



Current Affairs of the Day

SC approves widening of three Char Dham highways

1. The Supreme Court upheld the Government's mandate to broaden three Himalayan highways, considered crucial by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for quick troop build-up along the India-China border.
2. The three National Highways — Rishikesh to Mana, Rishikesh to Gangotri and Tanakpur to Pithoragarh — act as feeder roads to the northern border with China.
3. They are part of the Char Dham Highway project. The highways will now be developed in accordance with the double lane with paved shoulder (DLPS) system.
4. This court in a judicial review cannot second-guess the infrastructural needs of the armed forces, the court said.





15.12.2021 Wednesday



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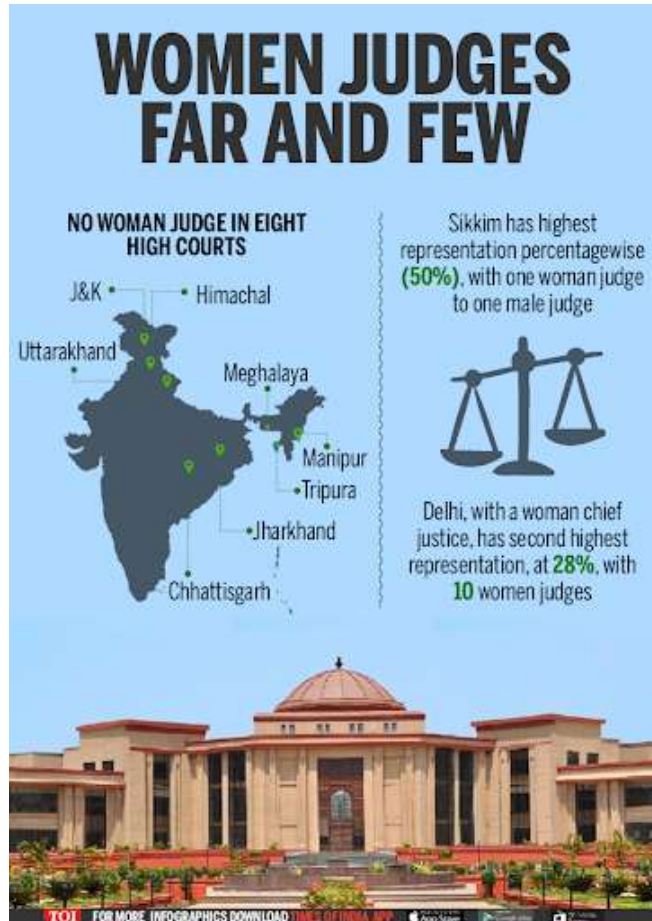
CJI bats for more women judges

1. Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana promised to take up with the Supreme Court Collegium the demand for more women judges.

2. The Supreme Court currently has the highest number of women judges ever in its history. The recommendation of Justice B.V. Nagarathna by the Collegium, led by Chief Justice Ramana, would see the first woman Chief Justice of India.

3. There can be no denying that the inclusion of women as judges and lawyers in the country will substantially improve the justice delivery system. Women can bring a different perspective to the law which will enrich the legal field.

4. Chief Justice Ramana responded by quoting the late U.S. Supreme Court judge, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, to say "women belong in all places where decisions are being made...It shouldn't be that women are the exception".



India votes against UN draft resolution on climate change

1. India voted against a draft resolution at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) linking climate to security, saying it was an attempt to shift climate talks from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to the Security Council and a "step backwards" for collective action on the issue.

2. One of the objectives of the debate was to examine how terrorism and security risks could be linked to climate change.



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3. The reason countries were attempting to bring climate talks to the Security Council was that decisions could be taken without consensus or the involvement of most developing countries, India responded.
4. If the Security Council indeed takes over the responsibility on this issue, a few states will then have a free hand in deciding on all climate-related issues.

Undermining progress

1. Developing and 'least developed countries had worked, over the last two decades, to make "common but differentiated" responsibilities a fundamental tenet of climate action, India noted.
2. Attempt to link climate with security really seeks to obfuscate the lack of progress on critical issues under the UNFCCC process, many of the UNSC members were the primary contributors to climate change.
3. India said developed countries had not met their promises with regard to climate action and called for these countries to provide \$1 trillion in climate finance "at the earliest."
4. India said that climate change may have exacerbated conflicts in the Sahel region and across Africa, and India remained committed to peace and development in those regions, but "viewing conflicts through the prism of climate change" was "misleading" and an oversimplification that could worsen conflicts rather than resolving them.

Celebrating Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's legacy

The people of India will remain forever indebted to the 'great unifier' for his leadership during the freedom struggle and his vision, wisdom, and statesmanship in the post-Independence era.

Patel's Contribution:

1. He actively strengthened the freedom struggle by mobilising people to fly the national flag at public places in 1922-23.

IRON MAN OF INDIA
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
 (31 October 1875 – 15 December 1950)

Played a key role in India's struggle for independence & guided its integration into a united, independent nation.

Organised Kheda Satyagraha and Bardoli Revolt, both of which times the British bowed down.	Elected as Ahmedabad's municipal president in 1922, 1924 and 1927.
Elected President of the Indian National Congress in 1931.	Independent India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister.
Architect of United India post independence.	Conferred with Bharat Ratna (P) in 1991.

1991
 @prasarbharati



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2. The non-violent Bardoli Satyagraha turned out to be a matchless victory for peasants against the mighty British empire. His role in it led women to bestow him with the title of "Sardar".
3. As an uncompromising disciplinarian and advocate for unity, he made remarkable contributions to the 1937 provincial elections, individual Satyagraha, the Quit India Movement.
4. For this, he spent considerable time in prison. As chairman of the Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas of the Constituent Assembly, Patel piloted important sections in the Constitution related to fundamental and minority rights.
5. His meticulous handling of the integration of the princely states in a short time bears testimony to his zeal and steadfastness.
6. In addition to taking on the mammoth task of unification, the Iron Man of India was instrumental in strengthening the steel frame of India — the All India Services.

It is worth realising that the society we inherit owes everything to our forefathers. They worked hard to institutionalise the framework that empowers individuals to grow, attain their potential and scale new heights for the nation as a whole.

MAINS DAWP	<p><i>Q1. Discuss the critical role played by schooling, educational textbooks and exams in value inculcation.</i></p>												
MCQs	<p><i>Q1. Which of the following are correctly matched?</i></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%;">River</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Origin</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td>Bhagirathi</td> <td>Gangotri</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td>Alaknanda</td> <td>Kedarnath</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td>Mandakini</td> <td>Badrinath</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Select the correct answer from the codes given below</i></p> <p>a. 1 only b. 2 and 3 only c. 3 only d. 1, 2 and 3</p>		River	Origin	1	Bhagirathi	Gangotri	2	Alaknanda	Kedarnath	3	Mandakini	Badrinath
	River	Origin											
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THE HINDU

DATA POINT

Over six million **salariéd jobs** lost in November

Although India's unemployment rate decreased in November 2021 compared to October, the underlying data are worrying, according to the **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy**. While the overall unemployment rate fell, it increased in the country's urban regions. Urban jobs provide better wages. The decline of such jobs implies a decline in the overall quality of jobs: In November, the labour force participation rate, (LFPR) the share of employed persons plus those looking for jobs, also decreased. At present, India has an LFPR close to 40%, which is lower than the pre-pandemic figure of around 43%. There was also a fall in the number of salariéd jobs and entrepreneurs. This again points to a deterioration in the quality of employment.



402.1
million

The number of employed persons in November

40.2%

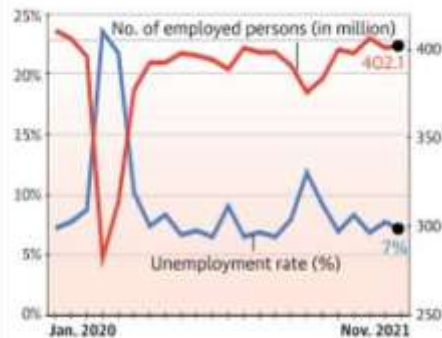
The labour force participation rate in November

6.8
million

The fall in the number of salariéd jobs in November compared to October

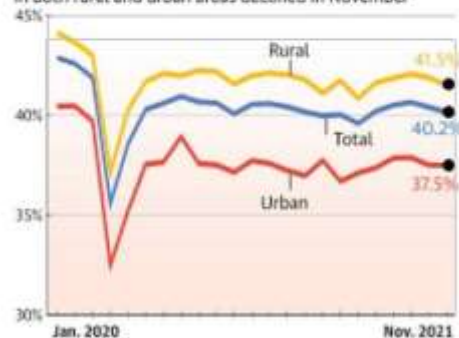
Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate declined to 7% in November from 7.8% in October. The total number of employed persons increased by 1.3 million (from 400.8 million in October to 402.1 million in November 2021)



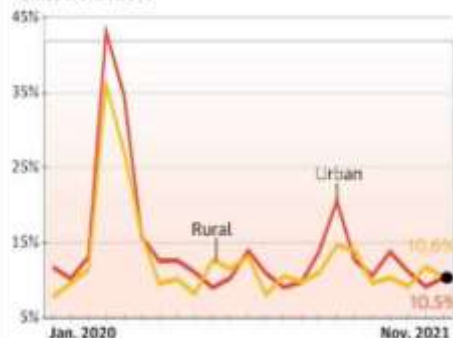
Labour force participation

The labour force participation rate also decreased. It fell to 40.2% in November from 40.4% in October. This is the second consecutive month of a fall in the LFPR after a consistent rise was recorded since July 2021. The LFPR in both rural and urban areas declined in November



Urban and rural

While the overall unemployment rate decreased marginally, it increased in urban areas to 10.5% in November from 9.3% in October. In rural areas, it fell to 10.6% from 11.9%



Source: CMIE

Type of jobs

In November, salariéd jobs fell by 6.8 million and the number of entrepreneurs declined by 3.5 million. However, there was an increase of 11.2 million in jobs among daily wage labourers and small traders. Salaried jobs, at 77.2 million, were 9.7% lower in November 2021 than they were in November 2019

