



SIVARAJAVEL IAS ACADEMY

AN IDEAL INSTITUTE FOR **CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS**

SANGAMAM

Monthly Current Affairs for Competitive Exams

OCTOBER- 2024 (English / Tamil)



Padmashri, Khel Ratna | Arjuna awardee.

RANI RAMPAL

Former Captain of Indian women's Hockey Team



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OCTOBER 2024

SANGAMAM

Monthly Current Affairs for TNPSC

OCTOBER

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RANI RAMPAL

Rani Rampal is a former captain of the Indian women's hockey team and a legend of the sport



Rani Rampal (born 4 December 1994) is an Indian coach and former field hockey player. At the age of 15, she was the youngest in the national squad of the 2010 World Cup. She played as a forward. In her career, Rampal played 212 international matches and scored 134 goals. She also acted as a striker and doubled up as mid-fielder.

Awards

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (2020) - Highest Sporting Honour of India.

Padma Shri (2020) - fourth Highest Indian National Honour

From the streets of Shahabad to the pinnacle of Indian women's hockey, Rani's journey is one of grit and determination. Debuting at just 15, she led India to unforgettable victories, including the 2010 Asian Games, 2017 Asia Cup gold, and a historic finish at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Her achievements, including the Arjuna Award and Padma Shri, highlight her impact on the sport. Rani has inspired countless young girls to dream big.

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TAMILNADU NEWS

‘GLOSSY IBIS’ ARRIVAL TO TANJORE

- Due to the abundance of water bodies in the delta districts, Glossy Ibis from the northern states have migrated there in large numbers in search of water bodies in Thanjavur district.
- Black-colored Glossy Ibis
- Weighing up to about 3 kg, these birds are black in color and have a long nose.
- The migration of birds from one place to another is called migration.
- The northeast monsoon season in Tamil Nadu is from October to
- December.
- Glossy Ibis stay in Tamil Nadu from September to February.

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT POTTERY:

- Ancient potteries were found near Marandaalli, Dharmapuri district.
- These pottery dates back to 3,500 years ago. In the excavations being carried out in the areas of Pangunatham and Perumbalai in Dharmapuri district, evidence has been found that people have been living here for 3000 years.
- The Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology has started excavation work at eight locations across Tamil Nadu, including the tenth phase of excavation at Keezhadi.

NEW APP TO KNOW WEATHER FORECAST:

- The government of Tamil Nadu will launch an app called TN ALERT to know the forecasts, including weather warnings.

- People can know the amount of rainfall and water availability in lakes through this app.
- If the public uploads their cell phone number to this app, they will also be sent a text message regarding the weather conditions in their area of residence.

KALAICHEMMAL AWARDS

- KALAICHEMMAL awards are conferred on the eminent artists of Tamil Nadu in recognition of meritorious service in the fields of Painting and Sculpture in Traditional and Contemporary Arts.
- A cash award of Rs.1,00,000/-each and a citation plaque are given to them.
- On behalf of Arts and Culture Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the ‘KALAICHEMMAL Award’ is given to the artists who have achieved achievements in the field of traditional art, modern style art and fine arts from Tamil Nadu.

AWARDS FOR THE YEARS 2024-2025

- Category of Traditional Painting, Painter A. Manivelu,
- Category of Traditional Sculpture L. Balachander and K. Kanniappan,
- Category of Modern Painting, K. Muralitharan and A. Selvaraj,
- Category of Modern Art, Ra. Raghavan.

APPOINTMENT OF STATE SC & ST COMMISSION CHAIRMAN:

- Retired Justice S. Tamilvanan has been appointed as the Chairman of the Tamil Nadu

State Commission for Adi Dravidar and Tribal Affairs.

- It is reported that he will serve as president for 3 years.

STALIN PRESENTS KALAINGAR NINAIVU KALAI THURAI VITHAGAR AWARD TO SUSHEELA, METHA

- On behalf of the Tamil Nadu government, in memory of former chief minister Karunanithi, the awards are presented to Ms. Susheela and Mr. Metha for 2023.
- The 'Kalaignar Ninaivu Kalai Thurai Vithagar Award' is conferred on a person with outstanding lifetime achievements in the Tamil film industry.
- It has been that every year on June 3, Karunanithi's birthday, the awardee would get a cash prize of ₹10 lakh and a certificate of appreciation.

MAGIZH MUTRAM SCHEME

- Student groups are to be formed under the Rs 2 crore project 'Magizh Mutram' to inculcate leadership qualities in the students studying in government schools.
- The headmasters should ensure that the induction ceremony for the student leaders, class leaders, head teacher, and group head teacher is held on 14th November in all the schools.
- In order to develop leadership qualities among students, groups named Kurinji, Mullai, Marudam, Neithal, and Palai will be formed, and student leaders and student ministers will be nominated.
- Through this, a model legislative assembly and parliament will be held to improve political knowledge and leadership skills among students.
- **OBJECTIVE:**
- Teamwork,
- Social attitude,

- Mutual support without differences.

•

TAMIL NADU RAMSAR SITES

- Tamil Nadu Government attempts to get Ramsar status for two bird sanctuaries in Ramanathapuram.
- The number of Ramsar sites in Tamil Nadu has gone up to 18 with the addition of Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary in Tirupur District and Kaluveli Bird Sanctuary in Villupuram District.
- With this, India has increased its number of Ramsar sites (Wetlands of International Importance) from the existing 82 to 85.
- World Wetlands Day is observed on 2nd February.
- Wetlands of international importance are called Ramsar sites.
- India is one of the contracting parties to the Ramsar Convention signed in 1971 at Ramsar, Iran.
- This day is celebrated worldwide as International Wetlands Day to commemorate the adoption of this International Convention on Wetlands on February 2, 1971.
- In August 2022, India reached a significant milestone of increasing the total number of Ramsar sites to 75 in the 75th year of independence.

4 NEW PROJECTS TO BRING MATERNAL AND CHILD MORTALITY TO ZERO IN TAMIL NADU

- The Health Minister said that four new schemes have been launched in Tamil Nadu to bring maternal and child mortality to zero.
- All children born in Tamil Nadu will be screened for birth defects in 1,000 government hospitals.
- Special centers have been started at 400 places to monitor the development and welfare of infants.
- A pilot project for technology-assisted

continuous monitoring of preterm and low-birth-weight infants at their homes has been launched in seven districts, namely Chennai, Chengalpattu, Cuddalore, Kallakurichi, Kanchipuram, Tiruvannamalai, and Villupuram.

- Launched 'Parent App' for Early Child Development.
- According to the Health Management Information System, the child mortality rate in Tamil Nadu has come down from 10.2 per 1,000 births to 8 in the last 3 years with the implementation of various child welfare programs. Maternal mortality in Tamil Nadu is 40.2 per 1 lakh births.

STALIN GETS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- Chief Minister MK Stalin has been conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Asean Human Resource Development (Asean HRD).
- Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation has provided skill training to lakhs of people.
- Employment opportunities have increased. The youth's quality of life has improved.
- The group believes that education and human resource development alone will eradicate poverty. For this, the award was presented to the Chief Minister.

UN AWARD FOR MAKKALAI THEDI MARUTHUVAM SCHEME

- The United Nations Interagency Task Force Award for the year 2024 has been announced to the Tamil Nadu Health Department for planning and implementing outstanding programs in the control of noncommunicable diseases.
- This award was announced in the 79th United Nations General Assembly held in New York, USA, for the implementation of the "Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam" Program for the health department of the Tamil Nadu government and the public welfare department.

SOLAR POWER PARK IN 6 DISTRICTS: POWER BOARD SETS UP

- In 2021-22, the Power Board planned to set up solar power parks.
- Accordingly, 3,300 acres of land was selected in the districts of Tiruvarur, Karur, Nagai, Salem, Chengalpattu and Kanchipuram.
- As the first park, a 50MW solar power plant was planned at Tiruvarur.
- A new company called Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation was started early this year to carry out these works.

AN INSCRIPTION OF MARAVARMAN SUNDARA PANDYAN WAS FOUND IN THE RANABALIMURUGAN TEMPLE AT PERUVAYAL NEAR DEVIPATTINAM

- The 800-year-old Pandiya king inscription at the Renapali Murugan temple at Peruvayal near Devipattinam was brought to the notice of V Rajaguru, president of the Ramanathapuram Archaeological Research Foundation, who found it and examined it.
- The inscription dates back to the 800-year-old Maravarman Sundara Pandian (1216-1244 AD).

114-YEAR-OLD STEPWELL INSCRIPTION

- A 114-year-old Stepwell inscription has been found at the Hanuman River in Tenkasi district.
- This inscription begins with the letter Sri. The inscription is inscribed in a total of 8 lines.
- It was inscribed on the 1st day of Avani, Kollam year 1086 (17/08/1910), the day the Malayalam New Year begins.
- The inscription mentions that Ramayyar, the grandson of Sankaralingaiyar and the son of Samuvayyar, built this padithurai.
- It is inscribed in Tamil and Grantham with many spelling errors.
- At the end of the inscription 'Dharmo Rakshakak Kapim' is written in Grantham

script and Sanskrit language. This means that Hanuman will protect this, Dharma.

PINK AUTOS PROJECT: A CALL TO WOMEN

- The Tamil Nadu government will introduce 'pink autos' as a new initiative to strengthen the safety of women in Tamil Nadu.
- Under this scheme, 250 autos are to be operated in Chennai by women drivers.
- Only women can apply for this scheme. Similarly, female applicants should not exceed 25 years to 45 years.
- 10th pass, driving license required. Must be a resident of Chennai.

MARINA BEACH TO GET BLUE FLAG CERTIFICATION WITH WORLD-CLASS FACILITIES:

- Marina beach is one of the most famous landmarks of Chennai. The famous blue flag has reached the qualifications for certification.
- Chennai Marina Beach is the longest beach in India and the second longest in the world.
- Fort St. George in the north, about 12 km to Besant Nagar in the south.
- The beach was established by Governor Mount Stuart Elphinstone in the 1880s and Renovated for the first time.
- According to the announcement made in the Budget Statement 2021-22, the Tamil Nadu government has announced that steps will be taken to obtain international Blue Flag quality certification for 10 beaches in the next 5 years to improve the quality, safety, information and security services of beaches and reduce pollution.

- This certification is awarded by the Environmental Education Foundation of Denmark to select the best beaches that maintain an excellent certificate and marine environment.
- The certification covers 33 aspects, including environmental management, water quality, blue color, safety and hygienic bathing water.

SPECIAL WELFARE SCHEMES FOR WIDOWS IN TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu government has announced that Chief Minister is allocating necessary funds for the development and implementation of various welfare schemes for women in Tamil Nadu.

SPECIAL WELFARE SCHEMES:

- widows are receiving the increased monthly pension of Rs.1,200 under social security schemes.
- Unmarried women, widows, transgenders are given Rs.1,000 Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai per month.
- A 25 percent internal quota is given to women in Anganwadi and nutrition program posts, and 3 percent in posts filled by the Government Selection Board.
- Under the Social Welfare Department's marriage grant scheme, 91 widows have remarried and received the grant in the last 3 years.
- 7,316 women have benefited from the Sathiyavanimuthu Ammaiyar memorial free sewing machine scheme.
- A welfare board has been formed by the government for widows, women abandoned by their husbands, debilitated women, destitute women, etc.
- To raise the livelihood of widows, pink autos are to be operated in Chennai.

- Government is going to give Rs.50 thousand each to 200 widows and destitute women to start self-employment.
- 6 Government Service Homes, 48 Integrated Service Centers are functioning to provide medical and psychological assistance.
- 36 women's shelters are functioning for women victims of domestic violence. Thus, the Tamil Nadu government is providing various services or the benefit of widows and destitute women.

NEW STUDENTS WILL SOON JOIN THE "TAMIL NADU CHIEF MINISTER'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME (TNCMFP)."

- The deputy Chief minister informed that the new students will soon be admitted to the "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fellowship Programme (TNCMFP)".
- The "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Fellowship Programme (TNCMFP)," was launched in 2022.
- Objective: To improve the efficiency of administrative processes by harnessing the potential, talent of the youth.
- Under the scheme, the training for the selected candidates is provided at Anna Administrative Staff College, Chennai in coordination with Bharathidasan Institute of Management, Trichy.

LESS AIR POLLUTION: 3 CITIES OF TAMIL NADU RECORD!

- Palkalaiperur of Trichy has been ranked first among cities with least air pollution in the country. Ramanathapuram and Madurai are also featured in the top 10 cities.
- Trichy's Palkalaiperur has topped the clean air list in the recently released Air Quality Index (AQI) list by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

- Similarly, Delhi tops the list of cities with the highest air pollution.

Cities with least air pollution - State - A.Q.I.

- Palkalaiperur Trichy Tamil Nadu 20
- Balasore Odisha 23
- Aizawl Mizoram 25
- Ramanathapuram Tamil Nadu 25
- Chikkaballapur Karnataka 28
- Mathikere Karnataka 29
- Madurai Tamil Nadu 29

High Air Pollution Cities - State - A.Q.I

- Delhi Union Territory of Delhi 306
- Meerut Uttar Pradesh 293
- Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh 272
- Bhiwani Haryana 266
- Hapur Uttar Pradesh 261

PUBLICATION OF DRAFT ELECTORAL ROLLS

- The draft electoral rolls across Tamil Nadu were released.
- According to this list of Tamil Nadu Election Department, there are 6 crore 27 lakh 30 thousand 588 voters in the state.

TOTAL VOTER'S:

- 6 Crore 27 Lakh 30 thousand 588 (6,27,30,588).
- Males: 3 Crore 7 Lakh 90 thousand 791 (3,70,90,791).
- Females: 3 crore 19 lakh 30 thousand 833 (3,19,30,833). Third sex: 8,964.

- Constituency with highest number of votes: Sholinganallur (6.76 lakhs).

- Low Voter Constituency: Nagai District Kilvelur (1.73 Lakhs).

PADHAM PADHUKAAPPOM THITTAM



- On October 28, the Tamil Nadu government issued an order to start the 'Padham Padhukaappom Thittam' scheme for Diabetic patients in all medical college hospitals and government hospitals in Tamil Nadu.

- This scheme aims to prevent foot injuries caused by Diabetes and prevent the loss of a foot.

- Built upon the foundation of the State's flagship 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' scheme, the new foot clinics will offer comprehensive services across 36



NATIONAL NEWS

ONE NATION ONE ELECTION SCHEME:

- Opportunity to amend Constitution to hold simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislatures.
- “Part – XV”, Article 324 – 329 of the Constitution of India deals with Elections and Election Commission of India.
- Article 327 of the Act is likely to be amended to include the words ‘simultaneous election’ in the sections relating to the dissolution of the State Legislatures.
- It is noteworthy that a high-level committee was formed in September 2023 under the chairmanship of Former President Shri. Ram Nath Kovind.

CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS:

- The Central Government has decided to amend Article 324 of the Constitution and add a new Article 324A to hold elections for the Lok Sabha, State Legislatures and local bodies simultaneously.
- Article 243-K and 243-ZA of the Constitution of India deal with elections to local bodies.
- As the above bill deals with state affairs, approval of 50% of the states is necessary.
- Article 368 of the Constitution of India deals with the majority for constitutional amendment.
-

RS 2,000 NOTES RETURNED 98%:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that 98 percent of the Rs. 2,000 notes have

returned to the bank.

- Rs. 2,000 was introduced in November 2016 during demonetization.
- It has been announced that the notes will be withdrawn from 19th May 2023.
- In January 2023, the Supreme Court had ruled that demonetization was valid.

VENUS'S SPACECRAFT WILL BE LAUNCHED IN 2028 TO EXPLORE VENUS:

- The spacecraft is being developed and sent by the Venus Orbiter Mission program to explore the planet, Venus.
- The spacecraft will carry a total of 19 state-of-the-art research instruments.
- Out of which 16 instruments are to be manufactured with indigenous Technology, the remaining 3 devices are to be designed with contributions from India, Russia, Germany, and Sweden.
- The spacecraft is scheduled to be launched on March 29, 2028, by an LVM-3 rocket after completion of all preparations.
- It will reach Venus on July 19 after a journey of about 112 days.

CLASSICAL LANGUAGE STATUS FOR MARATHI, PALI, PRAKRIT, ASSAMESE, AND BENGALI:

- On October 12, 2004, the central government decided to create a new category of languages called ‘Classical language’.
- Accordingly, in 2004, Tamil was first declared as the Classical language.

- Since then, Sanskrit (2005), Telugu (2008), Kannada (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014) have been granted classical language status.
- Now (2024) Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali languages have been accorded classical language status.

UTTARAKHAND TO BECOME THE FIRST STATE TO INTRODUCE A 'DAY-BY-HOUR' POWER TARIFF:

- Uttarakhand is set to become the first state in India to introduce a daily hourly electricity tariff for its 15.87 lakh electricity consumers.
- The action is expected to help work toward the goal of 65% energy efficiency from non-fossil fuels by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2070.

INDIA CHARTS COURSE TOWARD MARITIME DECARBONISATION AT HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE

- The Conference on Maritime Decarbonization in India, co-hosted by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), concluded at Le Meridien, New Delhi.

Targets:

- Transform all vessels in Indian waters into green vessels by 2047.
- Reduce carbon intensity by 45% by 2030.
- India's commitment to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.

EXERCISE KAZIND 2024

- The 8th edition of the India-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise KAZIND-2024, commenced in Uttarakhand and is being held from 30th September to 13th October 2024.
- The exercise between India and Kazakhstan was initiated as 'Exercise PRABAL DOSTYK' in 2016.

- After the second edition, it was upgraded to a company-level exercise and renamed 'Exercise KAZIND'.

BHARATGEN

- Recently, the Ministry of Science & Technology launched BharatGen, a generative AI initiative designed to enhance public service delivery.
- AIM: Create foundational models in language, speech, and computer vision to address India's socio-cultural and linguistic diversity.
- It is the world's first government-funded Multimodal Large Language Model (LLM) project for Indian languages.
- It is led by IIT Bombay under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE CODE

- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has begun the process of formulating a National Agriculture Code (NAC) on the lines of the existing National Building Code and National Electrical Code.
- The BIS is the national body that sets standards for different products across various economic sectors.
- NAC: It is a standard for agriculture practices like preparation of fields, micro irrigation, and water use.

Objectives:

- The NAC will serve as a guide for farmers, agriculture universities, and officials involved in the field.

Two Parts of NAC:

- The first will contain general principles for all crops.
- The second will deal with crop-specific standards for the likes of paddy, wheat, oilseeds, and pulses.

PM E-DRIVE

- The government has launched the PM E-DRIVE Scheme, for faster adoption of electric vehicles by setting up of charging infrastructure and development of EV manufacturing ecosystem in India.
- The scheme shall be implemented from October 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026.
- Now, the EMPS-2024 (Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme) is being subsumed under the PM E-DRIVE scheme.
- Subsidy: The subsidy under the scheme for electric two-wheelers has been fixed based on battery power at Rs 5,000 per kilowatt hour but the overall incentive will not exceed Rs 10,000 in the first year.
- Three-wheelers, including e-rickshaws, will get a demand incentive of Rs 25,000 in the first year, which will be halved to Rs 12,500 in the second year.
- For the L5 category (cargo three-wheelers), they will get a benefit of Rs 50,000 in the first year, and for the second year, it is Rs 25,000.

INDIA'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE POLICY

- Aim: To facilitate smooth growth in the sector and achieve the ambitious target of having EV sales penetration of 30% of private cars, 70% of commercial cars, 40% of buses and 80% of two and three-wheelers by 2030.
- National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP): The NEMMP was launched in 2013 with the goal of achieving national fuel security by promoting hybrid and electric vehicles.
- FAME India Scheme: The Faster Adoption and Manufacture of Electric Vehicles (FAME) India scheme was launched in 2015 to promote the manufacturing and adoption of EVs.
- GST Reduction: The Indian government has reduced the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on electric vehicles from 12% to 5%, making EVs more affordable for consumers.

5-DAY JOINT MARITIME SECURITY EXERCISE WITH INDIAN NAVY, ROYAL NAVY OF OMAN

- The Indian Navy has traveled to Oman for the first time for a long-range exercise.
- Indian Navy's first training squadron for long range training is Indian Navy's 'Thir'. The ship 'Shardul' and Indian Coast Guard personnel in the ship 'Veera' went to Muscat Port Naval Area in Oman on October 5.
- The Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard will sail with the Royal Navy of Oman from October 5 to 9.
- This training has been in contact for the last 10 years. However, the 1st Training Squadron has sailed for the third time to Muscat, Oman.

PIONEERING PLAN TO SEND HUMANS TO THE MOON: CHANDRAYAAN - 5.

- The Indian Space Research Organization has approved the Chandrayaan-5 mission. The project is being implemented jointly by India and Japan.

Chandrayaan-1

- Chandrayaan-1 was launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on October 22, 2008. It orbited the moon for 312 days.
- Chandrayaan-1 has found evidence of water on the Moon.
- Mayilswamy Annadurai was the project director from Tamil Nadu.

Chandrayaan-2

- Chandrayaan-2 was launched on July 22, 2019. The spacecraft is expected to land on the moon on September 8, 2019.
- But, Chandrayaan-2 crashed into the moon, the lander and rover were damaged.
- However, the orbiter orbited around the moon. Muthayya Vanitha was the project director of Chandrayaan-2 from Chennai.

Chandrayaan-3

- Chandrayaan-3 launched on July 14, 2023. The spacecraft successfully landed on the Moon's South Pole on August 23, 2023.
- India became the first country to land on the moon's south pole.
- Veeramuthuvel from Tamil Nadu served as the project director of Chandrayaan-3.

Chandrayaan-4

- The Union Cabinet had approved the Chandrayaan-4 mission on September 18.
- The project is expected to be completed by 2027.
- It is planned to bring 3 kg of minerals from the moon to India.

Chandrayaan-5

- The Indian Space Research Organization has approved the Chandrayaan-5 mission. The project is being implemented jointly by India and Japan.
- India and Japan are working together on the Chandrayaan-5 mission. The project is called the Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX).
- The rover is being built by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) as part of a joint project between the two countries.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is preparing the lander for the mission. We have been working on the design of the lander and rover for the last year.
- We are going to use a high-powered lander and rover in the Chandrayaan-5 project. It is a pioneering project to send humans to the moon, ISRO chairman Somanath said.

A NEW LAUNCHER MODEL

- A prototype for the development of the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV), which is important for building the space station, will soon be introduced.

- This launch will help India set up a space station and land Indian astronauts on the moon by 2040.
- Indian Space Policy released in 2023.
- It aims to promote private participation in the space industry.

INDIA – MALDIVES RELATIONS

- Important agreements between India and Maldives include:
- Currency Exchange Agreement,
- MoU on Cooperation between National Defence University of India and Maldives Police and Law Enforcement College,
- MoU between CBI and Anti-Corruption Commission of Maldives on cooperation in combating corruption,
- Renewal of Agreement between National Judicial Academy of India and Judicial Services Commission of Maldives for training and skill development programmes for judicial officers of Maldives.
- Renewal of Agreement on Cooperation in Sports and Youth Affairs signed.
- Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu is on a 5-day state visit to India.
- “RuPay” card transaction service and an airstrip built with Indian assistance at Hanimaadhoo Airport were inaugurated in Maldives.
- India provides a line of credit of \$400 million (₹3,359 crore) to Maldives.

3rd LAUNCH PAD AT SRIHARIKOTA

- ISRO Chairman Somnath said that the 3rd launch pad will be set up at Srihari Kota.
- Satish Dhawan Space Research Center is located in Srihari Kota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Satellites are launched from here with the help of PSLV and GSLV rockets.

- Srihari Kota currently has 2 launch pads. PSLV rockets are launched from the first launch pad.
- GSLV rockets cannot be launched from this launch pad.
- A second launch pad was developed for the PSLV rocket. GSLV rockets are launched with various modifications on this launch pad.
- Unexpected rocket explosion on the 2nd launch pad will damage the launch pad. GSLV rockets will not be able to launch. All ISRO's space programs will be delayed.
- As a precautionary measure, it has been decided to set up a 3rd launch pad at Srihari Kota, capable of launching not only GSLV but also NGLV (New Generation Rocket) rockets.
- NGLV Rocket Production Program Director Sivakumar says, "ISRO is actively involved in the development of a state-of-the-art NGLV rocket capable of carrying a weight of 20 tonnes. The Indra rocket will have 3 stages. in which the first position can be reused".

70TH NATIONAL FILM AWARD FESTIVAL: PRESIDENT OF INDIA PRESENTS NATIONAL AWARDS TO A.R. RAHMAN

- The National Film Awards are presented annually by the Government of India to recognise excellence in Indian cinema. It is selected every year by a national selection committee appointed by the government.
- The 70th National Film Awards 2022 held in New Delhi. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, presented the National Awards to the award-winning film artists at the function.
- Mani Ratnam's 'Ponniyin Selvan' won four awards for Best Film, Best
- Cinematography (Ravi Varman), Best Background Score (A. R. Rahman), and Best Sound Design (Anand Krishnamoorthi).
- At this festival, the President presented the National Award for Best Music Director to AR Rahman, the music director of 'Ponniyin Selvan' part 1. This is AR Rahman's seventh National Award.

FIFTH AND SIXTH SCHEDULES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

- The Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Constitution of India were drafted by constitutional experts to protect the rights of tribals.
- Before independence the British did not recognize the traditional rights of the tribals. And the tribes were controlled.
- After independence the Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Indian Constitution were created to protect the rights of the tribals.

FIFTH SCHEDULE

- The Fifth Schedule applies to the lands declared by the President as "Schedule Areas".
- Certain areas of a state can be declared as Schedule Areas.
- At present some lands in 10 states have been declared Scheduled Areas.
- The Governor of a State may declare a law passed by the Parliament, State Legislature in Scheduled Areas to be invalid or applicable with specified modifications.

SIXTH SCHEDULE

- The Sixth Schedule applies to the land areas officially declared as "Tribal Areas" in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.
- These four states have a total of 10 tribal areas.
- Autonomous District Committees have been formed in these areas.
- These committees also have jurisdiction over primary schools, hospitals, roads, waterways, etc. in these areas.
- Now the demands for inclusion of Ladakh state in this sixth schedule are gaining strength.

TRACHOMA

- Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that the Government of

India has eliminated Trachoma as a public health problem becoming the third country in the South-East Asia Region to achieve this milestone.

ABOUT TRACHOMA

- It is a bacterial infection that affects the eyes.
- It is caused by the bacterium Chlamydia Trachomatis.
- Spreading System: It is contagious; spreading through contact with the eyes, eyelids, nose or throat secretions of infected people, if left untreated it causes irreversible blindness.
- It is found in communities who are living in poor environmental conditions.
- WHO has termed Trachoma as a neglected tropical disease and its estimation suggest that 150 million people worldwide are affected by Trachoma and 6 million of them are blind or at risk of visually disabling complications.

Initiatives of Government of India

- Impairment (NPCBVI) from 2021-24, which was a mandate set by The Government of India launched the National Trachoma Control Program in 1963 and later on Trachoma control efforts were integrated into India's National Program for Control of Blindness (NPCB).
- As a result, in 2017, India was declared free from infective Trachoma. However, surveillance continued for trachoma cases in all the districts of India from 2019 onwards till 2024.
- The National Trachomatous Trichiasis (TT only) Survey was also carried out in 200 endemic districts of the country under National Programme for Control of Blindness & Visual WHO in order to declare that India has eliminated Trachoma as a public health problem.

KATKARI TRIBE

- Over 550 people from the Katkari tribe were recently given caste certificates in a special ceremony held at Male village, Pune.

- It is a primitive tribe found in Maharashtra (Pune, Raigad, and Thane districts) and parts of Gujarat.

31st FOUNDATION DAY OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (NHRC)

- The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established in India on October 12, 1993, under the Human Rights Act, 1993.
- The Commission shall be headed by a retired Chief Justice of India or a retired Judge of the Supreme Court.
- The Chairperson of the Commission shall hold office for a term of three years or till the age of 70 years.
- The National Human Rights Commission is headquartered in New Delhi.
- Current Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission: Vijaya Bharathi Sayani
- The State Human Rights Commission was established in Tamil Nadu on 17 April 1997.

TDP1

- Recent research by scientists at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS), Kolkata, has identified a new approach for cancer treatment by targeting a DNA repair enzyme called TDP1.
- Tyrosyl-DNA Phosphodiesterase 1 (TDP1) is a DNA repair enzyme. It plays a key role in repairing DNA damage induced by topoisomerase 1 (Top1) inhibitors during cell division.
- TDP1 is active in the mitotic phase. It helps repair drug-induced DNA damage. It also allows cancer cells to survive chemotherapy.

PALAEOLITHIC SITE, KARNATAKA

- Excavation has begun at the Palaeolithic burial ground at Totalathur in Hanur taluka of Samarajanagar district.

- Thodalathur village is situated in a small valley formed by the mountain Mahadeshwara ranges. On a small hill to the west of the village is a modern temple of Adi Parashakti.
- On the slope of this hill and in the adjacent fields, there are hundreds of burials from the 'Megalithic' period, also known as the 'Iron Age'.
- The burial mounds consist of large stone circles, hence the name 'megalithic'.
- In South India, this period is between 1200 BC and 300 AD.
- "The Thodalathur megalithic burial site was discovered in 1961 by C. Krishnamurthy of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

INDIA'S FIRST DEMONSTRATION FACILITY FOR BIOPOLYMERS

- The union minister inaugurated India's first Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers in Pune.
- India now ranks 12th in the world in biotech and 3rd in Asia-pacific.
- These are materials that have been manufactured from biological sources such as fats, vegetable oils, sugars, resins, and proteins.

GOVERNOR BOUND BY CABINET DECISION - MADRAS HIGH COURT

- The Governor is bound by the decision of the Cabinet; The Madras High Court said that the Governor cannot override that decision.
- Governor, like as President to the union, heads the state government.
- Article 153-167 in the Indian Constitution deal with the provisions related to the state executive of the country.
- Governor is the executive head of the state. He is the nominal head of the state.
- Part VI, Article 153-162 of the Constitution of India deals with the Governor of the State.

- Article 153 - There shall be a Governor for each State
- Article 154 - The executive power of the State shall be vested in the Governor and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officer's subordinate to him in accordance with this Constitution.

INDIA'S BIOENERGY AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE IN BENGALURU ON OCTOBER 22 AND 23:

- 'BIODYNAMIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA' (BDAI) has organized an India-wide conference on Biodynamic Agriculture in Bengaluru on October 22 and 23.
- The conference, titled 'Shaping India's Future Bioenergy Agriculture', will bring together many international and Indian researchers, bioenergy farmers, thinkers and entrepreneurs to share their experiences and visionary insights. Chandrasekaran, Chairman of All India Bio-Shakti Agriculture Organization, said that it is close to organic farming.
- Bioenergy agriculture is a holistic approach that includes not only crops but also human and animal welfare through natural almanacs guided by the seasons.
- The 100th anniversary of Austrian philosopher Dr. Rudolf Steiner's speech that revolutionized organic farming will also be celebrated at this conference.
- The aim is to create a food production system that is environmentally friendly.
- Creating a sustainable agricultural system by improving soil quality and promoting biodiversity cycle, thereby producing high quality nutritious food.
- Indian Bio-Shakti Agriculture Association is promoting this transformative revolutionary farming system across the country.
- Avoiding dependence on chemicals and promoting a holistic approach to agriculture.

WORLD SPACE AWARD FOR ISRO CHIEF SOMNATH: RECOGNITION FOR CHANDRAYAAN 3 PROJECT WORK

- ISRO Chairman S. Somnath has been awarded the IAF World Space Award for year 2024 by the International Space Federation.

LAUNCH OF UPI MONEY TRANSACTION IN MALDIVES WITH INDIA'S HELP

- The UPI structure developed by India has been introduced in the Maldives by the help of the Central Government, the President of the country, Mohammed Muizzu.
- So far, the central government has created a framework for transactions through UPI in countries including the United Arab Emirates, Singapore, Malaysia, Nepal and Bhutan. In this case, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and the Maldives regarding UPI last August.
- 'Tradenet Maldives Corporation' is responsible for managing the UPI infrastructure in the Maldives.

SOCIALISM, SECULARISM ARE INTEGRAL PARTS OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION

- Recently, the Supreme Court held that the words "socialist" and "secular" are integral to the basic structure of the Constitution, and rejected a petition to remove them from the Preamble. The Supreme Court thereby upheld the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976.
- 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 is one of the most important amendments to the Indian Constitution.
- Due to the large number of amendments this act has brought to the Indian Constitution, it is also known as 'Mini-Constitution.'
- For the words "Sovereign Democratic Republic", the words "Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic" was substituted

- For the words "unity of the Nation", the words "unity and integrity of the Nation" was substituted.

AADHAAR CARD NOT AS A DATE OF BIRTH DOCUMENT - SUPREME COURT

- 'Aadhaar card should be used to identify one's identity, not as a date of birth document'
- Aadhaar is a 12-digit unique identification number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to every individual resident of India.
- The Aadhaar programme was launched in 2009 by the UIDAI with the goal of providing a unique and verifiable identity for every resident of India.

NEW INDIA LITERACY PROGRAMME

- The Government has launched the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "New India Literacy Programme" (NILP) for implementation during five years from the FYs 2022-23 to 2026-27 with financial outlay of Rs.1037.90 crore.
- Launched on April 01, 2022.

TARGET

- The scheme aims to cover a target of 5.00 crore non-literates in the age group of 15 years and above.

SINGAPORE INDIA MARITIME BILATERAL EXERCISE (SIMBEX) 2024

- The 31st edition of the Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) was held from 23 to 29 October 2024, in the Eastern Naval Command at Visakhapatnam.
- SIMBEX, which began as 'Exercise Lion King' in 1994, has since evolved into one of the most significant bilateral maritime collaborations between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).

SAMAGAM

- Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) hosted the Grand Finale Event, 'SAMAGAM', on 25th October 2024 at Rang Bhawan Auditorium, Akashvani Complex, New Delhi.
- In recognizing the contributions of senior citizens to society, 'SAMAGAM' aims to inspire greater societal responsibility towards creating a more inclusive, compassionate, and secure environment for the elderly.

GREAT NICOBAR ISLAND GAINS 13TH MAJOR PORT STATUS

- The Galathea Bay port in Great Nicobar Island was designated as India's 13th major port.
- A quarter century after Kamarajar Port was named the country's 12th major port, the mega International Container Transshipment Port (ICTP) at Galathea Bay — in the Great Nicobar Island in the Bay of Bengal — has been notified as the 13th major port.
- The International Container Transshipment Port (ICTP) has a natural draught of 20 metres.
- The ICTP is situated in the rapidly evolving Indo-Pacific region.
- This area is crucial for global trade and politics.
- By these Indian ports expected to save between \$200 million and \$220 million annually in transshipment charges.

LAUNCH OF 'ABHAY', SEVENTH SHIP OF ASW SWC (GRSE) PROJECT

- 'Abhay', the seventh Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) being built by M/s GRSE for Indian Navy, was launched on 25 Oct 24 at M/s L&T, Kattupalli.
- The contract for building eight ASW SWC ships was signed between the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and GRSE, Kolkata, in April 2019.
- The ASW SWC ships are designed with over 80% indigenous content.

- The launch of Abhay highlights the nation's resolve towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat in shipbuilding.

KARTARPUR CORRIDOR AGREEMENT RENEWED

- Recently, India and Pakistan have extended the Kartarpur Corridor agreement until 2029, ensuring visa-free movement of Indian pilgrims to the Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara in Pakistan for five more years.
- Kartarpur Corridor connects the Darbar Sahib Gurudwara in the Narowal district of Pakistan with the Dera Baba Nanak shrine in the Gurdaspur district in India's Punjab province.
- It is located on the east bank of the Ravi River in India, around 1 km from the Indo-Pakistan border.
- It was built to commemorate the 550th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev on 12th November 2019.

INDIA RANKS 176TH IN THE GLOBAL NATURE CONSERVATION INDEX (NCI) 2024

- India ranks 176th in the Global Nature Conservation Index (NCI) 2024, with a score of 45.5 out of 100.
- This places India among the five worst performers globally, alongside Kiribati, Turkey, Iraq, and Micronesia.
- The NCI was released on October 24, 2024, and assesses conservation efforts across 180 countries.
- India's Conservation Challenges
- The country has converted 53% of its land for urban, industrial, and agricultural use.
- High Pesticide Use, contributes to soil pollution.
- Only 0.2% of India's national waterways are protected.

- There are no protected areas within its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), despite 7.5% of terrestrial land being safeguarded.

ISRO-DBT AGREEMENT

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) have joined forces to develop bio-experiments for the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS), India's planned indigenous space station.
- Purpose: To design biological experiments for BAS and the Gaganyaan mission.
- BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) initiative: Aligns with DBT's policy to promote bio-manufacturing in India, focusing on health, bio-pharma, regenerative medicine, and biotechnology for waste management.

BHU-AADHAAR

- Bhu-Aadhaar is also known as Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN).
- ULPIN was launched in 2021 as part of the Central government's Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP).
- It contains State code, District code, Sub-district code, Village code and a Unique plot ID number.

21st LIVESTOCK CENSUS

- Recently, the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying launched the 21st Livestock Census in New Delhi.
- The 21st Livestock Census will provide with updated data on the livestock population.
- The 21st Livestock Census will allow the government to address key issues like disease control, breed improvement, and rural livelihoods.
- The 21st Livestock Census will cover over 30

crore households across all States and Union Territories, including nomadic communities and pastoralists.

ABOUT LIVESTOCK CENSUS

- The Livestock Census is conducted once in every five years.
- The census takes into account information about the species, breed, age, sex, and ownership status of the animals in question.
- Background: Since 1919, a total of 20 livestock censuses have been carried out so far, with the last being conducted in 2019.
- The enumeration process for the 21st census will take place between October 2024 to February 2025.

95% OF LAND RECORDS IN RURAL INDIA DIGITIZED

- Nearly 95% of land records have been digitized in rural India since 2016.
- The Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP), previously known as the National Land Record Modernization Programme.
- DILRMP was restructured as a Central Sector Scheme in April 2016, with full funding from the central government.
- Its main goal is to establish a modern and transparent land records management system by developing an Integrated Land Information Management System.
- Key Initiatives under DILRMP
 - Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN)
 - National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS)
 - e-Court Integration
 - Transliteration of Land Records
 - Bhoomi Samman

SBI SELECTED AS INDIA'S BEST BANK FOR 2024

- 'State Bank of India' (SBI) has been awarded as India's Best Bank for 2024.
- The award was presented by the Global Finance magazine of America.
- The award was presented to SBI Bank at the 31st Annual Best Bank Awards ceremony held at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank Annual Meeting in Washington, USA.

INDIA'S AMBITIOUS SPACE VISION

- ISRO chairman S Somanath said India was aiming to increase its contribution in the global space economy to at least 10 per cent in the next one decade, from the current 2 per cent.
- Gaganyaan, the manned space mission, likely in 2026; sample return mission Chandrayaan-4 in 2028; and the much-delayed India-US joint NISAR mission is finally slated for next year.
- The ISRO chairman disclosed that a joint moon-landing mission with Japan space agency JAXA, originally named LUPLEX, or Lunar Polar Exploration, would be the Chandrayaan-5 mission.

GUIDELINES TO BOLSTER SEAWEED PRODUCTION IN INDIA

- The Union Government has notified the 'Guidelines for Import of Live Seaweeds into India' to bolster the development of seaweed enterprises in coastal villages.
- The guidelines are intended to facilitate import of high-quality seed materials or germplasm from abroad, ensuring farmers have access to quality seed stock.
- To import live seaweed, the importers will have to submit a detailed application to the Department of Fisheries.
- The application will be reviewed by the National Committee on Introduction of Exotic Aquatic Species into Indian Waters.

- Upon approval, the Department will issue an import permit within four weeks, facilitating the import of high-quality seaweed germplasm.

SEAWEEDS

- Seaweeds are marine algae, simple plant-like organisms that live in the sea or other bodies of water.
- They are known for their medicinal properties with manifold nutritional value.
- Seaweeds are being used for making pharmaceutical capsules for the treatment of goiter, cancer, bone-replacement therapy and cardiovascular surgeries.
- According to ICAR, India produced only 34,000 tonnes (in 2021) of Seaweeds which is only 0.01% of the world production.

CYBERFRAUD COSTS 0.7% OF GDP

- Recently, the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), which runs under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) made important projections related to cyber frauds.
- Indians are likely to lose over ₹1.2 lakh crore over the 2025 due to cyber frauds.
- It is 0.7% of India's GDP.
- From January to June, 2024 Rs 11,269 crore was lost to financial fraud.
- Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)
- I4C was launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs in 2020 to deal with all types of cybercrimes including cyber fraud in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.
- National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal:
- Under I4C, the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal is a citizen-centric initiative.
- It will enable citizens to report cyber fraud online and all the complaints will be accessed by the concerned law enforcement agencies for taking action as per law.

FAST PATROL VESSELS

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched two Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) 'Adamyā' and 'Akshar'.
- 'Adamyā' and 'Akshar', are built with over 60% indigenous content.
- Each Vessel is 52 m long, 8 m wide, and has a maximum speed of 27 knots.

PADDY VARIETY PR-126

- The Indian government has initiated a review of the paddy variety PR-126, widely cultivated in Punjab, following complaints from local rice millers about a reduction in rice yield, specifically concerning the Out Turn Ratio (OTR) from paddy to rice.
- PR-126 was adopted on a large scale in Punjab since 2016.
- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
- The Union Government has reportedly decided to include four new components – Hydroponics, Aquaponics, Vertical Farming, and Precision Agriculture – under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).
- Ministry: Implemented under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Aim: Focuses on the holistic growth of horticulture through support for production, post-harvest management, and marketing of diverse horticulture crops.

Sub-schemes:

- National Horticulture Mission (NHM).
- Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (HCDP).

- Technology Mission for Development in NE States, Sikkim, and J&K.
- National Bamboo Mission.
- Coconut Development Board.
- Mission for Integrated Development of Medicinal Plants (MIDMP).

RULE OF LAW INDEX

- Recently the Rule of Law Index has been published by the World Justice Project (WJP).
- It has evaluated countries based on different factors, including constraints on government powers, absence of corruption, open government, fundamental rights, order and security, regulatory enforcement, civil justice, and criminal justice.
- India stands at 98 out of 142 countries.
- Denmark has secured first rank, followed by Norway, Finland, Sweden, and Germany in terms of law and order.
- Pakistan has been ranked 140 among 142 countries making it the third worst country in the world.
- Mali and Nigeria are the only countries ranked lower than Pakistan.

THE WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT (WJP)

- It is an independent, nonpartisan, multidisciplinary organization working to create knowledge, build awareness, and stimulate action to advance the rule of law worldwide.

INDIAN DEFENCE EXPORTS



- The US, France and Armenia ranked as the top three destinations for defence exports by India, which chalked up military sales worth Rs 21,083 crore (\$2.6 billion) to other countries in 2023-24, official sources.
- Indian public and private sector companies are now exporting a wide range of arms, ammunition and fuses to around 100 countries,
- This also include some complete weapon systems and platforms like BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles, Dornier-228 aircraft, artillery guns, radars, Akash missiles, Pinaka rockets, and armoured vehicles, the sources added.
- Armenia has become the first foreign customer for the indigenously-developed Akash air defence missiles.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

S JAISHANKAR TO VISIT PAKISTAN FOR ANNUAL SHANGHAI SUMMIT ON OCTOBER 15, 16:

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is scheduled to travel to Pakistan to attend Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting in Islamabad on October 15-16.
- Pakistan holds the rotating chairmanship of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG)
- The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017.
- India hosted the SCO Summit in 2023, organised virtually. It was attended by Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif through a video link.

HURRICANE HELENE HITS USA

- The damages from Hurricane Helene in the United States have risen.
- Hurricane Helene is said to be the worst hurricane to hit the US since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

NOBEL PRIZE

- Every year the Nobel Prize is awarded to the outstanding achievements in the fields of medicine, physics, chemistry, economics, peace and literature.
- The prize is awarded annually in honor of the scientist Alfred Nobel.

- Winners will receive their awards on December 10, Nobel's anniversary.

NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE

- The Nobel Prize in Medicine has been awarded to Victor Ambrose and Gary Ruvkun from America.
- They were selected for the discovery of a molecule called "micro-RNA" that is fundamental to understanding how gene functions are regulated in the human body.
- A total of 227 people has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine so far. Only 13 women have ever won the Nobel Prize for Medicine.

NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

- It has been announced that this year's Nobel Prize in Physics will be shared between John Hopfield of America and Geoffrey Hinton of Canada.
- The Nobel Prize has been announced for the invention related to Artificial Neural Networks through Artificial Intelligence technology.
- Geoffrey Hinton, the scientist who made this discovery, is hailed as the 'Godfather of Artificial Intelligence'.

NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced that the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry will be awarded with one half going to David Baker, and the other half jointly to Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper, for their groundbreaking contributions to protein science.
- David Baker of the University of Washington, Seattle, USA, was awarded the prestigious

Nobel Prize in Chemistry “for computational protein design,” while Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper of Google DeepMind, London, UK, were awarded “for protein structure prediction.”

NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

- 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature awarded to South Korean writer Han Kang.
- The Nobel Committee said in Stockholm that the Nobel Prize was awarded for her radical prose that confronts historical trauma and exposes the fragility of human life.
- Han Kang is the first South Korean writer to win the Nobel Prize in Literature

NOBEL PRIZE IN PEACE

- The Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Japan’s Nihon Hidankyo.
- The Nobel Peace Prize for 2024 has been awarded to the Nihon Hidankyo Organisation, an organisation of survivors of the atomic bomb explosion in Japan.

NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

- The Nobel Prize in Economics was awarded to American professors Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, James A Robinson.
- The Nobel Committee announced that the Nobel Prize was announced to them for their research to help understand the difference between the prosperity of the countries of the world and for highlighting how important social institutions are to the prosperity of the country.

INDIA TO CONDUCT MALABAR 2024 Maritime EXERCISE WITH AUSTRALIA, JAPAN, US:

- Maritime exercise ‘Malabar 2024’ is conducted in Visakhapatnam from October 8 to 18.
- The Malabar Naval Combat Exercise involving the navies of the Quad countries is scheduled to

take place this year (2024) in Visakhapatnam, India. In this exercise, the navies of the Quad countries, the United States, Japan, Australia and India, will engage in joint combat training.

- This training is going to be conducted in two phases. The first phase will be the harbor phase and the second phase will be the sea phase. Top officers from the navies of four countries will participate in this exercise.

• ASIA’S LARGEST AND WORLD’S HIGHEST IMAGING CHERENKOV OBSERVATORY

- MACE (Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment) is the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia Located at an altitude of ~4,300 m, it is also the highest of its kind in the world.
- The telescope is indigenously built by BARC (Bhabha Atomic Research Centre) with support from ECIL (Electronics Corporation of India Limited) and other Indian industry partners.
- The inaugural of MACE Observatory was a part of the Platinum Jubilee year celebrations of the DAE (DAE - Department of Atomic Energy).
- The event commenced with the unveiling of commemorative plaques by Dr. Mohanty at the MACE site at Hanle, Ladakh, thereby officially inaugurating the MACE Observatory.
- He stated that the MACE Observatory is a monumental achievement for India, and it places our nation at the forefront of cosmic-ray research globally.
- He further added that this telescope will allow us to study high-energy gamma rays, paving the way for deeper understanding of the universe’s most energetic events.
- Dr. Mohanty emphasized the significant role that MACE project plays not only in advancing scientific research but also in supporting the socio-economic development of Ladakh.

34 COUNTRIES HAVE OFFICIALLY APPLIED FOR BRICS MEMBERSHIP.

- The 10 new members and 10 partners will be announced in the upcoming BRICS Summit in Kazan to be held between October 22 and October 24.
- Strife-torn nations like Palestine, Syria and Myanmar have also applied for the membership. The announcement will be made after arriving at a consensus.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the Summit turning it to be his second visit to Russia within a span of three months. Presently, requests have been made by Turkey and Thailand.
- There are nearly 34 countries that have communicated to BRICS about being considered as new members. These include Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Chad, the Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.
- "The ten partners to be announced will not have rights like permanent members but in all likelihood will become permanent members by the next summit," it added.
- The ten current members of the BRICS are Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia.

CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS FROM FOREST FIRES

- A study by the Centre for Wildfire Research has found that global CO₂ emissions from forest fires have surged by 60% since 2001.
- Emissions from boreal forests in Eurasia and North America have nearly tripled.
- Globally, the carbon combustion rate in forest fires has risen by 47%.

- Government Initiatives for Forest Fires – India
- National Action Plan on Forest Fires (NAPFF): Launched in 2018 to engage forest communities and reduce fire occurrences.
- Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme (FPM): Initiated in 2017 to assist states in managing forest fires through technical and financial support.

LIST OF BEST SCHOOLS IN THE WORLD

- Three schools beat Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh in the world's best schools ranking in 2024.
- Every year 'T4' publishes a ranking list to identify the schools that follow the best participatory and innovative pedagogy in the world.
- The 'T4' education agency was founded in association with Accenture, American Express and the Lemann Foundation.
- The current year's best ranking list
- CM Rise Vinoba School, started with the aim of empowering tribal girls to acquire formal education, has been recognized as a school of excellence for its innovative practices such as integrated curriculum with sports and festivals.
- Delhi's Ryan School has been recognized as a school of excellence for its practices in tackling water scarcity and pollution through innovative projects such as hydroponics (aquatic farming) and biogas plants.
- Kalvi International School, Madurai won the Community Choice Award category after attracting the most votes of all 50 schools shortlisted across the five World's Best School Prizes in a public vote.
- Colegio María de Guadalupe School in Argentina won the World's Best School for Social Cooperation award.
- The Galileo-Costa-Scarambone School in Italy won the prize for healthy living.
- The first Ukrainian school in Poland won the prize in the crisis management category.

15th EMISSIONS GAP REPORT 2024

- If countries continue with their current environmental policies, it will lead to 3.1 degrees Celsius warming over pre-industrial levels, according to the recently published Emissions Gap Report 2024.
- The report, titled “No More Hot Air... Please!”.
- The report underscores that if countries fail to collectively cut annual GHG emissions by 42 percent by 2030 and by 57 percent by 2035, the Paris Agreement’s 1.5°C global temperature target will become unattainable within a few years.
- It is an annual report published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024 EGR
- Without a significant enhancement in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) targets, the UNEP warns global temperatures could rise by 2.6-3.1°C by the century’s end.
- GHG emissions increased by 1.3 percent in 2023 relative to 2022, with the power sector being the largest contributor, followed by transport, agriculture, and industry.
- India is the third largest emitter globally, behind China and the United States.

COMMITMENT TO REDUCE INEQUALITY INDEX BY 2024

- It is published by Oxfam and Development Finance International.
- It assessed the commitment of nearly 164 countries and territories to fight inequality.
- India ranks 127th in this index.
- Other South Asian countries Nepal (115) and Sri Lanka (118) perform better than India.
- Norway, Canada and Australia are some of the top countries in this list.
- Countries like South Sudan and Nigeria rank at the bottom of this list.
-

CHINA’S JUNO EXPERIMENT TO STUDY NEUTRINOS

- After years of construction, China’s Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory (JUNO) is set to begin data collection on neutrinos.
- This cutting-edge particle physics experiment aims to greatly enhance our understanding of the subatomic particles.
- Neutrinos
- Neutrinos are subatomic particles that have no electric charge, have a small mass.
- Neutrinos can carry information across large distances due to their low interaction rate with matter.
- The only ways neutrinos interact is through gravity and the weak nuclear force.
- They could potentially be used to transmit information, replacing electromagnetic waves in communication channels.
- Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO)
- It is a proposed particle physics research mega project with the objective to study neutrinos in a 1,200-metre-deep cave.
- The project is proposed to be set up at Pottipuram village in Theni district in Tamil Nadu.
- The project was initially mooted by the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and then by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.
- As of October 2024, the construction of the INO project is stalled due to opposition from the state government and ecologists.

SCIENTISTS DISCOVER FIRST BLACK HOLE TRIPLE SYSTEM

- A groundbreaking study has revealed the existence of a “black hole triple” system. This discovery marks the first time scientists have identified such a configuration in space.
- The system is located approximately 8,000 light years from Earth, in the constellation Cygnus.
- It features a central black hole, a star spiraling closely around it, and a more distant star.

- A black hole is a region in space with an extremely strong gravitational pull. This force is so intense that nothing, not even light, can escape from it.

THE BLACK HOLE TRIPLE SYSTEM

- The black hole triple system consists of three components:
- A central black hole, V404 Cygni, which is about nine times the mass of our Sun.
- A star that orbits the black hole every 6.5 days.
- A second, more distant star that takes around 70,000 years to complete its orbit.
- Researchers from the California Institute of Technology and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology conducted the study.

REMOTE SENSING SYSTEM LIDAR

- Scientists have detected a lost Mayan city, hidden for centuries by the dense Mexican jungle, using LiDAR.
- LiDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, is a remote sensing technology that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (or variable distances) of a sensor.
- LiDAR instrumentation comprises a laser, a scanner, and a GPS receiver.
- LiDAR is used to generate precise, three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface characteristics.

COP-16 OF CONVENTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

- Recently, the 16th edition of the Conference of Parties (COP 16) to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) concluded in Cali, Colombia.



- COP' is the 16th UN. The Biodiversity Talks started on October 30 in Cali, Colombia.
- The 15th 'COP' conference was held in Montreal, Canada in 2022 under the leadership of China (Kunming – City of China).
- The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted at COP 15 in Canada in 2022, has set 23 targets to be achieved by 2030.

KEY OUTCOMES OF BIODIVERSITY COP16

- Cali Fund was established to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of Digital Sequence Information (DSI) on genetic resources.
- At least 50% of the Cali Fund will focus on the self-identified needs of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, particularly women and youth.
- COP 16 agreed on a new and evolved process to identify EBSAs (Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas).



SPORTS NEWS

INDIA'S GULVEER SINGH BREAKS NATIONAL RECORD IN 5000M IN JAPAN:

- India's Gulveer Singh set a new national record by winning the men's 5000m gold at the World Athletics Continental Tour's Yogibo Athletics Challenge Cup in Niigata, Japan.
- He won the race in a time of 13:11.82 to better his own national record.

DEEPIKA KUMARI WON THE SILVER MEDAL

- The Archery World Cup is being held in Tilaxcala, Mexico.
- In the final round of the women's recurve category, India's Deepika Kumari, ranked 3rd in the competition, faced Li Jiaman, who was part of the Paris Olympics silver medal winning team.
- In this match, Deepika Kumari lost 0-6 and won the silver medal. This is the 5th time that Deepika Kumari has won a medal in the Archery World Cup.

HOCKEY: RANI RAMPAL RETIRED

- Former Indian women's hockey team captain Rani Rampal (29) announced her retirement.
- Rani Rampal led the Indian women's hockey team to the 2021 Tokyo Olympics, leading the Indian team to fourth place.
- She has been honored with the highest award in the field of sports, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (2020) and Padma Shri (2020), the country's 4th highest award.

INDIA'S ARJUN ERIGAISSI HAS MADE A HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT!

- India's Arjun Erigaisi has crossed the 2,800-point mark in the FIDE Live Rating and made an achievement.
- He is the second Indian to achieve this feat. Earlier, Viswanathan Anand of Tamil Nadu had achieved this feat.
- Arjun Erigaisi is the 16th player in the world to cross 2,800-points.

JAPAN OPEN: ZHENG QINWEN IS THE CHAMPION

- China's Zheng Qinwen won the Japan Open women's tennis title.
- Qinwen, who have won their 3rd consecutive championship in the current season, have qualified for the year-end WTA Finals for the first time with this victory.
- Qinwen, the reigning Olympic champion, defeated Sofia Kenin, the 2020 Australian Open champion, after fighting for 1 hour and 52 minutes.

VIENNA OPEN: CUP FOR JACK DRAPER

- Britain's Jack Draper won the Vienna Open men's tennis tournament held in Austria.
- Draper defeated Russia's Karen Khachanov in the men's singles final.
- With this, Jack Draper has won his first champion trophy in the 'ATP 500' category.
- This is his 2nd ATP title overall.

INDIA HAS SENT A LETTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) EXPRESSING ITS INTEREST TO HOST THE OLYMPICS IN 2036

- India has submitted a "Letter of Intent" expressing its interest to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games to the Future Host Commission, International Olympic Committee.
- The 2028 Olympics will take place in Los Angeles, USA.
- The 2032 Olympics will take place in Brisbane, Australia.
- Thomas Bach current President of the International Olympic Committee.
- Pierre de Coubertin is the father of modern Olympic games.
- Pierre de Coubertin is the first man to design the Olympic flag - Pierre de Coubertin.



IMPORTANT DAYS



WILDLIFE WEEK

- Wildlife Week is observed every year from October 2 to 8.
- It has been observed since 1952 with the aim of protecting all animals and creatures living in forests.

NATIONAL VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION DAY

- October 1 was declared as National Blood Donation Day in 1975 by the Indian Blood Transfusion and Immunology Society.
- Theme: ‘Celebrating 20 years of blood donation: Thanks to all blood donors’
- There are 107 government blood centers and 247 private blood centers operating in Tamil Nadu for this.
- A website called ‘e-RaktKosh’ is operational to monitor their activities.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS:

- October 1 is celebrated every year as International Day of Older Persons.
- The Vienna International Programme of Action for Older Persons was the first global initiative to address the issue of ‘older people’ in 1982.
- The UN adopted it and declared October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons on December 14, 1990, to emphasize the welfare of older people.

ANNIE BESANT

- Irish woman Annie Besant was born on October 1, 1847.
- Anglo Indian activist Annie Wood Besant (October 1, 1847 September 20, 1933) was a women’s emancipation activist, writer, and speaker.
- Started the ‘Home Rule’ movement in 1916 with Bala Gangadhara Tilak and developed branches all over the country.
- It was headed by Annie Besant, who spoke at numerous meetings across India and mobilized people against the British.
- In 1917, Annie Besant was elected Congress President at the conference held in Calcutta.
- She was the first women president of Indian National Congress.
- Journals: Common Wheel, New India.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH 2024

- Every year the whole month of October is observed as World Breast Cancer Month.
- The origins of Breast Cancer Awareness Month can be traced back to 1985 when it was first organized by the American Cancer Society in partnership with a pharmaceutical division of Imperial Chemical Industries.
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a global health event for breast cancer awareness that is commemorated throughout the month of October every year.

- Over the decades, the symbolic Pink Ribbon has become the universal emblem for breast cancer awareness.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE

- Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, October 2, has been declared by the United Nations as the "International Day of Nonviolence" and is observed around the world.
- It is observed to make the people aware of the importance of peace, tolerance, brotherhood, nonviolent life, etc.
- The first Day of Non-Violence was celebrated in 2007.

COMMEMORATION DAY OF KAMARAJ, THE KARMAVEERAR.

- The 49th death anniversary of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Karmaveerar Kamaraj is being observed on 2024 October 2.
- Kumaraswamy Kamarajar was born on July 15, 1903, in a backward part of Tamil Nadu to a humble family.
- The Jallianwala Bagh massacre was a turning point in his career.
- Then he started to participate in the freedom struggle.
- In 1936 he became the secretary of the Tamil Nadu Congress Party, and in 1937 he was elected to the Legislative Assembly for the first time.
- From 1940 to 1954, he served as the President of the Tamil Nadu Congress Party.
- In 1946 he was again elected to the Legislative Assembly.
- He was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu from 1954 to 1963 and the All -India Congress President from 1963 to 1967.
- In 1963, he proposed the 'Kamaraja

Scheme'(KPlan), a scheme whereby senior Congress leaders should step down from ministerial posts and take up party development work.

- He was called the 'King Maker' as he played an important role in electing India's Prime Minister twice.
- He passed away in 1975 on Gandhiji's birthday, October 2.
- He was posthumously awarded the country's highest award, the Bharat Ratna, in 1976.

LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI

- Lal Bahadur Shastri was born on 2 October 1904 in Mughal Sarai near Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.
- In 1928, he became an active member of the Indian National Congress.
- He participated in Salt Satyagraha in 1930.
- Also participated in Quit White Movement and Individual Satyagraha.
- Appointed General Secretary of All India National Congress in 1951.
- Shastriji was announced as Railway Minister in the Union Government on 23 May 1952.
- He started the third-class railway for the weaker section of society.
- 1956: He resigned after a couple of train accidents in Tamil Nadu that killed 144 people.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri became the second Prime Minister of the Republic of India under President Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan in 1964 after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru.
- January 1965: Agricultural Prices Commission (APC) was set up.
- When Pakistan invaded India in 1965, he handled the operation well despite adverse conditions. Shastriji gave the slogan "Jai Jawan and Jai Kisan" to rally the Indians.

- He was awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in 1966, and a postage stamp featuring him was issued in the same year.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri is known as “Man of Peace.”

WORLD SMILE DAY

- World Smile Day is an annual celebration observed on the first Friday of October.
- The inaugural World Smile Day took place in 1999 and it has grown into a yearly event.
- World Smile Day Theme 2024: "Do an act of kindness. Help one person smile"!

WORLD ANIMAL DAY

- World Animal Day is observed on October 4 to create awareness about protecting animals and preventing poaching.
- The day is observed on October 4, in commemoration of the day is observed on October 4, in commemoration of St Francis of Assisi, an Italian naturalist and zoologist., an Italian naturalist and zoologist.
- Wildlife Day was first observed in 1931 in Florence, Italy.
- The theme of this year is 2024: “The world is their home too.”

WORLD SPACE WEEK

- October 4th–October 10th is celebrated as World Space Week.
- For World Space Week 2024, the chosen theme is “Space & Climate Change.”

HISTORY

- Sputnik 1 was the world’s first satellite launched on October 4, 1957.
- On 10 October 1967, the Outer Space Peace Treaty was signed by the nations of the world.
- In 1999, the UN General Assembly officially

declared the two days (two events) between 4th and 10th October as World Space Week to commemorate.

WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY

- World Teachers’ Day is celebrated on 5th October every year to celebrate all teachers around the world.
- The theme for 2024 is “Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education”.
- This theme has been observed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) since 1994.
- Teachers’ Day is celebrated nationally on 5th September every year in India.
- World Teachers’ Day is co-convened in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF and Education International (EI).

RAMALINGA SWAMIGAL

- India celebrated the 201st birth anniversary of Ramalinga Swamigal, also known as Vallalar, on 5th October, 2024.
- Ramalinga Swamigal was a prominent Tamil poet in the 19th century and a member of the "Gnana siddhas lineage”.
- He was born in the village of Marudhur in Tamil Nadu.
- Vallalar was strongly against the caste system and initiated the ‘Samarasa Vedha Sanmarga Sangam’ in 1865, later renamed ‘Samarasa Suddha Sanmarga Sathya Sangam.’
- He established ‘The Sathya Dharma Salai,’ a free food facility in Vadalur, Tamil Nadu in 1867, serving all people without caste distinctions.
- In January, 1872, Vallalar opened the ‘Sathya Gnana Sabha’ (Hall of True Knowledge) in Vadalur.
- His birthday, the fifth day of October 2021 onwards, is observed as “Thani Perum Karunai day” by the Tamil Nadu government every year.

LITERARY WORKS:

- Thiruvartuppa: A compilation of poems that encapsulate his spiritual insights and experiences.
- Manumurai Kanda Vasagam
- Jeeva Karunya Ozhukkam

AIR FORCE DAY

- Indian Air Force (IAF) was established on 8 October 1932.
- On October 6, 2024, the Indian Air Force (IAF) celebrated its 93rd anniversary in Chennai with a grand-air adventure show.
- The annual air adventure show was held only in Delhi.
- It was held in Chandigarh outside Delhi in 2022 and in Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh last year.
- It was held in Chennai for the third year.
- Theme for Indian Air Force Day 2024; "Bharatiya Vayu Sena-Saksham, Sashakt, Atmanirbar".

WORLD COTTON DAY

- World cotton day is celebrated on October 7
- The theme for the year 2024 is 'Cotton for Good'.
- The event was announced by the WTO on October 7, 2019, at the request of the so-called Cotton-4 countries of Africa - Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali.

NILGIRIS TAHR DAY CELEBRATED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TAMIL NADU

- October 7 is celebrated as Nilgiris Tahr Day in Tamil Nadu to honor E.R.C. Davidar, a wildlife conservationist who was a pioneer in studying the Nilgiris Tahr.
- In 1963, he conducted the first census of the

Nilgiris Tahr in the Nilgiris, estimating the population to be around 400.

- In 1975, he conducted a detailed survey of the Nilgiris Tahr in the Western Ghats, estimating the population to be around 2,200.
- The ERC, which is the custodian of wildlife, will start functioning from October 7, 2023.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu declared that the birth anniversary of Davidar will be celebrated as the Nilgiri Tahr Day.
- Tahr Day was first celebrated on October 7 this year.
- Tamil Nadu's state animal, the Tahr, is an endemic mammal in the south-western part of the Western Ghats.
- They are found only in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. In Tamil Nadu, a large number of leopards are found in Anamalai, Mudumalai, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai, Srivilliputhur-Meghamalai Tiger Reserves and Siruvani Hills.
- Tahr, known as 'mountain guardians', help in improving catchment areas and maintaining the unique oasis-steppe environment that is key to humanity's survival.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu has launched a five-year project called 'Nilgiris Tahr Project' to conserve the Nilgiris Tahr.

WORLD POST DAY

- World Post Day is celebrated internationally on October 9 every year.
- The International Postal Union was established on October 9, 1874 in Bern, Switzerland.
- To commemorate this day, since 1969, every year on October 9 is celebrated as World Postal Day.
- The purpose of this day is to educate the public about the importance of postal service and the contribution of the postal sector in people's daily lives.
- Theme for World Postal Day 2024; It stands

for "150 years of enabling communication and empowering peoples across nations".

- India has the largest number of post offices in the world.
- The Indian Post Office was started in 1764.
- While India is divided into 23 mandals, 89 percent of post offices are in villages.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

- World Mental Health Day was first observed on October 10, 1992 by the World Federation for Mental Health.
- In some countries around the world, World Mental Health Day is part of Mental Illness Awareness Week.
- Theme for 2024 – Mental health at work.

WORLD SIGHT DAY 2024

- World Sight Day is observed on the second Thursday of October every year to highlight the importance of protecting our eyes and vision and to raise awareness about vision impairment and vision loss.
- World Sight Day was established in 1998 by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Institute for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) to raise awareness about visual impairment and vision loss.
- Theme for 2024: 'Children, love your eyes'
- SPECS 2030: WHO has focused on children's eye health.
- Aims to make all eye related services accessible, available and affordable to children.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF GIRL CHILD 2024

- International Day of the Girl Child is celebrated annually on 11 October to highlight and draw attention to the challenges that girls face.

- The International Day of the Girl (IDG) observed annually on 11 October is a global platform to advocate for the full spectrum of girls' rights.
- The concept of recognizing girls' rights began to take shape in 1995 during the World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.
- Later, on December 19, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted Resolution 66/170 to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child.
- Since 2012, International Day of the Girl Child has been celebrated every year.
- Spreading awareness about eliminating gender abnormalities against girls around the world.
- Theme for year 2024: 'Girls' Vision for the Future.'

SANKARALINGANAR MEMORIAL DAY

- October 13 marks the anniversary of Martyr Sankaralinganar, who died on a 76th day fast demanding the renaming of the territory of the Tamils known as Madras State as "Tamil Nadu."
- On July 27, 1956, he started fasting as an individual at Choolakaraimet, Virudhunagar, to change the territory of Tamils to Tamil Nadu.
- Martyr Sankaralinganar died on October 13, 1956, the 76th day of his hunger strike for Tamil and his principle for Tamil.
- In 1967, Arignar Anna became the Chief Minister, and on July 18, 1968, the resolution to change the name of Tamil Nadu was unanimously passed.
- In November 1968, the Tamil Nadu Name Change Bill was passed in Parliament. 1968 December 1st was celebrated as Tamil Nadu name change ceremony
- On January 14, 1969, Madras State officially became Tamil Nadu from Pongal.
- To honour the memory of Sankaralinganar,

the Tamil Nadu government has built a Mani Mandapam for him near Municipal Park on Virudhunagar College Road.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION

- The International Day for Disaster Reduction was initiated by the United Nations General Assembly in 1989 to promote global disaster awareness and a culture of disaster reduction.
- Accordingly, every year October 13th is celebrated as the International Day for Disaster Reduction.
- The purpose of Disaster Reduction Day is to create awareness on how people can contribute to preventive measures in terms of disaster management.

WORLD STANDARDS DAY

- Every year on October 14, World Standards Day is celebrated across the world.
- This is to recognise the collective efforts of thousands of experts involved in the work of standardization and to travel on the future path.
- The theme of World Standards Day 2024 is "Our Shared Vision for a Better World: Standards for the Changing Climate".

ABDUL KALAM'S 93RD BIRTHDAY

- The 93rd birthday of Abdul Kalam, the 11th President of India, was celebrated across the country on October 15, 2024.
- World Students' Day is celebrated every year on October 15 to commemorate the birthday of one of India's greatest scientists and former President Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam.
- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was born on October 15, 1931, in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu, India.
- He played a key role in the successful launch of India's first satellite Aryabhata. His dedication

and expertise earned him the nickname 'Missile Man of India'.

- Dr. Kalam served as the President of India from 2002 to 2007.
- The Government of India honored him with the Padma Bhushan in 1981, the Padma Vibhushan in 1990, and the highest award of India Bharat Ratna in 1997.
- Dr. Kalam is the author of books like "Wings of Fire, India 2020, The Luminous Sparks, Mission India, Turning Points: A journey through challenges, My Journey."

WORLD FOOD DAY- OCTOBER 16

- World Food Day (WFD) is an international day celebrated every year on October 16.
- World Food Day was observed by FAO member countries at the 20th General Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1979.
- The aim is to create awareness about people suffering from food shortages, malnutrition, and hunger worldwide.
- Theme of World Food Day 2024: 'Right to foods for a better life and a better future.'

FREEDOM FIGHTER VEERAPANDIYA KATTABOMMAN

- 225th death anniversary of freedom fighter Veerapandiya Kattabomman was observed on October 16, 2024.
- 'Veerapandiya Kattabomman' was born to his parents Jagaveera Kattabomman Nayakar and Arumugammal on 3rd January 1760.
- Veerapandiya Kattabomman succeeded his father as the 47th Polygar on 2 February 1790 at the age of 30.
- When Veerapandiya Kattabomman refused to pay tribute to the British, his valor became known to all the surrounding kings, and the hope of resisting the British.
- Kattabomman was executed at Kayathar by

order of the British commander Bannerman on October 16, 1799.

- In 1974, the Government of Tamil Nadu built a new fort in his memory on the site of the ancient fort of Kattabomman at Panchalankurichi.
- The entire main hall of the fort had beautiful paintings on the walls depicting his heroic deeds and life history.
- A statue was erected in Wellington, Tamil Nadu to commemorate his valor.
- In honor of Kattabomman, the Government of India issued a postage stamp on 16 October 1999 to commemorate the bicentenary of his execution.
- The Indian Navy base at Vijayanarayanapuram in Tuticorin district, which is considered to be the premier communication hub of the Indian Navy, has been named 'INS Kattabomman'.
- The Tuticorin district administration celebrates its anniversary as 'Veerapandiya Kattabomman Festival' every year at Panchalankurichi.

NSG RAISING DAY

- The National Security Guard Raising Day is celebrated on October 16th each year to commemorate the founding of the NSG in 1984.
- The NSG is a specialized counter-terrorism force that is responsible for responding to terrorist attacks and other major security threats in India.

FORMATION

- The NSG was formed under the National Security Guard Act, 1986.
- It is a federal contingency force that is under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Headquarters – Manesar, Haryana.
- It has six regional headquarters across India.

THE NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK HAS BEEN LAUNCHED BY PRIME MINISTER MODI.

- Prime Minister Modi (on August 19) launched the "Karmayogi Saptah" national learning week, aimed at providing a new impetus to the development of skills among government employees and government institutions.
- The "Mission Karmayogi" or "National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building" was launched in September 2020.
- The Prime Minister Modi started the "Karmayogi Saptah" National Learning Week as part of this initiative.

INDIAN POLICE COMMEMORATION DAY 2024

- Every year, the people of India celebrate Police Commemoration Day on October 21 in honour of policemen who gave their lives in the service of the country.
- Indian Police Commemoration Day has been observed since October 20, 1959.
- Indian Police Commemoration Day 2024 Theme is "Honoring Bravery, Upholding Peace."

MOLE DAY: OCTOBER 23

- Mole Day is celebrated every year on 23 October from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m. commemorates chemistry's measuring unit called "Avogadro's Number" (6.02×10^{23}).
- Morris Oller, a Wisconsin State chemistry teacher, started the National Mole Day Foundation (NMDF) on May 15, 1991.

VIGILANCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FROM OCTOBER 28

- The week is observed as Vigilance Awareness Week every year to mark the birth anniversary of the late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, known as the Iron Man of India, on October 31.

- This year's "Vigilance Awareness Week" will be observed from October 28 to November 3 with the theme "Integral Culture for Development of the Country."

WORLD POLIO DAY: OCTOBER 24

- World Polio Day is celebrated on October 24 in the memory of Dr. Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop the polio vaccine in 1955.
- It is noteworthy that India received the World Health Organisation(WHO) polio-free certificate in 2014.
- The theme for World Polio Day 2024, "A Global Mission to Reach Every Child."

UNITED NATIONS DAY

- Since 1948, the United Nations Day has been celebrated every year on 24th October.
- United Nations Day marks the completion of the year of the UN Charter in 1945. The United Nations is a global organization working towards world peace and equality.
- The United Nations officially came into existence on October 24, 1945. The name "United Nations" was coined by US President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly recommended that the day be observed as a public holiday by member States.
- The Charter was signed by representatives of 50 countries on June 26, 1945. Poland, which was not represented at the assembly, later signed and the number of member States became 51. Currently, there are 193 Member States of the United Nations.

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST'S DAY

- International Artist's Day is celebrated on 25 October to commemorate and honour artists and all their contributions.
- The International Artist's Day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Pablo

Picasso, a multi-talented Spanish artist, sculptor, poet and playwright.

27th OCTOBER - BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF JATINDRA NATH DAS

- Jatindra Nath Das is a revolutionary freedom fighter from West Bengal, he was born on October 27, 1904 in Kolkata.
- He participated in Gandhi's non-cooperation movement in 1921.
- Das played a key role in strengthening the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association ' when it was launched under the leadership Chandra Shekhar Azad, Sukhdev Thapar, Sachindra Nath.
- Jatindranath Das was one of Bhagat Singh's closest friends.
- While in Calcutta in 1928, he joined Netaji to strengthen the Congress Party.
- He was arrested on 14 June 1929 for his revolutionary activities and was imprisoned in Lahore Jail.
- Freedom fighters, including Das and Bhagat Singh, began a hunger strike in the Lahore jail demanding equal rights for Indian political prisoners and those from Europe.
- Das ended his 24-year-old life on September 13, 1929 after a 63-day hunger strike.
- On his 50th death anniversary on 13 September 1979, the Government of India issued a postage stamp bearing his portrait.

INDIAN ARMY INFANTRY DAY OCTOBER 27

- On October 27, 1947, the infantry fought against the enemy at the Srinagar Air Force Base in Jammu and Kashmir and liberated the Kashmir Valley.
- To honour this heroic act of the infantry,

Infantry Day is celebrated by the Indian Army every year on October 27.

- This year (2024) is the 78th Infantry Day.

WORLD DAY FOR AUDIOVISUAL HERITAGE

- Every year on October 27, the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is observed.
- The day has been observed by UNESCO since 2005 to raise awareness about the importance of recorded audio and visual documents and the challenges in preserving them.

INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION DAY- 28TH OCTOBER

- 28th October is celebrated as International Animation Day every year.
- The International Animation Day is celebrated to promote films made in animation and the employees working in this field.
- International Animation Day commemorates the day on October 28, 1892, when Charles-Émile Reynaud of France premiered the first animated film in a theatre.
- The International Animated Film Association, a part of UNESCO, first introduced the day in 2002.

FORMATION DAY OF NDMA- OCTOBER 28

- The National Disaster Management Authority was celebrated its 20th Formation Day on October 28, 2024.
- National Disaster Management Authority
- It is the apex statutory body for Disaster Management in India, established through the Disaster Management Act, 2005.
- The Act envisaged the creation of the NDMA, headed by the Prime Minister, and State Disaster

Management Authorities (SDMAs) headed by respective Chief Ministers, to spearhead and implement a holistic and integrated approach to Disaster Management in India.

- Organisational Structure
- The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson of the NDMA.
- The Cabinet Minister is the Vice-Chairman.
- Along with this, NDMA has 8 Ministers of State as its members.

WORLD THRIFT DAY

- World Thrift Day is celebrated worldwide on 31st October every year.
- October 31st was declared World Thrift Day at the International Savings Banks Thrift Conference held in Milan, Italy.
- As 31st October is the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Austerity Day is observed on 30th October in India.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF 'HOMI BABA', FATHER OF INDIAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY- OCTOBER 30

- Born in Mumbai on October 30, 1909, Homi Jehangir Bhabha earned his doctorate in atomic science in 1933.
- Homi Baba returned to India in 1939, at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, Under the guidance of Sir C.V. Raman, he worked as a professor. There he established a laboratory for cosmic rays.
- Established the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Mumbai in 1945.
- After India's independence, he created the Atomic Energy Commission of the Government of India in 1948 and served as its chairman.
- Started India's first nuclear research program at Trombay in 1954.
- On January 24, 1966, while traveling in Europe, the flight Died in an accident



SCHEMES

AYUSHMAN BHARAT SCHEME:

- Free health insurance to be provided to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above irrespective of socio-economic status.
- Launched in 2018, Ayushman Bharat is the national health care scheme of the Government of India.

FEATURES OF AYUSHMAN BHARAT SCHEME

- World's largest health insurance scheme.
- Beneficiaries of this scheme are eligible to get cashless access to health care services at various public and private hospitals in India. Benefits can be availed across the country.

AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES:

- 2 new schemes have been announced to merge all the centrally funded schemes under the Union Ministry of Agriculture.
- The Union Cabinet approved two new schemes namely the Prime Minister's National Agricultural Development Scheme (PMRKVY – Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana) to promote sustainable agriculture and the Krishonnathy Scheme (KY) to achieve self-sufficiency in food security.

OBJECTIVE:

- Increasing domestic oilseed production
- Achieving the goal of self-sufficiency in cooking oil
- With these increase farmers' income while saving foreign exchange

FUNCTION:

- A website (SATHI - Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory) will be launched for timely availability of quality seeds to the states.

MAJOR AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES:

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) - 2019
- Pradhan Mantri Fazal Bhima Yojana (PMFBY) – 2016
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Singhai Yojana (PMKSY) – 2015
- Ayushman Sahakar Scheme – 2020
- E-NAM (National Agricultural Market) – 2016
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Man-Than Yojana (PM-KMY) – 2019
- Krishi Kalyan Abhiyan - 2018
- Soil Health Cards (SHC) Scheme – 2015

JAL HI AMRIT:

- It has been said by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs that the Central Government has approved a new scheme, 'Jal Hi AMRIT'.
- The 'Jal Hi AMRIT' program has been launched to encourage the promotion of efficient reuse of water by the states and union territories under the AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) 2.0 Mission.
- Related Ministry: Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

AMRUT 2.0 SCHEME:

- The scheme was launched on 1st October 2021 for the period of 5 years i.e. from the financial year (FY) 2021-22 to the FY 2025-26.

AMRUT Scheme

- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) was launched in June 2015 by the Government of India.
- The AMRUT scheme is an initiative to provide basic civic amenities to the urban areas to improve the quality of life with a major focus on the poor and the disadvantaged.

ATAL PENSION YOJANA (APY)

- The Total enrolments under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) have crossed 7 crores, with an enrolment of over 56 lakhs in the current Financial Year 2024-25.
- The APY is a flagship social security scheme of the Government of India.
- Atal Pension Yojana is a pension scheme under the Government of India.
- This scheme replaces the Swavalamban Yojana and was established to provide old age income security to the workers belonging to the unorganized sector.
- The Atal Pension Yojana scheme was launched by the PM of India on 9th May 2015 in Kolkata.
- The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) became operational from 1st June 2015.
- The scheme provides the subscribers with a fixed pension ranging between Rs.1000 to Rs. 5000.

NI-KSHAY POSHAN YOJANA

- Union Health Minister unveils key initiatives to boost Nutrition Support for TB Patients and their Families.

- Monthly support under Ni-Kshay Poshan Yojana increased from the existing ₹500 per month to ₹1000 per month for all TB patients.

ABOUT NI-KSHAY PORTAL:

- Ministry: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- Origin: Launched in 2018 to digitally track and manage TB patients' treatment, improve data collection, and facilitate targeted interventions.
- Aim: To achieve a TB free India by 2025 by providing comprehensive support to patients, including nutritional and financial aid.
- Targets: Focuses on tracking TB cases, ensuring compliance with treatment, and reducing transmission rates through Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) and other support measures.

UMANG – DIGI LOCKER

- Full Form: Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance.
- The National E-Governance Division has announced the integration of the UMANG app with DigiLocker, allowing citizens to access a wide range of government services through a single platform.

'GATI SHAKTI' SCHEME TO HELP ACHIEVE DEVELOPED INDIA GOAL: PM

- Prime Minister said that the country is gaining momentum to achieve our vision of 'Developed Bharat' with the help of 'Gati Shakti' National Programme.

Gati Shakti Digital Platform

- It involves the creation of a common umbrella platform through which infrastructure projects can be planned and implemented in an efficacious manner by way of coordination between various ministries/departments on a real-time basis.

PRIME MINISTER'S CROP INSURANCE SCHEME

- Through the Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme last year 2023-24, 16,358 farmers who insured their paddy crop under the Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme to compensate the damage caused by natural hazards to Trichy district will get Rs. 27.83 crore has been disbursed.
- The Indian Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme for the year 2024-25 is going to be implemented by Shema General Insurance Company.
- To insure special season crops like paddy, maize, cotton and onion. The deadline has been fixed on Nov. 15th.

PRIME MINISTER'S CROP INSURANCE SCHEME

- It's also known as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- The third largest insurance scheme globally in terms of premium, the PM Fasal Bima Yojana launched in 2016.
- It shields farmers from crop loss or damage arising out of unforeseen events.
- It replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS).

PREMIUM

- There will be a uniform premium of only 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi crops.
- In the case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium to be paid by farmers will be only 5%.

ESHRAM-ONE STOP SOLUTION

- Union Minister of labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports to Launch 'e Shram

One Stop Solution' for Unorganised Workers on October 21, 2024.

ABOUT E-SHRAM

- Origin: Launched on August 26, 2021, to provide a comprehensive database of unorganized workers and serve as a platform for accessing welfare schemes.
- Aim: To act as a One Stop Solution for unorganized workers, integrating information and facilitating easy access to social security and welfare schemes.
- Nodal ministry: Ministry of Labour & Employment.

8 YEARS OF REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY SCHEME (RCS)

- The scheme was initiated on 21st October 2016 with the objective to fulfil the aspirations of the common citizen by following the vision of 'Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik', with an enhanced aviation infrastructure and air connectivity in tier II and tier III cities.
- The UDAN scheme has completed 8 years of Implementation.
- The Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) is a component of India's National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) 2016, launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) in 2016, with a 10-year vision.
- It aims to improve infrastructure and connectivity in India, especially in remote and underserved regions.
- The first UDAN flight took off in 2017, connecting Shimla to New Delhi.
- The number of operational airports in the country has doubled from 74 in 2014 to 157 in 2024 and the aim is to increase this number to

350-400 by 2047.

PRADHAN MANTRI BHARTIYA JANAUSHADHI PARIYOJANA

- Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana has reached a remarkable milestone by achieving sales worth one thousand crore rupees.
- It was launched in 2008 by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Union Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers.
- Aim: Provide quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all, particularly the underprivileged.
- Implementation: Dedicated outlets, known as Janaushadhi Kendras, are established to offer these medicines.
- These provide generic medicines at much lesser price.
- The potency of these medicines is the same as compared to expensive branded medicines available in the open market.
- As of June 30, 2024, there are 12,616 operational Janaushadhi Kendras across India.

INITIATIVES UNDER THE PM BHARTIYA JANAUSHADHI PARIYOJANA SCHEME:

- Jan Aushadi Oxo-Biodegradable Sanitary Napkins - Due to limited menstrual hygiene in India, sanitary napkins are provided at Rs 1 in Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
- Janaushadhi Diwas - The Diwas is celebrated every year to bring awareness about the use of generic medicines, it was celebrated from 1st March to 7th March.
- Jana Aushadi Sugam Application - Also called the e-aushadhi application, it has been developed by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, and was launched in August 2019. The application

helps to locate nearby Janaushadhi Kendras and compares prices of generic and branded medicines.

'MUDRA' LOAN LIMIT INCREASED TO 20LAKH

- Under the Prime Minister's 'MUDRA' scheme to promote non-agricultural small businesses in the country, the loan limit has been increased from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh.
- The MUDRA (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency), under the scheme of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), was established on April 8, 2015 to finance the setting up of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country.
- It is envisioned to encourage entrepreneurship among the underprivileged sections of the society.
- It has aim of offering loans of up to 20 lakhs to small and micro enterprises that are not part of the corporate or agricultural sectors.
- These financial facilities are extended by various institutions such as Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Small Finance Banks, Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs), and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

TYPES OF LOANS

- Shishu (loans up to INR 50,000)
- Kishore (loans above INR 50,000 and up to INR 5 lakhs)
- Tarun (loans above INR 5 lakhs and up to INR 10 lakhs)
- Tarun Plus (loans above INR 10 lakhs and up to INR 20 lakhs)

Union Cabinet Approves Rs 1,000-Crore Fund to Boost Indian Space Start-Ups

- The Union Cabinet has approved a Rs

1,000-crore venture capital (VC) fund aimed at supporting about 40 space start-ups over the next five years.

- This fund, launched under the aegis of IN-SPACE, is expected to attract private investment and drive innovation in India's growing space sector.
- The Gujarat International Finance Tech-city (GIFT) City in Gujarat is emerging as a global hub for space technology.
- The government has introduced tax incentives such as GST exemptions for satellite launches and income tax breaks for R&D.

AMRIT BHARAT STATIONS SCHEME

- Amrit Bharat Station scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term vision.
- The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme has been launched on February 2023, for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways.
- This scheme envisages to take-up 1275 stations for upgradation/modernisation over Indian Railway.
- 73 railway stations in Tamil Nadu including Chennai MGR Central, Chennai Egmore are to be upgraded.

\$25 MILLION PANDEMIC FUND PROJECT

- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying launched the

Pandemic Fund Project on "Animal Health Security Strengthening in India for Pandemic Preparedness and Response", in New Delhi.

- The Pandemic Fund Project is a \$25 Million initiative funded by the G20 Pandemic Fund.

PRADHAN MANTRI VANBANDHU KALYAN YOJANA (PMVKY)

- The Pradhan Mantri Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (PMVKY) is a landmark initiative that was launched on October 28, 2014.
- This ambitious scheme has been conceived as a comprehensive strategy to address the unique challenges faced by tribal communities in India, which constitute about 8.9% of the country's population.
- With over 700 scheduled tribes spread across diverse regions.

SIX KEY STEPS UNDER PMVKY

- Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAAGY)
- Development Of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)
- Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRI)
- Pre-Matric Scholarships
- Post-Matric Scholarships
- Administrative Assistance for Project Management Units



APPOINTMENTS



SHREYAMS KUMAR WAS ELECTED AS THE NEW HEAD OF INS:

- MV Shreyams Kumar of Mathrubhumi Daily has been elected president of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS), the apex body of publishers of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals in the country.

- The Indian Newspaper Society (INS)
- This association was established in 1939.
- Its headquarters are at Rafi Mark, New Delhi.

THE FIRST WOMAN DIRECTOR OF AN ARMY MEDICAL UNIT TAKES CHARGE:



- Navy vice commander and doctor Arthi Sarin took charge as the first woman director of the Indian Army Medical Services.
- Arthi Sarin took charge as the 46th Director of Army Medical Services.



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