



## CURRENT AFFAIRS 21st October 2022

### National News

#### 1. ISRO plans to send Indian astronauts into space by 2024



- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) plans to launch Chandrayaan-3, its third mission to the moon, in June next year.
- Interacting with media personnel on the sidelines of an event in Delhi, ISRO Chairman S. Somnath said C-3 is ready now.
- ISRO has made Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3) more robust so that it does not have any problems.
- He added the space agency has also lined up the first test flight of the 'abort mission' for Gaganyaan, the country's first human spaceflight, early next year.
- Mr. Somnath said, ISRO also plans to fly Indian astronauts into orbit by the end of 2024 after carrying out successful abort missions and uncrewed test flights.

## 2. Union Education Ministry to organise 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' month-long programme from November 16



- Union Education Ministry will organise 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' - a month-long programme from 16th of next month - to rediscover the centuries-old bond of knowledge and ancient civilizations linkage between Varanasi and Tamilnadu.
- Addressing media about this programme in New Delhi, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan informed that over 2400 tamil people in 12 groups from diverse sections of society, including academics, spiritualism, philosophy, trade and commerce, agriculture, entrepreneurship, arts and artisanship will visit Kashi for eight days to get familiarised with the ancient knowledge shared by these two ancient cities.
- Mr Pradhan said, these people will come from Rameshwaram, Chennai and Coimbatore through train.
- He said, seminars discussions and lectures will be held during the programme.
- On this occasion, Mr Pradhan also launched a website for the registration process for this month-long event.

### 3. UK Prime Minister Liz Truss resigns after less than seven weeks in Downing Street



- UK Prime Minister Liz Truss resigned from the post just six weeks after her appointment. Speaking outside the door of her Number 10 Downing Street office today, Truss accepted that she could not deliver the promises she made when she was running for Conservative leader, having lost the faith of her party.
- She said there will be a Conservative leadership election to be completed within the next week.
- Earlier in the day, Conservative Party officials had gathered at Downing Street while a growing number of her own lawmakers called on her to quit.
- Ms Truss becomes the shortest-serving prime minister in British history, just for 45 days. George Canning previously held the record, serving 119 days in 1827 when he died.
- Appointed on the 6th of last month, forty-seven-year-old Truss was forced to sack her Finance Minister and closest political ally, Kwasi Kwarteng, and abandon almost all her economic programme after their plans for vast unfunded tax cuts crashed the pound and British bonds.

- Truss's premiership came under renewed pressure after the Home Secretary resigned and a chaotic vote on fracking.
- There was fury yesterday around the vote and the methods used to get MPs to vote with the government.

#### 4. T20 World Cup: Two-time champions West Indies knocked out with 9-wicket loss to Ireland



- In cricket, two-time champions West Indies were knocked out of T20 World Cup after losing to Ireland in their final Group B clash of the ongoing tournament today.
- Ireland defeated West Indies by 9 wickets in the game at Bellerive Oval in Hobart.
- Chasing 147 runs, Ireland reached home in 17.3 overs. Paul Stirling's 66 not out and Lorcan Tucker's unbeaten 45 made the chase easy for Ireland.
- Earlier, Brandon King played an unbeaten knock of 62 runs as West Indies posted 146 for 5 in 20 overs.
- For Ireland, Gareth Delany returned with three wickets.
- Windies skipper Nicholas Pooran had won the toss and opted to bat first.

## 5. Sankarasubramanian named Principal Scientist of ISRO's Aditya-L1 mission

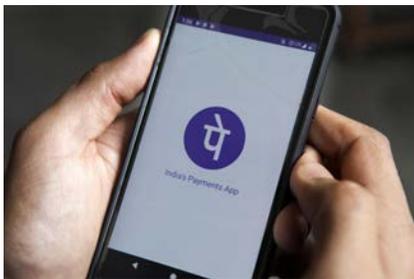


- The Indian Space Research Organisation has designated Dr. Sankarasubramanian K as the Principal Scientist of the Aditya-L1 mission.
- Aditya-L1 is the first observatory-class space-based solar mission from India.
- Sankarasubramanian has contributed to AstroSat, Chandrayaan-1 and Chandrayaan-2 missions of ISRO in several capacities.
- Aditya-L1 is the first observatory-class space-based solar mission from India.
- The spacecraft will be placed in a halo orbit around the first Lagrange point, L1, of the Sun-Earth system.
- A satellite around the L1 point has the major advantage of continuously viewing the Sun without occultation/eclipses.
- This position provides a greater advantage of observing solar activities continuously.
- Aditya-L1 carries seven payloads to observe the photosphere, chromosphere, and the outermost layers of

the Sun (the corona) using electromagnetic and particle detectors.

- Four payloads directly view the Sun from the unique vantage point of L1, and the remaining three payloads carry out in-situ studies of particles and fields at the Lagrange point L1.

## 6. PhonePe launches green data center with Dell Technologies and NTT



- PhonePe, a homegrown fintech platform, announced the launch of its first green data centre in India, leveraging technologies and solutions from Dell Technologies and NTT.
- The facility opens up new opportunities in data management for PhonePe, with efficient data security, power efficiency, ease of operations, and cloud solutions.
- The centre will also help the company to build sustainable and efficient infrastructure to scale its operations across the country further seamlessly.
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- The center will also help the company to build sustainable and efficient infrastructure to further seamlessly scale its operations across the country.

## 7. India Ranks 41st Among 44 Nations In Pension Index



- As compared to 40th out of 43 countries in 2021, India ranked 41 out of 44 countries in the Mercer CFS Global Pension Index.
- The MCGPI is a comprehensive study of 44 global pension systems, accounting for 65 percent of the world's population.
- The survey pointed out that the country needs to strengthen its regulatory framework and boost the coverage under private pension arrangements.
- "In the absence of social security coverage in the country, the adequacy and sustainability sub-indices can be improved significantly by boosting coverage under private pension arrangements," the report based on the survey said.
- Mercer CFS Global Pension Index studies 44 countries that account for 65 per cent of the world's population.
- The index value was up from 2021 but below that in 2020. In 2020, India ranked 34 out of 39 countries with a value of 45.7. In 2022, the index value was 44.4.

**By Sameer Singhal**

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