

# VETRIL IAS STUDY CIRCLE

## Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

**NOVEMBER 2022 - PART 1**



An ISO 9001: 2015 Institution | Providing Excellence Since 2011

### Head Office

Old No. 52, New No. 1, 9<sup>th</sup> Street,  
F Block, 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Main Road, (Near Istha Siddhi Vinayakar Temple), Anna Nagar East – 600 102.  
**Ph: 044-2626 5326 | 98844 21666 | 98844 32666**

### Branches

#### SALEM

No. 189/1, Meyanoor Road,  
Near ARRS Multiplex, (Near Salem  
New Bus Stand), Opp. Venkateshwara  
Complex, Salem - 636 004.  
**Ph: 0427-2330307 | 95001 22022**

#### TIRUNELVELI

No. 58, IVY Towers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,  
Palayamkottai, Near Palai Bus Stand,  
(Next to Muthamil Hospital),  
Tirunelveli - 627 002. **Ph: 91500 10079**

#### KOVAI

No. 347, D.S. Complex  
(3<sup>rd</sup> floor), Nehru Street,  
Near Gandhipuram Central Bus  
Stand, Ramnagar, Kovai - 641 009.  
**Ph: 75021 65390**

#### THANJAVUR

Muthu Complex, (Pantaloon  
Showroom Basement) No. 243, Cauvery  
Nagar, Opp. New Housing Unit,  
Thanjavur - 613 005.  
**Ph: 78711 69099 | 78715 71819**

#### MADURAI

No. 199, Dharshini Tower,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Vaigai Colony,  
Anna Nagar,  
Madurai - 625 020.  
**Ph: 91500 21999 | 91500 21998**

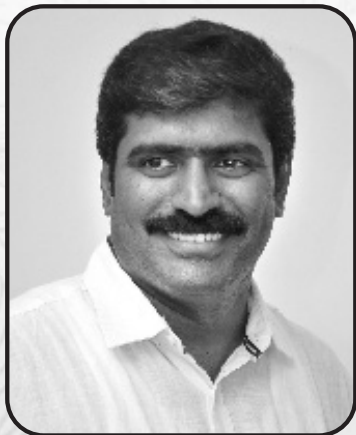
#### KOVILPATTI

No. 15, Kathiresan Kovil Road,  
Behind Kaliamman Temple,  
Kovilpatti - 628 501.  
**Ph: 90037 90335 | 81222 80685**

[www.vetriias.com](http://www.vetriias.com)

# ***Preface***

---



**M. SHUNMUGAM**

Director

Vetrii IAS Study Circle.

© All rights reserved with the publisher. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the written permission of the publisher, will be responsible for the loss and may be punished for compensation under copyright act.

My Dear Aspirants,

Greetings to all of you! "What we think we become" Gautama Buddha. We all have dreams. To make dreams come into reality it takes a lot of determination, dedication, self discipline and continuous effort.

We at VETRII IAS Study Circle are committed to provide the right guidance, quality coaching and help every aspirants to achieve his or her life's cherished goal of becoming a civil servant.

The class room coaching at VETRII IAS Study Circle is meticulously planned to equip the aspirants with all the relevant facts and fundamentals of the subjects. Further the VETRII IAS Study Circle Study materials aim to support the candidate by providing the most relevant study material in a comprehensive manner.

We also thank other family members of Vetrii for making this effort a reality.

We wish the aspirants ALL THE VERY BEST  
for their journey in Civil Services !

Published by:

**VETRI SHUNMUGAM PUBLICATION**

F Block New No. 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 9<sup>th</sup> Street,  
1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Main Road, Chinthamani,  
Anna Nagar (E), Chennai – 102.

Phone : 044-2626 5326

# CONTENTS

## HISTORY 01



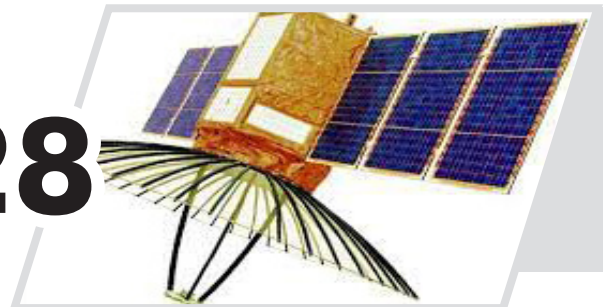
## 15 POLITICAL SCIENCE

## GEOGRAPHY 20



## 23 ECONOMICS

## SCIENCE 28



## NATIONAL-DIARY OF EVENT 30



## 39 INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## TAMILNADU AFFAIRS

# 40



# 1. HISTORY



## 1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>October 31</b>	<b>National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is observed every year on 31st October to mark the birth anniversary of the “Iron Man of India” <b>Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel</b>, who is endeared as ‘Sardar’.</li> <li>31st October 2022 marks the <b>147th birth anniversary</b> of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.</li> <li>It was celebrated for the <b>first time in 2014</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>October 31</b>	<b>World Cities Day (WCD)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cities Day is celebrated on <b>October 31</b> every year to highlight the need for international cooperation to promote global urbanisation and address its challenges.</li> <li>On <b>December 27, 2013</b>, the <b>United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)</b> established World Cities Day through a resolution. The first celebration took place on <b>October 31, 2014</b>.</li> <li>“<b>Better City, Better Life</b>” has been the general theme of World Cities Day since its inception, but each year, a sub-theme is also announced. The sub-theme for 2022 is “<b>Act Local to Go Global</b>.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Note</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The mission of SDG 11 is to “<b>Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b>.”</li> </ul>
<b>November 1-5</b>	<b>India Water Week</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The India Water Week was conceptualized and organized for the first time in 2012.</li> <li>India Water Week 2022 is the 7th edition and theme for 2022 is “<b>Water Security for sustainable development with equity</b>” .</li> </ul>



Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>November 3</b>	<b>Sadhaya Vizha</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raja Raja Cholan's birth anniversary is celebrated as '<b>Sadhaya Vizha</b>' by several organisations every year in Thanjavur district.</li> <li>The <b>Kalakattur Kadan Mainthan inscription</b> stands as evidence of the <b>good governance of Raja Raja Cholan</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>November 6</b>	<b>International Day for preventing the exploitation of the environment in War and Armed conflict</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 5 November 2001, the UNG General Assembly declared 6 November of each year as the International Day for preventing the exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed conflict.</li> </ul>
<b>November 7</b>	<b>Infant Protection Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The day is celebrated to spread awareness about the measures to be taken to save the lives of infants and provide sufficient protection and care.</li> </ul>
<b>November 9</b>	<b>National Legal Services Day 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The day aims to raise awareness about various provisions of the Legal Services Authorities Act and litigants' rights.</li> <li>The day was first observed by the Supreme Court of India in 1995.</li> </ul> <p><b>About NALSA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted on November 9, 1995, under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 the provisions of Article 39A (provisions of equal justice and free legal aid.) and to organise Lok Adalats. The chief justice of India serves as the patron-in-chief of NALSA.</li> </ul>
<b>November 10</b>	<b>World Science Day for Peace and Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme 2022 - Basic Sciences Sustainable Development</li> </ul>
<b>November 11</b>	<b>National Education Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Education Day is celebrated every year to commemorate the birth Anniversary of India's first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.</li> <li>Theme 2022 - Changing Course , Transforming Education.</li> </ul>
<b>November 12</b>	<b>World Pneumonia Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The day dedicated to spread awareness among people to understand the need to stand together and demand action in the fight against this disease.</li> <li>Theme 2022 - Championing the fight to stop pneumonia.</li> </ul>



Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>November 13</b>	<b>World Kindness Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The day is observed to inspire and encourage people to show greater kindness to one another in the hope of creating a fairer, better world.</li> <li>The first World Kindness Day took place in 1998 and was organised by the non-profit organization: World Kindness Movement (WKM).</li> <li>Theme 2022 - Be kind whenever is possible</li> </ul>
<b>November 14</b>	<b>World Diabetes Day 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme for 2022 : 'Access to diabetes education' which underpins the larger multi-year theme of 'access to care'.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India has an estimated 77 million people (1 in 11 Indians) clinically diagnosed with diabetes, which makes it the second most affected in the world, after China.</li> </ul>

## 1.2 DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

### India Participates in First-ever Trilateral Military Exercise with Mozambique & Tanzania

- India participates in the first edition of the 3-day India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral exercise (IMT TRILAT).
- The Indian Navy has participated in the Maiden Trilateral Exercise with Mozambique and Tanzania.
- Indian Navy Participates in Maiden Trilateral Exercise with Mozambique and Tanzania.
- The exercise has three main objectives including capability development to address common threats through training and sharing of best practices, enhancing interoperability, and strengthening maritime cooperation.
- The exercises will be held in two phases - Harbour phase and sea phase.

#### About Mozambique

- Capital - Maputo
- President - Filipe Nyusi

#### About Tanzania

- Capital - Dodoma

- President - Samia Suluhu Hassan
- Vice-President - Philip Mpango

### Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2022

- Royal Australian Navy ships HMAS Anzac, an Anzac-class frigate and HMAS Adelaide, a Canberra-class landing helicopter dock arrived in Visakhapatnam for participating in the 3rd edition of 'Indo-Pacific Endeavour (IPE) 2022' exercise with the Indian Navy (IN).
- Countries like India, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, Maldives, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Laos, Cambodia, and the Philippines will be participating in the exercise.

#### About IPE 2022

- IPE began in 2017 as an annual activity coordinated by the Australian Defence Force to deliver on the promise of the 2016 Defence White Paper to strengthen Australia's engagement and partnerships with regional security forces.
- It aims to promote security and stability in Australia's near region through bilateral and multilateral engagement, training and capacity building.

## DRDO tests Phase 2 of ballistic missile defence

- The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the maiden flight test of **Phase 2 of the ballistic missile defence (BMD) interceptor** missile successfully.
- The **AD1 is a longrange interceptor missile** designed for both low exoatmospheric and endoatmospheric interception of long range ballistic missiles as well as aircraft.
- It is propelled by a twostage solid motor and equipped with an indigenously developed advanced control system, navigation and guidance algorithm to precisely guide it to the target.
- The test was conducted at the **A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Island**.

### About DRDO

- Formation - 1958
- Functions under the **Minister of Defence - Rajnath Singh**.
- Chairman - **Dr Sameer V Kamath**.

## Indian Army Registers IPR for New Design & Camouflage Pattern Uniform

- The Army has obtained the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for its new combat uniform.
- The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademark, Kolkata completed the process of registration.
- The Indian Army now holds the exclusive "IPR" for the design and camouflage pattern.
- The new Digital Pattern Combat Uniform for the Indian Army soldiers was unveiled this Army Day on January 15, 2022.
- Workshops to train civil and military tailors in stitching the new uniform as per the specified design, are being organised in coordination with instructors from the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Delhi.

### Note

- Intellectual property rights (IPR) are the rights given to persons over the creations of their minds: inventions, literary and artistic works, and symbols, names and images used in commerce.

- The National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy 2016 was adopted in May 2016 as a vision document to guide future development of IPRs in the country.
- The Head Office of the Patent office is at Kolkata and its Branch offices are located at Chennai, New Delhi and Mumbai.
- India was ranked 40th position out of 132 in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022 rankings released by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

## Navy chiefs of Quad countries meet

- The **Navy chiefs of India, Australia, Japan and the U.S.**, which comprise the **Quadrilateral (Quad) grouping**, met in Japan and exchanged views on "further enhancing interoperability" in future editions of the Malabar multilateral naval exercise.
- **2022 marks 30 years of the Malabar Exercise**, which began as a bilateral exercise **between India and the U.S. in 1992**.
- Recently, **International Fleet Review (IFR)** was conducted by the **Japan Maritime Self Defence Force** at Yokosuka to commemorate the **70th anniversary of its formation**.
- Indian naval ships **Shivalik and Kamorta** arrived at **Yokosuka in Japan** to participate in the IFR and the Malabar Exercise.

### About QUAD

- The **Quad or Quadrilateral Security Dialogue** comprising **India, the US, Japan and Australia** was set up in 2017 to counter China's aggressive behaviour in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **QUAD Members** - Australia, India, Japan, United States
- **Quad Plus** additional members - **New Zealand, South Korea and Vietnam**.

### About Japan

- Capital - Tokyo
- Prime Minister - Fumio Kishida
- Currency - Japanese yen



### **32nd International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) meeting between Sri Lanka and Indian navies.**

- **32nd International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) meeting between Sri Lanka and Indian navies** was held in **Colombo** on board **SLNS Sayura** off the coast of Kankesanthurai.
- The talks between the navies of the two countries was held to mainly discuss common maritime challenges in the Indian Ocean region.
- The objective of the IMBL meeting is to strengthen relationships between the two neighbouring countries and discuss actions to be taken pertaining to the navies and Coast Guard personnel to overcome maritime challenges.
- The Sri Lanka delegation at the **IMBL meeting** was led by **Commander Northern Naval Area, Rear Admiral Aruna Tennakoon**, while the **Indian delegation** was headed by **Flag Officer Tamil Nadu** and Puducherry Naval Area, Rear Admiral S Venkat Raman.

#### **About Sri Lanka**

- Legislative capital - **Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte**
- Executive and judicial capital - **Colombo**
- Currency - **Sri Lankan rupee**
- President - **Ranil Wickremesinghe**
- Prime Minister - **Dinesh Gunawardena**

### **Garuda-VII air exercise**

- The **7th edition** of the **Bilateral Exercise Garuda VII-2022** is being held between Indian Air Force (IAF), and French Air and Space Force (FASF) at Air Force Station, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from October 26 – November 12, 2022,
- In this exercise, FASF will participate with four Rafale fighter aircraft, one A-330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft and a contingent of 220 personnel.
- The IAF is participating with Su-30 MKI, Rafale, Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and Jaguar fighter aircraft, as well as the Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and Mi-17 helicopters.
- It is the **4th edition** of exercise hosted by **India viz. 2003 (1st), 2006 (3rd) and 2014 (5th) at Air Force** stations Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh), Kalaikunda (West Bengal) and Jodhpur, respectively.
- In France, the second, fourth, and sixth editions took place in 2005, 2010, and 2019.

#### **Note**

- **Japan hosts the Malabar multilateral naval exercise involving India, Australia, Japan and the U.S.** began on November 8, 2022 as the **International Fleet Review** and the **18th Western Naval Pacific Symposium**, also hosted by Japan, concluded with 13 and 27 countries attending, respectively.

## **1.3 WORLD ORGANISATIONS – PACTS AND SUMMITS**

### **COP27 puts climate compensation on agenda for first time**

- Delegates from around the world attended the opening ceremony of the **COP-27 meeting in Sharm ElSheikh in Egypt** on November 6, 2022.
- Delegates at the **COP 27 climate summit in Egypt** agreed to put the delicate issue of whether rich nations should compensate poor countries most vulnerable to climate change on the formal agenda for the first time.
- At COP26 last year in **Glasgow**, high-income nations blocked a proposal for a loss and

damage financing body, instead supporting a three year dialogue for funding discussions.

#### **About COP**

- The Conference of Parties (COP) is the apex decision-making body of the **United Nations Climate Change Framework Convention (UNFCCC)**. The UNFCCC was formed in **1994** to stabilize the greenhouse gas emissions and to protect the earth from the threat of climate change.
- The first conference was held in **1995 in Berlin**.
- COP members have been meeting every year since the year 1995.

- As of 2019, the number of member countries in the UNFCCC has reached **197**.

### Important COP Meetings

- COP 1 in 1995 at Berlin, Germany.
- COP 2 in 1996 at Geneva, Switzerland.
- COP 3 in 1997 at Kyoto, Japan : **Kyoto Protocol was adopted.**
- COP 4 in 1998 at Buenos Aires, Argentina
- COP 5 in 1999 at Bonn, Germany.
- COP 6 in 2000 at Hague, Netherlands.
- Resumption of COP 6 in 2001 at Bonn, Germany
- COP 7 in 2001 at Marrakech, Morocco - **Marrakech Accords and Adaption Fund was established.**
- COP 8 in 2002 at New Delhi, India - **Kyoto Protocol entered into force.**
- COP 9 in 2003 at Milan, Italy
- COP 10 in 2004 at Buenos Aires, Argentina
- COP 11 in 2005 at Montreal, Canada
- COP 12 in 2006 at Nairobi, Kenya
- COP 13 in 2007 at Bali, Indonesia
- COP 14 in 2008 at Poznan Poland
- COP 15 in 2009 at Copenhagen, Denmark
- COP 16 in 2010 at Cancún, Mexico - Green Climate Fund was adopted
- COP 17 in 2011 at Durban, South Africa
- COP 18 in 2012 at Doha, Qatar - The **Doha Amendment** to the Kyoto Protocol entered into force.
- COP 19 in 2013 at Warsaw, Poland - The term Intended Nationally Determined Contributions was coined.
- COP 20 in 2014 at Lima, Peru
- COP 21 in 2015 at Paris, France - The parties will also "pursue efforts to" limit the temperature increase to **1.5 °C**. Prior to the conference, 146 national climate panels publicly presented a draft of national climate contributions (called "**Intended Nationally Determined Contributions**", INDCs).
- COP 22 in 2016 at Marrakech, Morocco - twenty-second Conference of the Parties (COP22), the twelfth meeting of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP12), and the first meeting of the parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA1).

- COP 23 in 2017 at Bonn, Germany - **Talanoa Dialogue** - a process designed to help countries enhance and implement their Nationally Determined Contributions by 2020 was adopted.

- COP 24 in 2018 at Katowice, Poland
- COP25 in 2019 at Madrid, Spain
- COP 26 in 2020 at Glasgow, United Kingdom.
- COP 27 in 2022 at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

### **COP27: India insists on higher global climate finance target by 2024**

- The 27th session of the **Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP 27)**, with a view to building on previous successes and paving the way for future ambition to effectively tackle the global challenge of climate change is being held in **Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt**.
- India has stressed at the ongoing UN climate summit COP27, developing countries require substantive enhancement in climate finance from the floor of \$100 billion per year to meet their ambitious goals and rich countries need to lead the mobilisation of resources.
- At COP 27 the **Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC)** was launched with India as a partner.
- The Mangrove Alliance aims to facilitate India's goal to increase its carbon sink.
- Under the Alliance, India will collaborate with Sri Lanka, Indonesia and other countries to preserve and restore the mangrove forests in the region.

### **Background**

- At the **COP 15 held in Copenhagen in 2009**, developed countries had committed to jointly mobilise **\$100 billion a year by 2020** to help developing countries tackle the effects of climate change. However, rich countries failed to deliver the finance.
- Developing countries, including India, are pushing rich countries to agree to a new global climate finance target – also known as the **new collective quantified goal on climate finance (NCQG)**.

## India Announced its long-term Low Emission Development Strategy at COP 27

- At the **United Nations Conference of Parties (COP)** in Sharm el Sheikh, India announced its **LTLEDS (Long Term Low Emission Development Strategy)** which is premised on expanding its nuclear power capacity by at least threefold in the next decade, apart from becoming an international hub for producing green hydrogen and increasing the proportion of ethanol in petrol.
- These steps were consonant with India's "**five decade journey**" to net zero, or being carbon neutral by 2070 which was the **commitment made** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi **at the 26th COP in Glasgow**.
- While 195 member countries, signatories to the UN climate agreements, were obliged to submit the long term document by 2022, only 57 countries have done so. India is the latest addition.
- The **LTLEDS (Long Term Low Emission Development Strategy)** has been prepared in the framework of India's right to an equitable and fair share of the global carbon budget.
- India "aspires" to maximise the use of electric vehicles, with ethanol blending to reach 20% by 2025 (it is currently 10%) with a "strong shift" to public transport for passenger and freight traffic.
- India will also focus on improving energy efficiency by the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme, the **National Hydrogen Mission, increasing electrification, enhancing material efficiency, and recycling and ways to reduce emissions**.
- India's forest and tree cover is a net carbon sink absorbing 15% of carbon dioxide emissions in 2016, and the country is on track to fulfilling its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) commitment of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of additional carbon sequestration in forest and tree cover by 2030.

## India Hosts 2nd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministerial Meeting

- India hosted the **2nd Agriculture Ministerial-level meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** in New Delhi.
- The **Action Plan for Strengthening BIMSTEC Agricultural Cooperation (2023–2027)** was adopted at the 2nd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministerial Meeting.

### About BIMSTEC

- Formation - **1997 (Bangkok Declaration)**
- Members (7) - **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand.**
- BIMSTEC Secretariat is situated in **Dhaka, Bangladesh**

## 19th ASEAN-India Summit in Cambodia

- The **Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar** led the Indian delegation, including the External Affairs Minister, Dr S. Jaishankar, at the 19th ASEAN-India Summit in **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**.
- At the summit, ASEAN and India adopted a joint statement announcing the elevation of the existing **Strategic Partnership to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**.
- Both sides reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, stability, maritime safety and security, freedom of navigation and overflight in the Indo-Pacific region.
- The Joint Statement also reiterated the commitment to enhance India-ASEAN cooperation in various areas such as maritime activities, counter-terrorism, transnational crimes, cyber security, digital economy, regional connectivity, smart agriculture, environment, science & technology, tourism, among other areas.
- The Joint Statement also proposes expediting the review of **ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA)** to make it more user-friendly, simple, and trade-facilitative.

## G 20 Summit at Bali

- PM Narendra Modi left for **Bali** to attend the G20 summit on **November 15 and 16**.
- Food and energy security and post COVID health issues are at the top of the agenda in sessions at the summit in the Indonesian city.

### About G20

- The **G20** or **Group of Twenty** is an **intergovernmental forum of major developed and developing economies comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU)**.
- Formation - **26 September 1999**.
- Chairman - **Joko Widodo**, President of Indonesia.

- First Meeting in in **Cologne, Germany**
- G20 Countries** - Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.

### Note

- India will assume the Presidency of the G20 for one year from **December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023** and the G20 Leaders' Summit will take place in **New Delhi in 2023**.

## 1.4 EMINENT PERSONS

### Jamshed J Irani passes away

- Padma Bhushan Awardee Jamshed J Irani**, who was also known as the **"Steel man of India"**, passed away at the age of **86 years** at **Jamshedpur, Jharkhand**.

### About Jamshed J Irani:

- He was born on **2nd June 1936** in **Nagpur, Maharashtra** and started his professional career in **1963** with the **British Iron and Steel Research Association** in **Sheffield**.
- In **1968** he joined the **Tata Iron and Steel Company**.

### Awards and Honour

- International Fellow of the **Royal Academy of Engineering** in **1996**.
- He was conferred an honorary knighthood by **Queen Elizabeth II** in **1997**.
- In **2007**, he received the **Padma Bhushan**.

### Freedom Fighter Vishwanath Das passes away

- Odisha freedom fighter Vishwanath Das** passed away at **106 years of age**.
- He was born on **Balikuda** in **Jagatsinghpur district of Odisha**.
- He accepted the invitation of **Mahatma Gandhi** and participated in the freedom struggle. He is also known as **'Balikuda Gandhi'**.

- In **2020**, on the occasion of the **Quit India Movement Day** he received the **President's Award** and was **honoured by the former President Pranab Mukherjee** in **2012**.

### Elaben Bhatt dies at 89

- Elaben Bhatt**, **89**, Gandhian, leading women's empowerment activist and founder of the **Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)**, passed away in **Ahmedabad** after a brief illness.
- In **2007**, she became part of a group of world leaders called the **Elders**, founded by **Nelson Mandela** to promote human rights and peace across the world.
- Elaben** was the Chair person of the **Sabarmati Ashram** and recently resigned as the **Chancellor of the Mahatma Gandhi founded Gujarat Vidhyapith**.
- SEWA** which was founded by her in **1972** is one of the largest cooperatives working for women, with a base of over two million members from as many as **18 States** in the country and in neighbouring nations.

### Awards and Honour

- Ramon Magsaysay Award - 1977**
- Right Livelihood Award - 1984**
- Padma Bhushan - 1986**



### Rich tributes paid to poet Azha Valliappa

- The centenary celebrations of Azha Valliappa, popularly known as **Kuzhandai Kavignar** (children's poet) was held.
- Every year, the poet's birthday on November 7 was celebrated as **children's literature day**.
- The year 2022 marks the **100th anniversary** of the writer as he was born on **November 22, 1922**.

### Literary writer Ilasai Aruna passes away (84)

- Ilasai Aruna worked as a teacher in **Ottapidaram, Tuticorin district**.
- He is also the author of several classical poetry works including **Manithanai Paaduvom** (மனிதனைப் பாடுவோம்), **Printing Mistakes** (அச்சுப்பிழைகள்), **Songs of Karisal** (கரிசல் கீதங்கள்), **A Dream's Title** (ஒரு கனவின் தலைப்பு)
- He had written many modern poetry like **An Indian Poet's Usual Anger** (ஓர் இந்திய கவிஞனின் சராசரி கோபம்), **An Abnorma's Rambling** (ஒரு அபநார்மலின் முனகல்). He has also written short story compilation like **Stories of Karisal Forest** (கரிசல் காட்டுக் கதைகள்) and **A Poet's Stories** (ஒரு கவிஞனின் கதைகள்).
- He is the author of two collections of books on literary men of the Karisal land.
- He has received many awards including **VOC Award**, **Tamil Scholar Award**, **Bharathi Award**, **Bharathi Great Services Award**.

### 141st Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel

#### About Sardar Vallabhai Patel

- He was born on **31st October 1875** in **Nadiad, Gujarat**.
- The **first deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of Independent India**.
- He headed various **Committees** of the **Constituent Assembly of India**, namely:
  - **Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights.**
  - **Committee on Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas.**
  - **Provincial Constitution Committee.**
- He integrated the farmer's cause in **Kheda Satyagraha (1918)** and **Bardoli Satyagraha (1928)** with the national freedom movement.
- In March 1931 Patel presided over the **Karachi session (46th session)** of the **Indian National Congress** in which **Gandhi-Irwin Pact** was formed.

#### About Statute of Unity

- The **Statue of Unity** is the **tallest statue in the world**.
- In **2018**, the Government of India unveiled the **'Statue of Unity'** in Gujarat to mark the **143rd birth anniversary of Sardar Patel**.
- In January 2020, it was added to the **'Eight Wonders'** of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)**.

## 1.5 SPORTS AND GAMES

### ICC Rankings: Suryakumar Yadav becomes world's No.1 T20I batter

- **Suryakumar Yadav** became the world's number one batter in T20 Internationals, rising to the top on the back of his incredible form in recent times.
- Yadav overtook Pakistan opener **Mohammad Rizwan** to become just the second Indian player to hold the top T20I batter ranking.
- Yadav has accumulated **863 points** with Rizwan at **842 points**. New Zealand's **Devon**

Conway completes the top three with 792 points.

### Squash Team's maiden Gold in Asian Championship

- Indian Men's Squash team wins first ever gold in Asian Championships in South Korea.
- They defeated Kuwait in the final in straight sets in Cheongju, South Korea.
- It was **Saurav Ghoshal** and **Ramit Tandon** who won their games in the final to dole out a 2-0 defeat to Kuwait.

### India to host Women's World Boxing Championship 2023

- India is set to host the **2023 International Boxing Association (IBA) Women's World Boxing Championship**, elite women's competition, in **2023** in New Delhi.
- The women's World Boxing Championship will be hosted by India for the **3rd time**.
- Previously, India hosted the Women's championship in **New Delhi, Delhi, in 2006 (4th edition) and 2018 (10th edition)**.
- Women's World Boxing Championship 2023 marks the **13th edition of the Championship**.

### Asian Boxing Championships 2022

- Indian women boxing stars **Lovlina Borgohain, Parveen Hooda, Saweety Boora and Alfiya Pathan** triumphed in the women's

finals and bagged **gold medals** at the **2022 ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships** in **Amman, Jordan**.

- In the event, Indian Women's team won **4 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals** which is **7 medals** in total completing the event.

### England become the first team to hold both World Cups in white-ball cricket

- England defeated Pakistan by **5 wickets** to lift the trophy of the **ICC T20 World Cup**. The match was played on **Melbourne Cricket Ground** in **Australia**.
- England become the first team to hold both **World Cups in white-ball cricket**. England already won the **ODI World Cup** in **2019**.
- Man of the Tournament - Sam Curran**.

## 1.6 BOOKS & AUTHORS

### New Book About E. K. Janaki Ammal by Nirmala James

- Retired school teacher **Nirmala James** has authored a new book titled **"E.K. Janaki Ammal: Life and Scientific Contributions"**, featuring the life and remarkable achievements of **Edavalath Kakkat Janaki Ammal (E.K. Janaki Ammal)**, **India's first woman botanist**.

- The book, published by **Enview Research and Development**, was released during the event organised on the **125th birth anniversary of E.K. Janaki Ammal**. She was born on **4th November 1897** in **Thalassery, Kerala**.
- Nirmala James** has authored around **25 books** including books for children
- Note: Janaki Ammal received Padma Shri in 1977**

## 1.7 AWARDS & HONOURS

### Nobel Laureate Venki Ramakrishnan Awarded UK's Royal Order Of Merit

- India-born Nobel laureate Professor Venki Ramakrishnan** has been awarded the prestigious **Order of Merit by Britain's King Charles III** in recognition of his distinguished service to science.
- The **70-year-old UK-based molecular biologist** is among six appointments made to the historic order by the late **Queen Elizabeth II** before her death in **September** and the first to be appointed by **Charles**.
- The **Order of Merit** is an **exclusive mark of honour** conferred by the **British sovereign**.

- He received the **Nobel Prize in Chemistry** in **2009** for his work on **ribosomal structure** and was **knighted by the Queen in 2012**. He was **President of the UK's Royal Society** from **November 2015 until November 2020**.

#### Note

- The **Order of Merit**, founded in **1902** by **King Edward VII**, is conferred on individuals of exceptional distinction in the armed forces, science, arts, and literature, or for the promotion of culture based on the personal choice of the monarch.
- Professor **Venki** was born in **Chidambaram in Tamil Nadu** and studied biology in the



US before moving to the UK where he is the Group Leader of the leading research hub **MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology at Cambridge University.**

### **Sri Sri Ravi Shankar awarded Gandhi Peace Pilgrim award**

- Indian spiritual leader and the **founder of Art of Living**, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was presented with the **Gandhi Peace Pilgrimage award at Dr.Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Centre in Atlanta** in recognition of his tireless efforts to spread the messages of peace and non-violence as espoused by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Martin Luther King Jr.
- The award was presented to him for his outstanding service and contribution for humanity to bring the change we want to see in the world.

### **National Sports Awards 2022**

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced the National Sports Awards 2022.
- The awardees will receive their awards from the President of India at a specially organized function at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 30th November, 2022.
- National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.

### **Note**

- **‘Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award’:** awarded for the spectacular and most outstanding 1 performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over the period of the past four years.
- **Arjuna Award:** awarded for good performance over a period of the previous four years and for showing qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline.
- **Dronacharya Award :** awarded for coaches for doing outstanding and meritorious work on a consistent basis and for enabling sportspersons to excel in International events.
- **Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games:** awarded to honour sportspersons who have contributed to sports by their performance and who continue to contribute to promotion of sports event after their retirement.
- **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar :** awarded to corporate entities (both in private and public sector), Sports Control Boards, NGOs, including sports bodies at the State and National level, who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development.
- The overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments is given the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy.

<b>Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2022</b>		
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of the sportsperson</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
1.	Shri Sharath Kamal Achanta	Table Tennis
<b>Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games 2022</b>		
1.	Ms Seema Punia	Athletics
2.	Shri Eldhose Paul	Athletics
3.	Shri Avinash Mukund Sable	Athletics
4.	Shri Lakshya Sen	Badminton
5.	Shri Prannoy HS	Badminton
6.	Shri Amit	Boxing
7.	Ms Nikhat Zareen	Boxing
8.	Ms Bhakti Pradip Kulkarni	Chess
9.	Shri R. Praggnanandhaa	Chess
10.	Ms Deep Grace Ekka	Hockey

11.	Ms Shushila Devi	Judo
12.	Ms. Sakshi Kumari	Kabaddi
13.	Ms. Nayan Moni Saikia	Lawn Bowl
14.	Shri Sagar Kailas Ovhalkar	Mallakhamb
15.	Ms. ElavenilValarivan	Shooting
16.	Shri Omprakash Mitharval	Shooting
17.	Ms. Sreeja Akula	Table Tennis
18.	Shri Vikas Thakur	Weightlifting
19.	Ms Anshu	Wrestling
20.	Ms. Sarita	Wrestling
21.	Shri Parveen	Wushu
22.	Ms Manasi Girishchandra Joshi	Para Badminton
23.	Shri Tarun Dhillon	Para Badminton
24.	Shri Swapnil Sanjay Patil	Para Swimming
24.	Ms. Jerlin Anika J.	Deaf Badminton
<b>Dronacharya Award for Outstanding coaches in Sports and Games 2022</b>		
<b>A. Regular Category</b>		
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of the Coach (S/Shri/Ms)</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
1.	Shri Jiwanjot Singh Teja	Archery
2.	Shri Mohammad Ali Qamar	Boxing
3.	Ms Suma Siddharth Shirur	Para Shooting
4.	Shri Sujeet Maan	Wrestling
<b>B. Lifetime Category :</b>		
1.	Shri Dinesh Jawahar Lad	Cricket
2.	Shri Bimal Prafulla Ghosh	Football
3.	Shri Raj Singh	Wrestling
<b>d. Dhyani Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and games 2022</b>		
1.	Ms Ashwini Akkunji C.	Athletics
2.	Shri Dharamvir Singh	Hockey
3.	Shri B.C. Suresh	Kabadi
4.	Shri Nir Bahadur Gurung	Para Athletics
<b>e. Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022</b>		
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Entity Recommended for RashtriyaKhel Protsahan Puruskar, 2022</b>
38	Identification and Nurturing of Budding and young Talent	TransStadia Enterprises Private Limited
39	Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility	Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology
40	Sports for Development	Ladakh Ski & Snowboard Association
<b>f. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2022</b>		
<b>Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar</b>		

### 53rd IFFI

- The 53rd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is set to be held between November 20 and 28 in New Delhi
- The Ministry of State for Information and Broadcasting announced that the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award will be given to Spanish film Director Carlos Saura at the 53rd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).
- A children's film package, as suggested by UNICEF, has been introduced for the first time in IFFI, and which would include the screening of about seven films.
- Opening Film and Closing Film : The Austrian film 'Alma and Oskar', directed by Dieter Berner, will open the annual festival while Krzysztof Zanussi's 'Perfect Number' is the closing film.
- Country Focus : France is the 'Spotlight' country and 8 films will be screened under the 'Country Focus' package.

### 'Karnataka Ratna' Award at 67th Kannada Rajyotsava

- The Karnataka government posthumously conferred 'Karnataka Ratna', the state's highest

civilian award, on the late actor Puneeth Rajkumar, on the occasion of the 67th Kannada Rajyotsava (State Formation Day) at an event held at the grand steps of Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- Puneeth Rajkumar is the **9th recipient** of the award.
- The Award consists of a **full silver plaque** and a **50-gram gold medal**.

#### About Karnataka Ratna:

- Karnataka Ratna was instituted in 1992 by the then Chief Minister S Bangarappa by the Government of Karnataka.
- In 1992, first award was presented to Puneeth's late father Rajkumar (Cinema) and author Kuvempu (Literature).
- Karnataka Ratna award was last awarded to Dr Veerendra Heggade for his social service in 2009.

#### About Karnataka

- Capital - Bengaluru
- Governor - Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Chief minister - Basavaraj Bommai

## 1.8 APPOINTMENTS – WHO IS WHO?

### New chairperson of the Law Commission

- Retired High Court Chief Justice **Rituraj Awasthi** was appointed chairperson of the Law Commission, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said.
- Justice K.T. Sankaran, Professor Anand Paliwal, Professor D.P. Verma, Professor Raka Arya and M Karunanithi have been appointed as members of the commission.
- The appointment comes after more than two years after the **22nd Law Commission was notified on February 24, 2020**.

#### About Law Commission

- It is a **non-statutory body** and is constituted by a notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Legal Affairs.

- The **first Law Commission** was established in **1834** by the East India Company under the **Charter Act of 1833**, and was presided by **Lord Macaulay**.

### India's Dr. J.A. Jayalal elected as Secretary General of Commonwealth Medical Association

- **Commonwealth Medical Association**, a body of medical associations of 58 countries under the Commonwealth announced the names of new office bearers.
- India's Prof. Dr. J.A. Jayalal, former President of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has been elected as the Secretary-General for the association.
- The Office Bearers election for 2022-24 was held in Malaysia during the Annual executive

meeting and council meeting held from 4th to 6th November 2022.

- In this Dr. Muragaraj, serving as President of the Malaysia Medical Association elected as President unopposed.
- For the first time in the history of 60 years of Common Wealth Prof. Dr. J.A. Jayalal has been elected as the Secretary General of CMA.
- He hails from Kanyakumari, Tamilnadu, and serving as Professor and HOD of Surgery in Kanyakumari Government Medical College.
- He has served as the **President of the Indian Medical Association in the year 2021 and Head of UNESCO Bioethics Chair India.**

#### Note

- CMA was established in **1962**. CMA works in association with the commonwealth secretariat in the UK and meet often with heads of Governments and policymakers.

#### Greg Barclay re-elected as ICC chairman

- Greg Barclay has been re-elected unopposed as the chairman of the **International Cricket Council (ICC)**

- Barclay, an Auckland-based commercial lawyer, was originally appointed as the ICC Chair in November 2020. He was previously the **Chair of New Zealand Cricket (NZC)** and was a **director of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2015**.

- Jay Shah from India was elected as the head of the powerful **Finance and Commercial Affairs (F&CA) committee**.

#### About ICC

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) is the global governing body of cricket. It was founded as the **Imperial Cricket Conference in 1909** and later the name was changed as International Cricket Council in 1987. The ICC has its headquarters in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates**.



# 2. POLITICAL SCIENCE

## 2.1 INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

### 9th India-U.S. Economic and Financial Partnership

- Indian Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and United States Treasury Secretary Dr. Janet L. Yellen met in New Delhi for the 9th meeting of India-U.S. Economic and Financial Partnership.
- The U.S. Treasury and Ministry of Finance launched the Economic and Financial Partnership in 2010 as a framework to cement the economic bonds between the two nations and build a foundation for greater cooperation and economic growth.
- A dedicated session on climate finance for the second time under the Economic and Financial Partnership was conducted.
- The two countries discussed issues relating to cryptocurrency regulation.

### Jaishankar meets Blinken; discusses Ukraine war, Indo-US ties

- External Affairs Minister **S.Jaishankar** met US Secretary of State **Antony Blinken** in **Cambodia** and discussed bilateral ties, Ukraine conflict, energy issues, G20 and the situation in the Indo-Pacific.
- The meeting between the top diplomats of the two countries took place on the sidelines of the ASEAN-India Summit to be held in **Cambodia**.
- Jaishankar is accompanying Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, who is leading the Indian delegation to the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit and the 17th East Asia Summit, both of which will be held in Cambodia.

### About Cambodia

- Capital - Phnom Penh
- Prime Minister - Hun Sen
- Currency - Riel

## 2.2 LATEST COURT VERDICTS

### All employees can opt for EPFO pension scheme: SC

- The Supreme Court upheld the **Employees' Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2014** of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation as "**legal and valid**" while striking down certain provisions.
- The SC uses its extraordinary powers under **Article 142 of the Constitution** to allow eligible employees who could not join the scheme by the cut-off date should be given an additional chance as there was a lack of clarity on the issue in view of judgments passed by the high courts of Kerala, Rajasthan and Delhi.

- The bench further held as **invalid the condition in the 2014 scheme** that required employees to make a further contribution at 1.16 per cent on salary exceeding Rs 15,000.
- The **2014 amendment had capped the maximum pensionable salary** (basic pay plus dearness allowance) at **Rs.15,000 per month**. **Prior to the amendment**, the maximum pensionable salary was capped at **Rs.6,500 a month**.

### Note

- Before the amendments were introduced, **every employee**, who became a member of the Employees Provident Fund Scheme of 1952 as on November 16, 1995, **could avail the EPS**.



In the preamended version of EPS1995, the maximum pensionable salary was ₹6,500.

- The 2014 amendments to the EPS raised the cap from ₹6,500 to ₹15,000 and stated that only employees, who were existing EPS members as on September 1, 2014, could continue to contribute to the pension fund in accordance with their actual salaries. They were given a window of six months to opt for the new pension regime.
- The Employees Provident Fund Organisation and the Centre challenged the verdicts of the high courts of Kerala, Rajasthan and Delhi, which had quashed the 2014 scheme.

### Supreme Court, in a majority verdict, upholds the EWS quota

- The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in a 3:2 majority decision, upheld the validity of the 103rd Constitutional Amendment, which provides 10% reservation in government jobs and educational institutions to the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) of society but excludes the "poorest of poor" among Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST).
- Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) from its scope.
- Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, Bela M. Trivedi and J.B.Pardiwala delivered the majority opinions on the five judge Bench in an hour-long session.
- Chief Justice U.U. Lalit and Justice S. Ravindra Bhat gave the minority view.
- The three judges in the majority held that reservation on economic criterion alone did not violate the Basic Structure of the Constitution.

### Reservation is not a long time solution

- Justice Bela M. Trivedi, who was part of the majority judgment, said the reservation policy must have a time span. She pointed out that at the end of 75 years of our Independence, India need to revisit the system of reservation in the larger interest of the society as a whole, as a step forward towards transformative constitutionalism.

▪ The representation of AngloIndian communities in Parliament and Assemblies has already stopped by virtue of the 104th Constitutional Amendment from January 25, 2020.

▪ Long-term solution, however, lies in eliminating the causes that have led to the social, educational and economic backwardness of the weaker sections of the community.

### State to set norms to identify the beneficiaries of EWS quota

- The majority judgment of the Constitution Bench held that the lack of guidelines to identify economic backwardness under the 10% EWS quota cannot be used to question the 103rd Amendment.
- The question as to whether any particular section or person falls within the class of 'economically weaker sections of citizens' should be based on the parameters laid down and indicators taken into consideration by the state.

### Verdict may seal fate of challenge to T.N. quota law, Justice Bhat cautions

- Justice S. Ravindra Bhat held that upholding the verdict quota creation of 10% Economically Weaker Section reservation over and above the 50% existing quota will have an impact on the case pending in the court which challenges the 69% reservation in Tamil Nadu.
- The breach of the 50% limit in reservation is the principal ground of attack against the 76th Constitutional Amendment of 1994 which inserted, as Entry 257A, the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in the Services under the State) Act, 1993 in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.
- The Tamil Nadu quota law of 1993 was challenged by a student, C.V. Gayathri.

### Kerala HC offers interim relief to Vice-Chancellors

- The Kerala High Court restrained Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, in his capacity as Chancellor of universities, from passing final orders on the show-cause notices he issued to Vice-Chancellors of eight universities.



- The Court restrained the Governor until the court takes a call on the writ petitions filed by the latter seeking to quash the notices.
- Mr. Khan had issued the notices to the Vice-Chancellors citing violation of University Grants Commission (UGC) norms in their appointment.
- **Note :** Article 153 of the Constitution of India states that there shall be a Governor for each State.

#### **Role of Governors in State Universities:**

- In most cases, the Governor of the state is the ex-officio chancellor of the universities in that state.
- While as Governor he functions with the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, as Chancellor he acts independently of the Council of Ministers and takes his own decisions on all University matters.

#### **Case of Central Universities:**

- Under the Central Universities Act, 2009, and other statutes, the President of India shall be the Visitor of a central university.
- With their role limited to presiding over convocations, Chancellors in central universities are titular heads, who are

appointed by the President in his capacity as Visitor.

#### **SC orders release of all life convicts in Rajiv case**

- The Supreme Court ordered the immediate release of six life convicts who have been in prison for over three decades in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case.
- The six convicts are: Nalini, Ravichandran, Jayakumar, Suthenthiraraja (Santhan), Murugan and Robert Payas.

#### **Note**

- In 2018, the then AIADMK government in Tamil Nadu recommended the names of all the seven convicts, including Perarivalan, for premature release. But the decision remained pending before the state's Governor following which Perarivalan approached the Supreme Court.
- On May 18, 2022 the apex court had ordered the release of Perarivalan, exercising its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution. The bench said the same order will apply to the six other accused as well.

## **2.3 PUBLIC AWARENESS & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

#### **In A First, CRPF Appointed Two Women Officers As IG**

- In **first of its kind**, the CRPF has appointed **two women officers** from its cadre as **Inspectors General (IG)** of its specialised anti-riots unit RAF and the Bihar Sector.
- This is the **first time** that the RAF will be **headed by a woman IG**. An IG Is the head of the sector in the CRPF.
- **Annie Abraham** has been appointed as the **IG of the blue duangree donning Rapid Action Force (RAF)** while Seema Dhundia has been posted as the **IG of the Bihar Sector**.
- Both officers joined the paramilitary force in 1987 as the first batch of women officers. They have also commanded an all-women Indian police contingent at the UN.

#### **About CRPF**

- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is a federal police organisation in India under the authority of the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.
- Formation - **27 July 1939**.
- Director General - **Dr. Sujoy Lal Thakur IPS**

#### **Thiruppugazh panel to study flooded areas in Chennai**

- A committee headed by retired IAS officer **V. Thiruppugazh** was formed to conduct another round of study of the areas that had been flooded in the **northeast monsoon** in Chennai.
- Previously in January 2022, the committee headed by retired **IAS officer V Thiruppugazh** to devise flood mitigation plans and long-term plans for water management in Chennai submitted its interim report to TN CM MK Stalin

- Although flooding had reduced in the core city after the construction of stormwater drains based on the recommendation of the committee, there are still reports of waterlogging in some areas and the panel would suggest remedial measures.

### Shyam Saran Negi, Independent India's first voter, dies

- Independent India's first voter Shyam Saran Negi died at his residence in Kalpa in Himachal Pradesh. He was 106.
- Mr. Negi was the Election Commission's brand ambassador. He voted in the Himachal Pradesh Assembly election on November 2, 2022 through postal ballot for 34th time.

#### Note

- Article 326** of the Indian Constitution describes **Universal Adult Suffrage** as the basis for elections to all levels of an elected government.
- The term "universal adult franchise" refers to the right of all citizens to vote who are 18 years of age and above, regardless of caste, education, religion, race, or ethnicity.
- The voting age was reduced **from 21 to 18 years old** by the **61st Amendment Act of 1989**.
- In India, there are certain requirements for becoming a voter. A registered voter:
  - must be a citizen of India;
  - must have attained 18 years of age;
  - must not be of unsound mind;
  - must not have been declared bankrupt by a competent court.

### Women outnumber men in revised voters' list of Chennai

- Women voters outnumber men in the 16 constituent assemblies in Chennai district as per the draft electoral rolls released.
- Of the total 38,92,547 voters, 19,75,778 are women, 19,15,611 are men and 1,058 are others.

### Level of groundwater extraction lowest in 18 years, finds study

- According to an assessment made by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) it was found that groundwater extraction in India saw an 18 year decline.

### Key Highlights of the report

- The total annual groundwater recharge for the entire country is 437.6 billion cubic metres (bcm) and annual groundwater extraction for the entire country is 239.16 bcm.
- Out of the total 7,089 assessment units in the country, 1,006 units have been categorised as "overexploited" in the report.
- The 2022 assessment suggests that groundwater extraction is the lowest since 2004, when it was 231 bcm.
- Such joint exercises between the CGWB and States/Union Territories were carried out earlier in 1980, 1995, 2004, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2017 and 2020.

### DigiLocker users can now digitally store health records and link them with ABHA

- DigiLocker, the authentic documents exchange platform under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) has successfully completed its **2nd level of integration with Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)**.
- DigiLocker's secure cloud-based storage platform can now be used as a health locker to store and retrieve health documents such as vaccination records, doctor prescriptions, lab tests, hospital discharge summaries, etc.
- DigiLocker had previously completed level 1 integration with ABDM, in which the platform added an ABHA creation facility for its 13 crore users.
- The latest integration will now enable **users to utilize DigiLocker as a Personal Health Records (PHR) app**.
- ABHA holders can also link their health records from different ABDM-registered health facilities like hospitals and labs and access them via DigiLocker.

### About Digilocker

- DigiLocker is a flagship initiative of MeitY under the 'Digital India' programme (**July 1, 2015**)
- The beta version of the service was rolled out in February 2015, and launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi **on 1 July 2015**. The storage space provided was 100 MB initially, and was later increased to **1 GB**.

## 2.4 GOVT – WELFARE ORIENTED GOVT SCHEMES, THEIR UTILITY

### TNSDC brings on board engineering students under 'Naan Mudhalvan'

- The Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) has brought on board over 2 lakh students from engineering colleges across the State to take courses offered under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme.
- The Anna University ViceChancellor and an expert committee were former to select the courses and they were shortlisted for 19 courses.
- Each stream of students would be given 34 options. Some of them are blended courses

(Online and offline components) and some are purely online.

### About Naan Mudhalvan Scheme

- Launched on **March 1, 2022**.
- The scheme was launched as a **skill development program** for the **students** of Government Schools and **Colleges**.
- TN Government also launched the '**Kalloori Kanavu**' **programme** under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' initiative which aims to **guide and counsel students who have completed Class XII**.





## 3. GEOGRAPHY

### 3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

#### A third of world heritage glaciers under threat, warns UNESCO's study

- The UNESCO study, in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), showed that the glaciers on the UNESCO World Heritage list have been retreating at an accelerated rate since 2000 due to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which are warming temperatures.
- They are currently losing 58 billion tonne of ice every year equivalent to the combined annual water use of France and Spain and are responsible for nearly 5% of observed global sea level rise.
- As many as 50 UNESCO World Heritage sites are home to glaciers, representing almost 10% of the Earth's total glacierised area.
- The study states that a third of the glaciers are under threat, regardless of efforts to limit temperature increases.
- The study highlights the urgent need to cut greenhouse gas emissions and invest in nature based solutions, which can help mitigate climate change.

#### About UNESCO

- Headquarters - Paris, France
- Formation - 16 November 1945
- Director-General - Audrey Azoulay (France)

#### A new species of endemic honeybee has been discovered in the Western Ghats

- The new species has been named **Apis karinjodian** and was given the common name **Indian black honeybee**.
- It is after a gap of more than 200 years that a new species of honeybee has been spotted in the **Western Ghats**. The last honeybee described from India was *Apis indica* in 1798.

- The distribution of *Apis karinjodian* ranges from the central Western Ghats and Nilgiris to the southern Western Ghats, covering the States of Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

#### About Western Ghats

- The Western Ghats extend from the **Satpura Range in the north**, go south past **Goa**, through **Karnataka** and into **Kerala** and **Tamil Nadu** end at Kanyakumari embracing Indian ocean.
- A chain of mountains runs parallel to India's western coast, approximately 30-50 km inland.
- These mountains cover an area of around **140,000 km<sup>2</sup> in a 1,600 km long stretch**.
- It is recognized as **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
- It is **one of the eight hotspots** of biological diversity in the world due to its high level of biological diversity and endemism.

#### T.N. notifies Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary

- The Tamil Nadu government has declared an area in the reserve forests of Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri districts as the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The sanctuary will include 686.406 sq. km of reserve forests in the Anchetty, Urigam and Jawalagiri ranges of the Hosur Forest Division, which covers the forest stretches of Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri districts.
- This would be part of a protected landscape contiguous to the forests that constitute the Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary shared between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- The declaration of the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary has been made under Section 26A (1) (b) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

- The declared landscape lends continuity to the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve through the Malai Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, the Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve of Karnataka and the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve in the Erode Forest Division of Tamil Nadu.
- The total area under the protected area management is 7,072.95 sq. km. which comes to 30.92% of the State's Forest area.
- The Protected Areas in the State includes **5 National parks, 15 Wildlife sanctuaries, 15 bird sanctuaries and 2 conservation reserves besides 5 Tiger Reserves.**

#### Note

- Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer State in Protected Area management and development of forest resources and wildlife.

Name of Wildlife Sanctuary	Sanctuary Area in Ha	District in which located	Year in which started
<b>WILDLIFE SANTUARIES</b>			
Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary	21776	Nilgiris	1940
Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary (R.F. 35228.38+ R.L.22979.20)	58207.58	Tirunelveli	1962
Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary	1728.81	Nagapattinam	1967
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary	84149	Coimbatore	1976
Kalakad Wildlife Sanctuary	22358	Tirunelveli	1976
Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary	40239.55	Kanyakumari	2007
Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary	141160.94	Erode	2008, 2011
Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary	26910.81	Theni and Madurai	2009
Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary Block A and Block B	12407.27	Thanjavur and Tiruvarur	2013
Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary	60895.482	Dindigul and Theni	2013
Gangaikondan Spotted Deer Sanctuary	288.4	Tirunelveli	2013
Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary	50433.48	Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri	2014
Nellai Wildlife Sanctuary	35673.33	Tirunelveli	2015
<b>Total</b>	<b>606389.657</b>		

**Researchers discover new crab species in Vellar estuary in Cuddalore district**

- Researchers have discovered a new species of estuarine crab at the mangroves of Parangipettai near the Vellar river in Cuddalore district.
- The species has been named *Pseudohelice annamalai* in recognition of Annamalai University's 100 years of service in education and research.
- So far, only two species — *Pseudohelice subquadrata* and *Pseudohelice latreillii* — have been confirmed within this genus.

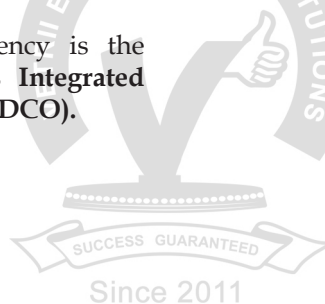
**Nicobar project gets assent for diversion of 130 sq. km of forest**

- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has granted an in principle (Stage 1) clearance for the diversion of 130.75 sq. km of forest on Great Nicobar Island for the mega ₹72,000 crore project that includes a transshipment port, an airport, a power plant and a greenfield township.
- The project implementation agency is the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO)**.

- The area is nearly **15% of the thickly forested Great Nicobar Island** that is spread over 900 sq. km.
- The area diverted is nearly a quarter of all the forest land diverted in the past three years across the country which is 554 sq. km as per information provided in the Lok Sabha in July and 65% of the 203 sq. km of forest land diverted in the three year period 2015-18.
- The forest area is home to nearly **650 species of flora and 330 species of fauna**, including endemic species such as the Nicobar shrew, the Nicobar long tailed macaque, the Great Nicobar crested serpent eagle, the Nicobar paradise flycatcher and the Nicobar megapode, among many others.

**Note**

- The compensatory afforestation which is a key condition for the environmental clearance is planned to be done on "nonnotified forest land" in Haryana.







## 4. ECONOMICS

### 4.1 CURRENT SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

#### Wholesale inflation slipped to single digit at 8.4% in October

- India's wholesale price inflation slipped below 10% for the first time in 19 months this October, when it eased to 8.4% from 10.7% in September.
- Base effect, cooling commodity prices eased the Wholesale inflation
- This is the fifth successive month of wholesale inflation moderating since it hit a record high of 16.63% in May; food price inflation eased to 6.5%.

### 4.2 CURRENT TRENDS IN INDIAN ECONOMY

#### October's GST revenue crosses ₹1.51 lakh crore.

- India's gross GST revenue touched ₹1,51,718 crore in October, 16.6% higher than a year ago, marking the second highest monthly collections since the launch of GST.
- Revenue from domestic transactions, including imports of services, increased 18% during the month, with the Finance Ministry stating that October marked the second highest collection from domestic transactions "next only to April 2022".
- While Haryana recorded a 37% increase, followed by Karnataka (33%), Kerala (29%), West Bengal (26%) and Tamil Nadu (25%), revenues grew slower than the national average in Gujarat and Telangana (11%), Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan (10%) and Uttar Pradesh (16%).
- Six States clocked negative growth, year on year, including Chhattisgarh (3%), Assam (13%), Mizoram and Manipur (23% each) and Bihar (1%). The erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir clocked a sharp 34% drop in revenues, even as they jumped 74% in the Union Territory of Ladakh.
- GST had replaced the old Indirect tax regime in India.
- It was introduced with the idea of "One Nation- One Market- One Tax".
- 2022 marks the **Fifth Anniversary of GST**.
- GST is an indirect, multi-stage, consumption-based tax system. It subsumes several domestic indirect taxes like service tax, purchase tax, value-added tax, excise duty, and others under one head.
- It does **not include Petroleum, Liquor, and stamp duty**.
- The Three taxes application under the GST are CGST (Central) SGST (State) and IGST (integrated)
- The Four tax slabs are 5%, 12%, 18%, 28%.

#### Russia becomes India's top crude oil supplier in October 2022

- Russia has become India's top oil supplier in October, surpassing traditional sellers Saudi Arabia and Iraq, according to data from energy cargo tracker Vortexa.
- Russia, which made up for just 0.2% of all oil imported by India till March 31, 2022, supplied 9,35,556 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil to India in October — the highest ever.

#### About GST:

- GST was launched on July 1, 2017.

- Russia now makes up for 22% of India's total crude imports, ahead of Iraq's 20.5% and Saudi Arabia's 16%.

#### Note

- Crude oil is a type of fossil fuel which occurs naturally. It is an unrefined petroleum product composed of hydrocarbon deposits and other organic materials.
- There are over 100 crude oils which are traded internationally, however the most famous are West Texas Intermediate (WTI) and Brent.

#### Govt allows sugar exports of up to 6 mt for 2022-23

- The government allowed exports of up to 6 million tonne (mt) of sugar on quota basis during the sugar season (SS) 2022-23.
- The ministry of consumer affairs, food and public distribution stated that the measure has been taken to balance the price stability of sugar in the country and the financial positions of sugar mills in the country.
- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade already notified to extend the inclusion of sugar exports under Restricted category up to October 31, 2023. Balance quantity of sugar produced by sugar mills in the country would be allowed for exports.
- **Ethanol Production:** For the production of ethanol in the country which is a priority area for India to reduce dependence on fuel imports and to move towards green energy.

- Higher ethanol prices for producers have already encouraged distilleries to divert more sugar towards ethanol.
- The sugar export policy is another mechanism to ensure availability of sufficient sugarcane/sugar/molasses for ethanol production.
- Diversion of sugar towards ethanol production during ESY 2022-23 is expected to be 4.5-5 mt.

#### Six years since demonetisation, cash with public at record high of ₹30.88 lakh crore

- As per the fortnightly data on money supply released by the RBI the currency with the public increased to ₹30.88 lakh crore as on October 21. The central bank data for Reserve Money had put the currency in circulation at ₹17.7 lakh crore on November 4, 2016.
- ₹30.88 lakh crore with the public illustrates that cash usage is still robust even six years after the demonetisation move.
- At ₹30.88 lakh crore, the currency with the public is 71.84% higher than the level for the fortnight ended November 4, 2016.
- On November 8, 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the decision to withdraw ₹500 and ₹1,000 denomination notes with the ultimate aim of reducing corruption and black money in the economy.
- The intent of the move, which was criticised by many experts for poor planning and execution, was to make India a "less cash" economy.

## 4.3 INDICES

#### Decline in pre-primary enrolments continued in 2021-22, says government report

- According to a report released by the Ministry of Education, the number of children entering pre primary classes in 2021-2022 declined, resulting in 30% fewer students as compared to pre-Covid times.

#### Key Highlights of the Report

- A total of 94.95 lakh students entered pre-primary classes in 2021-2022, registering a drop of 10% as compared to 1.06 crore children

in 2020-21 which is in turn low when compared to 1.35 crore 2019-20.

- Enrolment in primary classes, which include classes 1 to 5, recorded a drop for the first time, falling from 12.20 lakh in 2020-21 to 12.18 lakh in 2021-2022. However, the total number of students from primary to higher secondary increased by 19 lakh to 25.57 crore.
- Also for the first time since the pandemic, the report records a decline in the number of schools due to closures as well as a lack of teachers.

- There were 20,000 fewer schools in 2021-2022 as the total number of schools dropped from 15.09 lakh to 14.89 lakh.
- There were also **1.89 lakh or 1.98% fewer teachers** as their number reduced from 96.96 lakh in 2020-2021 to 95.07 lakh in 2021-2022.
- Computer facilities were available in 44.75% of schools, while Internet access was available only in 33.9% of schools. However, their availability has improved as compared to pre-Covid when only 38.5% of schools had computers and 22.3% had Internet facilities
- Adaptation needs require **\$340 billion a year by 2030** but currently it stands at less than one-tenth of that amount.
- The estimated annual adaptation **needs are USD 160-340 billion by 2030 and USD 315-565 billion by 2050.**

#### Note

- According to recently released **UNEP's Emissions Gap Report, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** under the Paris Agreement **may raise global warming by 2.4-2.6°C by the end of the century.**
- As per the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**, climate risks will intensify with each tenth of a degree.
- One third of the 197 country Parties to the **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** have incorporated quantified and time-bound targets on adaptation. However, Combined mitigation and adaptation finance flows in 2020 fell short of the annual US\$100 billion global goal pledged by developed countries.

### Enrolments in government schools up; private schools see drop

- According to the **Ministry of Education's Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) 2021/22 report**, **government schools** continued to see a rise in enrolment for the second consecutive year since the COVID19 outbreak, while private schools saw a decline.
- According to the report, **83.35 lakh new students** sought admission in **government schools in 2021-22.**
- The report states that there has been an **increase in enrolments of 9.4%** over the two year period since 2019/20 in government schools.
- Since 2019-20, there has been a total **decline of 10.1% in enrolments in private schools.**

### Adaptation Gap Report 2022 raises alarm on climate finance

- According to **United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Adaptation Gap Report, 2022 : Too Little, Too Slow – Climate adaptation failure puts world at risk'** global efforts in adaptation planning, financing and implementation are not enough to prepare vulnerable communities around the world to adapt to the rising risks from the impacts of climate change.
- The report was released on November 3, 2022 ahead of the **COP27 UN climate conference at Sharm El-Sheikh.**
- India has topped the list of nations with the cheapest manufacturing costs by global survey respondents, followed by China and Vietnam.
- Top 5 Countries are
  - Switzerland
  - Germany
  - Canada
  - United States of America
  - Sweden
- **Belarus (ranked 85th)** became the lowest-ranked country on the list while **Uzbekistan and Iran ranked 84th and 83rd respectively.**

### Key Highlights of the Report

- The global efforts in adaptation planning, financing and implementation **are not keeping pace with the growing risks.**

### Best Countries 2022 Report

- Best Countries 2022 is the 7th edition of the analysis released by US News & World Report.
- According to the **US News & World Report's overall Best Countries 2022 ranking**, **India has bagged the 31st rank among 85 countries.** **Switzerland** has topped the list followed by **Germany and Canada.**
- **India** has topped the list of nations with the cheapest manufacturing costs by global survey respondents, followed by **China and Vietnam.**
- Top 5 Countries are
  - Switzerland
  - Germany
  - Canada
  - United States of America
  - Sweden
- **Belarus (ranked 85th)** became the lowest-ranked country on the list while **Uzbekistan and Iran ranked 84th and 83rd respectively.**

### India's Performance in the Report

- Under the **open for business sub ranking**, **India scored 100% in cheap manufacturing**

costs but has scored only 16.2 under 'favourable tax environment, 18.1 in the 'not corrupt' category and 3.5 in 'transparent government policies.

- Under the quality of life category, India has scored 1.9 in 'income equality'; 4.3 in 'safe'; 2.3 in 'well-developed public health system'; and 9.9 in 'economically stable' sub-parameter.

#### Note

- The report evaluates 85 countries across 73 attributes which are grouped into 10 sub-categories, including adventure, agility, entrepreneurship, open for business, social purpose and quality of life.

### State of Food and Agriculture 2022 released

- The United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has released the 2022 edition of the State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA), which examines how agricultural automation can play an important role towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)
- The SOFA is one of FAO's major annual flagship publications, aiming to offer balanced science-based assessments of vital issues in food and agriculture.
- The report highlighted the drivers and barriers to adoption of agricultural automation, including digital technologies across the world. The report suggests policies for inclusive and sustainable adoption.
- The report states that food production can be made more efficient and environmentally friendly by using agricultural automation, which can range from tractors to Artificial Intelligence (AI). However, if it remains inaccessible to small-scale producers and other marginalised groups, it can worsen inequalities.

### About Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):

- Director - General - QU Dongyu
- Formation - October 16, 1945
- Headquarters - Rome, Italy

### UNDP Report: Social, Economic Benefits of a Global Green Revolution at Risk

- The report titled "How Just Transition Can Deliver the Paris Agreement," released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) states that the nations fail to recognize the opportunities given by a "green revolution" face increased social inequality, civil unrest, and less competitive economy if suggested net-zero emissions paths are not carried out efficiently.
- The concept of a "just transition" is critical to fulfilling the Paris Agreement's global climate targets as countries transition to sustainable economies.
- Note: A Just Transition means ensuring efficient and coherent climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and regulations that limit labour market disruptions and job losses and support for workers and companies impacted by the transition.
- The report was released in advance of the UNFCCC (UN Climate Change) Conference of the Parties (COP 27), which will be held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt
- The report examines both enhanced short-term climate pledges, referred to as "nationally determined contributions" (NDCs), and long-term strategies in which governments explain their plans for net zero emissions.
  - As of October 31, 2022, 170 nations had submitted an upgraded NDC, and 65 (38%) of those countries explicitly include just transition.
  - The ratio of developed to developing nations is nearly equal (51% vs 49%), with Central and Eastern Europe leading the way, followed by the Americas and the Caribbean, and Africa. Asia-Pacific and Arab countries fall behind.

### About United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- Formation - November 22, 1966
- Head - Achim Steiner
- Headquarters - New York



### Global Carbon Budget 2022 report

- The Annual Global Carbon Budget report is based on research from more than 100 scientists from the University of Exeter, the University of East Anglia (UEA), CICERO and Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich. It provides an annual stocktake of both carbon emissions and carbon sinks.
- The report was launched at COP 27 in Egypt

#### Key Highlights of the Report

- The world is projected to spew 40.6 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (GtCO<sub>2</sub>) into the atmosphere in 2022, with no sign of the decrease that is urgently needed to limit warming to 1.5 degree Celsius.

- The projection of 40.6 GtCO<sub>2</sub> total emissions in 2022 is close to the highest-ever annual total of 40.9 GtCO<sub>2</sub> in 2019. If current emissions levels persist, there is a 50 percent chance that warming of 1.5 degree Celsius will be exceeded in nine years.
- The projected emissions decrease in China (0.9 percent) and in the European Union (0.8 percent), but increase in the US (1.5 percent), India (6 percent) and the rest of the world (1.7 percent).
- In India, emissions in 2022 are to increase by 6 percent, driven mostly by a 5 percent increase in coal emissions.

## 4.4 MONEY AND BANKING

### RBI's digital rupee

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched the first pilot project for central bank digital currency (CBDC) or e-rupee.
- The first pilot for the digital rupee, **wholesale segment (e₹-W)** will commence on November 1.
- The Reserve Bank of India defines **Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)** as a digital form of legal tender issued by a central bank.
- It is a digital form of fiat currency, i.e. the Indian Rupee. As a result, it can be exchanged for fiat currency one for one.
- The pilot will include **nine banks**, including **SBI, Bank of Baroda, HDFC Bank, Yes Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank and ICICI Bank**, settling secondary market transactions in government securities.

#### Note

- CBDC is a **digital or virtual currency**, but it is **not comparable** to the **private virtual currencies or cryptocurrencies** that have mushroomed over the last decade. Private virtual currencies do not represent any person's debt or liabilities as no issuer exists.

### Amended Electoral bond scheme

- Recently, the government had notified a **10-day window in October** for the **22nd tranche of electoral bonds** under the Centre amended the Electoral Bond Scheme.

- The amendment grants itself the power to conduct extra fortnight of electoral bond sales in years when States and Union Territories with a legislature have polls.

#### About Electoral Bond Scheme

- Launched in **2018** as an alternative to cash donations to political parties.
- **State Bank of India** is the only bank authorised to issue and encash these bonds.
- Electoral bonds are purchased anonymously by donors and are **valid for 15 days** from the date of issue.
- As debt instruments, these can be bought by donors from a bank, and the political party can then encash them.
- These can be redeemed only by an eligible party by depositing the same in its designated account maintained with a bank.
- The bonds are issued by SBI in denominations of **Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore**.
- The bonds are available for purchase by any citizen of India for a period of ten days each in the months of **January, April, July and October** as may be specified by the Central Government. Recently this provision has been amended to conduct extra fortnight sale when states or Union territories have elections.



# 5. SCIENCE

## 5.1 SPACE

### China launches 3rd and final space station component

- The uncrewed Mengtian ("Dreaming of the Heavens") module was launched atop China's most powerful rocket, the Long March 5B, from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in the southern island province of Hainan.
- China's third and final module was docked with its permanent space station to further a more than decade-long effort to maintain a constant crewed presence in orbit.
- The space station is set to be the second permanently inhabited outpost in low-Earth orbit after the NASA-led International Space Station.

#### Note

- Tiangong officially the Tiangong space station is a space station being constructed by China and operated by China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) in low Earth orbit between 340 and 450 km (210 and 280 mi) above the surface.
- Launches of components
  - 29 April 2021 - Tianhe
  - 24 July 2022 - Wentian
  - 31 October 2022 - Mengtian
  - December 2023 - Xuntian

### China successfully launches cargo spacecraft for its space station in orbit

- China successfully launched its cargo spacecraft **Tianzhou-5** to deliver supplies for its space station Tiangong, the construction of which is expected to be completed in 2022.
- The Long March-7 Y6 rocket, carrying Tianzhou-5 was launched from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern island province of Hainan has successfully entered its designated orbit.

### RISAT2 satellite makes reentry into Earth's atmosphere

- ISRO's RISAT2 satellite which was launched in 2009 and weighing around 300 kg has made an uncontrolled re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere near Jakarta.
- The Indian System for Safe and Sustainable Space Operations Management (IS4OM) facility in ISTRAC, Bengaluru, had been monitoring the re-entry utilising Multi Object Tracking Radar (MOTR) at SDSC, Sriharikota.

#### About RISAT2

- RISAT-2, or Radar Imaging Satellite-2 was an Indian radar imaging reconnaissance satellite that was part of India's RISAT programme.
- It was built by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and was launched by the PSLVC12 launch vehicle in 2009 from the Second Launch Pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre.

#### Note

- A reconnaissance satellite also known as a spy satellite is an Earth observation satellite or communications satellite deployed for military or intelligence applications.

### Gaganyaan cryogenic engine test successful: IPRC

- Indian Space Research Organisation's Propulsion Research Complex (IPRC) at Mahendragiri in the Tirunelveli district has successfully conducted a 70-second-long 'Pressure Chamber Test' of the cryogenic engine to be used in 'Gaganyaan' programme.
- The pressure chamber test of C20 E11 MK III was earlier conducted for about 30 seconds at Mahendragiri on October 28. The test was



conducted to check the efficacy of the engine to be used in ISRO's prestigious 'Gaganyaan', which is designed for India's human spaceflight programme.

- Following the success of the test, the duration of the test was increased to 70 seconds.

### Note

- The C20 E11 MK III engine is assigned for the LVM3-M3 mission identified for launching the next 36 OneWeb India-1 satellites of the OneWeb, the London-based satellite communications company.

## 5.2 LATEST DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH SCIENCE

### Myositis

- Myositis is the name for a group of rare conditions that can cause muscles to become weak, tired and painful.
- The word myositis simply means **inflammation in muscles**. If something is inflamed, it may be swollen.
- Myositis can affect people of any age, including children.
- The main muscles to be affected are around the shoulders, hips and thighs.
- It is an **autoimmune disorder**. Autoimmune Disorder is a problem with the immune system, where it mistakenly attacks healthy tissue.

### Types of myositis

- Polymyositis, which affects many different muscles, particularly the shoulders, hips and thigh muscles.
- Dermatomyositis, which affects several muscles and causes a rash. It's more common in women and can also affect children (juvenile dermatomyositis).
- **Inclusion body myositis (IBM)**, which causes weakness in the thigh muscles, forearm muscles and the muscles below the knee.
- **Symptoms** of polymyositis include:
  - muscle weakness
  - aching or painful muscles and feeling very tired
  - finding it hard to sit up, or stand after a fall

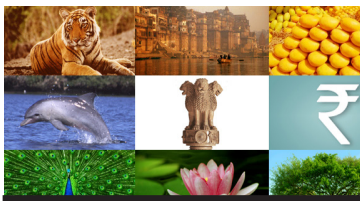
- swallowing problems, or finding it hard to hold your head up
- feeling unhappy or depressed

### First privately developed rocket all set for launch

- India's first privately developed rocket, Vikram-S, is poised to create history as it undergoes final preparations at the ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) launch pad in Sriharikota for launch between November 12 and 16.
- It was developed by the Hyderabad based Skyroot Aerospace.
- The mission was named 'Prarambh' (the beginning) — since it is the first mission for Skyroot Aerospace.
- It was unveiled by ISRO Chairman S. Somanath in Bengaluru after the technical launch clearance from the space regulator IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre)
- Skyroot is set to become the first private space company in India to launch a rocket into space, heralding a new era for the space sector which was recently opened up to facilitate private sector participation.

### About ISRO

- Headquarters - Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Formed - 15 August 1969
- Chairman - Sreedhara Panicker Somanath



## 6. NATIONAL – DIARY OF EVENT

### PM Modi pays homage to sacrifices of unsung tribal heroes in Rajasthan's Mangarh.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended a public programme 'Mangarh Dham ki Gaurav Gatha' and paid tribute to 1,500 tribals, led by Govind Guru, who were massacred by the British at Mangarh Dham on November 17, 1913 in Banswara district of Rajasthan.
- He paid tributes to Govind Guru whose death Anniversary was on 30th October.
- Mangarh Dham was declared as a National Monument in the Banswara district of Rajasthan.

#### Note

- In pre-Independent India, Bhils and other tribes engaged in a long stand-off with the British, with over 1.5 lakh tribals rallying to the Mangarh Hill on November 17, 1913, under the leadership of Govind Guru.

### NALSA All India Campaigns

- Justice Chandrachud, Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), has launched **two all India campaigns** in order to foster a spirit of inclusivity.
- The campaigns include
  - "Empowerment of Citizens through Legal Awareness and Outreach"
  - "Haq\_hamara\_bhi\_hai@75," a special campaign for legal aid in prisons and childcare institutions
- The two week pan-Indian campaigns, which is taking place **from October 31 to November 13, 2022**, aims to work at the grassroots and build capacity for the incapacitated.
- Campaign 'Haq\_hamara\_bhi\_hai@75' is aimed at providing basic legal assistance to undertrial prisoners and children in conflict with law.

- The campaign "Empowerment of Citizens through Legal Awareness and Outreach Campaign" aims to be fundamental in decreasing the vulnerability of the marginalised strata of the society as it would facilitate their capacity to foster a just, peaceful and inclusive society.

#### About NALSA

- The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted **on November 9, 1995, under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** to fulfill the provisions of **Article 39A (provisions of equal justice and free legal aid.)** and to organise Lok Adalats. The chief justice of India serves as the patron-in-chief of NALSA.
- At the state level, State Legal Services Authority has been constituted. The chief justices of the high court serve as its patron-in-chief.
- At the **District level, District Legal Services Authority** has been constituted. The district judge serves as its ex-officio chairman.

### Centre 'doubles' fertilizer subsidy

- To insulate farmers from the sharp increases in the prices, the Centre announced a **doubling of fertiliser subsidy to Rs 2.15 trillion from the budgeted level for FY23.**
- The Union Cabinet approved a subsidy of ₹51,875 crore for nitrogen, phosphorus and potash (NPK) and sulphur for phosphatic and potassium fertilizers for the ongoing rabi season.
- From the budget estimate of ₹21,000 crore of nutrient based subsidy, the amount has been more than doubled.
- The Centre said the nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) rates for phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilisers for the kharif season (April-September, 2022) will be Rs 60,939 crore, as against Rs 57,150 crore in 2021.

- A bag of Diammonium Phosphate cost ₹1,350 and it would have cost ₹2,650 without subsidy.
- The subsidy was around ₹2,400 per bag as a bag was being sold for about ₹266 instead of the market price, which was ₹2,700.

### **About Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)**

#### **Programme**

- NBS for Fertilizers was initiated in the year 2010.
- Under the scheme, a fixed amount of subsidy decided on an annual basis is provided for **Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, except for Urea**, based on the nutrient content present.
- The scheme is administered by the **Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers**.
- **Subsidy on Urea:** The Centre pays subsidy on urea to fertiliser manufacturers on the basis of cost of production at each plant and the units are required to sell the fertiliser at the government-set Maximum Retail Price (MRP).

#### **Note**

- India aims to end imports of urea from 2025 as the nation boosts its local production capacity with the commissioning of new plants.
- **Production of indigenous local urea** containing **nanoparticles** of the crop nutrient would rise to 5 MT by 2025.

### **Wheat export doubles to \$1.48 bn in April-September**

- The overall export of Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) products increased to \$13.77 billion in April-September 2022 from \$11.05 billion in the same period a year earlier.
- Wheat export rose to \$1,487 million in April-September 2022 from \$630 million in April-September 2021.
- Basmati rice exports too increased to \$2.28 billion during April-September 2022 from \$1.66 billion a year ago.
- Shipments of non-basmati rice registered a growth of 8% to \$3.20 billion.
- Export of poultry products rose 83% to \$57 million, while shipments of dairy products increased 58% to \$342 million.

- Export of fresh fruits increased to \$313 million during the period under reviews as compared to \$301 million a year ago.
- Export of lentils increased from \$135 million to \$330 million.
- For 2022-23, an export target of \$23.56 billion has been fixed by APEDA and export of \$13.77 billion has already been **achieved in the six-month period**.

### **About APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority)**

- Formation - 1986
- Chairman - **Dr. M. Angamuthu (IAS)**
- Functions under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.

### **Technical Textiles: Centre clears 20 research projects worth ₹74 crore**

- The Textiles Ministry has cleared **20 strategic research projects worth ₹74 crore** in areas such as agro-textiles, speciality fibre, smart textiles, activewear textiles, protective gear and sports textiles under the government's National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM).

#### **About NTTM**

- It was approved in 2020 by the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** with total outlay of **Rs.1480 Crore**.
- **The implementation period is four years, from FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24.**
- It aims to position India as a global leader in Technical Textiles by taking the domestic market size from USD 40 billion to USD 50 billion by 2024.
- It also supports the **'Make in India'** Initiative promoting domestic manufacturing of related machinery and equipment.

### **Nagaland to host Tokhü Emong Bird Count**

- **Nagaland** is hosting the **first edition** of the **Tokhü Emong Bird Count (TEBC)** between November 4 to 7, a four-day documentation event to list birds in the state.
- The event is being organised in collaboration with the Wokha Forest Division and the **Divisional Management Unit**, Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP), Wokha, and **Bird Count India**.

- The event is being held during the **Tokhü Emong post-harvest festival** of the Lotha Nagas to spread awareness about Nagaland's bird diversity.

#### About Nagaland

- Capital - Kohima
- Chief minister - Neiphiu Rio
- Governor - Jagdish Mukhi
- Official bird - Blyth's tragopan

#### Note

- The **Sálím Ali Bird Count** is a birding event, initiated by the **Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)** in 2018 to commemorate the birth anniversary (12 November) of the "**Bird Man of India**", late Dr. Sálím Ali (1896-1987).

#### National Tribal Dance Festival begins in Raipur, Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh is hosting the **3rd National Tribal Dance Festival** as a part of the celebrations of its 23rd State Foundation Day (November 1).
- The National Tribal Dance Festival is being held from **1st November 2022 to 3rd November 2022**.
- About **1500 tribal artists** will take part in the event of which 1400 will be from India and 100 will be from other countries including Mongolia, Tongo, Russia, Indonesia, Maldives, and Mozambique.

#### About Chhattisgarh

- Capital - Raipur
- Chief minister - Bhupesh Baghel
- Governor - Anusuiya Uikey

#### Mathura-Vrindavan aims to be carbon neutral by 2041

- Mathura-Vrindavan, one of India's largest pilgrimage centers, aims to become a "net zero carbon emission" tourist destination by 2041.
- Tourist vehicles will be banned from the entire Braj region, which includes famous pilgrim centres such as Vrindavan and Krishna Janmabhoomi. Instead, only electric vehicles used as public transport will be allowed into the area.
- All 252 waterbodies and 24 forests in the area will also be revived.

- The Government plans to **divide the entire region into four clusters**, each containing **two of the eight key cities** and form small circuits called **Parikrama Paths** which the pilgrim can undertake **either on foot or using electric vehicle**.

#### Note

- To attain a net zero carbon emission status, greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced to as close to zero as possible with any remaining emissions reabsorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance.

#### Agriculture Minister Launches Portal on National Mission on Natural Farming

- Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, launched the NMNF portal (National Mission on Natural Farming Portal)
- The NMNF portal (<http://naturalfarming.dac.gov.in>) developed by the Agriculture ministry was launched in the **first steering committee meeting of the National Natural Farming Mission held at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi**.
- The portal contains all the information about the mission, implementation outline, resources, implementation progress, farmer registration, blog etc., which will be useful for the farmers. Also, this website will help in promoting natural farming.

#### Note

- Natural Farming can be defined as "**chemical-free farming and livestock based**". Soundly grounded in agro-ecology, it is a diversified farming system that integrates crops, trees and livestock, allowing the optimum use of functional biodiversity.
- Natural Farming is promoted as '**Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati**' (BPKP) under the centrally sponsored scheme **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)**.

#### PM Modi launches new Complaint Management System portal

- PM Modi launched the new **Complaint Management System portal of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)** on the occasion of the **Vigilance Awareness Week**.



- The portal is envisioned to provide end-to-end information to the citizens through regular updates on the status of their complaints.
- PM also release a series of pictorial booklets on “Ethics and Good Practices”; **Compilation of best practices on “Preventive Vigilance” and a Special issue “VIGEYE-VANI” on public procurement.**

### **National Awareness Week**

- Central Vigilance Commission observes Vigilance Awareness Week every year to bring together all stakeholders in spreading the message of integrity in all spheres of life.
- In 2022, it is being observed **from 31st October to 6th November** with the theme of “**Corruption-free India for a developed nation**”

### **Note**

- The CVC was set up by the Government in **February, 1964** based on the recommendations of the **Committee on Prevention of Corruption**, headed by **Shri K. Santhanam**.
- In **2003**, the Parliament enacted CVC Act conferring statutory status on the CVC.

### **Education Ministry forms panel to strengthen assessment, accreditation of higher educational institutions**

- The Ministry of Education has set up a high-level panel to strengthen the assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions.
- The panel will be headed by **Dr K Radhakrishnan, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur**. He is also the chairperson of the Standing Committee of IIT Council.
- The mandate of the committee includes strengthening the assessment and accreditation processes and preparing a **road map for the National Accreditation Council** envisioned in the National Education Policy, 2020.

### **Central Government Decision on Compulsory Purchase from Listed Entrepreneurs**

- The Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises said that central government public sector enterprises have set

a target of minimum **4 percent compulsory procurement from scheduled and tribal entrepreneurs.**

- The decision was taken on the **5th meeting of the Human Rights Monitoring Committee (HPMC) of the National Scheduled and Scheduled Tribes Center (NSSH)** was held in Delhi.
- The committee was chaired by Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises **Narayan Rane** under **National SC-ST Hub scheme.**

### **Note**

- The **National SC-ST Hub** has been set up to provide **professional support to entrepreneurs from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes** to fulfil the obligations under the **Central Government Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises Order 2012**, adopt applicable business practices and leverage the **Stand-Up India initiative.**
- The **Hub** was launched by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** in **October 2016.**

### **Miss Northeast 2022**

- **Irene Dkhar** from Meghalaya was crowned **Miss Northeast 2022** during the finale at **Kohima in Nagaland.**
- This was the **first Miss Northeast pageant**, which was initiated by the **North East Beauty Pageant Organisation** and presented by the **Beauty and Aesthetic Society of Nagaland (BASN).**
- The pageant was sponsored by the **Nagaland government.**

### **About Nagaland**

- Capital - **Kohima**
- Chief minister - **Neiphiu Rio**
- Governor - **Jagdish Mukhi**

### **AnSI builds tribal hut replicas to promote unique heritage**

- In a first of its kind bid to showcase the heritage of tribal communities, especially those of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), the Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI) has recreated the huts of several communities at its different regional centres.



- The zonal anthropological museums of AnSI are important tourist destinations and the construction of these tribal huts and a monolith within the premises will help increase interest of visitors.

#### About AnSI

- Formation - 1945
- Head Office - Kolkata
- Director - Gauri Basu

#### Chandigarh Airport To Be Renamed After Bhagat Singh

- The Union Government issued an order stating that the **Chandigarh airport** will be renamed after freedom fighter Bhagat Singh.
- An elaborate process is followed in naming and renaming of airports, and the final approval has to come **from the Union Cabinet**.
- Generally, airports are known by the name of the city where they are located.
- In some cases, a specific name is proposed by the respective state government supported by a resolution passed in the state legislative assembly concerned.
- The same is then sent to the Union Cabinet for the final approval.

#### About Bhagat Singh (Born 27 September 1907- 23 March 1931)

- He was convicted of the murder of **John Saunders and Channan Singh**, and hanged in **March 1931, aged 23**.
- In 1926, he founded the **Naujawan Bharat Sabha**
- In 1928, he established the **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)** along with Sukhdev, Chandrashekhar Azad and others.
- Notable work - **Why I Am an Atheist**.
- On **8th April 1929, Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt** threw a bomb in the Central Assembly at Delhi, from the Visitors' Gallery.

#### MNRE Notifies National Bio Energy Programme

- The **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**, Government of India has notified the **National Bioenergy Programme**. MNRE has continued the National Bioenergy Programme for the period from FY 2021-22 to 2025-26.

- The Programme has been recommended for implementation in **two Phases**. The **Phase-I** of the Programme has been approved with a budget outlay of **Rs. 858 crore**.

- The National Bioenergy Programme will comprises of the following sub-schemes:

- **Waste to Energy Programme** (Programme on Energy from Urban, Industrial and Agricultural Wastes /Residues) to support setting up of large Biogas, BioCNG and Power plants (excluding MSW to Power projects).
- **Biomass Programme (Scheme to Support Manufacturing of Briquettes & Pellets and Promotion of Biomass (non-bagasse) based cogeneration in Industries)** to support setting up of pellets and briquettes for use in power generation and non-bagasse based power generation projects.
- **Biogas Programme to support setting up of family and medium size Biogas in rural areas.**
- To utilize the huge surplus biomass, cattle dung, industrial and urban biowaste available in the country for recovery of energy, the MNRE has been promoting bioenergy in India since the 1980s.
- One major support extended by MNRE has been Central Financial Assistance provided for setting up of Bioenergy projects such as Biogas, BioCNG, Power from urban, Industrial and Agricultural Waste / Residues for reducing their capital cost/ interest on loan therefore increasing project viability.

#### Modi unveils logo, theme, site of G20 presidency

- PM Narendra Modi unveiled the logo, theme and website of India's G20 presidency during an online event.
- India will assume the presidency of the powerful grouping from the current chair Indonesia on December 1.

#### About G 20

- The G20 or Group of Twenty is an intergovernmental forum of major developed and developing economies comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU).

- Formation - **26 September 1999.**
- Chairman - **Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia**
- First Meeting in in **Cologne, Germany**
- G20 Countries - Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.

#### **Note**

- India will assume the Presidency of the G20 for one year from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023 and the G20 Leaders' Summit will take place in New Delhi in 2023.

#### **D.Y. Chandrachud takes charge as the 50th Chief Justice of India**

- **Justice Dhananjaya Yashwant Chandrachud** was sworn in as the 50th Chief Justice of India (CJI) by President Droupadi Murmu at a brief ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Justice Chandrachud as CJI will have a **term of two years** and will head **India's judiciary until November 10, 2024, a day before he completes 65 years.**
- His father, Y.V. Chandrachud, holds the distinction of being the longest serving Chief Justice, who headed the judiciary from February 22, 1978 to July 11, 1985.
- He has been part of several Constitution Benches and landmark verdicts of the top court, including
  - **Ayodhya land dispute.**
  - Justice K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India case, in which it was unanimously held that the right to privacy was a Fundamental Right.
  - Headed the bench that expanded the scope of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act to include unmarried women for **abortion between 20 and 24 weeks of pregnancy.**
  - Judgments on decriminalising same-sex relations, after it partially struck down Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code.

- Part of the benches that ruled on the validity of the Aadhaar scheme and the Sabarimala issue, and paved the way for permanent commission for women officers in the armed forces.

#### **Note**

- **Article 124 of the Constitution of India provides for the manner of appointing judges to the Supreme Court.**
- Constitutional Provisions pertaining to Supreme Court - **Article 124 to 147.**

#### **15th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Expo 2022 held at Kochi, Kerala**

- The **15th edition of Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference & Expo 2022** held at Hotel Grand Hyatt, Kochi, Kerala which was jointly inaugurated by the Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan.
- It was held on the theme: **Sustainable AtmaNirbhar Urban Mobility'** which emphasizes on designing and implementing efficient, high quality and sustainable transport system in the cities.
- It was organized by the MoHUA in collaboration with the Government of Kerala.

#### **About UMI:**

- It was initiated in **2008** as a flagship event held under the aegis of the MoHUA to emphasize on building capabilities at the State and city level to address the problems associated with urban transport for the development of sustainable urban transport systems.

#### **Centre launches programme to strengthen Kashi-T.N. bond**

- The Union government announced a month-long programme **from November 16 to December 16 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam'** to strengthen and rekindle the cultural and civilisational bond between Tamil Nadu and Varanasi.
- The Programme is introduced as a part of **'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'**.

- The knowledge partners for the programme would be **IIT Madras and the Banaras Hindu University**.
- Uttar Pradesh government would be the host State.

#### **About Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**

- The programme was launched on **31st October, 2015** on the occasion of the **140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**.
- It aims to enhance interaction & promote mutual understanding between people of different states/UTs through the concept of state/UT pairing.
- The states carry out activities to promote a sustained and structured cultural connect in the areas of language learning, culture, traditions & music, tourism & cuisine, sports and sharing of best practices, etc.

#### **Aadhaar rules amended; supporting doc may be updated at least once in 10 years**

- The government has amended **Aadhaar regulations**, specifying that supporting documents may be updated at least once by Aadhaar holders on completion of 10 years from the enrolment date.
- The updation would ensure continued accuracy of Aadhaar-related information in the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR), according to gazette notification issued by ministry of electronics and IT.
- The changes have been made by amending the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations.

#### **Note**

- The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar (**Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services**) Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act 2016") on 12 July 2016.

#### **India Saved USD 4.2 Billion Through Solar Power Between January & June**

- According to the report titled "The Sunny Side of Asia" India has saved USD 4.2 billion in fuel costs by utilising solar energy in the 1st half

of 2022 and avoided the need of 19.4 million tonnes of coal which would have further stressed the strained domestic supply.

- The report was jointly developed by energy think tank **Ember, the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) and the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA)**.

#### **Key Findings of the report:**

- The report which analysed the solar growth over the last decade has found that 5 of the top 10 economies with solar capacity are within Asia which includes, China (1st), Japan (3rd), India (5th), South Korea (8th) and Vietnam (9th).
- Solar power is expected to grow at an average annual growth rate of 22% until 2030 across 5 Asian economies – China, India, the Philippines, Japan and Indonesia.

#### **Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Terminal 2 (T2) of Kempegowda International Airport at Bengaluru.**

- With the inauguration of **T2, passenger handling capacity** as well as counters for check-in and immigration will double, helping the people immensely.
- Built at a cost of around Rs 5,000 crore, Terminal 2 will be able to handle around 5-6 crore passengers from the current capacity of 2.5 crore annually.
- Terminal 2 is designed as a tribute to the Garden city of Bengaluru and the passenger experience is meant to be a "walk in the garden".
- Passengers will travel through 10,000+ sq mts of green walls, hanging gardens and outdoor gardens and these gardens have been made in India using indigenous technology.
- The Bengaluru Airport has already established a benchmark in sustainability with 100 per cent usage of renewable energy across the campus.
- Terminal 2 has been created with sustainability principles woven into the design.

#### **About Karnataka**

- Capital - Bengaluru

- Governor - Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Chief minister - Basavaraj Bommai

### **President Murmu breaks protocol, walks 2 km to Jagannath Temple**

- The President broke protocol and walked down around 2 km – like all others – to offer prayer at the **12th century shrine of Lord Jagannath, the most revered god in Odisha.**
- She was on her first visit to her home state after being elected to the highest constitutional office in July 2022.

### **India participates in World Travel Market 2022 (WTM) at London to step up recovery of Inbound tourism**

- Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is participating at **World Travel Market (WTM) 2022 from 7th to 9th November in London** which is one of the largest international travel exhibitions.
- The theme of this years exhibition is **‘The Future of Travel Starts Now’.**
- India’s participation at WTM is significant to step up recovery of Inbound tourism to pre-pandemic level.
- The Tamil Nadu Tourism Department has opened its pavilion at the World Travel Market-2022.
- **The event will help Tamil Nadu to showcase its tourism potential at a global platform and assist the government to plan its activities to promote tourism.**

### **New Changes in UTS App**

- The Indian railways has introduced some changes in the UTS App.
- The users changes allow the users to book unreserved tickets on the UTS mobile app from a distance of upto 20 km from a station on non-suburban sections, up from 5 km.
- In suburban areas, the distance has been enhanced to 5 km from the existing 2 km.
- The Railway Board issued new instructions to all zones on, giving effect to the new proximity norms.

### **Note**

- **The Un-Reserved Ticket through Mobile Application (UTS app) was started by the Indian Railways on 27 Dec, 2014 from Mumbai Suburban area.**
- **From November 1, 2018,** booking of unreserved tickets on all non-suburban sections across all Zonal Railways has been made available using the UTS app to enable seamless booking of unreserved tickets **all over Indian Railways.**

### **Centre to promote exports of millets and its products**

- The Ministry of Commerce and Industry is working to promote the export of millet and millet-related products through the **agricultural export promotion body, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).**
- The move follows India’s proposal, which was supported by 72 countries, and resulted in the United Nations General Assembly (**UNGA**) declaring 2023 as the **International Year of Millets (IYoM) on March 5, 2021.**
- The government is currently organising IYoM-2023 at both the domestic and international levels in order to popularise Indian millets and value-added products around the world.
- The government has invited farmers, exporters, and traders to participate in 16 international trade expos and Buyer Seller Meets (BSMs).
- India is one of the world’s leading millet producers, accounting for approximately 41 per cent of global production.
- According to FAO, global millet production in 2020 will be 30.464 million metric tonnes (MMT), with India accounting for 12.49 MMT or 41 per cent of total millet production.
- In 2021-22, India recorded a 27 per cent increase in millet production compared to the previous year’s millet production of 15.92 MMT.
- India’s top five millet-producing states are Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- The share of export of millet is nearly 1% of the total millet production.



- India's major millet exporting countries are U.A.E, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Oman, Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, U.K and U.S.A. Bajra, Ragi, Canary, Jawar, and Buckwheat are among the millets exported by India.

### India's 1st National Repository for Life Science Data

- The Union Minister of State, Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the **Indian Biological Data Center' (IBDC) at Regional Centre of Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad, Haryana.**
- It is India's first national repository for life science data which is supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology.

#### Note

- Life Sciences is the sciences concerned with the study of living organisms, including biology, botany, zoology, microbiology, physiology, biochemistry, and related subjects.

### Bhopal Railway Station awarded a 4-star rating for 'Eat Right Station' by FSSAI

- Bhopal Junction Railway Station of West Central Railway was awarded a 4-star rating for 'Eat Right Station' for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).**
- The certification given to Bhopal Railway Station is valid up to **1st November 2024.**

#### Note

- The certification is part of the **'Eat Right India'** movement which is a large-scale effort by FSSAI to transform the country's food system to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable food for all Indians.
- Eat Right India** adopts an **integrative or 'whole of the government' approach** since the movement brings together food-related mandates of the agriculture, health, environment and other ministries.

- The **other railway stations** with this certification include

- Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station (New Delhi)
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Mumbai),
- Mumbai Central Railway Station (Mumbai),
- Vadodara Railway Station,
- Chandigarh Railway Station.

### Subodh": The 1st edition of NMDC's Vigilance Magazine released

- The vigilance department of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC), released the first edition of its in-house vigilance magazine "Subodh" at the Head Office in Hyderabad, Telangana to reinforce the NMDC's commitment to fostering honesty and transparency among all stakeholders.

#### Note

- NMDC Limited, formerly National Mineral Development Corporation, is a central public sector undertaking. It is under the ownership of Ministry of Steel, Government of India.
- Rajnath Singh unveils statue of Prithviraj Chauhan in Haryana
- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar unveiled the statue of Prithviraj Chauhan at Kulana village of Jhajjar district in Haryana.
- The idol is of golden colour.

#### Note

- Prithviraja III was a king from the Chauhan dynasty who ruled the territory of Sapadalaksha, with his capital at Ajmer in present-day Rajasthan.





# 7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## SCO Heads of Government Meeting

- The **21st meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Heads of Government** was hosted by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang virtually.
- India was represented by the External Affairs Minister Jaishankar at the meeting of SCO Council of Heads of Government.
- India underlined that India need better connectivity in the SCO region built on centrality of interests of Central Asian states.

### About SCO

- Formation - **June 15, 2001**
- Headquarters - **Beijing, China**
- SCO General - **Zhang Ming**
- An **eight-member** economic and security alliance comprising **China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.**
- **India and Pakistan** joined SCO on **June 9, 2017.**
- Iran will become the **9th member** of SCO.

## Benjamin Netanyahu Becomes New Israeli PM

- The former Israeli Prime Minister (PM) Benjamin Netanyahu (Binyamin Netanyahu) (73 years old), head of the right-wing Likud party won the **25th elections of Israel's parliament (Knesset)** defeating the interim PM Yair Lapid of Yesh Atid, a centre-left political party and was elected as the New PM of Israel.

### About Israel

- Capital - **Jerusalem**
- President - **Isaac Herzog**
- Currency - **New shekel**

### About Benjamin Netanyahu

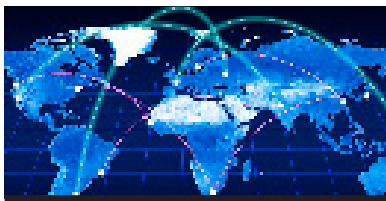
- He is Israel's longest-serving leader.
- Has won a record five elections to hold office (as expected) six times - more than any other prime minister in the country's 74-year history.
- He was appointed Israel's permanent representative at the UN in New York in 1984.
- In 1996, he became Israel's first directly elected prime minister.
- He was Israel's youngest leader and the first to be born after the state was founded in 1948.

## Natasa Pirc Musar elected as Slovenia's first female President

- Lawyer Natasa Pirc Musar won the second round of Slovenia's presidential election and is set to become the first female President of Slovenia.
- Pirc Musar won 54% of the votes, while her rival, right-wing politician and former Foreign Minister Anže Logar, won 46%.
- Pirc Musar will succeed President Borut Pahor, a centrist politician who has served as the President for two terms.

### About Slovenia :

- Currency - **Euro**
- Capital - **Ljubljana**
- President - **Borut Pahor**



## 8. TAMILNADU AFFAIRS

### **IIT-M revenue tops Rs 1,000 crore for the first time in financial year.**

- For the first time since its establishment in 1959, the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) generated over Rs 1,000 crore in funding and revenue in the financial year 2021-22. This is a leap from the previous year's funding of Rs 714 crore.
- During 2021-22, the institute received Rs 768 crore from projects sanctioned by the State and Central governments and Rs 313 crore in industry consultancy. These collaborations are facilitated by the Centre for Industrial Consultancy and Sponsored Research (ICSR), IIT-M.

### **IIT Madras, Farmers NGO Develops Cost-Effective Agricultural Transportation System to Aid Farmers**

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has developed an efficient and cost-effective agricultural transportation system in collaboration with Pothu Vivasayeegal Sangam, a non-government organisation (NGO) for farmers.
- The agricultural transportation system developed by IIT Madras is a lightweight monorail type, that can economically carry agricultural produce from the fields to collection points near the farmlands.
- The cost-effective agricultural transportation research project was developed by Professor Shankar Krishnapillai, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT Madras, in a joint effort with the farmers' NGO.
- The transport system is of a simple indigenous design, consisting of steel poles mounted on concrete footings placed at the edge of the field. High-strength, but light rails connect these posts with a span of six meters, and a traction unit powered by a petrol engine propels several trolleys carrying agricultural loads back and forth. Each of these trolleys can carry a load of about 40 kg.

### **Vulture rescued during Cyclone Ockhi was sent off in flight to Jodhpur**

- A **Cinereous vulture** (*Aegypius monachus*), which was found stranded near Asaripallam in Nagercoil town of **Kanniyakumari district** during **Cyclone Ockhi** in December 2017, is set to be released in **Keru, Rajasthan**, after nearly five years of rehabilitation and care.
- The vulture was kept in **Udhayagiri biodiversity park in Udhayagiri Fort of Kanniyakumari district** will be released into the wild from **Keru site in Machia Biological Park with a GPS-GSM tag** with the assistance of **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)**.

#### **Note**

- Out of **nine vulture species** found in India, **four**, namely the **White-backed vulture**, **Long-billed vulture**, **Egyptian vulture** and **Red-headed vulture** are residents in places like the Moyar valley in the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu. Vultures are also found in **Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve**.
- IUCN Status of Cinereous vulture - **Near Threatened**.

### **TN launches app to ease inspection in ration shops**

- State Minister for Food and Civil Supplies **R.Chakkarapani** launched an app named "TN FPS (Fair Price Shops) Inspection" for officials of the Civil Supplies department to ease the **process of inspection and to update the information about inspection to higher officials**.
- The officials who are inspecting the ration shops after completing their inspection need not ask for the records available with the ration shop workers on the stocks, but can see and update them in the app.
- The data from the app will be helpful for the higher officials and the essential food supplies that are not present in the ration shops will be sent to the particular shop immediately.

- The app was launched with the purpose of reducing the inspection time for officials.
- According to the recent order, a **Collector** has to inspect a **minimum of 10 shops per month** and the maximum number of inspections is for **Joint Registrar (PDS) and Taluk Supply Officers (SO)** is to inspect 50 ration shops in a month.
- The three day event is likely to witness participation of 30 to 40 authors from at least 20 countries.
- It will be jointly organised by the **Directorate of Public Libraries, Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation**, and the **Booksellers and Publishers Association of South India (BAPASI)**.

### **Amaraesh Pujari posted as DGP, Prisons**

- **Director-General of Police Amaraesh Pujari** has been shifted from the Cyber Crime Wing and posted as **DGP, Prisons and Correctional Services**, since the incumbent, Sunil Kumar Singh, retires from service.

### **45 TN govt. school children get admission into IIT course**

- Under an initiative called '**Anaivarukkum IITM**' (**IIT Madras for everyone**), a total of 87 students from more than 20 districts in Tamil Nadu have received admissions for the **BS Degree in Data Science and Applications in IIT Madras**.
- **BS Degree in Data Science and Applications**, a **fouryear course** that was **first introduced by IIT Madras in 2021** with the aim of making the Institute's **quality education accessible to all**.
- **Anaivarukkum IITM** initiative aims to increase the number of government school students who are enrolled in our BS program.
- IIT Madras provides incomebased scholarships of up to 75% for students pursuing the BS Degree.
- Students who qualified through a collaborative effort with **Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing Development Corporation (TAHDCO)** will receive **full financial support from the State Government**.
- Over 15,000 students are enrolled in the programme, with the maximum number of students from Tamil Nadu, followed by Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

### **First International Book Fair in Chennai**

- School Education Minister **Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozi** unveiled the logo of the **Chennai International Book Fair (CIBF)** which is planned to be held in Chennai from January 16 to 18 at Anna Library in Chennai.

### **Fair price shops in State get a makeover**

- Fair price shops across Tamil Nadu will be revamped with improved facilities.
- As on October 31, of the **2,950 shops chosen for the renovation project**, **2,252 have been covered**. Likewise, **3,662 shops received the ISO 9001:2015 certification** and **930 shops got the ISO 280002007 certification as on November 1**.
- There are 33,445 shops in total in the State, of which 23,973 function full time and the remaining function parttime.
- As per the renovation plan, **75 shops each have been selected in 37 out of 39 civil supplies districts**.
- The ISO certification in public distribution system means that the shops have established mechanisms to prevent adulteration or safety hazards to food items they handle and supply.

### **Note**

- The State of Tamil Nadu follows Universal Public Distribution System where classifications such as BPL, APL, do not exist.
- Even through, the State has implemented **National Food Security Act from November 2016**, by following the pattern of supply of Rice as mandated under NFSA with protection of erstwhile scale of supply for all Rice cardholders retaining the Universal character of Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu.
- **Presently five types of smart family cards are in circulation.**

### **Tamil Nadu to keep watch on border as Kerala begins digital resurvey of its land**

- The Kerala Government has launched the digital resurvey of its land on November 1 the

Tamil Nadu government has asked its officials in the Departments of Revenue and Forest to monitor the developments in areas along the inter State borders.

- The digital resurvey assumes significance since a few claims over land remain unsettled both ways over the years and some areas in **Neyyar and Shenbagavalli** and structures like the Mullaperiyar dam **in Kerala** are under the control of the Tamil Nadu government.
- **Nine districts of Tamil Nadu** — the Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, **Dindigul, Theni, Virudhunagar, Tenkasi, Tirunelveli** and **Kanniyakumari** — **share borders with Kerala**, which was part of the Madras Presidency under the British rule.

### Increase in number of cases of tuberculosis

- In 2002, **77,000 new cases of tuberculosis** have been reported so far in Tamil Nadu. It is significant because there has been a **13 percent increase in the number of cases** compared to the previous year.
- Central and state governments are implementing various programs with the goal of completely eradicating tuberculosis by 2025.
- In Tamil Nadu, the **TB cure rate is increasing significantly**.
- Health department officials state that **84 percent** of affected patients are cured in the first treatment, and the rest are completely cured by continuous treatments.
- Financial assistance is also being provided to provide nutrition to patients during treatment.
- **10.28 lakh** people were affected by the disease across the country. **77,019** people were affected by the disease in Tamil Nadu.
- According to the official data, **60,048** people received primary treatment in government hospitals.

### TB Treatment in TN

- The **Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP)** was started in the year **1997** and implemented in Tamil Nadu since 2002.

- Tamil Nadu is the **first state to implement nutritional support through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** under Nikshay Poshan Yojana in the country from April 2018.

### Note

- TB is caused by a bacterium called **Mycobacterium tuberculosis**.
- Currently, two vaccines **VPM (Vakzine Projekt Management) 1002** and **MIP (Mycobacterium Indicus Pranii)** have been developed and identified for TB which are under clinical trials.
- The World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is observed on **24th March every year**.
- The **Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG)** vaccine is presently the **sole vaccine available for the prevention of TB**.

### Crop loan disbursement to farmers

- For the first time the crop loan disbursement **has crossed Rs.10 thousand crores**. In the last financial year, **14.84 lakh** farmers have been given crop loans of **Rs.10,292.02 crores**. So far this year, **8,44,082** farmers have been granted loans of **Rs.6,341.89 crore**.
- In 2022, **1,40,722** new people were added and **1,12,000** were given loans of **Rs.741.78 crore**.
- **1,54,847** farmers have been given loans of **Rs.1022.57 crore** through **697** Primary Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies in Delta districts.
- **Google Pay and Paytm** facilities have been introduced in Tamil Nadu State Chief Cooperative Bank.
- Out of **34,790** fair price shops across Tamil Nadu, **33,487** shops are under the control of Cooperative Department.

### Screening programs to detect diseases

- The state health department has launched **special screening programmes for nearly nine different ailments like heart health, blood diseases, diabetes, rheumatism, cancer, infertility etc.** at **Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital**.
- This is the first time that a separate screening programs have been introduced according to the nature of the diseases.



- There are **three standard tests** under the **master health programme**. The gold test is offered at 1,000, the **diamond scheme** is offered at 2,000 and the **platinum** at 3,000. They offer tests such as **mammograms, Dexa scan (bone density test), thyroid profiles, ECHO and HbA1c(diabetes)**.
- **Comprehensive master health check-up** was introduced in **2016 at Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, Chennai**.
- Infrastructure and medical equipment were installed at a cost of Rs.4 crore. Disease related special tests are available at Rajiv Gandhi Hospital.

### **Stalin unveils T.N. aerospace policy**

- The Tamil Nadu **Aerospace and Defence Industrial Policy, 2022**, was released by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in a Conclave on **Industry 4.0 'Future is Now Towering Tamil Nadu'**, held at TIDEL Park Chennai.
- It is aimed at attracting over Rs.5,000 crore investments and providing employment to over 1 lakh people over the next 10 years.
- **Two centres of excellence** were inaugurated in the event
  - **Tamil Nadu Smart and Advanced Manufacturing Centre (TANSAM)**
  - **Tamil Nadu Advanced Manufacturing Centre of Excellence (TAMCOE)**
- While TANSAM is a collaboration between the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) and Siemens, established at a cost of Rs.51.54 crore, TAMCOE is TIDCO's collaboration with GE Aviation, established at a cost of Rs.141 crore.
- Two remote pilot training organisations were inaugurated in Madurai and Coimbatore that are the result of TID CO's collaboration with the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) and DE Drone.

### **The 7th World One Health Congress**

- The **7th World One Health Congress (WOHC)** is the world's premier event which aims to advance the One Health agenda was held at the Sands Expo & Convention Centre in Singapore with more than 1400 in-person

and 1000 virtual attendees from academic institutions, civil society, government bodies, private sector and multilateral organisations around the world.

- Mdm Halimah Yacob, President of the Republic of Singapore, inaugurated the Event as its Guest-of-Honour and delivered a speech.
- The **five-day Congress** is hosted by Singapore's SingHealth Duke-NUS Global Health Institute (SDGHI) under the auspices of the SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre.
- The theme of the congress is 'Integrating Science, Policy and Clinical Practice: A One Health Imperative Post-COVID-19'.
- It seeks to advance the global One Health movement to improve health and well-being by preventing and mitigating crises that originate at the animal-human-environment interface.
- **Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma. Subramanian** participated in the event and delivered a speech under the title, **"Antimicrobial Resistance (Infectious Diseases Threats in Southeast Asia)"**.

### **'Muthu and 30 thieves', a book on Cyber Crime Awareness Released**

- Chennai City Police Commissioner Shankar Jiwal released a **cyber crime awareness book** titled **'Muthu and 30 Thieves' (Muthuvum Muppathu Thirudargalum)** at the Chennai Police Commissioner's office.
- Maheshwari, Additional Commissioner, Central Crime Branch, received the first copy.
- The book was published to create awareness about cyber crimes.

### **Mobile health vehicles tracked real time in T.N**

- All **805 vehicles of Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK)** and **460 Mobile Medical Units (MMU)** are now being tracked in real time in Tamil Nadu.
- The **Directorate of Public Health (DPH) and Preventive Medicine** has put in place a **GPSbased tracking** system to monitor the functioning of these mobile health units from the headquarters in Chennai.



- RBSK teams need to cover all government and government-aided schools at least once in a year, MMUs should hold 40 medical camps per month in villages.

### **About Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK)**

- It is a new initiative aiming at early identification and early intervention for children from birth to 18 years to cover 4 'D's viz. **Defects at birth, Deficiencies, Diseases, Development delays including disability.**
- It is important to note that the **0 - 6 years age group** will be specifically managed at **District Early Intervention Center (DEIC)** level while for **6 -18 years age group**, management of conditions will be done through existing public health facilities.

### **Manjappai vending machines inaugurated on HC campus**

- In a first step towards making the Madras High Court campus free of the harmful single-use plastic products five Manjappai dispensing machines and two reverse vending machines for disposing plastic bottles were inaugurated in the HC Campus.

#### **Note**

- 'Meendum Manjappai' scheme was launched in **December, 2021** to promote the use of cloth bags by the public and **discourage the use of plastic bags.**
- The Tamil Nadu government banned **14 types of one-time use and throw away plastic items on January 1, 2019** and reinforced the action under the 'People's Campaign Against Throw Away Plastics' on **September 3, 2021.**
- The Union government banned the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential, all across the country from **July 1, 2022.**

### **StartupTN launches hackathon to find solutions to issues in agri sector**

- The **Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (Startup TN)** has launched a unique hackathon — '**Tamil Nadu Agri Hackathon**

**2022'** — to find solutions for issues in the agriculture sector.

- Agritech start-ups with commercially viable ideas will be funded with a grant of up to Rs.10 lakh.
- Through this hackathon, the government is looking for scaleable solutions in four areas.
  - The first one is about a mechanical palmyra tree climbing device.
  - The second challenge pertains to an integrated or stand-alone tapioca harvester and cleaner.
  - The remaining two challenges lie in looking for efficient point of transaction testing for agricultural commodities, and developing innovative solutions to extend the shelf life of food and other agricultural products.

### **Free power connections to 50,000 farmers across**

- TN CM Stalin was Launching the provision of **free power connections to 50,000 farmers** across the State at a function held in **Aravakurichi.**
- Tamil Nadu is aiming to become self sufficient in power generation by 2030, with the help of various measures taken by the **Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco).**
- TN secured the **fourth place in solar power generation, with 1,528 MW.**

### **New laboratory to fight leptospirosis cases**

- In an effort to strengthen diagnostic facilities for **Leptospirosis**, a **Regional Leptospirosis Diagnostics Laboratory (RLDL)** has been established at the State Public Health Laboratory of the **Directorate of Public Health (DPH)** and Preventive Medicine in Chennai.
- The **National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)** approved the establishment of RLDL under the Programme for Prevention and Control of Leptospirosis in 2021-22.
- Leptospirosis is an acute bacterial infection, that could lead to multiple organ involvement and fatal complications due to renal and pulmonary involvement.

- The onset of the disease has been increasing in India for the past three decades.

#### **Note**

- The institute was established to function as a national centre of excellence for control of communicable diseases. The function of the institute also included various areas of training and research using multi-disciplinary integrated approach.
- The **erstwhile Malarial Insitute of India (MII)** was renamed as **NICD** in 1963.

### **36th Convocation Ceremony of Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul**

- PM Modi, TN Governor R.N.Ravi and TN CM M.K.Stalin participated in the **36th Convocation Ceremony of Gandhigram Rural Institute in Dindigul district**.
- PM Modi presented **honorary doctorates** to music composer and **maestro Ilaiyaraaja and instrumentalist Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman**.
- MK Stalin **gifted the PM a shawl and the English translation version of the Tamil novel "Ponniyin Selvan"**.

### **Police to use Smart Kavalar app for new beat system**

- The **Tamil Nadu State Crime Records Bureau** is set to implement a new electronic beat system for police personnel using **Smart Kavalar App** across Tamil Nadu soon.
- The field policing application was developed for use by Tamil Nadu police with an objective to manage the beat activities digitally and make patrolling and field policing more efficient.
- The mobile app will record and track details of beat and other field policing and enables the officers to monitor real time the work of the constables in the allotted beat or area.
- The history sheet for the station's jurisdiction is maintained by the SHO on the app.
- Till now, police officers were required to sign patta books with date and time to confirm patrolling in their allocated beat.
- And it was the duty of senior police officials to audit the patta books at regular intervals.

- Now, the e-beat system would replace the old method. The e-beat system is expected to facilitate better policing.

### **New IIT-Madras tech forecasts exactly which parts of a city are set to receive showers**

- IIT Madras has developed and operationalised a new regional climate model for Tamil Nadu that promises localised and accurate rainfall forecasts for an area as specific as Chennai corporation ward.
- IIT Madras has validated the new model and is running it on the supercomputers of **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAV) in Pune**, which is implementing the **National Supercomputing Mission**. The model is run daily and the output (seven-day forecast) is shared with Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority.
- Popular global **numerical models like European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts** or Global Forecasting System, which are used by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), have **coarser resolutions (grid size of 25 km and above)**.
- IMD runs the models on a larger-scale for the entire country and inherently these models are more inclined or focused on the southwest monsoon, which is the primary Indian monsoon, leaving few grey areas in the forecasting of northeast monsoon that has become more erratic in last few years and the South Peninsula Region is experiencing extreme weather events.

### **Corporates, industries pitch in to play key role in State's 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme**

- Corporates, industrial bodies and chambers of commerce are pitching in to play a crucial role in the Tamil Nadu government's '**Naan Mudhalvan**' scheme aimed at equipping college students with industryrelevant skills.
- 53 memoranda of agreement have been signed with the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation.

**About Naan Mudhalvan Scheme**

- Launched on March 1, 2022.
- The scheme was launched as a skill development program for the students of Government Schools and Colleges.
- TN Government also launched the 'Kalloori Kanavu' programme under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' initiative which aims to guide and counsel students who have completed Class XII.

**Screening and Detection of Diabetes**

- The outpatient department for Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam organised diabetes screening and health education activities in **Government Kilpauk Medical College in Chennai**.
- Ma.Subramanian, the state minister of Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare distributed glucometer to the beneficiaries during the event.

**About Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam scheme**

- The scheme was launched by Chief Minister M.K.Stalin in **Samanapalli village in Krishnagiri on August 5, 2021**. The scheme was simultaneously launched in Thanjavur, Tiruchi, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore, Chennai, Salem and Madurai with a cumulative allocation of Rs.258 crore and a targeted coverage of 30 lakh families and 1 crore population.
- The scheme will screen those above 45 years of age and others with infirmities through routine door-to-door check-ups and detect non-communicable diseases that cause sudden mortalities and impact the quality of life.

- The scheme will hinge on women public health workers, women health volunteers (WHVs), physiotherapists and nurses, who will provide healthcare at the doorstep.

**Raja Raja Chola's birth anniversary to be celebrated as state event**

- The Tamil Nadu government announced that the birth anniversary of Raja Raja Chola would be celebrated as a **government event** every year on **November 3**.
- Raja Raja Cholan's birth anniversary is celebrated as '**Sadhaya Vizha**' by several organisations every year in Thanjavur district.
- The **Kalakattur Kadan Mainthan inscription** stands as evidence of the **good governance of Raja Raja Cholan**.

**Note**

- **Rajaraja I (A.D. (CE) 985 - 1014)** was the most powerful ruler of Chola empire and also grew popular beyond his times.
- He established Chola authority over large parts of South India. His much-acclaimed naval expeditions led to the expansion of Cholas **into the West Coast and Sri Lanka**.
- He built the famous **Rajarajeswaram (Brihadeshwara) Temple in Thanjavur**.