

RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-September

TAMIL NADU

➤ On September 15, Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated the free nutritious breakfast scheme for government primary school students at Aadhimoolam corporation primary school in Madurai.



- ✓ The scheme will cover 1,545 primary schools across the state at a cost of Rs.33.5 crore and benefit over 1.14 lakh children of classes I to V in the first phase.
- ✓ Atleast 43,600 students studying in municipal corporation schools, 17,400 students in schools in the municipalities, 42,800 students in village panchayat limits and more than 10,100 students in remote and hilly areas are likely to benefit through the scheme
- ✓ Students will be served different varieties of upma, kichadi, pongal, and on Fridays, rava kesari or semiya kesari will be provided
- ✓ Under the scheme, every student is to be provided a cooked meal of 150-500 grams breakfast with sambar with vegetables

- ✓ The breakfast will be prepared with millets available in the region and the schools can choose from the menu to frame their own package for five days a week, as per the students' health and requirement.
- ✓ The scheme was rolled out on the 114th birth anniversary of DMK founder and Dravidian stalwart, C.N. Annadurai
- ✓ Its implementation will be monitored by district and school level committees comprising officials of various government departments.



- ✓ The government is spending Rs 12.75 per child for breakfast, according to the CM.
- ✓ During the event, the CM released a souvenir tracing the food programmes implemented in government-run schools in Tamil Nadu for about a century and social activist Kamalathal received the first copy.
- ✓ The CM also honoured 85-year-old Kamalathal fondly known as 'idly paati' who sells an idli for Rs.1 each in Coimbatore.
- ✓ On May 7, 2022, on the occasion of completion of a year in office, CM Stalin had announced the scheme in the Tamil Nadu Assembly.
- ✓ The free breakfast scheme was part of the five major announcements made by the chief minister after the ruling DMK government's one year in office
- ✓ In Tamil, the scheme is named as "Mudalamaicharin Kaalai Unavu Thittam (Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme)."
- ✓ Tamil Nadu had pioneered the noon meal scheme in government schools, which was later replicated as mid-day meal across the country.
- ✓ In a first, the noon meal scheme was launched in 1922 in all the schools in Chennai Corporation by Mayor Pitti Theagarayar, stalwart of the Justice Party, which was the precursor to the Dravidian movement
- ✓ The British halted the noon meal scheme in the Madras Corporation citing the financial crunch
- ✓ Later, in March 1956, former Chief Minister K Kamaraj relaunched the noon meal scheme in primary schools across many districts
- ✓ AIADMK founder and former Chief Minister M G Ramachandran expanded the scheme further to include high schools and rechristened it as the Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme in 1982.

- ✓ In 1989, former Chief Minister Dr. Karunanidhi made an important change to the scheme by adding eggs to the school meal menu
- ✓ In 2007, during former Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa's tenure, she introduced a variety of rice to the students

STATES

- ➤ On September 15, Karnataka legislative council passed the contentious "anti-conversion bill"
- ✓ The 'Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill' was passed by the legislative assembly in December last.
- ✓ As the Bill was pending for passage in the legislative council, the government had promulgated an ordinance in May this year to give effect to the bill.
- ✓ The Bill provides for protection of right to freedom of religion and prohibition of unlawful conversion from one religion to another by misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means.
- ✓ It proposes an imprisonment from three to five years with a fine of Rs.25,000 for violation of the provisions
- ✓ In cases of violation of provisions with respect to minors, women, SC/ST, the offenders will face imprisonment from three to ten years and a fine of not less than Rs.50,000.
- ✓ The Bill also makes provisions for the accused to pay up to Rs.5 lakh as compensation to those who were made to convert
- ✓ Further, in cases of mass conversion, there shall be a 3-10 year jail term and a fine of up to Rs.1 lakh.
- ➤ On September 15, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) unanimously passed a resolution to name a medical college run by it in Maninagar after Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- ✓ Narendra Modi had represented Maninagar as an MLA for more than 11 years.
- ✓ The AMC MET Medical College, which runs from the campus of corporation-run LG Hospital, would now be known as Narendra Modi Medical College
- ✓ The college was built when Modi was the chief minister of Gujarat
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday will be celebrated on September 17

NATIONAL

- ➤ The Centre, Assam government and eight armed adivasi groups signed a tripartite agreement in New Delhi on September 5 to end the "decades-old crisis of adivasis and tea garden workers".
- ✓ Home minister Amit Shah and Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma were present during the signing ceremony
- ✓ The eight adivasi groups which together comprise 1,182 cadres are All Adivasi National Liberation Army (AANLA), AANLA (FG), Birsa Commando Force

(BCF), BCF (BT), Santhal Tiger Force, Adivasi Cobra Militant of Assam (ACMA), ACMA (FG) and Adivasi People's Army (APA).



The 8 groups have been on a ceasefire pact with the government of India since 2016.



- ✓ The tripartite agreement with the adivasi groups is the latest in the series of peace accords signed by the Centre and relevant state governments since 2014 with different insurgent groups in the northeast region
- ✓ The first agreement was related to the settlement with NLFT(SD) in 2019 followed by the Bru-Reang agreement and Bodo accord in 2020, Karbi Anglong pact in

- 2021, and the Assam-Meghalaya inter-state boundary agreement in March this year.
- ✓ As per the terms of the settlement, the armed adivasi cadres will give up violence, follow the rule of law, and join the peaceful democratic process.
- ✓ The Centre and the Assam government, in return, will -
 - ✓ fulfil the adivasi groups' political, economic and educational aspirations;
 - ✓ protect, preserve and promote their social, cultural, linguistic and ethnic identity;
 - ✓ ensure focused and rapid development of tea gardens and adivasi villages of Assam;
 - ✓ establish an adivasi welfare and development council;
 - ✓ rehabilitate armed cadres and ensure welfare of tea garden workers; and
 - ✓ provide a Rs.1,000 crore special development package for infrastructure upgrade in adivasi villages.

SUPREME COURT VERDICT

- ➤ On September 15, the Supreme Court quashed a decision of Pharmaceutical Council of India (PCI) to impose a five year moratorium on opening up of new colleges offering diploma and bachelor degrees in pharmacy
- ✓ The apex court had ruled that the fundamental right to establish educational institutions can't be curtailed through an executive order.
- ✓ On July 17, 2019, the PCI put a moratorium on opening of new pharmacy institutions for a period of five years from the academic year 2020-21.
- ✓ Later, it exempted the north-eastern states, government institutions and in states and UTs where D.Pharm and B.Pharm institutions were less than 50 in number.
- ✓ A bench of Justices B R Gavai and P S Narasimha said the PCI's resolution was in the nature of executive instructions and hence it could not curtail the sweep of Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution, which conferred a fundamental right on a person to establish an educational institution.

INTERNATIONAL

- ➤ On September 15, members of the European Parliament declared in a non-binding report that Hungary was no longer a "full" democracy, but a hybrid regime of electoral autocracy
- ✓ A resolution was passed against Hungary with the support of 433 members, while 123 members voted against the resolution with 28 abstentions.
- ✓ The lawmakers raised concerns about Hungary's constitutional and electoral systems, judicial independence, possible corruption, public procurement irregularities, LGBTQ+ rights, as well as media, academic and religious freedoms.
- ✓ The EU parliament further added that Hungary was in "serious breach" of the bloc's democratic norms



- ✓ It further added that the EU's Covid-19 recovery funds must be withheld from Hungary.
- ✓ The EU commission in the past also expressed displeasure over the prevailing corruption in Hungary.
- ✓ The bloc's executive arm, European Commission, is also expected to announce the suspension of payments of some EU money to Hungary over its alleged violations
- ✓ The lawmakers are blaming Hungary's Prime Minister Victor Orban for Hungary's decline
- ✓ Hungary responded furiously to the vote in the European Parliament
- ✓ Notably, Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban has close ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin.
- ✓ After the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Hungary maintained a pro-Russian approach.
- ✓ Last month, Russia started delivering additional gas to Hungary

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- ▶ Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Samarkand, Uzbekistan on September 15 to participate in the 22nd Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit
- ✓ During the summit, PM Modi will exchange views on topical, regional and international issues, the expansion of the SCO and further deepening cooperation within the grouping.
- ✓ Further, the Prime Minister will have bilateral meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi
- ✓ PM Modi and Putin are set to discuss the situation in the Asia-Pacific region and bilateral cooperation in the United Nations and G20.



- ✓ Under the Uzbek chairship, a number of decisions for mutual cooperation are likely to be adopted in areas of trade, economy, culture and tourism
- ✓ Chinese President Xi Jinping and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif are among the 15 world leaders attending the summit to be held on September 15 and 16.
- ✓ The SCO summit in Samarkand will have two sessions one restricted session
 which is only meant for the SCO member states and then there will be an
 extended session that is likely to see the participation of the observers and the
 special invitees of the chair country
- ✓ Notably, the SCO is holding its first in-person summit in Samarkand in Uzbekistan after two years
- ✓ India will preside in the UN Security Council in December and, in 2023, India will lead the SCO and will also chair the G20
- ✓ Launched in Shanghai in June 2001, the SCO has eight full members, including its six founding members, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- ✓ India and Pakistan joined as full members in 2017.

ECONOMY

- ➤ Fitch Ratings slashed its projection of India's economic growth to 7% for current fiscal year, citing elevated inflation levels and higher interest rates.
- ✓ The agency has released its Global Economic Outlook September 2022 on September 15
- ✓ In June, Fitch had projected India's GDP to grow by 7.8% in 2022-23
- ✓ The rating agency had also forecasted a slowdown in growth to 6.7% in FY24 from its earlier estimate of 7.4%.

✓ The GDP growth of 13.5% in April-June was below the agency's expectation of 18.5% increase during the quarter.

SPORTS

➤ Former World No.1 and the "Greatest of All Time", Roger Federer announced his retirement from international Tennis on September 15, 2022



- ✓ Laver Cup which begins on September 23, 2022, will be Roger Federer's final tournament.
- ✓ Federer, 41, ends his career with 20 Grand Slam titles, which includes 8 Wimbledon, 6 Australian, 5 US Open, and a solitary French Open title.
- ✓ He is the first person in the world to win 20 grand slam titles
- ✓ Federer also held numerous records like making it to 36 straight quarterfinals and 23 consecutive grand slam semifinals.
- ✓ Federer has won six ATP Finals, 28 ATP Masters titles, and 103 ATP singles championships.
- ✓ He had a singles record of 1251-275 (82%) in 1,526 ATP tour matches and played 223 doubles matches in his career

- ✓ Roger Federer won his first grand slam championship at Wimbledon in 2003 when he was just 21 years old by beating Mark Philippoussis in the final
- ✓ Federer became the oldest World No. 1 at the age of 36 in 2018
- ✓ He remained the World's No.1 player for 310 weeks, including 237 consecutive weeks between February 2004 and August 2008.
- ✓ With teammate Stan Wawrinka, the 41-year-old won the doubles gold medal at the 2008 Olympic Games.
- ✓ However, he lost the 2012 Olympic singles final to Andy Murray and finished with silver medal
- ✓ A winner of the 2014 Davis Cup, Federer has also won the Hopman Cup in 2001, 2018 and 2019.
- ✓ Federer's last Grand Slam crown came in 2018 when he defended the Australian Open crown
- ✓ Federer last played Grand Slam tennis in 2021 at the Wimbledon Championships and lost to Hubert Hurkacz in three straight sets in the quarterfinals
- ✓ The legendary Tennis player's wealth is estimated to be somewhere around \$550 million from a career that has earned him \$1 billion in endorsements and \$115 million from playing tennis

NUMBER ROLL

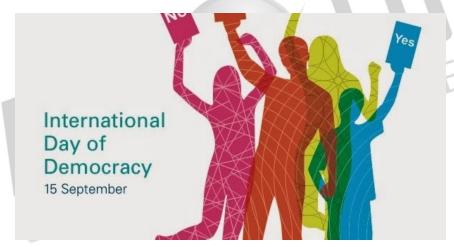
Enjoyed 41-match win streak (2006-07)
Reached 17 straight finals (2005-06)
Posted 24-final win streak (2003-05),
Won 24 straight matches vs. Top 10 (2003-05)
Earned 65 straight wins on grass (2003-08).

- ✓ Only Rafa Nadal (\$131 million) and Novak Djokovic (\$159 million) have registered more earnings from playing tennis as compared to Federer.
- ✓ The Swiss Maestro was associated with companies like Credit Suisse, Rolex, and Mercedes Benz and at the peak of his career used to earn \$94 million per year in endorsements alone.
- ✓ Federer signed a 10-year contract with Japanese fashion brand Uniqlo and was paid \$300 million to wear their apparel.
- ✓ Since January 2020, Federer has competed in five events and undergone three knee surgeries in the last two years
- ✓ Federer was nominated for the Sportsmanship Award for a record of 13 times and has won ATP Fan's Favourite for 17 consecutive years.
- ✓ He was named the ATP Player of the Year and ITF World Champion 5 times.
- ✓ He holds the record of being the only individual to win the BBC Overseas Sports Personality of the Year award 4 times

- ✓ Federer, a role model for innumerable people, set up the Roger Federer Foundation in 2003 and spends a good portion of his income in philanthropic activities.
- ✓ He was awarded an honourary doctorate degree by University of Basel Faculty of Medicine on 24 November 2017
- ✓ Later, Federer was honoured in 2021 with "The Federer Express," a tram named after him in Basel.
- ✓ The Laver Cup, a competition modelled after the Ryder Cup, was founded by Federer's management company, Team8.
- ✓ The Laver Cup is a men's tennis tournament that is contested between teams from Europe and the rest of the world.
- ✓ The fifth edition of the Laver Cup will be played on the indoor hard courts at The O2 Arena in London from 23 September to 25 September, 2022

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ International Day of Democracy - September 15



- ✓ The day is observed annually to strengthen democracies and highlight the participation of communities in their functioning.
- ✓ Democracy is essential for the protection and effective realization of human rights.
- ✓ The International Day of Democracy was established through a resolution passed by the UN General Assembly in 2007
- ✓ The idea of celebrating the International Day of Democracy arose from the Universal Declaration on Democracy, which was adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Council in its 161th session on September 16, 1997
- ✓ The first International Day of Democracy was observed by 46 national parliaments on September 15, 2008.
- ✓ Theme 2022 "the importance of media freedom to democracy, peace, and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals"

- ✓ This year, to mark International Day of Democracy, the UN office collaborated in partnership with the UN Democracy Fund to host a discussion in the SDG studio as part of the SDG Roundtable series
- ✓ This year also marks the 10th anniversary of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity
- ✓ UNESCO has reported that 85% of the world's population experienced a decline in press freedom in their country in the past five years.



