently, the Indian women's cricket team triumphed in the Asia Cup in Bangladesh, beating Sri Lanka by eight wickets.
- ✓ The team also won the country's first-ever silver medal in cricket at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham earlier this year.
- ✓ In the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) of BCCI, the cricket board also announced the first-ever women's IPL that is scheduled to take place in March 2023

#### **WORLD ENERGY OUTLOOK - REPORT**

➤ On October 27, the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) - released its World Energy Outlook 2022 report, which stated that global emissions will peak in 2025.



- ✓ Talking specifically about India, the 524-page report stated that the primary challenge for the country is going to be about meeting its rising electricity demand.
- ✓ India's coal generation and oil imports are going to peak in 2030, while gas imports will double around the same time, says the report
- ✓ The report predicts India's energy demand to rise at more than 3% annually from 2021 to 2030 in the stated policy scenario (STEPS), as it becomes the world's most populous country by 2025
- ✓ India meets more than 80% of oil and 50% of gas demand through imports.
- ✓ The country spent \$145 billion in 2021-22 for importing crude and refined products alone, up from \$119 billion in the pre-pandemic 2019-20 fiscal.
- ✓ By 2030, renewables will supply 35% of all electricity, meeting more than 60% of the increase in demand for energy, says the report
- ✓ The report revealed that India became the world's second-largest coal producer in 2021 (in energy terms), overtaking Australia and Indonesia
- ✓ At present, India accounts for just over 10% of global coal consumption, after China which accounts for 55%.



✓ The IEA's World Energy Outlook report, published annually, captures the world's energy trends and transitions and predicts future trajectories.

- ✓ The report has been released just days ahead of the upcoming COP27 summit November 6 and 18 at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt under its Presidency
  - ✓ This is the fifth time that a Conference of the Parties (COP) is being held in Africa
  - ✓ The COP presidency rotates among 5 UN regions Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe and Western Europe and others
  - ✓ The COP27 will focus on three main objectives emission reduction, help countries prepare and respond to climate change and provide technical aid and funding for developing countries to respond to climate change.
- ✓ In COP26, organised in Glasgow in 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India will meet the net zero emissions target by 2070.
- ✓ Among other majors, China pledged carbon neutrality by 2060 and the US and EU aimed to do so by 2050.
- ✓ The Conference of Parties (COP) is the apex decision making body responsible
  for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the United Nations Framework
  Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

