

19 November 2024

Grand Commander of the Order of Niger



President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Mr. Bola Ahmed Tinubu conferred the national award - "Grand Commander of the Order of Niger" to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Key Points

- ❖ This significant recognition comes during the first visit by an Indian prime minister to Nigeria in 17 years.
- ❖ Grand Commander of the Order of Niger is the second highest honor of Nigeria.
- ❖ This marked the 17th international award given to PM Modi by a foreign country.
- ❖ Queen Elizabeth is the sole foreign dignitary to have received the GCON in 1969.
- ❖ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is the first foreign leader to be conferred with this award since 1969.

About Nigeria

- ❖ Capital - Abuja
- ❖ Currency - Naira
- ❖ President - Bola Ahmed Adekunle Tinubu



Why Bharat Matters

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar launched his book, Why Bharat Matters, at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in Dubai, UAE on 14 November 2024.



Key Points

- ❖ Themes and key messages of his book, reflecting on the complex interplay of global and domestic factors shaping India's position in the world.
- ❖ His first book was titled 'The India Way', he chose the term 'Bharat' for his second book to capture the authentic voice and spirit of a changing Indian society.
- ❖ A core message of 'Why Bharat Matters' is the importance of self-reliance in assessing global challenges and opportunities.

SpaceX to launch India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20

Elon Musk's SpaceX will launch India's heavy communication satellite **GSAT-20** from Cape Canaveral in the US on Nov 19.



Key Points

- ❖ The satellite is expected to remain in operation for 14 years.
- ❖ It will provide vital services across India, including internet connectivity for remote areas.
- ❖ Weighing 4,700 kg, GSAT-20 is one of India's heaviest communication satellites. The GSAT-20 is too heavy for India's own rocket LVM-3, popularly known as 'Bahubali' to carry, so SpaceX was chosen for the launch.
- ❖ SpaceX's heavy-lifter Falcon-9 rocket can launch payloads of 8,300 kg or 8.3 tonnes to geostationary transfer orbit.

G20 Summit

The 19th G20 Summit started on 18 November at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil.



Key Points

- ❖ The heads of member states and representatives of international organizations will participate in the various sessions and deliberate on the priority areas of this year's declaration.
- ❖ This year G20 summit starts with the theme of "Building a just and sustainable world".
- ❖ On day 1, the inaugural session the global leaders discussed on the "Global Alliance on Hunger and Poverty", the initiative taken under the Brazilian Presidency.
- ❖ The second session of the on one of the most critical issues of "Reforms of Global Governance Institutions"

About G20

- ❖ The G20 (Group of Twenty) comprises 19 countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Türkiye, United Kingdom and United States) and two regional bodies: the European Union and the African Union (as of 2024).
- ❖ The G20 members represent around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.
- ❖ It was established in 1999,
- ❖ its primary objective is to promote international financial stability and sustainable development by facilitating dialogue among major economies.

India successfully conducts flight test of first long range hypersonic missile

Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO conducted a successful flight-trial of India's first long-range hypersonic missile from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on 16 November 2024.



Key Point

- ❖ This hypersonic missile is designed to carry various payloads for ranges greater than 1,500 km for the Armed Forces.
- ❖ This missile has been indigenously developed by the laboratories of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex, Hyderabad along with various other DRDO laboratories and Industry Partners.
- ❖ The missile was tracked by various range systems, deployed in multiple domains.
- ❖ The flight data obtained from down-range ship stations confirmed the successful terminal manoeuvres and impact with a high degree of accuracy.

Types of Missile

- ❖ Subsonic cruise missiles fly at a speed that is less than sound. It travels at a speed of around 0.8 Mach.
- ❖ Supersonic cruise missile travels at a speed of around 2-3 Mach i.e.; it travels a kilometer approximately in a second.
- ❖ Hypersonic cruise missile travels at a speed of more than 5 Mach. Many

countries are working to develop hypersonic cruise missiles

- ❖ A Mach number is the ratio of the velocity of flow after a specific limit of the speed of sound. Simply put, it is the ratio of the speed of a body to the speed of the sound in the medium.

One Day One Genome

- ❖ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) introduced the 'One Day One Genome' initiative to showcase the enormous microbial potential of India.



Key Point

- ❖ Shri. Amitabh Kant, India's G-20 Sherpa and Former CEO NITI announced the launch of 'One Day One Genome Initiative' on the 1st foundation day of BRIC held in National Institute of Immunology (NII), New Delhi on 9th November 2024
- ❖ This initiative coordinated by Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council-National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (BRIC-NIBMG) an institute of the Department of Biotechnology.

- ❖ This initiative aims to release a fully annotated bacteriological genome isolated in the country freely available to the public. This will be complemented with a detailed graphical summary, infographics and genome assembly/annotation details.
- ❖ Genome sequencing will allow the visualization of the hidden potential of the microbial world to the community at large.

About Microorganism

- ❖ A microorganism is a living organism that is so small that it can only be seen with the aid of a microscope.
- ❖ Fungus that grows on the bread can be seen with a magnifying glass. Bacterial cells are about one hundredth of the size of a human cell and viruses are much smaller.
- ❖ Microorganisms are symbiotically associated with plants and help them in nutrient and water uptake.
- ❖ They are an indispensable part of the human body.
- ❖ There are many more microbial cells than the number of human cells in a human body.
- ❖ They are essential for our digestion, immunity and even mental health. All infectious diseases are mainly caused by pathogenic microorganisms. On the other hand, non-pathogenic microorganisms are

indispensable for our defense against infectious diseases.

Short News

- ❖ The Dubai Sports Council has named former Indian cricketer Harbhajan Singh and tennis star Sania Mirza as its Sports Ambassadors.
- ❖ A Memorandum of Implementation was signed at the Embassy of India, Tokyo on 15 Nov 24 between Govt of India and Govt of Japan, for co-development of UNICORN mast for fitment onboard Ships of Indian Navy.
- ❖ Australia's University of Wollongong has launched its Indian campus at GIFT City in Gujarat.
- ❖ Prajnesh Gunneswaran, the Indian tennis player who secured a bronze medal in singles at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games, has announced his retirement from professional tennis.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh's first transport corridor is being built in Indore.



Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Which of the following countries conferred the national award - "Grand Commander of the Order of Niger" on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi?

- (a) Nigeria
- (b) Iran
- (c) Algeria
- (d) Zimbabwe

Answer- (a)

2. The 19th G20 Summit is held in which of the following countries?

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Brazil
- (c) India
- (d) Australia

Answer- (b)

