



T20



Current Affairs

for

TNPSC

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SINCE 2017

Tamil Nadu

❖ Tamil Nadu Tourism organizes 30-day Indian Dance Festival

- The 30-day Indian Dance Festival, organized annually by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Department, began at Mamallapuram near Chennai.

❖ Save Lives Scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin launched a new scheme called Innuyirkappom Nammai Kaakkum 48' at Melmaruvathur to save those who are trapped in road accidents.
- Under the scheme, the government will bear all the expenses of the first 48 hours of emergency medical treatment of those affected by road accidents, he said.

❖ Award to Government of Tamil Nadu

- The Tamil Nadu government has bagged two awards for conducting the highest number of non-communicable disease (NCD) tests in the country during the 'Azadi ka Amrit' Mahotsav campaign and for conducting the third highest number of health sessions.

❖ "TN Police CLAPP"

- A new mobile-based app is set to be launched for police personnel in the city to apply for leave and get admission at the earliest without any hassle. Initially, it will be operationalized for the weapons depot from December 31.

❖ SIDCO, TAICO Bank Agreement

- The Industrial Investment Corporation has entered into MoUs with SIDCO and TAICO Bank to encourage small and medium enterprises.

❖ Tamil Nadu tops in Justice, Public Safety

- In 2021, Tamil Nadu tops the list in Justice and Public safety. Delhi tops the list of Union Territory states.
- Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth anniversary is being observed as Good Governance Day.

❖ Journalists Welfare Board

- Two children of journalists will be given scholarships ranging from Rs 1,000 to Rs 6,000.

❖ A separate network for the welfare of Tamils

- Minister Gingee K.S. Mastan started this. He launched a new website at the Secretariat.

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❖ CM's Insurance Scheme Journalists' Link

- In the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme, a government order was issued to include journalists and periodical journalists / Magazine writers approved by the News Department as beneficiaries.
- On July 23, 2009, the Government of Tamil Nadu introduced a new insurance scheme called Kalaingar Insurance Scheme for advanced medical treatment.
- The scheme was upgraded in July 2011 and renamed as Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.
- On September 11, 2018, it was merged with the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana of the Government of India and the Central and State Governments shared the instalments.

❖ Tamil Thai Greetings State Song Of The Government

- Chief Minister M K Stalin issued an order declaring the Tamil Thai greeting song as the state song of the Tamil Nadu government. Everyone should stand up when the Tamil Thai greeting is sung.

❖ Kodiakarai Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary

- The forest department plans to add 28,000 hectares to the Kodiakarai sanctuary.
- The sanctuary was created in 1967 for the conservation of blackbuck antelope, a mammal species in India.

❖ "Kazhuveli wetland" becomes a bird sanctuary

- The government has issued an order declaring 'Kazhuveli Wetland' in Villupuram district as the 16th bird sanctuary in Tamil Nadu.

❖ Green Tamil Nadu Mission

- The state government has given its administrative and financial approval for the implementation of the 'Green Tamil Nadu Mission' in 2021-22, which aims to increase the forest and tree cover in the state from the present 23.8% to 33% by 2030-31.

❖ Pallikaranai Mangrove Park

- Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated the Pallikaranai Mangrove Eco-Park in Chennai via video conferencing.

❖ Translation of Sangam literary texts into Kannada

- For the first time, Sangam literature has been translated into Kannada by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil.

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❖ Tholkappiyam translation in 25 languages

- The Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Taramani, has planned to translate Tholkappiyam into 10 Indian languages and 15 world languages.
- Opening of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil - 2006.
- President - M.K.Stalin.

❖ Music Perarignar Award

- Nadaswaram artiste Seshampatti Sivalingam was awarded the Isai Perarignar Award given by the Music Association.

❖ National Award for the Welfare of Differently-abled Persons in Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu has been recognized as the best State in empowering the differently-abled persons. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment of persons with disabilities will receive the award at a function to be held in New Delhi.
- The President's Awards will be presented to all the six differently-abled citizens of Tamil Nadu for their exemplary service.

❖ Awards for those who worked for the welfare of differently-abled persons

- Smita Santhakumar Sadasivan was awarded the Social Worker Award for outstanding service to the differently-abled persons. The best institution was awarded to the Sapthagiri Rehabilitation Trust in Virudhunagar district.

❖ Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of memorial for writer K.R.

- The foundation stone was laid for the construction of a memorial, statue and library for Sahitya Akademi award-winning writer, K. Rajanarayanan(K.R.), who is considered to be the father of Karisal literature, in the premises of kovilpatti panchayat union office.
- People of Gopalapuram- Sahitya Akademi awarded.
- He was the pioneer in creating a dictionary for people's Tamil called Karisal Regional Dictionary.

❖ Former Tamil Nadu Governor K Rosaiah passes away

- He served as the Governor of Tamil Nadu from August 31, 2011 to August 30, 2016.
- After the death of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, he served as the Chief Minister of Andhra state for three months.

❖ Appointment of Member Secretary, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Commission

- K.Vivekanandan has been appointed as the Member Secretary of the Tamil Nadu State Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Commission.

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➤ Launched on October 14, 2021.

❖ Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Corporation to be launched

➤ In the budget speech for 2021-2022 in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, it was announced that a Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) would be set up in collaboration with the Chennai Institute of Technology (MIT) of Anna University for drones.

❖ Tamil language subject paper is mandatory in competitive examinations

➤ The Tamil Nadu government has made Tamil language paper compulsory in all competitive examinations.

➤ Tamil language examination will be compulsorily conducted in all competitive examinations. The syllabus for the Tamil Language aptitude test will be fixed in 10th standard. A minimum of 40 per cent marks pass percentage in Tamil language paper is mandatory. Other competitive examination papers of those who have not passed the qualifying paper will not be evaluated.

❖ PM Modi quotes Bharati song

➤ 'We will make a tool to listen to the speech spoken by the poet of Kasi Nagar in Kanchi.'
➤ These are the lyrics from a song written by Mahakavi Bharathiyar titled 'Bharata Desam'.
➤ At the Kashi Vishwanath temple function in Varanasi, PM Modi quoted the above song of Bharati in Tamil and interpreted it in Hindi.

❖ IIT Madras tops again

➤ For the third year in a row, IIT Madras has topped the Atal Rankings for higher educational institutions that have excelled at the national level in innovation.

❖ Metro Rail Phase II Project

➤ For a distance of 118.9 km, the second phase of the metro rail project is to be constructed at an outlay of Rs 61,843 crore.

➤ Routes - From Lighthouse to Poonamallee, From Madhavaram to Sholinganallur and from Madhavaram to Siruseri SIPCOT.

➤ The second phase of the work will be completed by 2025.

➤ Chennai is the 4th largest metro in India.

➤ First - Delhi, 2nd place - Bangalore, 3rd - Kolkata

➤ Chennai Metro's first phase of service:

➤ Alandur to Koyambedu – June 29, 2015 (Started by Jayalalitha)

➤ First Driver – Preethi

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- The metro project was launched on June 10, 2009 at Koyambedu by Deputy Chief Minister M.K. Stalin laid the foundation stone.

❖ Integrated Child Development Programme

- Under this scheme the retirement age of Anganwadi helpers has been increased to 60 years.
- ❖ Tamil activist புத்தகத் தாத்தா S.K. Murugesan passed away.

❖ Metro Rail Phase II Project

- For a distance of 118.9 km, the second phase of the metro rail project is to be constructed at an outlay of Rs 61,843 crore.
- Routes - From Lighthouse to Poonamallee, From Madhavaram to Sholinganallur and from Madhavaram to Siruseri SIPCOT.
- The second phase of the work will be completed by 2025.
- Chennai is the 4th largest metro in India.
- First - Delhi, 2nd place - Bangalore, 3rd - Kolkata
- Chennai Metro's first phase of service:
 - Alandur to Koyambedu – June 29, 2015 (Started by Jayalalitha)
 - First Driver – Preethi
- The metro project was launched on June 10, 2009 at Koyambedu by Deputy Chief Minister M.K. Stalin laid the foundation stone.

❖ Goat Distribution Scheme for Poor Women - 2021

- Five goats priced at Rs 3,500 in the age group of 6-8 months will be given to poor and destitute women at 100% subsidy.
- The insurance details for the goats should be in Tamil.
- Sheep will be insured for up to two years
- The number and details of the beneficiaries will be decided by the District Director of Animal Husbandry Department.
- A 12-digit number plastic label will be fitted to the ear.

❖ Singara Chennai 2.0 Project

- Rs.109.60 crore under Tamil Nadu Urban Road Infrastructure Project and Rs. 37.58 crore under Singara Chennai 2.0 project. A total of 1010 roads are to be repaired at a total cost of Rs 147 crore.

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❖ ACME - 2021

- ACME (International Machinery) Exhibition 2021 was held at Nandambakkam, Chennai.

❖ 8th World Tamil Economic Conference

- Chennai Global Economic Summit 2021 and the 8th World Tamil Economic Forum was held in Chennai.

❖ Cotton removed from agricultural produce list

- The Government of Tamil Nadu has removed cotton from the list of agricultural produce notified in the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce Regulation Act, 1987 and exempted it from market charges.

❖ Birth rate in Tamil Nadu falls, Puducherry rises

- The birth rate in Tamil Nadu has come down from 17.2 in 2017 to 14.2 in 2019, the Government of India informed in Lok Sabha.
- The birth rate in Puducherry has increased from 13.2 in 2017 to 13.3 in 2019.

❖ Tamil Thai Greetings – State Song of The Government of Tamil Nadu

- The Government of Tamil Nadu has issued an order asking everyone to stand up while singing the Tamil Thai greetings, declaring Manonmaniam Sundaranar's 'Neerarum Kadaluduththa' as the 'Tamil Thai Greetings' for the state song of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

❖ Save Our Lives Project (48 To Save Us)

- On December 18, 2021, the Innuyir Kappom Project (48 To Save Us) was launched in Melmaruvathur, Chengalpattu district.

❖ Weaving Heritage Park

- The Neithal Heritage Park will be set up at Nagore in Nagapattinam district with an outlay of Rs.2 crore to showcase to the younger generation the culture of the ancient Tamils (the way of life of the people of the sea and the shore).

❖ Chief Minister's Insurance Scheme

- Family annual income ceiling increased to Rs 1.20 lakh
- The kalaignar insurance scheme – on July 23, 2009, treatment was provided up to Rs 1 lakh.
- Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (annual income of Rs 72,000) and Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat – the sum insured is Rs 5,00,000 lakh.
- The Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme has raised the family annual income ceiling from January 11, 2022 to Rs 1.20 lakh from Rs 72,000.

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❖ Manjapai Awareness Campaign Again (Project)

- On December 23, 2021, the Manjapai Awareness Campaign (Prevention of The Use of Plastic) was launched again.

❖ Namma Ooru Festival - Chennai, Madurai, Trichy, Coimbatore

- Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore will be organized by the Department of Art and Culture for three days from Pongal day to showcase the excellence of traditional arts.

❖ Insurance Scheme for Coconut Tree Climbers

- An insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh will be provided to coconut tree climbers and palm-climbers.
- The Khera Suraksha Insurance Scheme (ages 18 to 65) was implemented by the Coconut Development Board.

❖ Sirpi Project (சிற்பி)

- Objective: 100 corporation schools in Chennai will be started with 50 students each.
- Find solutions to juvenile delinquency
- Identify vulnerable children and guide them.

❖ Annuity Social Welfare Mission – IIT Madras Students

- Awareness on maintaining cleanliness during menstruation
- Providing self-defense training so that women can protect themselves from sexual harassment

❖ List of Institutions of Higher Learning Chennai – IIT tops the list

- For the third year in a row, Chennai-IIT has topped the Atal Rankings for Top Institutes of Higher Learning at the national level or the Atal Ranking for Innovation.

❖ December 1 – AIDS Day

- 2021 AIDS prevalence in Tamil Nadu declines to 0.18%
- In 2001, it was 1.13%.
- National AIDS prevalence (in 2021) is 2.04%

❖ The platinum jubilee for Chennai to Mumbai express train (from December 1, 1921 to December 1, 2021) was celebrated.

❖ The Industrial Investment Corporation (1949) has entered into agreements with the banks SIDCO (1971) and TAICO (1961).

❖ The integrated government finance department complex has been named after K. Anbazhagan.

❖ Incentive hike for Oduvar priests – increased from Rs 1,000 to Rs 3,000.

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India

❖ National Commission for Minorities

- Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and Parsis are the six communities which are called minorities.
- In 2014, the Jain community was last declared as a minority community.
- Beginning: 1992
- Chairman: Former IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura.

❖ Govt decides to raise legal age of marriage for women to 21

- The centre has decided to rise the legal age of marriage of women from 18 to 21 as per the recommendations of a committee set up under the chairmanship of former Samata Party president Jaya Jaitley.

❖ UNESCO grants world status to Durga Puja

- Durga Puja, the most important festival in the state of West Bengal, is celebrated every year with great pomp and show. The festival is also celebrated in some other states, including Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha.
- The special festival is currently accorded the UNESCO World Heritage Status. This was announced by UNESCO yesterday.

❖ 4 qualifying days in a year to register as a new voter

- The Union Law Ministry has said it plans to amend Section 14(b) of the Representation of the People Act to fix four dates — January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 — as eligibility days for new voters to be included in the electoral rolls.
- The Election Commission will have a Chief Election Commissioner and two other Election Commissioners to assist him. They will be appointed by the President.
- Article 324 - Election Commission.
- Chief Election Commissioner - Shri Sushil Chandra

❖ 'Re-Habe' new ground

- A new scheme called 'Re-Hap' has been launched in Assam to drive away elephants using small bees to prevent elephant-human conflict.
- Beekeeping boxes will be placed and bee-fences will be set up along the elephant route to prevent them from entering human habitations.

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- Following the success of this innovation project in Karnataka, it has now been launched in Assam as well.
- ❖ **Chardham Highway Project**
 - In Uttarakhand, the 900-km stretch will be constructed at a cost of Rs 12,000 crore to connect four holy places (Chardham) – Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath.
 - A long highway is to be constructed.
 - The highway will run up to the China border.
- ❖ **India's first female psychiatrist Sharda Menon passes away**
 - He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1992 by the Government of India in recognition of his service. In the year 2016, the Government of Tamil Nadu presented the 'Awwai Award'.
- ❖ **Dam Safety Bill passed**
 - With the passage of the Dam Safety Bill, there will be funding from the World Bank. Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat informed the Lok Sabha that under the DRIB, the restoration of dams in the country, including Tamil Nadu, will be taken up under the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIB).
- ❖ **Cyclone Jawad**
 - Cyclone Jawad made landfall in the southeast Bay of Bengal. Jawad is an Arabic word (the meaning is generous compassion) the name Jawad was given by Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ **100th Anniversary of The Public Accounts Committee**
 - On December 4, 2021, the Public Accounts Committee completed its 100th anniversary of its formation.
 - The Public Accounts Committee was introduced in 1921 based on the recommendation of Government of India Act 1919 (also known as the Montford Reforms).
 - As per the Rules of Procedure and Conduct in the Lok Sabha, the Public Accounts Committee is constituted every year under Article 308.
 - The Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee is appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ **Air Suvidha website**
 - It was started to get information about passengers coming from countries where corona virus cases are high.

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❖ Toll-free phone for SC/ST harassment - 14566

- National Helpline Against SC/ST Harassment Toll-free phone – 14566, "Union Ministry of Social Justice" has launched the toll-free phone.

❖ Age of marriage for women is 21 years – Jaya Jaitley Group

- The Union Cabinet has approved raising the age of marriage of a woman from 18 to 21 based on the recommendations of a four-member committee headed by Jaya Jaitley.

❖ International Documentary Short Film Festival

- International Documentary Short Film Festival held in Puducherry

❖ Operation Vijay

- "Operation Vijay – Goa became independent on December 19, 1961, in a military operation by the Government of India to rescue Goa from the Portuguese.
- December 19, 2021 Goa: 60th anniversary.

❖ UN World Food Programme Research - NITI Aayog MoU

- NITI Aayog has signed an agreement for research with the UN World Food Programme.
- International Millet Year – 2023

❖ Foundation stone of four hydroelectric projects in Himachal Pradesh

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for four hydroelectric projects in Himachal Pradesh at cost of Rs 9,500 crore.
- Renukaji Dam Project (Sirmaar District - Giri River) Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Delhi.
- Lukri Hydroelectric Project – Hamirpur District, Himachal Pradesh.
- Dhulasit Hydroelectric Project – Himachal Pradesh.
- He inaugurated the Chavra Guddu Hydroelectric Power Station (Shimla).

❖ DRDO plant in Uttar Pradesh

- A defense technologies and testing Centre and a BrahMos missile manufacturing facility will be set up in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

❖ Prohibition of Religious Conversion Act

- The Karnataka Assembly passed an anti-conversion law.

❖ Vijay Nivas Day

- It is celebrated to commemorate the victory of the Indian forces that led to the liberation of Bangladesh (India-Pakistan War of 1971).

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- December 16, 2021 was celebrated across the country as "Swarnim Vijay Varsh" to mark the golden jubilee year.

Economy

❖ GST arrears rs 16,725 crore

- Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Palanivel Thiagarajan, at a meeting in New Delhi, urged the Centre to immediately release Rs 16,725 crore of Goods and Services tax (GST) compensation dues to Tamil Nadu.

❖ Rs 1,300 crore to boost digital transactions

- The Union Cabinet has approved a Rs 1,300-crore scheme to promote digital transactions using UPI and RuPay debit cards.

❖ Gujarat has become a manufacturing city

- Gujarat has emerged as the manufacturing city of the country. The state of Maharashtra, which had retained the seat so far, has been pushed to the second spot. Maharashtra, however, retains the top state status in the service sector.

❖ Loan agreement with Asian Development Bank

- The Government of India has signed two loan agreements worth Rs.2,074 crore with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) with the objective of improving infrastructure facilities in Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand.

❖ 34 lakh metric tonnes of grain for Tamil Nadu

- The Centre informed the Rajya Sabha that 34,35,163.56 metric tonnes of foodgrains have been allocated to Tamil Nadu under the FoodGrain Distribution Scheme for the poor (Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana).

❖ Unicorn Company List – India ranked 3rd in the list

- The United States is at the top, Followed by China (2nd), India (3rd) and United Kingdom (4th).
- In the world of start-ups worth \$1 billion (Rs. 7,500 crore) companies are called companies.
- Bangalore, Mumbai, Pune, Thane and Gurugram are the top five Indian cities.
- Among Indian companies, Byju's is at the top with \$21 billion (Rs 1.58 lakh crore), InMobi at \$12 billion and OYO at \$9.5 billion.
- India has emerged as the world's second largest start-up hub.

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World

❖ Barbados: The emergence of a new republic

- Located in the West Indies region of the Caribbean Sea, Barbados has been declared a new republic, away from the rule of the Queen of Britain. With this, Barbados has become the latest republic in the world.

❖ Gita Gopinath promoted to International Monetary Fund

- Indian-origin Geeta Gopinath, the first woman chief economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), has been promoted to the position of deputy managing director of the organisation.

❖ International Year of Millets

- The United Nations has designated 2023 as the International Year of Millets to popularise millet varieties. announced.
- The UGC has directed colleges and universities across the country to conduct awareness programmes on the use and importance of millets as 2023 will be observed as the International Year of Millets across the world.

❖ Barbados – The birth of a new republic

- Located in the West Indies region in the Caribbean Sea. The island of Barbados has now become a self-governing separate republic, with the presidency of the Centre of Power under the British Raj.
- It became independent in 1966.

❖ Parker spacecraft

- Nasa's Parker spacecraft, which was launched in August 2018, has created history by entering the Sun's atmosphere for the first time.
- It will go on till 2025.

❖ Typhoon Rai has hit the Philippines.

❖ The world's largest telescope - James Webb

- NASA launched the world's largest powerful telescope satellite from French Guiana in South America.
- Purpose – To study the early stars and to learn more information about the universe.

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Environment

❖ Glasgow Agreement

- At the Glasgow Summit on climate change, India did not agree to the agreement as the agreement was finalised linking the use of forests and land with trade, Minister of State for Environment, Forests and Climate Change Ashwini Kumar Choubey told the Lok Sabha.
- He also said that the forest cover of India has increased by 24.56 per cent.

❖ Olive Ridley Turtles

- Scientists have resumed encoding olive ridley turtles at Rushikulya Rookari off the Odisha coast.
- Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) are carrying out the work of encoding olive ridleys at three large nest sites — Kahirmata, Devi River Estuary and Rushikulya.
- The Zoological Survey of India was established on July 1, 1916.

❖ ESZ (Eco-sensitive Zones)

- ESZs are an area that extends up to 10 km from protected areas, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.
- It acts as an intermediate zone from a high security area to a less secure area.

Science & Technology

❖ 9 nuclear power plants in India

- The government has said that by 2024, nine nuclear reactors will be commissioned in India. The Government of India has accorded approval for setting up of 12 more nuclear reactors. The reactors will have a capacity to generate 9,000 MW of electricity.

❖ UN observer status for International Solar Alliance

- The "International Solar Alliance", which has been created on the initiative of India and France, has been accorded observer status by the UNITED NATIONS. Provided by the General Assembly.

❖ VL-SRSAM-Missile Tested Successfully

- DRDO successfully tested the VL-SRSAM-ballistic missile (50km to 60km) in Odisha.

❖ Pinaka Extended Range System - DRDO.

- The extended-range Pinaka Multi-Range Missile System, semi-destructive type of explosives and indigenously produced fuses were successfully tested at various locations.
- The test of the Pinaka missile system was successfully conducted in Pokhran. The Pinaka missile system has been designed jointly by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

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laboratories, Heavy Weapons Research and Development Organization (ARDE), Pune and the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune.

- Pinaka MK1 – 40 km (target)
- Pinaka MK2 – 60 km (target)
- Pinaka MK3 - Not Given

Persons & Appointments

❖ List of the world's 100 most powerful women

- Forbes magazine has released a list of the world's 100 most powerful women for the 18th year.
- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is ranked 37th on the list. This is the third year in a row that he has made it to the list.

❖ Army Chief General Bipin Rawat dies in accident

- On December 8, 2021, Bibin Rawat travelled in the Indian Air Force's Mi-17 V-5 helicopter (a product of Russia's Kazan Company) along with 4 soldiers operating it and other officers from the 9 corps.
- General Bipin Rawat's wife Madhulika Rawat was also died in a helicopter crash at Nanjappachatram near Coonoor in the Nilgiris district.

❖ India's water man

- Rajendra Singh from Rajasthan is known as the water man of India.

❖ Father of The Library Movement of Kerala - P.N. Panicker

- President Ram Nath Kovind unveiled the statue of P.N. Panicker, who is referred as the father of Kerala's library movement, at Poojapura in Thiruvananthapuram.

❖ The first woman head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) - Gita Gopinath

- Economist Gita Gopinath (of Indian origin) has been promoted to deputy managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

❖ Indian girl Harnaz Sandhu chose to be Miss Universe

- India's Harnas Sandhu was selected for the Miss Universe pageant held in Israel. After a gap of 21 years, India has got this title.

❖ Desmond Tutu passes away

- Desmond Tutu, a symbol of South Africa's anti-white chauvinism, has passed away.
- He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.

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Scheme

- ❖ Paramparagad Krishi Vikas Yojana
 - To encourage the farmers to adopt eco-friendly agricultural practices and adopt them.
 - Reducing farmers' dependence on chemicals and synthetic fertilizers to increase the yield in agriculture.
 - Commencement : 2015, Objective : Organic Farming
- ❖ **Prime Minister's Young Writers' Programme**
 - The National Book Trust has selected 75 writers under the Prime Minister's Young Writers Guidance Scheme. J U Suhana, G Saravanan and K Geetha, who have written books in Tamil, have also been selected.
- ❖ **Prime Minister's Young Writers Guidance Scheme**
 - 75 people have been selected across the country for the Prime Minister's Young Writers Guidance Programme.
 - J.U., Suhana G., Saravanan, K.Geetha have been selected from Tamil Nadu.

Summit

- ❖ **G20 summit to be chaired by India in 2023**
 - India will chair the G-20 summit in 2023. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has been appointed as India's nodal officer for the same.
- ❖ **All India Mayors' Conference**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the All India Mayors' Conference in Varanasi organized by the Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Department in Varanasi.
 - The theme of this conference is "New Urban India".
- ❖ **International Ambedkar Conference - Delhi**
 - The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the 5th International Ambedkar Conference, jointly organized by the Federation of SC and ST MLA's and Members of Parliament and The Dr. Ambedkar Chamber of Commerce in New Delhi
- ❖ **21st India-Russia Annual Summit**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi and The President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, attended the 21st India-Russia Annual Summit in New Delhi on December 06, 2021.

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- Government of India signs Rs. 5,000-crore deal with Russia for procurement of state-of-the-art AK203 rifles and S-400 missiles.

❖ **SCO-Cyber Security Seminar organized by India**

- A cyber security seminar organized by India under the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was held in New Delhi. The Pakistani delegate was participated in this meeting.
- SCO launched – 5 June 2001 – Shanghai City
- Members – Russia, China, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan joined as member states.

Defence

❖ **Special Honor for Mumbai Missile Fleet**

- The Indian Navy's missile fleet, which sunk its warships during the 1971 war with Pakistan, has been conferred with the 'President's Standard'.

❖ **R Harikumar takes over as Chief of Naval Staff**

- Admiral R Harikumar took over as the 25th Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy.

❖ **Chief of Army Staff General Bipin Rawat passes away**

- On December 8, 13 people, including Chief of Army Staff General Bipin Rawat and his wife Madhulika Rawat, were killed in an Army helicopter crash near Coonoor.
- Bipin Rawat was travelling in a Mi17V5 helicopter from Sullur air base.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today created a four-star General's post of Chief of Defense Staff. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval.
- The post has been created with the salary and other benefits of the three service chiefs.
- The Chief of Defense Staff will serve as the head and secretary of the newly created Department of Military Affairs in the Ministry of Defense.

❖ **Government of India announces 2 Defence Industrial Corridors**

- The Central government has announced the setting up of two defence industrial corridors in the country.
- Tamil Nadu - 5 terminals (Chennai, Coimbatore, Hosur, Salem, Trichy)
- Uttar Pradesh - 6 terminals (Aligarh, Agra Chitrakoot, Jhansi Kanpur, Lucknow)
- The aim is to attract investment worth Rs 20,000 crore in both states by 2024-25.

❖ **Santhyak Research Ship**

- The first indigenously manufactured research vessel Santhyak for the Indian Navy was sailed on the sea.

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➤ Uses: Deep-sea research, floating hospital, attack ship.

❖ **Anti-Tank Missile (CHAND) DRDO**

- On December 11, 2021, the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force test-fired a remote-range anti-tank missile called Chand, which can be launched from an indigenously designed and developed helicopter, at the Pokhran border.
- Equipped with a state-of-the-art millimeter wave radar-seeking device, the missile is capable of striking high precision from a safe distance. The weapon can hit targets up to a distance of 10 km.
- The Chand missile has been designed and developed by Hyderabad-based research Centre Imarat in collaboration with DRDO's other laboratories and industry.
- DRDO Chairman: Dr G Satheesh Reddy

❖ **Braille missile capable of changing path in mid-air**

- The Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) successfully tested the indigenously developed 'Braille' missile, which can range from 150 to 500 km from the ground for the first time. The missile was successfully test-fired from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha.
- The missile hit the intended target accurately. Braille, a state-of-the-art launch vehicle, has been developed to handle interceptor missiles.
- The ballistic missile is capable of changing its course in mid-air after a certain distance.

❖ **INS – Indian Navy's warship Kukri had a farewell**

- The INS Kukri is a missile carrier. The ship was released on December 23 after serving in the Navy for 32 years. INS Kukri has the distinction of serving in both the Eastern Naval Command and the Western Naval Command.

Awards

❖ **Goenka Award**

- Shiv Sahai Singh, a journalist with The Hindu, has been selected for the Ramnath Goenka Award. Shiv Sahai Singh has been selected for the award under the category of 'Uncovering the Invisible India'.

❖ **Sahitya Academy Awards - 2021**

- Sahitya Academy Award 2021, Ambai C.S. Lakshmi – "A Green Bird with a Red Neck" (Collection of Short Stories)

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- Bala Sahitya Award 2021 (Bala Sahitya Puraskar Award) Murugesh "The World's First Story of The Daughter to A Mother" (Collection of Short Stories)
- T.E.S. Raghavan - translated Thirukkural into Hindi.
- Rabindranath Tagore's Kora novel translated into Tamil by K. Chellappan
- ❖ **Anju Bobby George gets award**
 - Former Indian athlete Anju Bobby George has been conferred with this year's Best Woman of the Year award by the World Track Organisation.
- ❖ **UNESCO's double award for Indian Cultural Programme**
 - Delhi's Nizamuddin Basti community's cultural heritage conservation programme has won two UNESCO awards.
 - The project has been awarded by UNESCO under two categories, namely, the Best Heritage Conservation Plan for the Asia-Pacific Region and the Sustainable Development Programme.
- ❖ **International Mathematical Award**
 - Indian-American professor Nikhil Srivastava has been selected for the American Mathematical Association Award.
- ❖ **Ballon Thor Award (2021)**
 - Football is an honorable award for the game.
 - Lionel Messi (men), Argentina (7th time)
 - Alexia Budelas (Women), Spain
- ❖ **Meritorious Service Award for Differently Abled Persons**
 - Provided by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India
 - First State Award for Outstanding Service to Differently Abled Persons - Tamil Nadu
 - Salem district awarded as best district in the country for providing rehabilitation services to differently abled persons
 - International Day for the Differently Abled - December 3
 - Tamil Nadu Award – Social Worker Award – Smita Santhakumar Sathasivam
 - Best Teacher – Ra. Jayanthi, N. Mariammal
 - Best Institution – Sapthagiri Rehabilitation Trust (Virudhunagar District)
- ❖ **Tamil Music Association Award**
 - Music Scholar's Degree – Seshampatti T. Sivalingam
 - The title of a classical scholar - Alavai Pon. M. Muthukumar.

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❖ Cyprian Poes Award – 2021

- The 2021 Cyprian Poes Prize has been awarded to mathematics professor Nikhil Srivastava by the American Mathematical Association.

❖ "Order of the Druk Gyalpo" Award

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with the "The Order of the Dragon King (Druk Gyalpo)", the highest civilian award of the Bhutanese government.
- Bhutan celebrated its 114th national day

❖ Best South Africa Award 2021 – Imtiaz Suliman

- Imtiaz Suliman of Indian origin has been awarded the Best South African Award for the year 2021.
- He runs an organization called "Gift of the Givers"

Sports

❖ Fencing 4 World Cup

- Indian fencing champion (fencing) Olympian Bhavani Devi will be participating in four World Cups in 2022.
- Bhavani Devi a resident of Chennai became the first Indian athlete to participate in the Tokyo Olympics.

❖ Asian Youth Para Games

- India won 41 medals, including 12 gold, at the Asian Youth Para Games in Bahrain.

❖ World Badminton Championships - Kidambi Srikanth won medal

- India's "Kidambi Srikanth" won the silver medal at the World Badminton Championships in Huelva, Spain. He became the first Indian to win a medal at this event.

Index

❖ Good Governance State List 2021

- In India's overall good governance index, Delhi tops the list of Union Territories followed by Gujarat.
- Tamil Nadu tops judicial public safety
- Good Governance Day – December 25 (Vajpayee's birth anniversary)

❖ 4th Health Index – NITI Aayog Release – 2019-20

- Kerala – first; Tamil Nadu – 2nd place; Telangana – 3rd position (largest states).
- Mizoram – first; Tripura – 2nd place; Sikkim – 3rd position (smaller states)
- Union Territories – Dadra and Nagar Haveli – top; Chandigarh – 2nd place; Lakshadweep – 3rd place.

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- This is the fourth year in a row that Kerala has topped the list.
- Niti Aayog has prepared the index in collaboration with the Union Health Ministry and the World Bank.
- The State Health Index is an annual tool for assessing the performance of states and Union Territories. It is a composite index based on 24 indicators compiled under the categories of 'Health Outcomes', 'Personality and Information' and 'Key Inputs/Processes'.
- Niti Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) was set up as a replacement for the Planning Commission.
- It came into effect from January 1, 2015.

Books

❖ "Justice for the Judge"

- "Justice For the Judge" is a biography of former 46th Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi.

Important Days

1. December 1 - World AIDS Day
2. December 2 - National Pollution Control Day
3. December 2 - International Day for the Elimination of Slavery
4. December 3 - International Day of the Differently Abled
5. December 4 - Indian Navy Day
6. December 4 - Indian Navy Day
7. December 7 - International Day of Aviation
8. December 8 - SAARC Charter Day
9. December 9 - International Anti-Corruption Day
10. December 10 - International Human Rights Day
11. December 11 - International Mountain Day
12. December 11 - UNICEF Day
13. December 12 - International Public Health Facility Programme Day
14. December 14 - National Energy Conservation Day
15. December 16 - Vijay Nivash Diwas
16. December 18 - International Day of Immigrants
17. December 18 - Indian Minorities Rights Day
18. December 20 - International Day of Human Unity
19. December 22 - National Mathematics Day
20. December 23 - National Farmers' Day
21. December 24 - National Consumer Rights Day
22. December 25 - Good Governance Day