

Current Affairs of November 2021

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National

Karnataka Cabinet renames Mumbai-Karnataka region as 'Kittur Karnataka'

Karnataka Chief Minister(CM) **Basavaraj**

Bommai announced to rename the disputed Mumbai-Karnataka region, consisting of 7 districts, as 'Kittur



Karnataka'. Following the CM's announcement, the state cabinet gave approval for renaming the region. **7 districts of Kittur Karnataka** – Uttara Kannada, Belagavi, Dharwad, Vijayapura, Bagalkote, Gadag and Haveri districts.

- The announcement was made on **66th Karnataka Rajyotsava Day on November 1**.
- The region was under the **erstwhile Bomber presidency** before Independence and bought under the Karnataka State after the 1956 State Reorganization Act.

Key points

- The name '**Kittur**' originated from a historical taluk in Belagavi district in north Karnataka that was ruled by **Rani Chennamma (1778-1829)**.
- The Kittur Rani Chennamma had **fought against the British** for freedom about 40 years before Jhansi Rani Laxmibai.
- In 2019, the Hyderabad-Karnataka region was also renamed as '**Kalyana Karnataka**'.

About Karnataka:

Airport- Kempegowda International Airport (Bangalore), Mangalore International Airport

Zoological Park- Dr. K.Shivarma Karanth Pililkula Biological Park, Bannerghatta Biological Park

USA Becomes the 101st Member Country of the ISA at COP26; ISA Established Investment Advisory Committee

The United States of America (USA) has become the **101st** member of the inter-governmental treaty-based International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Key Points:

- John Kerry, the US special presidential envoy for climate, has signed the framework agreement and announced its membership at the 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which is being held in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom (UK).
- On November 2, 2021, India and UK jointly launched the world's 1st 'green Grids' Initiative, the One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG) on the sidelines of the COP26 summit to connect energy grids across borders to facilitate a faster transition to the use of renewable energy.
- At COP26, the USA joined the steering committee of the 'One Sun One World One Grid' initiative, which now includes Australia, France, the UK and India.
- The ISA has established an investment advisory committee composed of leading institutional investors, including multilateral and commercial organizations and has partnered with Nordic institutional investors to guide ISA on mobilising **\$1 trillion** for investment in solar energy by 2030.

Congress Leader Salman Khurshid Authored New Book Titled “Sunrise Over Ayodhya: Nationhood in Our Times”

Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader **Salman**

Khurshid have released his new book titled “**Sunrise Over Ayodhya:**



Nationhood in Our Times”. The book is published by Vintage Books, a subdivision of Random House publishing.

About the book:

- i. The book is about the unity between Hindus and Muslims.
- ii. The book favours the 2019 Supreme Court verdict on the Ayodhya dispute and aims to create awareness about the verdict among the people.
- iii. The book explores the opportunities offered by the judgment to affirm India as a secular society.

About Salman Khurshid:

- i. Salman Khurshid is a senior advocate designated by the Supreme Court.
- ii. He served as the Minister of External Affairs (MEA) from 1993 to 1996.
- iii. In 2009, he was again elected as a member of parliament and served as the Union Minister of State (with Independent Charges) of Corporate Affairs and Minority Affairs and during the 2011 cabinet reshuffle he was appointed as Union Minister of State (with Independent Charges) of Corporate Affairs and Minority Affairs.

Book:

He has authored more than 15 books which include

- Visible Muslim, Invisible Citizen: Understanding Islam in Indian Democracy
- Sons of Babur a Play in Search of India

President Ram Nath Kovind Promulgates 2 Ordinances extending tenure of CBI and ED Directors for up to 5 years

President Ram Nath Kovind signed two ordinances promulgated by the Ministry of Law and Justice amending the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 with **Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Ordinance 2021**; and Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 with **Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021** to extend the tenure of Directors of probe agencies Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) up to five years from current 2 years. Both ordinances will come into effect immediately.

- With the above amendments, the Central government also amended the **Rule 56(d) Fundamental Rules (FR), 1922** to bring them in sync with above amendments.
- It should be noted that the DSPE Act is the parent law for the CBI, and the Central Vigilance Act covers the appointment of the ED director.

What is in the ordinances?

As per the ordinances, the central Government can extend the Directors' tenure of CBI and ED by a year for three consecutive years once they complete their fixed two year term.

- Means their tenures can now be up to a maximum of five years from the present two years.

- Note – Current ED Director is Sanjay Kumar Mishra (Set to Retire on November 17, 2021) & Current CBI Director – Subodh Kumar Jaiswal

Key Points:

i. No extension in tenure will be granted after the total 5 years.

- It should be noted that the initial fixed term of two years was aimed at ensuring the chiefs of CBI and ED work free from government interference without worrying about any adverse action by them.

i. On the other hand, the Director CBI is selected on the basis of the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Chief of Justice of India and the Leader of Opposition. If there is no recognized leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha, then the leader of the single largest opposition party in the Lok Sabha would be a member of that committee.

India's first Food Museum launched in Thanjavur, TN by Union Minister Piyush Goyal

Union Minister, Piyush Vardprakash Goyal virtually launched India's first

Digital Food

Museum in

Thanjavur, Tamil

Nadu (TN). It is

1,860-sqft museum co-developed by Food

Corporation of India (FCI) and Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museums, Bengaluru (Karnataka)

with an estimated outlay of Rs 1.1 crore.

- This museum showcases the Indian food evolution from nomadic hunter-gatherers into settled agriculture producers will function from 11 am to 5 pm on all working days.



- Thanjavur is the **cultural capital** of Tamil Nadu.

Key Points:

i. The technologies used in this museum are projection mapping, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), touch screen kiosk, proximity sensors and touch sensors.

ii. It displays the ancient grain storage methods (both global and indigenous) and challenges in storage besides information about the journey of FCI.

iii. India is the 5th largest agricultural exporter in the world.

iv. Central Government is also establishing 10 tribal freedom fighters museums to acknowledge their contribution.

India's 1st LIGO Project to come up in Hingoli, Maharashtra

On 17th November 2021, Maharashtra's

Hingoli revenue

department allotted

225 hectares of land at

Dudhala in Aundha

Nagnath town for

setting-up India's 1st Laser Interferometer

Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) project.

Aim – To Study Gravitational waves arriving to earth from cataclysmic events in the distant universe, and carry out experiments on them.

i. LIGO India project will be built by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST)

Other Space Observatories in India:

- Mount Abu InfraRed Observatory (MIRO) – Mount Abu, Rajasthan



- Devasthal Optical Telescope – Nainital, **Uttarakhand**
- Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (**GMRT**) – Khodad, **Maharashtra**
- Stargate Observatory – Bhimtal, **Uttarakhand**

Indian Diplomat Syed Akbaruddin Authored a New Book “India vs UK: The Story of an Unprecedented Diplomatic Win”

Senior Indian diplomat **Syed Akbaruddin** has authored a new book titled “**India vs UK: The Story of an Unprecedented Diplomatic Win**”. The book features the behind-the-scenes details on India’s victory against the United Kingdom (**UK**) in the elections to the International Court of Justice (**ICJ**) in 2017.

- The book is published by HarperCollins India.

India’s victory against UK in ICJ Election:

- The ICJ elections require a candidate to secure an absolute majority in the General Assembly and the Security Council.
- In November 2017, 4 candidates were declared elected leaving Judge Dalveer Bhandari of India and Judge Christopher Greenwood of the UK to fill the fifth vacancy for the **2018-2027 term**.
- Judge Dalveer Bhandari received all 15 votes in the UN Security Council and 183 out of the 193 votes in the UN General Assembly.

About Syed Akbaruddin:

i. Syed Akbaruddin has served as India’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations(UN) from

January 2016 to April 2020.

- He has served as an international civil servant at the International Atomic Energy Agency (**IAEA**) in Vienna from 2006 to 2011.
- He served as the Consul General of India, Jeddah in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 2000 to 2004.

Nobel Prize-winning Economist Abhijit Banerjee’s Cookbook Titled “Cooking to Save your Life”

Indian-born American economist & Nobel laureate **Abhijit**

Banerjee has authored a new book(cookbook) titled “**Cooking to**

Save your Life”. The book illustrated by France based illustrator **Cheyenne Oliver** is published by **Juggernaut Books**.



- He won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences (The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel) in 2019 along with Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty.

Other books: ‘Poor Economics: Rethinking Poverty & The Ways To End It’ and ‘Good Economics for Hard Times: Better Answers to Our Biggest Problems’.

IPF Survey on SMART Policing 2021: Telangana, Andhra Pradesh Tops; Bihar, UP Lowest Almost 7

years after the launch of the SMART policing, a Delhi-based think tank, IPF (Indian Police Foundation) has



published a survey named ‘**IPF Citizen Satisfaction**

Survey on SMART Policing, 2021 to identify the public perception of the police.

- As per the survey, **Andhra Pradesh** and **Telangana** have the **highest** 'SMART policing index' scores of 8.11 and 8.1 respectively on a scale of 1-10. **Uttar Pradesh** and **Bihar** scored the **lowest** score of 5.81 and 5.74 respectively.
- Background:** The SMART Policing idea was introduced in 2014 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Conference of DGPs (Director General of Police) of State and Central Police Organizations, to transform the Indian Police to be SMART.

IPF Smart Policing Index 2021:

| State/UT | | SMART Index Score |
|----------|----------------|-------------------|
| Top 3 | Andhra Pradesh | 8.11 |
| | Telangana | 8.10 |
| | Assam | 7.89 |
| Bottom 3 | Chhattisgarh | 5.93 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 5.81 |
| | Bihar | 5.74 |

Swachh Survekshan 2021 Awards: Indore Became India's Cleanest City for 5th time

In November 2021, the President of



India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, felicitated the awardees of the cleanest cities of India at the '**Swachh Amrit Mahotsav**' hosted as part of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

- The award ceremony was organized to recognize the work done for Swachhata by towns/ cities, States and Union Territories (UTs) under various initiatives of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), such as, Swachh Survekshan 2021 (SS 2021), Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge, and certifications for Garbage Free Star rating for cities.
- More than 300 awards were given under various categories.

Key Points:

- For the 5th consecutive year, **Indore**, Madhya Pradesh (MP), was awarded the title of **India's Cleanest City** under SS 2021, while **Surat**, Gujarat and **Vijayawada**, Andhra Pradesh, bagged the 2nd and 3rd spots respectively in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category .
- Vita, Lonavala, and Sasvad, cities from Maharashtra bagged the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions respectively in the India's cleanest cities under 'less than 1 lakh population' category..
- Star rating system:** A total of 9 cities – Indore, Surat, New Delhi Municipal Council, Navi Mumbai, Ambikapur, Mysuru, Noida, Vijayawada and Patan- have been certified as 5 star cities while 143 cities have been certified as 3 star.

About Swachh Survekshan:

- Swachh Survekshan is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns across India.
- The 1st survey was undertaken in 2016 and covered 73 cities, by 2020 the survey had grown to cover 4242 cities and was said to be the largest cleanliness survey in the world.

‘Srinagar’ joins UNESCO’s Creative Cities Network for 2021

On 8th November 2021, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation



(UNESCO) selected India’s Srinagar city, a capital of Jammu & Kashmir as one among the 49 cities selected under UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) for 2021. Srinagar becomes the sixth Indian City to receive this recognition.

- Srinagar is selected under the craft and folk arts category.
- Other Cities included in 2021 UCCN – Abu Dhabi (UAE), Doha (Qatar) and Bursa (Turkey)

Other Indian Cities under UCCN List:

- Jaipur – Crafts and Folk Arts (2015)
- Varanasi-Creative city of Music (2015)
- Chennai-Creative city of Music (2017)
- Mumbai – Film (2019)
- Hyderabad – Gastronomy (2019)

NITI Aayog launched 1st SDG Urban Index 2021-22; Shimla Tops

i. On November 23, 2021, NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog launched the first SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) Urban Index & Dashboard 2021-22.

ii. It was launched by **Dr Rajiv Kumar**, Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog; and **Prof Dr Claudia Warning**, Director General, BMZ (Federal Ministry

for Economic Cooperation and Development), Germany.

iii. It is a SDG progress monitoring tool at the ULB (Urban Local Body) level.

Cabinet Approvals on November 24, 2021

The Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi approved the following important initiatives on November 24, 2021.

Key Points:

i. The Union Cabinet approved a bill to repeal the **3 farm laws**, which were passed by Parliament in September 2020, with an objective to bring reforms in the agriculture sector, especially the marketing of farm produce.

- The bill to scrap the farm laws would be introduced in the winter session of the Parliament, which starts on November 29, 2021.

ii. Cabinet has approved the extension of the free foodgrain distribution scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (**PMGKAY**)-**Phase V** for another 4 months i.e. from December 2021 to March 2022, with an estimated additional food subsidy of Rs 53344.52 Crore.

iii. Cabinet approved the formation of a Company (Special Purpose Vehicle (**SPV**)) to privatise electricity distribution and Retail Supply Business business in the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (**DNH&DD**).

Andhra Pradesh Passes a Bill to Repeal ‘3 Capitals’ Act

The Andhra Pradesh government passed a Bill to repeal the **AP**

Decentralisation and



Inclusive Development of All Regions Act and the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) Repeal Act of 2020.

- The Bill was moved by Finance and Legislative Affairs Minister **Buggana Rajendranath Reddy**
- The repeal of the two Acts came after the various petitions filed by the farmers in the State's High Court.

Background:

i. Andhra Pradesh had notified the AP Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of All Regions Act, 2020, and the AP Capital Region Development Authority (Repeal) Act, 2020 in July 2020 to introduce 3 Capitals for the state.

- **Amaravati** – legislative capital.
- **Visakhapatnam** – executive capital.
- **Kurnool** – judicial capital.

ii. The current government has decided to reverse the previous government's decision to have an ambitious **world-class capital city** at **Amaravati**, which is located **between Vijayawada and Guntur**.

iii. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister has announced to re-introduce a similar law, for the formation of 3-capitals, by making necessary changes to the old one.

3-Capitals:

i. Building one mega capital might neglect other parts of the state while '3 capitals' ensure equal development of different regions of the state.

Kantar's BrandZ India report 2021: Amazon, Asian Paints, Tata Tea top the India's Most Purposeful Brand Rankings

Kantar's BrandZ India report unveils

2021's most purposeful brands in India. As per the report, Amazon, Asian Paints, and Tata Tea emerge as the most purposeful brands in India across technology, non-Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) and FMCG categories respectively.

- The report is based on an analysis of 418 brands across 30 categories, to find the brand's purpose and its ability to 'make people's lives better'.
- It report surveyed over 12,000 respondents and the database includes 28 attributes that make a brand favourable to shoppers.

India's Top 3 Most Purposeful Brands – Technology, FMCG, Non-FMCG:

| Rank | Most Purposeful Technology Brands | Most Purposeful FMCG Brands | Most Purposeful Non-FMCG Brands |
|------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Amazon | Tata Tea | Asian Paints |
| 2 | Zomato | Surf Excel (detergent brand) | Samsung and Jio |
| 3 | YouTube | Taj Mahal (tea brand) | MRF |

NITI Aayog's 1st National MPI 2021: Kerala has Lowest Poverty while Bihar has Highest

i. NITI (National Institution for Transforming India)

Aayog released its first '**National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021-Baseline report**' in which Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh (UP) ranked as the poorest state in India.

ii. On the other hand Kerala has lowest poverty across India (0.71%), followed by Goa (3.76%), Sikkim (3.82%), Tamil Nadu (4.89%) and Punjab (5.59%).

iii. This index is also India's first ever national MPI measure based on the reference period of **2015-16** of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS).

About NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog:

Establishment– January 1, 2015

Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi

CEO– Amitabh Kant

NIA: Foundation stone of India's 1st Zero Emission Airport laid by PM Narendra Modi at Jewar, UP

i. On November 25, 2021, the Prime Minister (PM) of India, Narendra Damodardas Modi laid the foundation stone of **Noida International Airport (NIA)** or Jewar Airport at Jewar, Uttar Pradesh (UP).

ii. The airport is planned in 1334 hectares in the **Yamuna Expressway International Development Authority (YEIDA)** notified area of district Gautam Budhha Nagar, UP.

iii. The airport is being developed by concessionaire **Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL)**, a 100% subsidiary of Zurich International Airport AG (Kloten, Switzerland).

iv. It will be India's **first net zero emissions airport**. It has earmarked dedicated land to be developed as a forest park using trees from the project site.

Varanasi (UP), 1st Indian city to start Ropeway Service as a Mode of Public Transport

Varanasi, a city in Uttar Pradesh (UP) is all set to become the first Indian city to start ropeway service as a mode of public transport in order to ease the traffic congestion. The proposed ropeway will be constructed between Cantt Railway Station (Varanasi Junction) to Church Square (Godauliya) covering an aerial distance of 3.45km.

- Its outlay is **over Rs 400 crore** which is divided between Central Government and State Government at 80:20.
- India will be the **third country** in the world after Bolivia and Mexico to use a ropeway for public transport.

Key Points:

i. The ropeway will reduce the journey between the two stations to only 15 minutes.

ii. Around 220 trolleys will run at a height of 45 metres, and will move in a gap of 90 seconds to 120 seconds.

iii. It will be based on a public-private partnership (PPP) model with a capacity of 4,500 people.

- Bidding proceedings for this project will be completed by December 11, 2021.
- The project is likely to be completed in 24 months.

iv. It should be noted that Varanasi is the constituency of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

v. Varanasi is known as the **Gateway of Eastern India**.

Indian Railways: Manipur to Get World's Tallest Railway Bridge Pier

The Indian Railways is constructing the **world's tallest railway bridge pier** across river Ijai near



Noney Valley crossing at a pier height of 141 metres in Manipur, India as a part of the 111 km long Jiribam-Imphal railway project. The bridge will surpass the record of 139 meters high Mala – Rijeka viaduct on the Belgrade–Bar railway, in Montenegro, Europe.

- The construction of the bridge will be completed by December 2023.
- The total cost of the bridge is estimated at Rs 374 crore.

About the bridge:

i. The 1st phase of the project which extends for 12 km has already been commissioned.

ii. Around 98% of the construction work will be completed in the 2nd phase and the 3rd phase from Khongsang to Tupul will be completed by November 2022.

iii. The 4th and the 5th phase of the bridge which extends from Tupul to Imphal valley will be completed by December 2023.

Key Points:

i. Under the Jiribam-Imphal railway line, Imphal will connect Imphal with the broad gauge network of India. The 111 km project consists of 61% of tunnels.

ii. This will reduce the travel time between Jiribam-Imphal from 10-12 hours to 2 to 2.25 hours.

Note: The distance between Jiribam and Imphal is 220 km, NH-37 is the only route to this place.

International

PM Narendra Modi Visited Italy and Participated in 16th G20 Summit from October 30 -31

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited **Italy** and participated in the **16th**

G20 (Group of Twenty) **Leaders' Summit**, which was held in Rome, Italy from October 30 to 31, 2021.



- **Theme:** The 2021 G20 is under the Italian Presidency. It is focusing on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: **People, Planet, and Prosperity**.
- Other G20 leaders who have participated in the summit include US President Joe Biden,

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron and summit host Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi.

Key Points:

- i. To strengthen the partnerships in the energy transition, India and Italy agreed to explore the development of green hydrogen, setting up renewable energy corridors, and joint projects in the natural gas sector.
- ii. The G20 committed to the Paris Agreement goal to hold the global average temperature increase well below 2°C and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
- iii. G20 have reaffirmed their full support for the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the Global Network and recognise that effective implementation of Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation (AML/CFT/CPF).

About Group of Twenty (G20):

Establishment – 1999

Members – 20 (19 countries + European Union)

Elon Musk’s Starlink registers India unit as ‘SSCPL’ to focus on Rural Areas

- i. On November 1, 2021, Starlink registered its business in India with name ‘SSCPL – Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited’ to launch telecommunication services’ including satellite broadband internet services, content storage and streaming, multimedia communication, among others focusing on rural development.
- ii. Starlink is the satellite internet division of billionaire Elon Musk’s rocket company SpaceX.

About SpaceX:

Space Exploration Technologies Corp is an American aerospace manufacturer, space transportation services and communications company

Founder and CEO– Elon Musk

Headquarters– Hawthorne, California, United States

Former UN Secretary General – Ban Ki-moon authors “Resolved: Uniting Nations in a Divided World”

A book titled ‘Resolved: Uniting Nations in a Divided World’ is an **autobiography** of the Former United Nations Secretary General **Ban Ki-moon**. It is published across the globe by **HarperCollins**.

About the Book:

- i. It consists of life experience and challenges that the author faced in his life & elaborates his tenure in the United Nations (UN).
- ii. It accounts for the policies taken by the UN’s peace, development and human rights missions in conflicted areas of Central Asia, Iran, North Korea etc.

About Ban Ki-moon:

i. He was born on 13 June 1944 in South Korea. He served as the **8th Secretary- General** of the United Nations for a two 5-year term (2007-2016).

Books- ‘Building a Better Future for All’; ‘Time of Test, Era of Opportunity’

China Launches world’s first Earth Science Satellite, Guangmu-1 or

SDGSAT-1

China sent world’s first Earth-science

satellite, **Guangmu-1 or SDGSAT-1** on November 5, 2021 into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the northern Shanxi Province.

- Guangmu-1 was launched by a Long March-6(LM-6) carrier rocket or also



known as **CZ-6 (Chang Zheng-6)** which is the 395th flight mission.

- SDGSAT-1 is the first satellite customized according to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which adopted in 2015 with 17 SDGs for peace and prosperity.
- China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) launched the mission and SDGSAT-1 was developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

Oxford Dictionary's Word of the Year 2021 – 'Vax'

'Vax' has been chosen as the Word of the Year for 2021 by the Oxford English Dictionary (OED). In 2021, Vax which inturn refers



to 'Vaccine' or 'Vaccination' repeatedly appeared in the news, and other written media more than any other word.

- The appearance of words related to Vax such as 'Vaccinate' have increased 34 times and 'Vaccination' have increased 18 times.
- The usage of the word Vaccine has been doubled due to Covid – 19 pandemic from september 2020 to september 2021.
- Vax or Vaccine is derived from the Latin word 'Vacca', meaning **cow** and defined as Vaccination.

Note – 'Lockdown' was selected as the **Collins** Word of the Year for **2020**

2020 Oxford Word of the Year:

In 2020, instead of choosing one word, Oxford Dictionary decided to name a series of words as 'Word

of the Year for 2020', which includes – **Covid-19, Lockdown, Bushfires, Black Lives Matter, WFH [Working From Home], Key workers and Furlough.**

Highlights of 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26) –

The 26th Conference of Parties (**COP26**) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is being held in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom (UK) from 31st October – 12 November 2021.

- Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi Visited the UK to attend the COP26 from November 1 to 2, 2021.
- The COP 26 is being hosted by the United Kingdom, in partnership with Italy.

-India's 5 Commitments set at COP 26

i.At the summit, the PM has set 5 ambitious targets for India to combat climate change. It includes that India will aim to attain net-zero emissions by 2070.

ii.The PM asserted that India is the only country that is delivering on the commitments on tackling climate change under the Paris Agreement.

| S.no | Commitment for India |
|------|--|
| 1 | To increase India's non-fossil capacity to 500 gigawatts by 2030 |
| 2 | To fulfil 50 percent of India's energy requirements with |

| | |
|---|--|
| | renewable energy by 2030 |
| 3 | To reduce 1 billion tonnes of the total projected carbon emission between now and 2030 |
| 4 | To reduce the Indian economy's carbon intensity to less than 45% by 2030 |
| 5 | To achieve the target of net zero emissions by 2070 |

iii. In order to support vulnerable island nations that are in danger of submerging because of rising sea levels, the PM urged the rich countries to provide \$ 1 trillion in climate finance to the developing world to achieve its climate change mitigation targets.

- The PM also urged to make 'Lifestyle for Environment' a global mission.

UNESCO's 75th Anniversary 2021

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) celebrated its **75th anniversary** on **12th November 2021** with a special ceremony organised at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France.

Events:

i. Around 26 heads of state and government and an impressive list of artists, singers and musicians have participated in the special ceremony.

ii. The Eiffel Tower in Paris, France displayed "75

years" along with the UNESCO logo to celebrate the 75th anniversary of UNESCO.

History:

i. The United Nations Charter that came into effect 16th November 1945, created a specialized agency in the fields of education and culture to be named the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

ii. In November 1945, a Conference to establish this Organization was held in London and the Constitution of UNESCO was signed by 41 States.

iii. The constitution came into force on 4th November 1946 after the ratification by 20 signatories.

Initiative of UNESCO:

The initiatives of UNESCO are focused on 5 program areas: education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture, and communication and information. UNESCO has several designating projects and places of cultural and scientific significance.

UNESCO's Global Geoparks:

- UNESCO Geoparks are territories presenting a unique geological heritage of international value.
- The Global Geoparks is a network of 169 countries from 44 countries across the globe.

City of Literature:

i. City of Literature, a part of Creative Cities Network, that aims to promote the social, economic and cultural development of cities in both the developed and the developing world.

ii. City of literature is a network of 39 cities from 28 countries.

About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO):

Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

Members – 193 Members and 11 Associate Members

Governed by – The General Conference and The

Executive Board

Headquarters– Paris, France

India Becomes World’s Largest Recipient of Remittances; Received USD 87 bn in 2021:WB Report

i.In accordance with the latest report by the World Bank (WB)

titled ‘**World Bank’s Remittance Prices Worldwide Database**’,

India became the

world’s largest recipient of remittances by receiving USD 87bn in 2021. The United States (US) was its biggest source, accounting for over 20% of these funds.

ii.India is followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines, and Egypt.

iii.In India, remittances are projected to grow 3% in 2022 to USD 89.6 billion.

About World Bank:

The World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

President– David Robert Malpass (13th President)

Headquarters– Washington DC, United States of America

WHO Designates New COVID-19 Strain, Named ‘Omicron’, as Variants of Concern

World Health Organisation (WHO) has designated the new, fast-spreading coronavirus variant, **B.1.1.529**, which was detected in South Africa named “**Omicron**” after a 15th letter of the Greek alphabet, as ‘**Variant of Concern(VOC)**’.

Note:



Currently designated VOCs are, Alpha (B.1.1.7), Beta (B.1.351), Gamma (P.1), Delta (B.1.617.2), and Omicron (B.1.1.529).

Background:

i.Technical Advisory Group on Virus Evolution(**TAG-VE**), formally called the Virus Evolution Working Group reviews the data on the covid-19 variant, B.1.1.529.

ii.The TAG-VE has advised the WHO to designate Omicron as VOC, based on the evidence presented indicative of a detrimental change in COVID-19 epidemiology.

About Omicron (B.1.1.529):

i.B.1.1.529 variant was first reported from South Africa on 24th November 2021 and the first known confirmed B.1.1.529 infection was from a specimen collected on 9 November 2021.

ii.The variant announced by scientists in South Africa has also been detected in Belgium, Israel, Botswana, Denmark and Hong Kong.

Diagnostics:

Current SARS-CoV-2 PCR diagnostics can detect this variant and several labs have reported that for one widely used PCR Test, 1 of 3 target genes is not detected, this is called S gene dropout or S gene target failure and this test is used as the marker of this variant.

Defence

3rd Trilateral Maritime Exercise 'SITMEX-21' held between India, Singapore and Thailand in Andaman Sea

i. The 3rd edition of India, Singapore and Thailand Trilateral Maritime Exercise SITMEX-21 was held on November 15-16, 2021 in Andaman Sea as a 'non-contact, at sea only' exercise in view of COVID-19 restrictions.



ii. It was hosted by the Royal Thai Navy (RTN).

iii. Indian Navy (IN) was represented by INS (Indian Naval Ship) Karmuk, a 1350 tonne indigenously built Missile Corvette.

About Indian Navy (IN):

Chief of Naval Staff (CNS)– Admiral Karambir Singh

Navy Day– 4th December (annually celebrated to commemorate the victory of 1971 Indo-Pakistan war)

Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Navy)– New Delhi, Delhi.

6th India France Joint Military Exercise Ex-Shakthi 2021 Commences at Frejus

The 6th edition of India-France joint military exercise 'EX-SHAKTI 2021' commenced on 15th November 2021 at the southeastern French port town of Frejus, France. EX-SHAKTI is a biennial training exercise which is conducted alternatively in India and France.

- The joint exercise is being conducted from 15 to 26 November 2021.

Focus – Counter-Terrorism operations in semi-urban terrain under the United Nations Mandate.

Note – The previous edition of Exercise SHAKTI was conducted at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan from October 31 to November 13, 2019.

Indian Army and IAF Conducts Joint Airlift Exercise – 'Op Hercules'

On 15th November 2021, the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Army conducted a **joint airlift exercise, 'Op Hercules'** to



strengthen the logistics supply in the Northern sector and to augment winter stocking in the operational areas.

- The platforms utilised for the airlift were **C-17, IL-76 and An-32 aircraft**, which took off from one of the forward bases of Western Air Command.

- The airlift is a real-time demonstration of the Indian Air Force in ensuring the ability to quickly respond to any contingency during the past.

Note – In October 2021, India conducted its 1st Tri-Service Exercise with the United Kingdom, named as “**Konkan Shakti 2021**”.

Navies of India, Thailand begin 32nd Edition of CORPAT

The **32nd** edition of the India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (**Indo-Thai CORPAT**) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 12 to 14 November 2021 in **Andaman Sea** to reinforce the maritime links between the two countries.

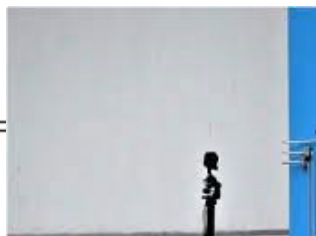
- Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette, His Majesty’s Thailand Ship (HTMS) Tayanchon, a Khamrosin Class Anti-submarine Patrol Craft, and Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies are participating in the CORPAT.

Key Points:

- The navies of both the countries have been undertaking CORPATs bi-annually since 2005 along their International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL).
- CORPAT would develop understanding and interoperability between navies and facilitate measures to prevent and reduce unlawful activities such as Illegal Unreported Unregulated (IUU) fishing, drug trafficking, maritime terrorism, armed robbery, and piracy.

Skyroot Aerospace Test-Fired Dhawan-1 India’s 1st Privately Built Cryogenic Rocket Engine

Skyroot Aerospace, a space technology startup based in Hyderabad, has successfully



test-fired Dhawan-1, India’s first privately developed fully cryogenic rocket engine.

- This will power the upper stages of its upcoming Vikram-2 orbital launch vehicle.
- The rocket engine Dhawan-1 is named after Satish Dhawan, an Indian rocket scientist.

About Dhawan-1:

- Dhawan-1 is a completely ‘Made-in-India’ cryogenic engine, developed using 3D printing with a superalloy.
- The usage of 3D printing has reduced around 95% of manufacturing time.
- The engine is fuelled by liquefied natural gas and liquid oxygen—a high-performance, low-cost and clean rocket fuel

About Skyroot Aerospace:

Co-Founder, CEO & CTO– Pawan Kumar Chandana

Co-Founder, COO– Naga Bharath Daka

Headquarters– Hyderabad, Telangana

Appointments or Resign/Retired

Govt Appointed Justice Ashok Bhushan as Chairperson of NCLAT & Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar as President of NCLT

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet

(ACC) has approved the

proposal to

appoint **Justice Ashok**

Bhushan, former Judge of

the Supreme Court of India, as the **Chairperson** of National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) for a period of 4 years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or till he attains the age of 70 years or until further order.

Background:

- Justice SJ Mukhopadhaya the first chairperson of



NCLAT had retired on 14th March 2020 following which the NCLAT has been functioning with acting chairpersons.

ii. Prior to the appointment of Justice Ashok Bhushan, Justice Bansi Lal Bhat served as the Acting Chairperson of NCLAT and Justice Ashok Iqbal Singh Cheema (A.I.S. Cheema) served as the Officiating Chairperson of NCLAT.

About Justice Ashok Bhushan:

i. Justice Ashok Bhushan hails from the Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

ii. He has served as the Judge in Allahabad High court and also served as Judge, Acting Chief Justice, and Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala.

iii. He was later elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India in May 2016 and served till July 2021.

Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar appointed as

President of NCLT:

The government has also approved the appointment of **Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar**, former chief justice (CJ) of Manipur High Court (HC) as the **President** of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

Background:

Following the retirement of Justice Mahesh Mittal Kumar as President of NCLT on 5th January 2020, BSV Prakash Kumar was appointed as the Acting President of NCLT, followed by 6 acting presidents.

About Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar:

i. Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar hails from Tamil Nadu.

ii. He has served as the Acting Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court and Judge of Jammu and Kashmir High Court and Madras High Court.

About National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT):

NCLAT was constituted under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013 for hearing appeals against the orders NCLT, with effect from 1st June 2016.

Principal Bench– New Delhi

About National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT):

NCLT was constituted under section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) with effect from 1st June 2016.

Principal Bench– New Delhi

Indian-origin Canadian Anita Anand Sworn-in as Canada's 43rd Defence Minister

Anita Anand (54 years), an Indian-origin Canadian has been sworn in as **the 43rd**

Defence Minister of

Canada replacing Harjit

Sajjan, who has been appointed as the Minister of International Development Agency.



- She is **the 2nd Woman** to hold this position following the former Canadian Prime Minister Kim Campbell, who held the post for 5 months in 1993.
- She is the **first Hindu Canadian** to become a federal cabinet minister
- Anita Anand, born in rural Nova Scotia, Canada, was first elected as the Member of Parliament for Oakville in 2019.
- She has previously served as Minister of Public Services and Procurement.

Defence Ministry appoints Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar as next Chief of Naval Staff

The Defence Ministry appointed Vice Admiral **R Hari Kumar**, the Chief of Western Naval Command (WNC), as India's new Chief of Naval Staff (CNS), who will take over the position from the

incumbent CNS **Admiral Karambir Singh** from November 30, 2021.

- Hari Kumar is presently serving as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the WNC.

About R Hari Kumar:

i. Hari Kumar was commissioned in the executive branch of Indian Navy in January 1983.

ii. Hari Kumar has commanded various aircraft carriers including- INS Viraat and guided-missile destroyer INS Ranvir, INS Nishank, Missile Corvette and INS Kora.

iii. He was the 1st Vice Chief of Defence Staff of India.

Awards: Param Vishist Seva Medal (PSVM), Ati Vishist Seva Medal (AVSM) and Vishist Seva Medal (VSM).

About Indian Navy:

1st Woman Pilot of Indian Navy – Sub-Lieutenant **Shivangi**

Headquarters- New Delhi

Sheel Vardhan Singh Appointed as CISF DG & Atul Karwal as NDRF DG

Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB) **Sheel Vardhan Singh** has been appointed as the

new **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) DG** (Director General) and National Police Academy Director **Atul Karwal** has



been appointed as the **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) DG**.

i. The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for both the appointments.

- Atul Karwal has succeeded IPS officer **SN Pradhan**, who is currently holding additional charge of NDRF DG.

About CISF (Central Industrial Security Force):

Founded– 10 March 1969

Headquarters- New Delhi

About National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)

Founded– 2006 (under the Disaster Management Act, 2005)

Headquarters- New Delhi

Fumio Kishida Relected as Prime Minister of Japan

Fumio Kishida leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (**LDP**) has been relected as the Prime Minister (**PM**) of



Japan following the victory of the LDP in the 2021 Parliament election.

The LDP has secured **261** seats in the 465 members lower house exceeding the parliamentary majority of 233 seats.

- Fumio Kishida will succeed Yoshihide Suga who resigned as PM of Japan in September 2021.

About Fumio Kishida:

i. Fumio Kishida has previously served as the Foreign Minister of Japan from 2012 to 2017.

ii. He has been serving as the president of LDP since September 2021.

Japan's parliament:

The National Diet, the parliament of Japan, is composed of a lower house, called the House of Representatives, and an upper house, the House of Councillors.

Satya Narayan Pradhan Appointed as Director-General of NCB

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Satya Narayan Pradhan (SN Pradhan) as the Director-General (DG) of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) (full time) on a deputation till the date of his superannuation on **31st August 2024** or until further orders.

- SN Pradhan was holding the additional charge as the DG of NCB in addition to the responsibilities as the DG of NDRF.

About SN Pradhan:

i. Satya Narayan Pradhan (SN Pradhan) is an IPS officer of Jharkhand cadre 1988-batch who is serving as the Director-General of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) with additional charges as the DG of NCB.

ii. He took the additional charge as the DG of NCB succeeding Rakesh Asthana who was appointed as Delhi Police Commissioner.

About Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB):

Director General– Satya Narayan Pradhan

Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi

Established in March 1986

EX CBDT Chairman PC Mody appointed as Secretary General of Rajya Sabha

On 12th November, PC Mody, the former chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), was appointed as the new **Secretary General of Upper House (Rajya Sabha)** for a 1-year term. He will succeed **PPK Ramacharyulu**, who was appointed just weeks before on 1st September 2021.

- The Chairman of Rajya Sabha, M Venkaiah Naidu, who is the appointing

authority made the appointment of PC Mody.

- PPK Ramacharyulu has now been appointed as an **Advisor in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat** for 1-year term.
- PC Mody is the 1st Indian Revenue Services (IRS) officer to hold the post of Secretary General of Rajya Sabha, which is normally held by a Senior IAS Officer.

About secretary-general :

i. The secretary general heads the secretariat of the House and is the key lieutenant to the chair for running the affairs.

ii. A secretary-general is appointed by the Speaker or Chairman of the respective House (Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha).

About Rajya Sabha (Upper House):

i. Rajya Sabha or the 'Council of States' is the **second chamber of the Indian Parliament**, which traces its origin to the **Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, 1919**.

ii. Rajya Sabha is the **permanent house** (it never dissolves like Lok Sabha and one-third of its members retire every two years).

Sourav Ganguly appointed as the new Chairman of ICC Cricket's Committee

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

President and former

cricketer **Saurav**

Ganguly was appointed as

the **Chairman** of the

International Cricket

Council (ICC) **Men's Cricket Committee**. He

succeeded **Anil Kumble**, a former Indian cricketer who stepped down after serving a maximum of three continuous, 3-year terms.

Other decision taken by the ICC Board:



i. The 'ICC Women's Committee' will be known as the 'ICC Women's Cricket Committee' and will assume all decision making responsibility for women's cricket reporting directly to the CEC (Chief Executives Committee).

- **Johnny Grave**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cricket West Indies has been **appointed** to the ICC Women's Cricket Committee.

ii. The ICC Board also approved 'first-class status' and 'list A classification' to women's cricket to align with the men's game.

iii. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chief **Ramiz Raja** will be a part of the ICC Working Group appointed by the Board to **review the status of cricket in Afghanistan**.

- The group comprises **Imran Khwaja (Chairman)**, Ross McCollum, Lawson Naidoo and Ramiz Raja.

ICC appoints Geoff Allardice as Permanent CEO

Geoff Allardice (Australia) has been appointed as **Permanent Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

- Geoff Allardice has replaced **Manu Sawhney**, who had resigned from his position in July 2021.
- He was awarded permanent CEO for his successful execution of ICC T20 World Cup 2021.

Note – Previously in November, **Sourav Ganguly** was appointed as the Chairman of ICC Men's Cricket Committee.

About Geoff Allardice

i. Geoff Allardice is a former Australian first-class

cricketer and administrator who served as the ICC General Manager, Cricket for eight years.

- He has also held similar roles at Cricket Australia.

ii. Geoff Allardice has served as interim CEO for more than eight months before being Permanent CEO

Kuwait Reappoints Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid as Prime Minister

Kuwait reappointed **Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah** as the **Prime Minister (PM)** of the country, he has already been the PM since 2019.



- He was reappointed by an **Emiri order** (Head of the State) issued by Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad al-Sabah.
- Kuwait is an emirate, the **Emir** is the head of state and the **Al Sabah** is the ruling family which dominates the country's political system.

i. Recently, **Emir Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmed al-Sabah** temporarily handed over some of his main constitutional duties to the crown prince, his designated successor, including naming the PM and swearing in the cabinet.

ii. Kuwait is a **Western Asia** country. It borders Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

It is the founding member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

About Kuwait:

Capital- Kuwait City

Currency- Dinar

Interpol Elects UAE's

Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi as



its President

The International Criminal Police

Organization (**INTERPOL**) elected Inspector General **Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi** (United Arab Emirates) as its President for 4 year term at the 89th Interpol general assembly meeting held in **Istanbul, Turkey**. He replaces **Kim Jong Yan** from South Korea.

- The president is a high profile figure who chairs meetings of Interpol's assembly and executive committee.

India's Central Bureau of Investigation (**CBI**) special director **Praveen Sinha** elected as the delegate for **Asia in the Executive Panel/committee** of the Interpol.

- CBI represents India in Interpol to ensure the widest possible assistance between criminal police authorities to prevent crimes.

About Interpol:

Headquarters- Lyon, France

Secretary General – Jürgen Stock

Government Appoints Vivek Johri as CBIC Chairman

Appointments Committee of the cabinet headed by the Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi** has appointed, a senior bureaucrat **Vivek Johri** as the **Chairman** of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (**CBIC**) by succeeding **M Ajit Kumar**

- Vivek Johri is a **senior civil servant** and currently a member of the CBIC handling **GST and tax policy**.
- He is a **1985-batch Indian Revenue Service** (Customs and Indirect Taxes) officer.

About Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

i. CBIC is a part of the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance, headed by a chairperson and comprises six members.

ii. It forms policy concerning levy and collection of Customs, Central Excise duties, Central Goods & Services Tax and IGST, prevention of smuggling and administration of matters relating to Customs, Central Excise, Central Goods & Services Tax, IGST and Narcotics to the extent under CBIC's purview.

About Ministry of Finance

Union Minister – Nirmala Sitharaman (Constituency – Karnataka)

Minister of state – Bhagwat Krishnarao Karad (Constituency – Maharashtra) Pankaj Choudhary (Constituency – Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh)

Honours/ Awards

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports Announced the National Sports Awards 2021

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports announced the recipients of

the **National Sports Awards 2021**. President of India, Ram Nath

Kovind, will felicitate the awardees during the award ceremony which will be held at the Darbar Hall of Rashtrapati Bhavan on **13th November 2021**.

The recipients of the National Sports Awards 2021 were recommended by the Selection Committee of the National Sports Awards 2021.

National Sports Awards:

- i.** The National Sports Awards are annually presented to recognise and reward excellence in sports.
- ii.** The National Sports Awards 2021 includes

- Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (12 awards)

- Arjuna Award (35 awards)
- Dronacharya Award (10 awards)
- Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement (5 awards)
- Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar (2 awards)
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy (1 award)

Selection Committee of the National Sports Awards 2021:

The Selection Committee of the National Sports Awards 2021 was chaired by former Supreme Court Judge Justice **Mukundakum Sharma**.

About Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports:

Union Minister- Anurag Singh Thakur (Constituency- Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh)

Minister of State- Nisith Pramanik (Constituency- Coochbehar, West Bengal)

South African author Damon Galgut bags Booker Prize 2021

South African author **Damon Galgut** has won the prestigious Booker Prize 2021 for fiction for his novel 'The **Promise**'. It was

his ninth book that states the decline of one dutch family in South Africa over four decades from the apartheid era to the present day. It is a tale of a troubled Afrikaner family and its broken promise to a Black employee.

- With this recognition, Damon Galgut won 50,000 pounds \$69,000) as an award amount.



- Booker prize is the world's most prestigious literary honours which is also called Oscars of world literature.

Key Points:

- He has previously been nominated twice; first in 2003 for 'The Good Doctor' and in 2010 for 'In a Strange Room', but lost both times.
- He is the **third South African** novelist to win the Booker Prize, after Nadine Gordimer in 1974 and J.M. Coetzee, who won twice, in 1983 and 1999.
- The chair of the judges (Booker Prize) was Maya Jasanoff.

Author M Mukundan wins JCB Prize for Literature 2021 for his novel 'Delhi: A Soliloquy'

Author M Mukundan's novel 'Delhi: A Soliloquy', translated from Malayalam into English by Fathima E V and Nandakumar K, has won the **Rs 25-lakh-JCB Prize** for Literature 2021 published by **Westland**.

- The Book focuses on India's capital Delhi, as it changes into the present-day megalopolis.
- Besides the cash award Mukundan also won a trophy created by Delhi artist duo Thukral & Tagra, titled '**Mirror Melting**'. He also dedicated the award to "the poor people on the streets of Delhi."
- This is the third translation that has won the JCB Prize after S Hareesh's 'Moustache' (2020) and Benyamin's 'Jasmine Days' (2018).

Highlights:

i. First published in 2011 as **Delhi Gathakal** which is based on the experience of living and working in Delhi for 40 years at the French Embassy.

Achievements of M Mukundan

i. He has been awarded **Ezhuthachan Puraskaram**, the highest literary honour given by the Government of

Kerala.

ii. The **Crossword Book Award** twice, first in 1999 for 'On the Banks of the Mayyazhi' and second in 2006 for 'Kesavan's Lamentations'

BRO Bags Guinness Record for World's Highest Altitude Road – Umling La Pass

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has received the Guinness World Record (GWR) for constructing & blacktopping the world highest motorable road passing through the **19,024 feet 0.73 inches (5798.251m)** high **Umlingla Pass** in the Union Territory (UT) of **Ladakh**.



- The 52-kilometre long Chisumle to Demchok tarmac road was developed under **Project HIMANK** (93RCC/753 BRTF) of BRO.
- The Umlingla Pass road is another landmark in resurgent India's achievement as it has been constructed at an altitude higher than the North and South Base Camps of Mount Everest which are at an altitude of 16,900 feet and 17,598 feet respectively.
- Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhry, Director General Border Roads (**DGBR**), received the Guinness World Records certificate on 16th November 2021.

Previously the record was held by the road in **Bolivia**, which connects volcano Uturuncu at 18,953 feet.

72nd National Book Awards: Jason Mott, Tiya Miles & Malinda Lo won National Book Awards 2021

The 72nd edition of the National Book Award was organised as a virtual event by the National Book

Foundation.

Jason Mott won the **2021 National Book Award** for **fiction** for his novel “**Hell of a Book**”, a narrative about a black author’s adventure while travelling around in a book tour.

Highlight:

i. Tiya Miles has won the **2021 National Book Award for nonfiction** for her book titled “**All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley’s Sack, a Black Family Keepsake**”. The book features the history of a family through a cotton sack that an enslaved woman gave to her daughter in the 19th century when they were about to be sold apart.

ii. Malinda Lo has won the **2021 National Book Award for young people’s literature** for her book titled “**Last Night at the Telegraph Club**”, a story of same-sex, cross-cultural love set in the 1950s.

Doordarshan & AIR Won ABU-UNESCO T4P Media Awards 2021 at Malaysia

‘Living on the edge – The coastal lives’ and DEAFinitely Leading the Way produced by All India Radio(AIR) and Doordarshan respectively have won the ABU – UNESCO **Together for Peace (T4P) Media Awards 2021** held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 17th November 2021.

The awards were presented by **Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)** in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization(UNESCO) under the ‘Together for Peace’ (T4P) initiative.

- ‘Living on the edge – The coastal lives’ won the award under Radio Ethical & sustainable Relationship with Nature category and DEAFinitely Leading the Way

won the award under TV Living well with Super diversity category.

AIR and Doordarshan:

i. Living on the edge – The coastal lives of AIR explore the life of the fishermen community living in Visakhapatnam.

ii. DEAFinitely Leading the Way of Doordarshan is a program on the journey of a specially-abled child which aims to motivate the specially-abled persons to live their life with dignity.

About Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU):

Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) is the biggest broadcasting union in the world.

Acting President– Yang Sung Dong

Secretary-General– Dr Javad Mottaghi

Established in 1964

Members– 250

Headquarters– Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Overview of 49th International Emmy® Awards held in New York City

The International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences announced the winners of the **49th**

International Emmy® Awards (2021) over the event organised at the

Great Hall of Casa

Cipriani in New York City, United States of America(USA).



- The International Emmy® Awards 2021 was hosted by actress and comedian **Yvonne Orji**.
- 1 Special Award (Directorate Award 2021) and 11 Emmy® statues were presented during the event.

Highlights:

i. The Israeli thriller “**Tehran**” produced by the Kan public broadcaster has won the International Emmy® Award 2021 for Drama Series.

ii. **Hayley Squires**(UK) won the International Emmy award 2021 for Best Performance by an Actress for her role as British porn star Jolene Dollar in Adult Material.

iii. **David Tennant**(UK) won the Best Performance by an Actor for portraying serial killer Dennis Nilsen in Des.

About International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences:

President & CEO– Bruce Paisner

Founded in 1969

Headquarters– New York City, United States

CSO Pratham Awarded Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2021

Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2021 is

awarded to **Pratham**, a

civil society organization (CSO) which

is dedicated to improving the quality of education among **underprivileged children** in India and across the world.



- The awardee was selected by an international jury chaired by former Chief Justice of India T S Thakur.

Main Focus of Pratham

- To ensure that every child has access to quality education.
- To introduce innovative use of digital technology for better delivery in education

- To provide skills to young adults through various programmes.
- To provide a regular evaluation of the quality of education and timely response in enabling children to learn during the COVID-19 related school closures.

About Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace,**Disarmament and Development**

i. It was instituted in the memory of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in **1986**.

ii. It consists of a monetary award of **Rs 25 lakh** along with a citation.

iii. The award is given

to **individuals** or **organisations** who work towards ensuring international peace and development and creating new international economic order.

Delhi's Sadar Bazar Police Station Ranked as India's Best Police Station: India's Top 10 Police Stations for 2021

Sadar Bazar Police Station(PS) in Delhi has topped the annual list of India's Top 10 Police Stations for 2021 released by the Ministry of Home Affairs(MoHA).

- Gangapur PS in Ganjam, Odisha is adjudged as 2nd best followed by Bhattu Kalan PS, Fatehabad, Haryana as the 3rd best.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the trophies to the Station House Officers(SHOs) of the top 3 stations at the Directors General of Police (**DGP**) conference organised by the Intelligence Bureau (**IB**) in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

The other PS on top 10: Valpoi PS in North Goa, Goa; Manvi PS in Raichur, Karnataka; Kadmat Island PS in Lakshadweep; Shirala PS in Sangli,

Maharashtra; Thottiyam PS in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu; Basantgarh PS in Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir; and Rampur Chauram PS in Arwal, Bihar.

The ranking process assesses the performance of police stations on parameters like handling of property offences, crime against women, crime against weaker sections, missing persons cases, infrastructure, approachability of personnel and feedback of citizens etc

Sports

Manika Batra & Archana Kamath Wins Women's Table Tennis Doubles Title at WTT Contender Tournament, Lasko

On 7th November 2021, the Indian Table Tennis player **Manika Batra** and **Archana Girish**

Kamath clinched the **Women's Double title** as a pair at the **2021 WTT (World Table Tennis) Contender**



Tournament in Lasko (Slovenia). The Indian pair, placed at 36th in World Ranking, defeated the Puerto Rican team of Melanie Diaz and Adriana Diaz. WTT Contender Lasko, is the sixth tournament WTT Contender Series .

- The WTT series is part of the revamped International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).
- It features **two tiers** of events such as WTT Star Contender and WTT Contender.

Key points

i. In the **singles tournament**, Manika Batra won a **Bronze Medal** after being defeated by Wang Yidi by 2-4 in the semi-finals.

ii. These victories come ahead of the 2021 World Table Tennis Championships (WTTC), which is set to be held between 23rd-29th November at Houston, USA.

About International Table Tennis Federation**(ITTF):**

President- Thomas Weikert

Headquarters– Lausanne, Switzerland

Max Verstappen wins Mexican Grand Prix

On 7th November 2021, **Red Bull Racing's** driver –

Max Verstappen (Netherlands) won the Mexico Grand Prix (GP) Formula One (F1) tournament that was held at the Autódromo Hermanos Rodríguez racetrack in **Mexico City**.

1. He was followed by Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton (United Kingdom) & Red Bull Racing's Sergio Pérez (Mexico) in the 2nd & 3rd positions.

Note – **Lewis Hamilton** became the **1st F1 driver** to reach **100** career victories after winning the Russian Grand Prix in Sochi.

2. With this victory Max Verstappen is 19 points ahead of Lewis Hamilton in the F1 Championship for 2021.

Max Verstappen wins in 2021 – Emilia Romagna GP; Monaco GP; French (GP); Styrian (GP); Austrian (GP).

About Federation Internationale de l'Automobile**(FIA)**

President – Jean Todt

Headquarters – Paris, France

**West Indies's Dwayne Bravo announced retirement from International cricket**

Trinidadian cricketer **Dwayne Bravo**, the former captain of the West Indies cricket team has confirmed his retirement from international cricket after the conclusion of the West Indies Twenty20(**T20**) World Cup campaign 2021. He will continue to play franchise cricket.

Dwayne Bravo hails from Santa Cruz, Trinidad.

Dwayne Bravo:

i. Dwayne Bravo has played in all seven T20 World Cups and he has been a part of the West Indies team that won the T20 Title in 2012 and 2016.

ii. He has scored 1245 runs at an average of 22.23 and a strike rate of 115.38 and he has picked up 78 wickets.

iii. He has played for Trinidad and Tobago since 2002.

iv. He has represented Chennai Super Kings and Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League (**IPL**).

**Australia Wins its Maiden ICC T20 World Cup**

On 14th November 2021, **Australia** defeated New Zealand in the finals of 2021 International Cricket Council (**ICC**) T20 World Cup tournament that was held at Dubai International Stadium, UAE, to win its maiden T20 world cup.

i. New Zealand failed to win the tournament despite posting 172 runs on board, the highest ever score in ICC T20 world cup finals.

Awards:

- **Player of the Match – Mitchell Marsh** (Australia) for his 77-run knock in the finals
- **Player of the Tournament – David Warner** (Australia) for his match winning contribution throughout the tournament

Note – 2021 T20 World Cup was set to be hosted by India, but due to COVID-19, the venue was later shifted to United Arab Emirates (UAE) & Oman.

India to Host 2029 ICC Men's Champions Trophy and Co-Host 2026 ICC T20 WC & 2031 50-over WC

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the **14 host** countries of the ICC men's white-ball events from **2024-2031**. India is set to host the 2029 Champions Trophy and co-host the 2026 ICC Men's Twenty20(T20) World Cup(WC) with Sri Lanka and 2031 ICC Men's 50-over World Cup with Bangladesh.

- **Pakistan** is set to host the 2025 ICC Men's Champions Trophy. This will be the first major global cricket tournament played in Pakistan since 1996.

Host countries of ICC Events 2024-2031:

Highlights:

i.11 Full Members and 3 Associate Members of ICC have been selected to host 8 ICC events.

- 2 ICC Men's Cricket World Cups.
- 4 ICC Men's T20 World Cups.
- 2 ICC Men's Champions Trophy.

ii.The hosts were selected through a competitive bidding process overseen by an ICC Hosting Sub-Committee chaired by **Martin Snedden**, New Zealand

Cricket Chairman along with **Sourav Ganguly**, President of Board of Control for Cricket in India(BCCI) and Ricky Skerritt, President of Cricket West Indies.

Hosts & Events:

| Event | Host(s) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup | USA & West Indies |
| 2025 ICC Men's Champions Trophy | Pakistan |
| 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup | India & Sri Lanka |
| 2027 ICC Men's 50 over World Cup | South Africa, Zimbabwe & Namibia |
| 2028 ICC Men's T20 World Cup | Australia & New Zealand |
| 2029 ICC Men's | India |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Champions Trophy | |
| 2030 ICC Men's T20 World Cup | England, Ireland & Scotland |
| 2031 ICC Men's 50 over World Cup | India & Bangladesh |

South Africa Cricketer AB de Villiers Announced Retirement from All Forms of Cricket

South Africa Cricketer Abraham Benjamin de Villiers (**AB de Villiers**) (37 years old) has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on 19th November 2021. He hails from Pretoria, South Africa.

- In May 2018 he retired from international cricket.

About AB de Villiers:

i. AB de Villiers made his international debut in **2004** and has represented South Africa in 114 Tests, 228 One Day Internationals (**ODIs**) and 78 Twenty20 Internationals (**T20Is**).

ii. He has played for the Royal Challengers Bangalore team in the 2021 Indian Premier League (IPL).

iii. He has captained South Africa in all three formats between 2012 and 2017.

Note: South Africa National Cricket Team is also known as the Proteas.

Records:

i. He holds the record for fastest 50, 100 and 150 in ODI cricket and the record for the fastest ODI century in just 31 balls

iii. He is the only batsman ever to average above 50 with a strike rate of above 100 (batsmen with minimum 5000 runs).

Lewis Hamilton wins inaugural Qatar Grand Prix 2021

On 21st November 2021, Mercedes driver **Lewis**

Hamilton (United Kingdom) won the inaugural edition

of **Qatar Grand Prix**

2021 that was organised at Losail International Circuit.

Red Bull Racing's driver **Max**

Verstappen (Netherlands) secured **2nd position** in the race, while Alpine Racing driver **Fernando**

Alonso secured **3rd place**.



- Next Grand Prix session of 2021 will be held in Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi.

i. This marks the **102st victory** of Lewis Hamilton in Formula One racing, and the **7th win in 2021**.

Note – In September 2021, Lewis Hamilton became the **1st Formula-One driver** in the history to reach **100 wins**, after winning the Russian Grand Prix (GP).

ii. Lewis Hamilton registered back to back victories, after winning the Brazilian GP earlier in November 2021.

Lewis Hamilton's Wins in 2021:

- Bahrain GP
- Portuguese GP
- Spanish GP
- British GP
- Russian GP
- Brazil GP

Tamil Nadu wins 2021-22 Syed



Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy

On 22nd November 2021, **Tamil Nadu** cricket team won their second consecutive Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy after defeating Karnataka in the finals that was held at Arun Jaitley Stadium in Delhi. Tamil Nadu Batsman **M. Shahrukh Khan** was named as the Man of the Match.

- In the Tournament, Vidarbha team's bowler **Akshay Karnewar** created the **World Record** for the **Most Economic figures in T20 cricket**, for his 4 maiden overs bowled to produce figures of 4-4-0-2 against Manipur.
- Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, is an annual Twenty 20 (T20) cricket tournament conducted since 2006/07, where Tamil Nadu has won the most number of titles (3).

Obituaries

Legendary Australian All-rounder Alan Davidson & Spinner Ashley Mallet Passed Away

The Australian all-rounder cricketer **Alan Keith Davidson** passed away at the age of 92. He was the first player to score 100 runs and take 10 wickets in a single Test match.



- Alan Davidson was the New South Wales (NSW) all-rounder and a left-arm swing bowler. He claimed 186 wickets and scored 1328 runs during his career.

i. Alan Keith Davidson was born in 1929, Lisarow, Australia.

ii. He was the **President of Cricket NSW** for 33 years, served 20 years as a Trustee of the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) and 5 years as an Australian Test selector (ATS) between 1979-84.

iii. He played in 44 Tests for Australia and he was inducted into the International Cricket Council's (ICC) **Hall of Fame in 2011**.

South Africa's last White President – Frederik Willem de Klerk dies

The former president of South Africa, **Frederik Willem de Klerk** passed away due to **mesothelioma cancer** at the age of 85 years. He died of Mesothelioma cancer, a cancer that affects the lining of the lungs.

De Klerk is the last white President of South Africa, who was known for ending the Apartheid System (no voting rights for non-white people) of South Africa.

- De Klerk came to power in 1989 under apartheid, a system of legalised racism, but later became a key figure in the transition to democracy.
- He served as the President of South Africa from 1989 to 1994, and conducted the 1st democratic election (with voting rights to non-white) of South Africa in 1994.
- He also served as the Deputy President from 1994 to 1996, when Nelson Mandela became the country's 1st black President.

Note – Nelson Mandela, in his autobiography "**Long Walk to Freedom**", has detailed De Klerk's contribution to South Africa's democracy.

- De Klerk shared the **Nobel Peace Prize** with Nelson Mandela in 1993 for helping to negotiate an end to apartheid.

Padma Vibhushan awardee 'Babasaheb Purandare' passed away in Pune

In November 2021, Renowned historian and Padma Vibhushan recipient **Balwant Moreshwar Purandare** passed away due to pneumonia in



Pune, Maharashtra at the age of 99 years. He is also popularly known as **Babasaheb Purandare**.

About Balwant Moreshwar Purandare:

- Babasaheb Purandare was born on July 29, 1922 Pune, Maharashtra. He was awarded the **Padma Vibhushan award in 2019**, India's second-highest civilian award, in the field of 'Art'.
- He is a famous Marathi writer, known for his popular historic Marathi book "Raja Shivchhatrapati", which was published in the 1950s. For this he was known as 'Shiv Shahir'.
- Purandare also conceived and directed the theatrical history on Shivaji Maharaj's life titled '**Jaanta Raja**' in the mid-1980s.

Veteran Broadway Composer Stephen Sondheim Passed Away

Veteran composer and lyricist **Stephen Joshua**

Sondheim passed away at the age of 91 in Connecticut, United States (US). He was born on 22 March 1930 in New York City, US.



- He started playing piano at the age 7 years since then his musical journey started.
- **Famous albums:** West Side Story (1961), Stavisky (2012)
- **Songs:** Finale (1970), No One Is Alone.

i. He is a recipient of a **Special Tony Award 2008** for lifetime achievement in the theatre. Also won several awards like eight **Grammy Awards**, a **Pulitzer Prize**, **Presidential Medal of Freedom 2015** etc. He received an Academy Award for the song 'Sooner or Later'. He received 8 Tony Awards.

Important Days with theme

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) 2021 – October 31

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) is annually observed across India on 31st October to mark the birth anniversary of **Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel**, endeared as ‘Sardar’, the First Deputy Prime Minister of India and the first Home Minister of India.



- The day aims to acknowledge and honour the legacy of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** who was also known as the **Iron Man of India**.
- 31st October 2021 marks the **146th** Birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- **Statue of Unity in Gujarat**, is a colossal statue of India’s first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. It is the world’s tallest statue, with a height of 182 metres (around 597 feet).

Background:

i. In 2014, The government of India led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared the 31st October of every year, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as the National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta

Diwas.

ii. The **first** National Unity Day was celebrated on **31st October 2014**.

National Legal Services Day 2021 – November 9

National Legal Services Day is annually observed across India on **9th**

November to commemorate the enactment of the **Legal Services Authorities Act 1987** to provide a “statutory base to legal aid programmes” in India on a uniform pattern.

The day also aims to create awareness about the various provisions related to the Legal Services Authorities Act.

The day also aims to create awareness about the various provisions related to the Legal Services Authorities Act.

Background:

The National Legal Services Day was started in 1995 by the Supreme Court of India to offer legal services free of charge to people from the weaker and poorer sections of society.

Why November 9?

The Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted in 1987 and came into existence on 9 November 1995 following a lot of deliberations and amendments.

National Education Day 2021 – November 11

In India, the **National Education Day** is annually celebrated on **11th November** to mark the **birth anniversary** of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, the first education minister of independent India. The day is celebrated for his contributions towards education and to create awareness in education.

- India celebrated the **133rd** birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna – Maulana Abul Kalam Azad on 11th November 2021.



About Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

i. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was the **first Education Minister** of independent India from **15th August 1947 to 2nd February 1958** who stressed on Women's Education.

Award – He was awarded Bharat Ratna, Posthumously in 1992.

World Diabetes Day 2021 – November 14

United Nations (UN) World Diabetes Day is celebrated annually on **14th November**, to raise awareness of diabetes as a global public health issue and effective responsibility to be undertaken collectively and individually, for better prevention, diagnosis and management of the condition with the theme '**Access to Diabetes Care**' for 2021-2023.

- 2021 celebrates the **100th year of insulin discovery** and highlights the huge gap between the people who need access to insulin to control their diabetes along with essential technologies such as blood glucose meters and test strips.
- On January 23, 1922, Leonard Thompson (14-year-old) became the first person to receive an insulin injection as treatment for diabetes.

Children's Day 2021 – November 14

In India, **Children's Day or Bal Diwas** is annually celebrated on 14th November, the birth anniversary of India's first prime minister **Jawaharlal Nehru**. He was born on **14 November 1889** in Allahabad, British India.

The day also recognises Jawaharlal Nehru's efforts and works for the welfare,

education and development of children and young people.

- The Children's Day **2021** marks the **132nd birth anniversary** of Jawaharlal Nehru who is fondly known as "**Chacha Nehru**".

1st Janjatiya Gaurav Divas – 15th November 2021

India observed the first ever Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (Tribal Pride Day) on 15th November 2021. The day marks the birth anniversary of Amar Shaheed Bhagwan Birsa Munda (Birsa Munda), a tribal leader who fought against British rule in India.

- The day also recognises the contribution of the tribal community who were a part of the freedom struggle and their efforts to preserve their cultural heritage.

**Background:**

On 10th November 2021, the Union Cabinet of India chaired by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi declared the 15th November of every year as the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas to mark the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda who is considered as God (Bhagwan) by tribal communities across India.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas Mahasammelan:

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi visited Madhya Pradesh (MP) to participate in **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas Mahasammelan** held at Jamburi Maidan, Bhopal, MP as a part of the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

National Press Day 2021 – November 16

Happy Childrer



The **National Press Day** is annually observed across India on **November 16th** to mark the presence of an independent and responsible press in India. The day also aims to highlight the importance of the independent press, the 4th pillar of democracy.

- The National Press Day marks the day on which the Press Council of India (PCI) came into effect in 1966.

Background:

i. The first Press Commission (1954) concluded that a statutory authority body with people connected with the industry should be created to maintain professional ethics in journalism.

ii. This led to the creation of the Press Council of India (PCI) which was established on 4th July 1966 under the Press Council Act of 1978. It came into effect on **16th November 1966**.

iii. Justice J.R. Mudholkar (then a Judge of Supreme Court) was appointed as the first Chairman of PCI.

About Press Council of India (PCI):

Chairman- Justice Chandramauli Kumar Prasad

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

World Toilet Day 2021 – November 19

United Nations (UN)'s **World Toilet Day** is annually observed across the globe on **November 19th** to create awareness about the importance of sanitation for all. The day also highlights the importance of sanitation and hygiene in driving improvements in public health, gender equality, education, economic development and environmental protection.



- The World Toilet Day is organised by the **UN-Water**, the UN's coordination mechanism on water and sanitation and Taskforce which includes the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The theme of World Toilet Day 2021 is **“Valuing toilets”**.

Aim:

To tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: Water and Sanitation for all by 2030.

Background:

i. The first UN's World Toilet Day was observed on **19th November 2013**.

November 19 celebrated as the ‘National Integration Day’ in India

National Integration Day also known as **‘Quami Ekta Diwas’** is celebrated every year on **November 19** to commemorate the birthday of India's **first Woman Prime Minister (PM) – Indira Gandhi**. The year 2021 marks the **104th** birth anniversary celebration of Indira Gandhi.

- National Integration Day was created in her honor as a way to encourage all Indians to **integrate, regardless of race or religion**.
- **slogans by Indira Gandhi** – “People tend to forget their duties but remember their rights” and “Garibi Hatao” (“Remove poverty”)

About Indira Gandhi:

i. Indira Gandhi (Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi Nehru), the first woman Prime Minister of India, was born on **19th of November 1917** in Allahabad. She was the daughter of the **first Indian PM** Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

ii. **Political career-** She became a Cabinet member

under Lal Bahadur Shastri's govt. and served as the Minister for Information and Broadcasting in 1964, later in 1966 she became the Prime Minister of India.

National Milk Day 2021 – November 26

National Milk Day is annually observed across India on 26th November to mark the birth anniversary of Dr Verghese Kurien, India's 'Father of White Revolution'.



The day also aims to create awareness about the importance of milk and dairy products as a global food.

- The day is annually organised by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

The National Milk Day 2021 marks the **100th Birth anniversary** of Verghese Kurien, who was also fondly known as the **Milk Man of India**.

Background:

i. The National Milk Day was first observed on 26th November 2014.

Constitution Day 2021 – November 26

Constitution Day also known as 'Samvidhan Divas', is annually observed across India on 26th November to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India by the Constituent Assembly of India on 26th November 1949.

The day also aims to promote constitutional values among the citizens of India.

26th November 2021 marks the **72nd anniversary** of



the adoption of the Constitution of India.

Background:

i. On 19th November 2015, The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment notified the decision of the Indian government to observe the 26th November of every year as 'Constitution Day'.

ii. This announcement was made as a part of the year-long celebration of the 125th birth anniversary of Dr B R Ambedkar.

73rd National Cadet Corps Raising Day – 28th November 2021

National Cadet Corps (NCC), the largest uniformed youth organisation in the world, annually celebrates the NCC Raising Day on the 4th Sunday of November.



The day is celebrated across India by the NCC cadets with marches, blood donation camps and social development programmes. The 28th November 2021 marks the observance of the 73rd NCC Raising Day.

- The 72nd NCC Raising day was observed on 22nd November 2020.
- The 74th NCC Raising Day will be observed on 27th November 2022.

About NCC:

Director General– Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh

Motto– "Unity and Discipline"

Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi