

# Daily Current Affairs

Date : 23 July, 2025



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## Rajasthan

### Appointment of 7 new judges in Rajasthan High Court

#### ➔ Why in News?

- On July 22, 2025, the Central Government appointed 7 judges including a woman judge in the Rajasthan High Court on the recommendation of the Supreme Court Collegium.

#### ➔ Main Point

- Out of these, six judges have been appointed from the lawyer quota and one woman judge has been appointed in the judicial officer quota.
- **Oath taking:** July 23, 2025
- With these appointments, the number of judges in the Rajasthan High Court has increased from 36 to 43 and for the first time in the history of Rajasthan High Court, the number of judges has exceeded 40.
- **Newly appointed judges:** Sandeep Taneja, Bipin Gupta, Baljinder Singh, Sanjit Purohit, Ravi Chirania, Anurup Singhi, Sangeeta Sharma.
- Out of these, Sandeep Taneja has been appointed as a permanent judge of the High Court and 6 as additional judges.
  - Taneja is currently the Additional Advocate General of the State Government.

## ❖ Facts for Prelims:

### High Court (Constitutional Provisions)

- ♦ Part VI, Articles - 214 to 231.

### Committee regarding location of Rajasthan High Court (Report submitted on 27th March, 1949)

1. B.R. Patel Committee.
2. H.P. Sinha Committee.
3. T.C. Puri Committee.

### Rajasthan High Court Ordinance 1949

- ♦ Provided for a single High Court for the State of Rajasthan.
- ♦ Rajpramukh Sawai Man Singh II issued a notification for the establishment of the High Court on 25th August, 1949.
- ♦ **Inauguration - 29th August, 1949**
- ♦ **First Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court: Justice K.K. Verma (29.08.1949 -24.01.1950)**
- ♦ **Current Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court: Justice K.R. Sriram.**
- ♦ **Total number of seats of judges in Rajasthan High Court – 50**
- ♦ **Principal Bench : Jodhpur.**
- ♦ **Additional Bench : Jaipur.**
- ♦ **Chief Justice with the longest tenure – Justice Kailash Nath Wanchoo.**
- ♦ **Chief Justice with the shortest tenure – Justice Satish Kumar Mittal.**
- ♦ **First Acting Chief Justice – Justice J.M. Panchal.**
- ♦ **Chief Justices who were Chief Justices of the Supreme Court – Justice Kailash Nath Wanchoo, Justice J.S. Verma.**

## 'National Arogya Impact- Nari' Award 2025

### ➔ Why in News?

- Dr. Anupama of Jaipur was honored with the 'National Arogya Impact- Nari' Award 2025 under the special campaign 'Abhaya' at a ceremony organized at Jio World Convention Center, Mumbai on July 19, 2025.



### ➔ Main Point

- This award was given to her for excellent health services and awareness campaigns related to oral health and hygiene of women in the community.
- She started a special campaign 'Abhaya' on women's oral health on behalf of the Indian Dental Association (IDA).
- She has also been declared 'Ambassador of the Year'.
- For the first time, this award has been started by the Indian Dental Association on the national platform. Its objective is to give a new direction to awareness about dental health among women.

## News in Shorts

| S. No. | News                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.     | <p><b>Suresh Kumar Agarwal</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Recently, Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde appointed Suresh Kumar Agarwal as the Vice Chancellor of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer.</li><li>◆ This appointment to the post of Vice Chancellor has been made for 3 years from the date of assuming charge of Prof. Suresh Kumar Agarwal or till he attains the age of 70 years.</li><li>◆ Earlier, Suresh Kumar Agarwal was working as a professor in Central University, Gujarat.</li></ul> |

## National

### World's largest grain storage scheme in the cooperative sector

#### ➔ Why in News?

- In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on July 22, 2025, the Minister of Cooperation provided information regarding the 'World's largest grain storage scheme in the cooperative sector'.



कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

सहकारिता से समृद्धि तक  
विश्व की सबसे बड़ी योजना  
"अन्न भंडारण योजना"

- पूरी फसल PACS को MSP पर बेच सकेंगे
- उपज को मजबूरी में घाटे पर बेचने से बच सकेंगे
- फसल के अगले चक्र के लिए ब्रिज फाइनेंस का लाभ उठा सकेंगे
- PACS द्वारा किसान निर्मित गोदाम में उपज का भंडारण कर सकेंगे
- खाद्यान्न की बर्बादी कम होगी और देश में खाद्य सुरक्षा मजबूत होगी

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## ➡ Main Point

- On May 31, 2023, the Central Government launched the 'World's largest grain storage scheme in the cooperative sector' as a pilot project.
- Under the pilot project of this scheme, construction of warehouses in 11 PACS of 11 states has been completed.
- This scheme involves construction of various agricultural infrastructure including warehouses, custom hiring centers, processing units, fair price shops etc. at the level of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) through convergence of various existing schemes of the Government; such as Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure Scheme (AMI), Agricultural Mechanization Sub-Mission (SMAM), Pradhan Mantri Micro Food Processing Enterprises Formalization Scheme (PMFME) etc.
- Under this project, the construction of warehouses will be completed in more than 500 selected PACS by December 2026.

### Other important points:

#### Cooperative societies in every Panchayat / village:

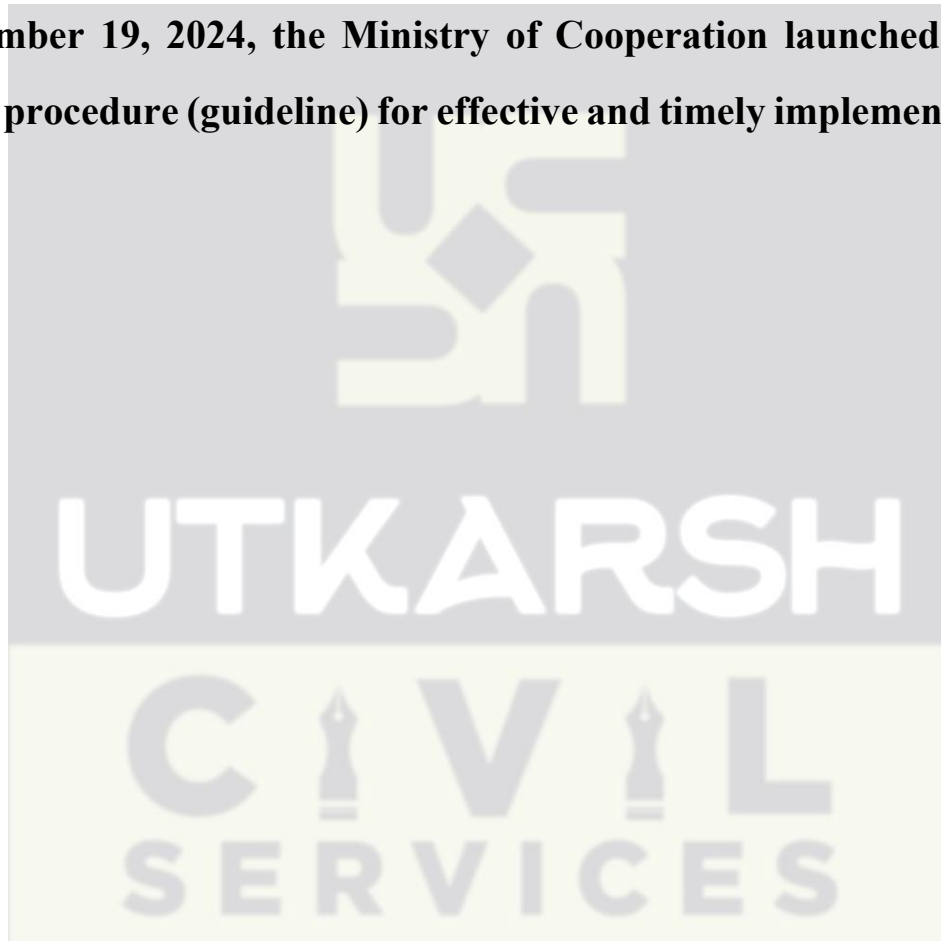
- **Start:** On February 15, 2023, the government approved the scheme for setting up new multipurpose PACS / dairy / fisheries cooperatives to strengthen the cooperative movement in the country.
- **Target:** To cover all the panchayats and villages of the country in a period of 5 years.

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- Under this scheme, Dairy Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) was established in collaboration with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and State Governments.
- On September 19, 2024, the Ministry of Cooperation launched a standard operating procedure (guideline) for effective and timely implementation of the scheme.



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## Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2025

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, in Rajya Sabha, Union Jal Shakti Minister provided information regarding the nationwide Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2025 conducted under the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti.



### ➔ Main Point

- Swachh Survekshan Grameen (2025) is being conducted through an independent survey agency to provide national ranking of all States/UTs and districts based on quantitative and qualitative sanitation (cleanliness) parameters.

### Objectives:

- To maintain and evaluate ODF Plus model villages under SBM-G Phase II.
- To provide national ranking of States, Union Territories and districts on rural sanitation indicators.
- To promote public participation and community-led sanitation practices.
- To encourage data-driven governance through structured monitoring.

### Swachh Survekshan Grameen (SSG) 2025

- It is a nationwide rural sanitation survey conducted by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- It is India's largest sanitation survey.
- The first sanitation survey was conducted in the year 2016, in which Mysuru was ranked first in the country among 73 cities evaluated.

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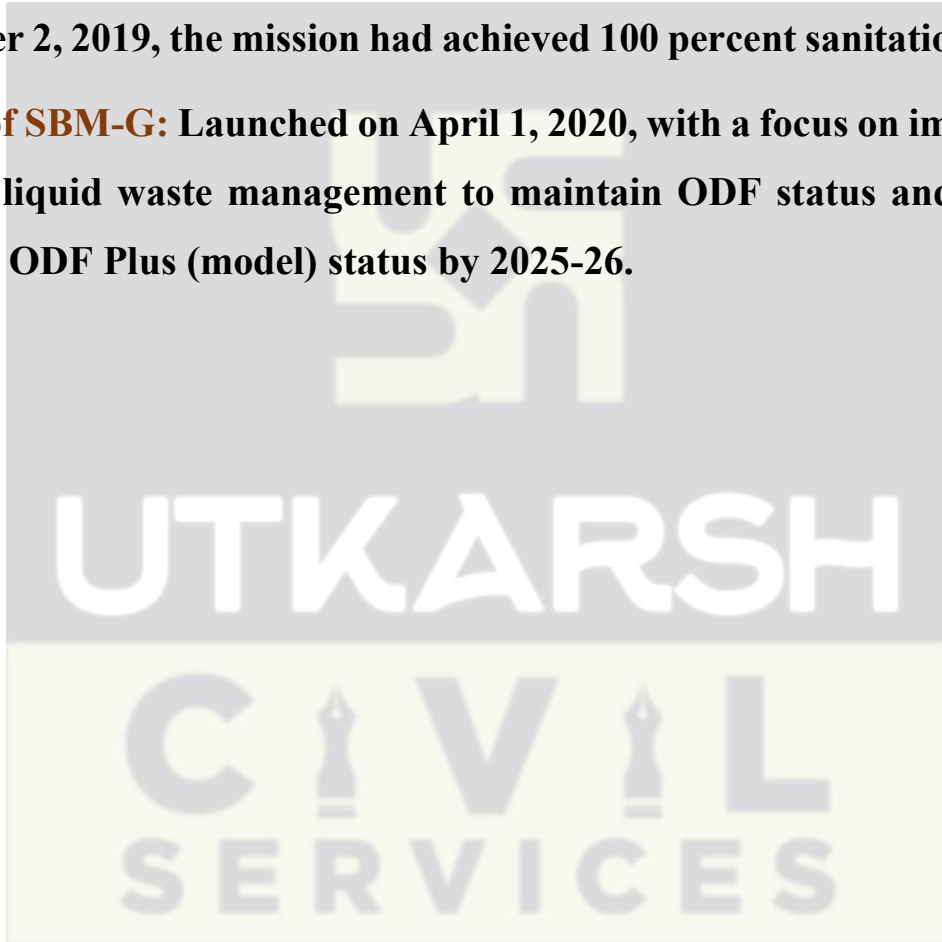
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## Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM-G]

- **Launched:** October 2, 2014
- **Objective:** Launched with the aim to eliminate open defecation in rural India by providing toilet facilities to all rural households.
- By October 2, 2019, the mission had achieved 100 percent sanitation coverage.
- **Phase-II of SBM-G:** Launched on April 1, 2020, with a focus on implementing solid and liquid waste management to maintain ODF status and transform villages to ODF Plus (model) status by 2025-26.



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## Behdienkhlam Festival - Meghalaya

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, 'Behdienkhlam Festival' was celebrated in Jowai town of Meghalaya.



## ➔ Main Point

- This festival was celebrated with traditional fervour and social messages.
- This festival is held every year in the month of July.
- It is a symbol of cultural, religious and social unity of the 'Pnar tribe'. This festival is celebrated by the Pnar community settled in the Jaintia Hills.
- **Purpose** - Praying for a good harvest and driving away evils and diseases.
- **'Behdenkhlam' literally means** - 'driving away the plague'.
- This festival is associated with the spirit of driving away negative forces, diseases and evil from the society.
- It is celebrated after the sowing season, which is associated with agriculture, health and spirituality.

## Bills of Lading Bill 2025

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Parliament has passed the 'Bills of Lading Bill 2025'.



### ➔ Main Point

- The aim of this bill is to update and simplify the legal framework for shipping documents.
- This new bill has been brought in place of the old 'Indian Bills of Lading Act, 1856'.
- 'Bill of Lading' is an important document, which is issued by the freight carrier to the shipper.
- It contains information about the goods such as type of item, quantity, condition and destination.

## India's first digital nomad village

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Yakten village in Pakyong district of Sikkim was officially declared as India's first digital nomad village.



### ➔ Main Point

- The declaration has been made under the 'Nomad Sikkim' initiative.

#### **Yakten Nomad Village:**

- The initiative is a step towards promoting sustainable tourism, remote working, and local entrepreneurship in the Himalayan state.
- It is in line with the Sikkim government's 'One Family, One Entrepreneur' initiative, which encourages local youth and innovation.
- It aims to transform strategic locations in the state into year-round work hubs for digital professionals.
- It is an effort to ensure sustainable income for homestay owners for six months during the off-season.
- The village has been provided with high-speed Wi-Fi, eco-friendly practices, and zero waste management system.

## Prime Minister's Development (PM VIKAS) Scheme

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) has launched Skill Training and Women Entrepreneurship Development Project under PM VIKAS Scheme.



### ➔ Main Point

- Under this, 150 youth will be trained in 'Internet of Things' and 300 women will be trained in leadership and entrepreneurship.
- During the training, candidates will be given stipend and employment/self-employment opportunities.

## Pradhan Mantri-Vikas (PM-VIKAS) Yojana:

- It is a skill development initiative of MoMA designed for minority and artisan communities.
- The scheme aims to promote skill training, entrepreneurship and leadership development.
- It is linked to the Skill India Mission and integrated with the Skill India Portal (SIP).
- This scheme brings all the erstwhile schemes of MoMA on one platform.
- The beneficiaries will be from the 6 notified minority communities of India: Muslim, Sikh, Christian, Buddhist, Jain and Parsi.
- The scheme also has a credit linking facility, wherein beneficiaries are linked to the loan schemes of NMDFC.

## Implementation of the scheme:

- The scheme will be implemented in Minority Concentration Areas (MCA).
- It aims to identify and provide support to art and craft clusters.
- It will be implemented in coordination with other ministries like Tourism, Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj, Education and Skill Development.

## Arthunkal Police Station

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Arthunkal Police Station in Alappuzha (Alleppey) district of Kerala has become the first police station in India to receive IS/ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) certification.



### ➔ Main Point

- This certification was awarded by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on July 10, 2025.
- This honor was given for outstanding service quality in policing and public safety.
- This certificate was given to Arthunkal police station in a special function organized by BIS.
- Area of recognition: Crime prevention, investigation, traffic control, public grievance redressal and excellent operation of law and order.

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## Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS):

- **Establishment:** Year 1947
- **Objective:** For harmonious development of standardization activities in India.
- In the year 1986, it was reorganized as 'Bureau of Indian Standards' through an Act.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- It functions under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.



## International

### QS Best Student City Ranking 2025

#### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Indian cities; Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Chennai have been ranked in the new ranking of QS Best Student Cities 2025.



#### ➔ Main Point

- This ranking evaluates 150 cities of the world for study, cost, quality of life and career for students.
- Top-3 cities of the world :**

| Rank | City   |
|------|--------|
| 1st  | Seoul  |
| 2nd  | Tokyo  |
| 3rd  | London |

- Among the Indian cities that made it to the list are Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru and Chennai, with Delhi being ranked No.1 in the affordability indicator and the world's most affordable student city for students to live in, while Mumbai has been named India's best student city.
- This year's top 15 affordable cities include Mumbai and Bengaluru.

## Science and Technology

### Retirement of MiG-21

#### ➡ Why in News?

- The Indian Air Force will formally retire the MiG-21 from the Indian Air Force on September 19, 2025 at Chandigarh Airbase.



#### ➡ Main Point

- Currently, two squadrons of MiG-21 Bison are active, all of which are deployed at Jaisalmer, Bikaner's Nal (3 Squadron 'Cobra') and Suratgarh Airbase (23 Squadron 'Panthers') on the border of Rajasthan.
- After joining the Air Force on April 20, 1963, the MiG-21 played an important role in three wars (1965, 1971 and 1999) but will be retired due to frequent air accidents in the decades after 1990.

❖ **Facts for Prelims:**

**MiG-21:**

- ◆ **Nicknames:** 'Flying Coffin' and 'Widow Maker'.
- ◆ **Design:** In 1959 by Mikoyan-Gurevich Design Bureau of Soviet Russia.
- ◆ It is a light single pilot, supersonic jet fighter and interceptor aircraft.
- ◆ This aircraft can fly at an altitude of up to 18 thousand meters.
- ◆ It is capable of carrying air to air missiles and bombs.
- ◆ It has GPS, sharp radar and self-defense system along with navigation system.
- ◆ The MiG-21 fighter aircraft was the first supersonic fighter aircraft in service with the Indian Air Force.



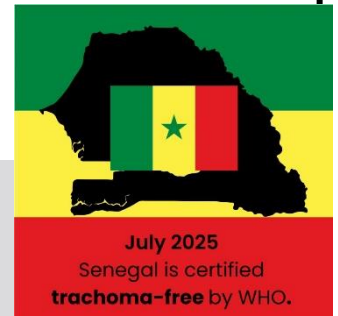
## Senegal – declared trachoma free

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the African country Senegal was declared free of trachoma by the World Health Organization (WHO).

### ➔ Main Point

- Senegal is the 25th country in the world and the 9th country in Africa to be free of trachoma.
- The World Health Organization also declared India free of trachoma as a public health problem on October 08, 2024.
- However, the disease still remains a challenge in 39 countries, affecting about 1.9 million people globally and causing blindness in many cases.
- According to WHO, about 150 million people worldwide are affected by trachoma. Of them, 6 million are blind or at risk of blinding complications.



### ❖ Facts for Prelims:

#### What is Trachoma?

- ◆ Trachoma is an eye disease caused by infection with a bacterium called 'Chlamydia trachomatis'.
- ◆ **Primary source of infection** – eye secretions of infected individuals.
- ◆ The infectious stage usually affects children the most.
- ◆ Trachoma was a significant public health problem in India during the 1950–60s.

- ◆ During this period, regions like Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands were badly affected, with more than 50 percent of the population affected.
- ◆ By 1971, trachoma was responsible for 5 percent of all cases of blindness in the country.

### Major initiatives of the Government of India to eliminate trachoma:

- ◆ Recognizing the urgent need to tackle the trachoma health crisis, India has implemented several initiatives under the National Blindness and Visual Impairment Control Programme.
- ◆ **National Trachoma Control Programme:** In 1963, the Government of India launched the National Trachoma Control Programme in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF. This initiative laid the groundwork for comprehensive trachoma management.



## Malaria Vaccine: 'AdFalcivax'

### ➔ Why in News?

- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is developing an indigenous multistage malaria vaccine called 'AdFalcivax'.



### ➔ Main Point

- **Manufacturing:** Developed in partnership with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Biotechnology-National Institute of Immunology (DBT-NII).
- **Collaboration:** ICMR's Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubaneswar and National Institute of Malaria Research.
- The vaccine aims to provide protection against human infection as well as reduce vector-borne community transmission of the parasite.
- Adfalcivax is the first indigenous recombinant chimeric malaria vaccine specifically designed to target two critical stages of Plasmodium falciparum, the parasite responsible for the most deadly form of malaria.

## Features of AdFalciVax vaccine:

- **Will target Plasmodium falciparum at two stages** - erythrocytic (liver) stage and transmission (sexual) stage.
- **Recombinant chimeric vaccine:** Vaccine that combines antigens from multiple stages of the parasite's life cycle into a single immunogen.
- It can be preserved at room temperature for up to 9 months.

## Other important points:

### Malaria:

- **Cause:** Plasmodium parasite.
- It is a non-communicable disease.
- **Vector:** Infected female Anopheles mosquito.

## Personalities

### Former Kerala Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan passed away

#### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, former Chief Minister of Kerala and senior Marxist leader V.S. Achuthanandan passed away at the age of 101.



#### ➔ Main Point

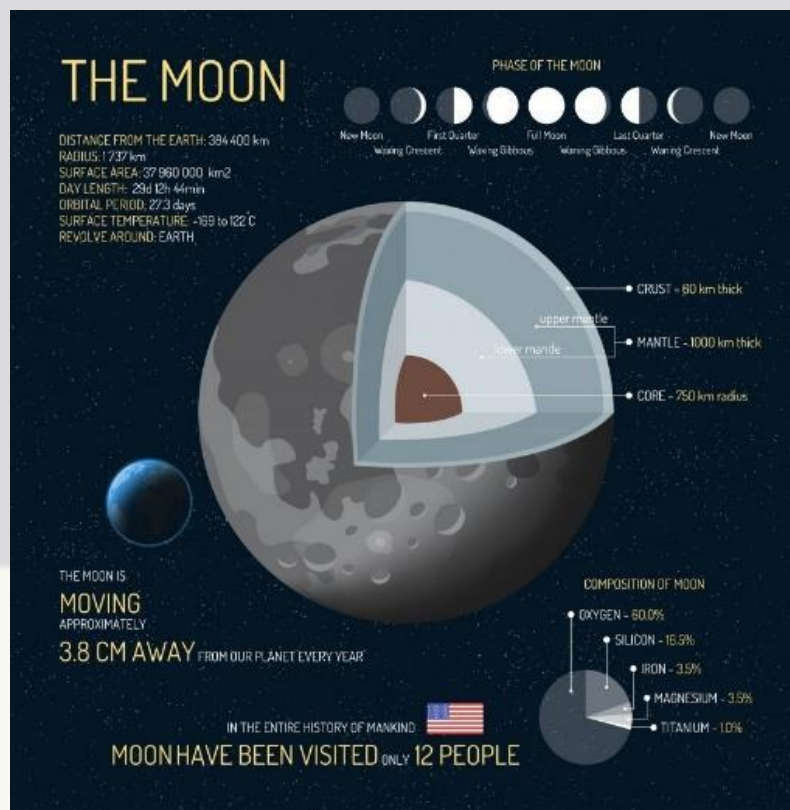
- He served as the Chief Minister of Kerala from 2006 to 2011.
- For decades, he played an important role in shaping the politics of the state.
- Velikkakathu Sankaran Achuthanandan was born in 1923 in Alappuzha, Kerala.
- His political career began with trade union activities.
- Soon he became one of the prominent leaders of the communist movement in Kerala.

## Important Days

### International Moon Day

#### ➡ Why in News?

- International Moon Day is celebrated every year on 20 July.



#### ➡ Main Point

- It is celebrated to commemorate the historic event of the first human landing on the Moon by the Apollo 11 mission in the year 1969.
- With the aim of enhancing global cooperation in space, the United Nations General Assembly officially recognized this day in the year 2021 on the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS).

## Apollo 11 Mission:

- Apollo 11 was launched by NASA on July 16, 1969.
- It was the first manned mission to land on the Moon and return safely.
- On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first humans to set foot on the Moon.
- There were a total of 6 successful lunar landing missions under the Apollo program: Apollo 11, 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17


## India's lunar missions:

- India began lunar missions in 2008 with Chandrayaan-1, which discovered water on the Moon.
- Chandrayaan-2 (2019) had a failed landing, but the orbiter is still active today.
- Chandrayaan-3 (2023) made a successful soft landing on the south pole of the Moon.
- This made India the fourth country to land on the Moon and the first to land on the south pole.

## Upcoming missions:

- Chandrayaan-4 (2027) mission aims to bring samples from the Moon.
- Chandrayaan-5 (LUPEX) is an India-Japan (JAXA) joint mission.
- It aims to study water and ice on the Moon.
- It is planned to be launched in the year 2027–28.

## News in Shorts

| S. No. | News                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| 1.     | <p><b>Numbeo Business Supermarket 2025</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ European country Andorra has been declared the safest country in the world. It is located in the Pyrenees mountains between France and Spain (Safety Score-84.7)</li><li>◆ In this index, countries are evaluated on the basis of factors such as crime rate, perception of safety and people's trust in law and order.</li><li>◆ In the list of 'Nubeo Safety Index 2025', China is the safest country in Asia (Safety Score-76.0).</li><li>◆ India has left behind many developed countries in this ranking and has secured 66th position out of 147 countries (Safety Score-55.7).</li><li>◆ Among India's neighboring countries, Sri Lanka was ranked 59th, Pakistan 65th and Bangladesh 126th.</li></ul> |