

June - 29

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu assembly passed a resolution urging the Centre to conduct a caste-based census, along with the pending population census since 2021.
- ❖ The BJP's national president and Union Minister, JP Nadda, was appointed as the Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ The Universal AI University (UAIU), India's pioneering institution dedicated to Artificial Intelligence, has named Simon Mak, an international strategist and award-winning professor, as its vice chancellor.
 - He is the first non-Indian to hold the position of founding vice chancellor of an Indian institution.
- ❖ Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana becomes first Indian woman to hit consecutive ODI centuries.

TAMIL NADU

Leader's birthday anniversary as State functions

தமிழ் வளர்ச்சி (ம) செய்தித் தொடர்பு துறை மானியக் கோரிக்கை அறிவிப்புகள்!

- சுதந்திரப் போராட்ட வீரர் இமானுவேல் சேகரனார் பிறந்த தினமான அக்டோபர் 9, இராமநாதபுரத்தில் அரசு விழாவாக கொண்டாடப்படும்
- திவான்பகதூர் திராவிடமணி இரட்டைமலை சீனிவாசனார் பிறந்த நாளான ஜூலை 7, செங்கல்பட்டு மாவட்டத்தில் அரசு விழாவாக கொண்டாடப்படும்
- **௬.50 லட்சம் மதிப்பீட்டில் வீரமங்கை கிராணி வேலுநாச்சியருக்கு சென்னை, காந்தி மண்டப வளாகத்தில் திருவுருவச்சிலை அமைக்கப்படும்**
- முன்னாள் குடியரசுத் தலைவர் டாக்டர் ஏ.பி.ஜெ. அப்துல் கலாம் அவர்களின் பிறந்த நாளான அக்டோபர் 15, சென்னையில் அரசு விழாவாக கொண்டாடப்படும்
- சர் ஏ.டி. பன்னீர்செல்வம் அவர்களின் பிறந்த நாளான ஜூன் 1, திருச்சி மாவட்டத்தில் அரசு விழாவாக கொண்டாடப்படும்

சட்டப்பேரவையில் மாண்புமிகு தமிழ் வளர்ச்சி (ம) செய்தித்துறை அமைச்சர்,
திரு. **மு.வெ.சாமிநாதன்** அவர்கள்

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has decided to celebrate every year the birth anniversary of following leaders/personalities as State functions.

- ❖ Diwan Bahadur Dravidamani Rettaimalai Srinivasan's birthday on July 7.
- ❖ Freedom fighter Anjalai Ammal's birth anniversary on June 1
- ❖ Freedom fighter Immanuel Sekaran's birth anniversary on October 9.
- ❖ Allala Ilaya Nayakkar's birth anniversary on Thai 1.
- ❖ Freedom fighter K.M. Annal Thango's birth anniversary on April 13.
- ❖ Former Madras Presidency's Chief Minister Pa. Subbarayan's birth anniversary on September 11
- ❖ Former President of India A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's birth anniversary on October 15.
- ❖ Dr. Muthu Lakshmi Reddy's birth anniversary on July 7.
- ❖ M. K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar's birth anniversary on March 1.
- ❖ Sir A.T. Pannerselvam, known as 'Justice Party's Diamond Pillar', whose birth anniversary falls on June 1.
- ❖ Tamil scholar Dr. Mu. Varadarasanar's birth anniversary on April 25.
- ❖ Writer Ki. Rajanarayanan's birth anniversary on September 19.
- ❖ These will be celebrated as the State functions in Chengalpattu, Cuddalore, Ramanathapuram, Namakkal, Vellore, Chennai, Chennai, Pudukkottai, Tiruchi, Tiruchi, Ranipettai, Thoothukudi districts where were they from.

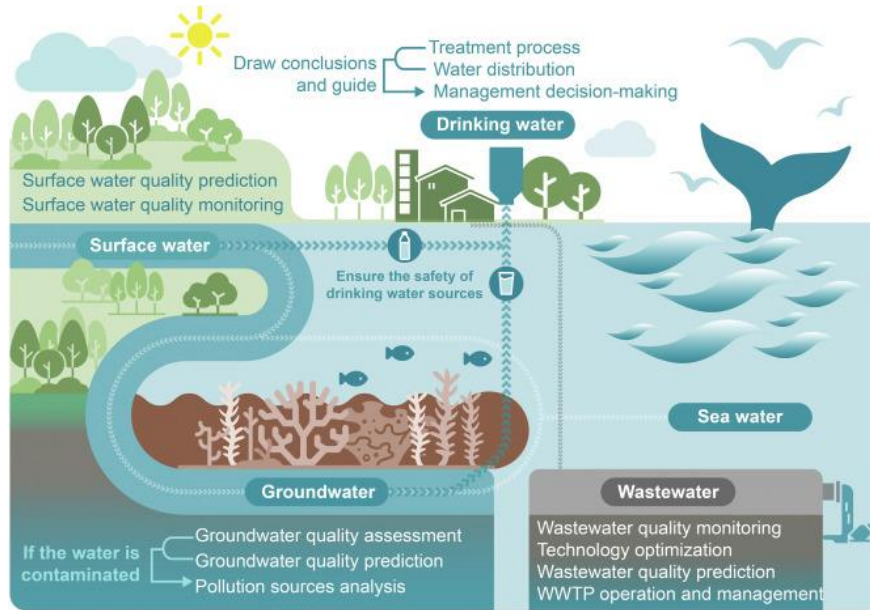
Female terracotta in Vembakottai



- ❖ A woman's head made of flint was found at Vembakottai-Vijayakariskulam in Virudhunagar district.
- ❖ The Vembakottai archaeological excavation has revealed that a rich civilisation had existed on the banks of the Vaippar near Sattur.
- ❖ It is on a par with the ancient civilisation found in Keeladi and Porunai civilisation.

- ❖ A broken Neolithic hand axe has been found in the ongoing excavations at Chennanur in Krishnagiri district.
- ❖ It reflects the evidence of Neolithic culture in this region.

TN Lake Quality Monitoring Project



- ❖ Tamil Nadu Lake Quality Monitoring Project is to be implemented in water bodies through real-time monitoring and artificial intelligence-based data analysis.
- ❖ The scheme will be implemented in the first phase in Poondi, Chembarambakkam, Udthagamandalam, and Kodaikanal lakes at a cost of ₹5 crore.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) continuing to implement pollution abatement measures worth ₹100 crore through the TN Sustainably Harnessing Ocean Resources and Blue Economy project.

NATIONAL

Lok Sabha Speaker 2024

- ❖ The ruling NDA nominee, Om Birla, was elected as the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha for a second consecutive term by a voice vote.
- ❖ This year, the Lok Sabha witnessed contested election for Lok Sabha Speaker post between Om Birla and the INDIA bloc's nominee, Kodikunnil Suresh, the eight-time Congress MP from Kerala's Mavelikara.
- ❖ The Lok Sabha Speaker is the constitutional and ceremonial head of the House.

- ❖ He/she deals with the actual necessities and concerns of Parliament in the performance of its functions.
- ❖ According to the Indian Constitution, Article 93 provides for the election of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.
- ❖ It is the members of the Lok Sabha who elect its presiding officer by a simple majority.
- ❖ The election of the Speaker is usually the first item of business in the newly constituted Lok Sabha.
- ❖ The process is overseen by the Pro-tem Speaker, who is appointed by the President of India.
- ❖ Notably, in the 72 years of the Lok Sabha Assembly, the election for the Speaker post has taken place only thrice, i.e., in 1952, 1967 and 1976.
- ❖ Notably, this is the sixth time that a Lok Sabha Speaker has been re-elected to the position and the fifth time for a consecutive second time.



HOW IS LOK SABHA SPEAKER APPOINTED

Once the date for the election of the **Speaker is approved by the President and notified by the Lok Sabha Secretariat**, any member may give notice in writing, of a motion that another Member be chosen as the Speaker of the House. The notice is addressed to the Secretary-General and has to be seconded by a third Member.

The notice must be submitted before noon on the day preceding the date of election.

The name is normally proposed by the Prime Minister or the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

The Speaker is elected by a simple majority of members present and voting in the House.

Sumitra Mahajan
BJP
Speaker, 16th Lok Sabha (2014-2019)

Om Birla
BJP
Speaker, 17th Lok Sabha (2019-2024)

WHY IS THE SPEAKER'S POST CRUCIAL

The speaker of the Lok Sabha is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha. A look at some of the powers bestowed on him.

The Speaker...

- + **Regulates debates** and proceedings in the House. He has the power to decide which member can address Parliament or raise questions.
- + **Presides over a joint sitting** of the two Houses of Parliament. The joint sitting of the Parliament is called by the President of India.
- + **Can adjourn the House** or suspend the meeting in absence of one-tenth of the total strength of the House.
- + **Decides** whether a bill is a money bill or not.
- + **Decides the questions** of disqualification of a member of the Lok Sabha.
- + **Constitutes** the Committees of the House.

Does the Speaker vote?

Normally the Speaker does not participate in voting. However, if there is a tie—when the House is evenly split on any issue—the Speaker is entitled to cast a vote. This is known as a Casting Vote, which is used to break the deadlock.

Lok Sabha's Leader of Opposition

- ❖ Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has recognised Rahul Gandhi as the leader of opposition.
- ❖ He has been recognised as the leader of opposition under Section 2 of the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.
- ❖ To get the post of Leader of Opposition, a party must have at least 10% of MPs in the House.

- ❖ The main duty of the Leader of Opposition is to serve as the voice of the opposition in the House.
- ❖ Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha is considered as a shadow Prime Minister with a shadow Cabinet.
- ❖ They are ready to take over the administration if the Government resigns or is defeated on the floor of the House.

| IN THE POST IN THE PAST | |
|---|---|
| SUSHMA SWARAJ (DEC 2009 TO MAY 2014) |  <p>Communist leader AK Gopalan was born on Oct 1, 1904</p> <p>FIRST LEADER OF OPPOSITION</p> <p>A member of Lok Sabha for 5 consecutive terms till his death, became the first leader of opposition in Parliament</p> <p>He was one of the founding members of the Communist Party of India (Marxist)</p> <p>Played an active role in the Khilafat & khadi movements, & in the upliftment of Harijans</p> <p>Arrested for participating in the salt satyagraha in 1930</p> <p>Played an important role in the formation of Indian Coffee House, a worker cooperative initiative in late 1950s</p> <p>AKG Bhavan, CPI (M)'s national headquarters in Delhi, is named after him</p> |
| L K ADVANI (MAY 2009 TO DEC 2009; MAY 2004 TO MAY 2009) | |
| SONIA GANDHI (OCT 1999 TO FEB 2004) | |
| SHARAD PAWAR (MAR 1998 TO APR 1999) | |
| ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (JUN 1997 TO DEC 1997) | |
| RAJIV GANDHI (DEC 1989 TO DEC 1990) | |

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

China's Chang'e-6 mission 2024



Chang'e returns after tryst with destination Moon

China's Chang'e 6 probe returned with rock and soil samples from the far side of the moon in a global first

53 days Time Chang'e 6 spent in outer space. It left earth on May 3.

Return procedure from Moon

- Soil collection
- Ascender detaches from the lander
- Ascender docks with the orbiter
- Ascender transfers soil to the return capsule
- Capsule returns to Earth
- Lands in Inner Mongolia

SAMPLES: KEY TO MISSION

The probe had landed in the Moon's South Pole-Aitken Basin, an impact crater created more than 4 billion years ago. The samples will likely come from different layers of the basin, which will bear traces of the different geological events across its long chronology, such as when the moon was younger and had an active interior that could produce volcanic rock. That material could shed light on the solar system's early days, said scientists aware of the matter.

Amid govt splurge

Plans for China's "space dream" have shifted into high gear under President Xi Jinping. Beijing has poured huge resources into its space programme over the past decade, targeting ambitious undertakings in an effort to catch up to traditional space powers US and Russia, apart from others like India and Japan who have caught up over the past few years. It has built a space station, landed robotic rovers on Mars and the Moon, and become only the third country to send astronauts into orbit.

Workers access the capsule of the Chang'e 6 probe on Tuesday.

Chang'e-6 completed its sampling work by stowing lunar soil and rocks in a container inside the ascender

Robotic arm to scoop surface samples

Drill to collect subsurface samples

Chang'e-6 lunar lander site

Source: State Council Information Office of China, CNSA, NASA, Chinese Journal of Aeronautics.

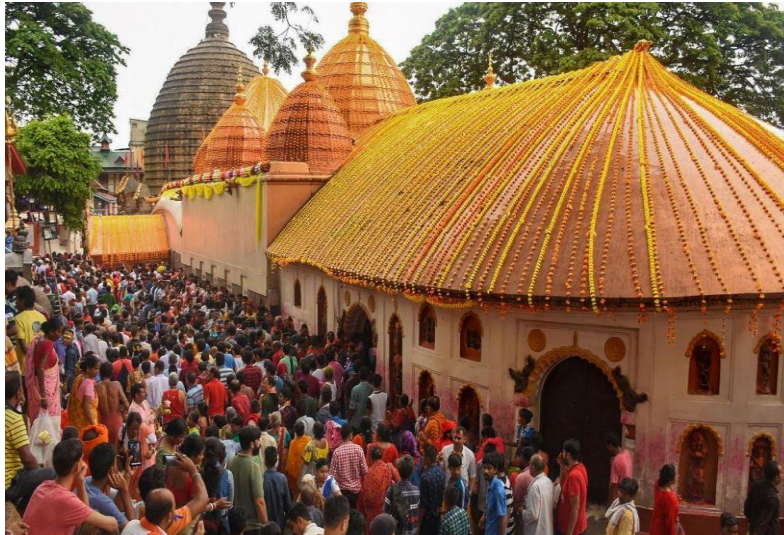
- ❖ China's Chang'e-6 mission's capsule returned by carrying the first soil samples collected from the far side of the Moon.

- ❖ Thus, China became the first country to successfully bring rock and soil samples from the far side of the moon.
- ❖ The probe landed in northern China in the Inner Mongolian region.
- ❖ Earlier, countries like US and Russia (Soviet Union) collected samples from the moon's near side.

STATES

Ambubachi mela 2024

- ❖ The Ambubachi Mela is a prominent annual festival held at the Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ This special event celebrates the annual menstruation of Goddess Kamakhya, symbolising fertility and womanhood.
- ❖ This year saw a large gathering of sadhus, including Naga sadhus and holy men from around the world, including Nepal and Canada.



SPORTS

U-17 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024

- ❖ India concluded their campaign at the Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championships in Amman, Jordan.
- ❖ The young Indian contingent clinched a total of 11 medals, including four gold, two silver, and five bronze medals.

- ❖ Women wrestlers grabbed all four gold medals - Dipanshi in 46 kg, Muskan in 53 kg, Rajnita in 61 kg, and Mansi Lather in 69 kg.
- ❖ On the men's front, Samarth Gajanan Mhakave bagged a silver medal in the fiercely contested 55 kg category.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of the Tropics 2024 - June 29



- ❖ It celebrates the extraordinary diversity of the tropics while highlighting unique challenges and opportunities nations of the Tropics face.
- ❖ This date is to remember the first 'State of the Tropics Report,' started by Myanmar's Nobel Laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi, in 2014.



- ❖ The Tropics are a region of the Earth, roughly defined as the area between the tropic of Cancer and the tropic of Capricorn.
- ❖ The Tropics host nearly 95% of the world's mangrove forests by area and 99% of mangrove species.
- ❖ The Tropics have just over half of the world's renewable water resources (54%).

