

NATIONAL

1. Tamil Nadu excavation

Why in news - Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) find Sangam era artifacts and Mesolithic artifacts near Chennai (TN).

Key Points –

Artefacts –

- A. Sangam era (2,000 years ago) - Rouletted ware, Roman amphora sherds and glass beads.
- B. Mesolithic - Hand axes, scrapers, cleavers and choppers.
 - Some Sangam age artefacts were discovered from Natham Medu too, 40 km Chennai.
 - Keeladi, near Madurai, was an urban settlement of Sangam Age on the banks of River Vaigai.

2. Neelakurinji plant

Why in news - Neelakurinji flowers bloomed at the Seethalayana Giri Hill Ranges in Chikkamagaluru.

Key Points –

- It is a shrub found in the shola forests of the Western Ghats in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- The flowers bloom once in 12 years.
- Nilgiri Hills (Blue mountains) got their name from the purplish-blue flowers of Neelakurinji.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

1. Bharat Vidya

Why in news - Nirmala Sitharaman has launched an e-learning platform 'Bharat Vidya' in Pune.

Key Points –

- Aim - for Oriental and South Asian Studies.
- It has been developed by Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (Pune).

INTERNATIONAL

1. 30% stake in Iranian gas field

Why in news - Iran has offered OVL and its partners a 30% stake in the development of the Farzad-B gas field.

Key Points –

- Farzad-B gas field is located in the Persian Gulf.
- ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), in 2008 discovered a giant gas field in the 3,500 km² Farsi offshore block.



2. Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA)

Why in news - 5 palm oil importing countries has announced the setting up of Asian Palm Oil Alliance.

Key Points –

- Countries are - India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- Atul Chaturvedi was elected as the first chairman of APOA.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

1. QUAD FM meeting

Why in news - Foreign Ministers of the Quad grouping have come out with a joint "statement on ransomware".

Key Points –

- FMs are - S Jaishankar (India), Antony Blinken (USA), Penny Wong (Aus) and Hayashi Yoshimasa (Japan).
- They met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session in New York.
- Target - State-sponsored cybercrime emanating from China, Russia, North Korea and Iran against critical infrastructure.
- QUAD is an informal strategic dialogue between India, USA, Japan and Australia.

2. 15th BRICS 2023

Why in news - BRICS foreign ministers extended their full support to South Africa for its BRICS Chairship in 2023.

Key Points –

- BRICS foreign ministers held their annual meeting in New York.

- In the Battle of Haifa (Sept 23, 1918), Indian soldiers liberated the city of Haifa from the Ottomans during WWI.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Dugong Conservation Reserve

Why in news - India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve notified in Tamil Nadu in Palk Bay.

Key Points –

- Dugongs (Sea Cow) are largest herbivorous marine mammals that primarily thrive on sea grass beds.
- Distribution in India - Gulf of Mannar, Gulf of Kutch, Palk Bay, and A&N Islands.
- Conservation Status –
A. IUCN: Vulnerable

STATES/UTS

1. Hamar Beti Hamar Maan

Why in news – Chhattisgarh has announced the “Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan” campaign towards women's safety.

BIHAR

1. Student credit card scheme

Why in news – Bihar government has made a big change in the Student Credit Card Scheme.

Key Points –

- Now up to Rs 400000 would be given to the students for studying abroad.
- Students of IITs, NITs and IIMs would also get relaxation of limit of Rs 4 lakh under the scheme.
- Priority to be given in disbursing loans to vocational and employment oriented courses.
- It was launched on Oct 2, 2016.

2. Bihar Municipal Elections

Why in news – Manoj Bajpayee and Pankaj Tripathi have been nominated as brand ambassadors for the municipal elections.

Key Points –

- They have been nominated by the State Election Commission
- It would be held in 224 municipal bodies in 2 phases.
- 1st phase - Polling for 156 Municipal Bodies.
2nd phase - Polling for 68 Municipal Bodies.

IMPORTANT DATES

1. World Rhino Day 2022

Why in news – It is celebrated on Sept 22 every year to spread awareness about the dangers they face.

Key Points –

- Theme 2022 - “Five Rhino Species Forever”.
- IUCN - Critically endangered.

2. Haifa Day

Why in news – Every year Sept 23 is celebrated as Haifa Day by the Indian Army.

Key Points –

- Reason - to show respect to the Indian soldiers who fought in the Battle of Haifa.





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POINTERS

- The World Bank has approved US \$ 350 million loan to enhance health services in which state – **Gujarat**
- Who has been named by the Central Government as the new Director General of the National Centre for Good Governance – **Bharat Lal**
- In the legislative assembly of which state, the day of 22 September has been reserved for women MLAs – **Uttar Pradesh**
- Who has been appointed by the Supreme Court to amend the Constitution of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) – **L Nageswara Rao**
- With whom has Skill India recently partnered to train Indian youth – **Samsung**
- Which state government has recently decided to withdraw the cattle control bill - **Gujarat**
- Which state will start its own health insurance scheme CMCHIS – **Nagaland**
- Where has Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the 3rd edition of the Lokmanthan program recently – **Guwahati**
- Who has recently been honoured with the Breakthrough Awards 2023 - **Daniel Spielman.**
- Who has recently won the title of “Chennai Open 2022” - **Linda Fruhvirtova**



NEW BPSK BATCHES ARE STARTING FROM 23 SEPTEMBER (ENGLISH AND HINDI MEDIUM)

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