

**EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 16, 2019**

**TAMIL NADU**

- ◆ **Chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami - announced the split of Vellore district into Vellore, Ranipet and Tirupattur districts on August 15**



- ✓ This takes the total number of districts in Tamil Nadu to 37.
  - ✓ The CM also announced K V Kuppam as a new taluk in the Vellore district
  - ✓ The district currently has 13 taluks and a population of 39,36,331
  - ✓ Vellore district was created in 1989 by bifurcating the erstwhile North Arcot district into Vellore and Tiruvannamalai districts.
  - ✓ In July, the government announced the creation of Tenkasi from Tirunelveli district and Chengalpet from Kancheepuram district.
  - ✓ In January, Villupuram was divided into Villupuram and Kallakurichi districts.
  - ✓ This is the first time that the government has announced five new districts in the short span of eight months.
  - ✓ The CM also declared that November 1 would be celebrated as Tamil Nadu Day to mark the birth of the state on November 1, 1956.
  - ✓ The CM also announced a special CM grievance redressal programme in August and September to redress public grievances within a month
  - ✓ During the independence day speech, the CM also announced the hiking of pension of freedom fighters from ₹15,000 to ₹16,000, pension for their legal heirs from ₹7,500 to ₹8,000 and financial aid of ₹2,000 per month to all Below Poverty Line families in the state
- ◆ **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman K Sivan - was awarded Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award by Tamil Nadu**

## **government for his role in promoting science and technology in the country**



- ✓ K Sivan is a native of Kanniyakumari district of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Popularly known as 'Rocket Man', he graduated from Madras Institute of Technology in 1980
- ✓ He joined Isro after completing his masters degree in aerospace engineering from Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru
- ✓ He has served as the director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre and Liquid Propulsion Centre
- ✓ He was the chief architect of SITARA, a 6D trajectory simulation software
- ✓ He is the proud recipient of several awards including Dr Vikram Sarabhai Research Award (1999)
- ✓ The Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award is conferred for promoting scientific growth, humanities and students' welfare to those who hail from Tamil Nadu
- ✓ It is given on Independence Day every year.
- ✓ The inaugural Kalam award was presented by the then CM Late J Jayalalithaa in 2015 to ISRO scientist N Valarmathi.

## **◆ Regional Meteorological Centre, Nungambakkam - was recently recognised by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), for recording weather data for more than a century and contributing to long-term climate studies.**

- ✓ The Nungambakkam observatory is Asia's oldest and has 100 years of data which is helpful for climate change studies



- ✓ It was among five stations in the country to receive the recognition at the recent executive council meeting of the WMO.
- ✓ The others were at Mumbai (Colaba), Panjim, Goa, Pune and Trivandrum.
- ✓ The Nungambakkam observatory has rainfall records from 1901 and except for a gap of seven years between 1943 and 1950 when it was shut during World War II, it has been tracking weather without a break.

## **NATIONAL**

## **◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi - announced the appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) in his first Independence Day speech of his second term**



- ✓ The Chief of Defence Staff will integrate all three services – the Indian Army, the Air Force and the Indian Navy
- ✓ In effect, the CDS will rank higher than the Army, Navy and IAF chiefs
- ✓ This post was recommended for the first time after the 1999 Kargil War
- ✓ The main objective of the post is to ensure better coordination between all three services.
- ✓ The CDS will be the head and highest-ranked military officer of the country's armed forces
- ✓ He will advise the government on matters related to all three services - Army, Navy and Air Force
- ✓ The Chief of Defence Staff also works as military adviser to the PM on nuclear issues

APPOLLO  
STUDY CENTRE

## 1. WHY INDIA NEEDS A GENERAL NO. 1?

- To provide single-point military advise to government
- Better manage country's strategic resources & nuclear arsenal
- Bring synergy among Army, Navy & IAF by resolving inter-service doctrinal, planning, procurement & operational problems
- Streamline long-term defence planning & procurement process
- Truly integrate Service HQs with defence ministry & reduce civil-military divide

## 2. THE HISTORY

- CDS post strongly recommended by GoM report after the 1999 Kargil conflict, which saw squabbling between Army & IAF
- GoM report stressed the existing chiefs of staff committee (CoSC) had 'revealed serious weaknesses' in its ability to furnish single-point advise
- Many tri-Service organizations subsequently came up but CDS kept in cold storage
- Naresh Chandra Taskforce in 2012 also wanted Permanent Chairman of CoSC (a diluted version of CDS)
- Lt-Gen Shekatkar Committee in 2016 also suggested new 4-star general, apart from 3 chiefs, as 'chief coordinator'

## 3. THE GLOBAL SCENE

- Over 70 countries (the US, UK, France, Germany etc) have CDS-like post for integration in military planning & operations
- US: chairman of joint chiefs of staff is highest-ranking military officer & principal military advisor to President. But chiefs of the unified combatant commands, who handle different parts of the globe, also report directly to political leadership
- China re-organized its 2.3-million People's Liberation Army into five theatre commands in 2016

## 4. WHY INDIA NEEDS THEATRE COMMANDS NEXT?

- Joint commands cost-effective, save resources & prepare forces for integrated land-air-sea operations
- India has 17 single-Service commands (Army 7, IAF 7 & Navy 3)
- But only 2 joint commands for Andaman & Nicobar Command (theatre) & Strategic Forces Command (handles nuclear weapons)

- ✓ The creation of the position of CDS was strongly recommended by both the Kargil Review Committee in 1999 as well as the L K Advani-led group of ministers' report in 2001
- ✓ In 2012, the Naresh Chandra Taskforce recommended a permanent chairman of the chief of staff committee (PC-CoSC) — a diluted version of the CDS — with a fixed two-year tenure
- ✓ The CoSC currently comprises the three service chiefs, with the seniormost among them acting as its ex-officio chairman till he retires.
- ✓ The present Air Chief Marshal (ACM) B.S. Dhanoa took over as the Chairman, COSC on May 31 from outgoing Navy Chief Adm Sunil Lanba

- ✓ After his retirement on September 30, 2019, Army Chief Gen Bipin Rawat will be appointed as the next Chairman of COSC

◆ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - announced the launch of 'Jal Jeevan Mission' to bring piped water to households within the next five years during his independence day speech from Red fort**



- ✓ The mission, which will be coordinated by Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, would cost more than Rs.3.5 lakh crore in the coming years.
- ✓ It seeks to integrate with other Central and State Government Schemes to achieve the objectives of sustainable water supply management across India.
- ✓ It focusses upon the involvement of people in creating local infrastructure for source sustainability such as groundwater recharge, rainwater harvesting, and management of household wastewater for agricultural reuse.
- ✓ In July 2019, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that government has identified 1592 Blocks (spread across 256 districts), which are over-exploited, for centre's Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA)
- ✓ The Government has also created a 'Jal shakti' ministry to achieve the target of providing piped water to all households by 2024.

◆ **Air India - hoisted its Boeing 777 aircraft over the North Pole to become the first Indian airline to operate commercial flights overflying the polar region**



- ✓ Its Delhi-San Francisco flight, which usually overflies the Atlantic or the Pacific ocean, cut across latitudes instead to fly over zero degree north
- ✓ Delhi-San Francisco flight AI-173 lifted with about 243 passengers on board, overflew Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Russia and overflew the North Pole to cross over to the other side of planet Earth.
- ✓ AI's Delhi-SFO, launched in December 2015, might be the only flight in the world which has three routing options that take it over the Atlantic or Pacific or the North Pole

## **INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES**

◆ **Saudi Arabia - regains the position of being the biggest supplier of oil to India, world's fastest-growing oil market.**

- ✓ Saudi Arabia, which traditionally has been India's top oil source, lost the slot to Iraq during the last two financial years
- ✓ Saudi Arabia in 2018-19 exported 40.33 million tonnes of crude oil to India, over 15% short of the 46.61 million tonnes sold by Iraq

- ✓ It has to be recalled that Saudi Arabian Oil Co (Aramco) is buying a 20% stake in Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) with an enterprise valuation of \$75 billion
- ✓ The deal also covers the supply of 500,000 barrels per day or 25 million tonnes a year of crude oil
- ✓ Additional oil supplies following the Reliance deal will catapult Saudi Arabia to top spot again

## SPORTS

### ◆ **Virat Kohli - has become the first batsman to score 20,000 international runs across all the three formats in a decade**



- ✓ He achieved this feat during his match-winning hundred against the West Indies in the third ODI match on August 14
- ✓ Overall, he has scored 20,502 runs till now, out of which he has scored 20,018 runs in the ongoing decade
- ✓ Former Australian cricketer Ricky Ponting held the record for scoring most international runs in a decade with 18,962 to his credit in the 2000s
- ✓ Virat Kohli also scored the fastest 10,000 runs in international cricket as a captain in 176 innings
- ✓ Earlier this record Ricky Ponting was holding this record that had done it in 225 innings

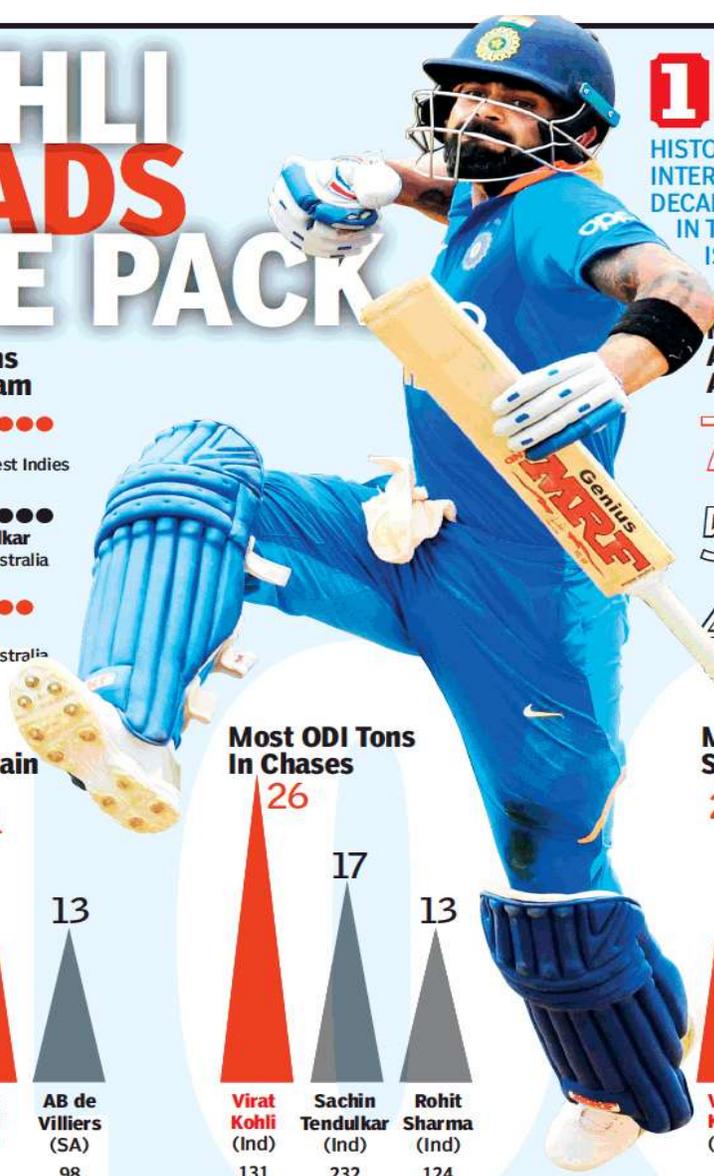
### ◆ **Chepauk Super Gillies – wins the fourth edition of Tamil Nadu Premier League**



- ✓ Chepauk Super Gillies' G Periyasamy took 5 for 15 to help his side beat Dindigul Dragons by 12 runs at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on August 15
- ✓ The win marks the second title victory in three years for the Super Gillies after their win in 2017
- ✓ It also marks a second defeat in the final for Dindigul Dragons in two years
- ✓ He was named the Man of the match in the final

## 20,000 RUNS FOR CAPTAIN KOHLI – A REPORT

# KOHLI LEADS THE PACK



**1** VIRAT KOHLI HAS BECOME THE ONLY BATSMAN IN CRICKET HISTORY TO SCORE 20,000 INTERNATIONAL RUNS IN A DECADE. THE NEXT HIGHEST IN THIS DECADE (2010-19) IS HASHIM AMLA (15, 185 RUNS)

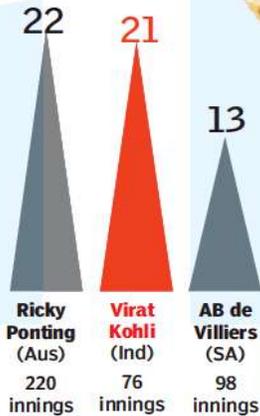
## Most ODI Tons Against A Team

- 9** ●●●●●●●●●●  
**Virat Kohli**  
Opponent – West Indies  
35 innings
- 9** ●●●●●●●●●●  
**Sachin Tendulkar**  
Opponent – Australia  
70 innings
- 8** ●●●●●●●●●●  
**Virat Kohli**  
Opponent – Australia  
35 innings

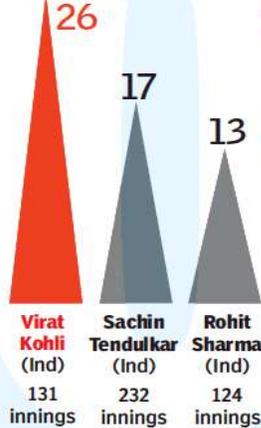
## Most ODI Tons As Captain Against A Team

- 7** ●●●●●●●●●●  
**Virat Kohli (Ind)**  
Opponent – West Indies  
14 innings
- 5** ●●●●●●●●●●  
**Ricky Ponting (Aus)**  
Opponent – New Zealand  
34 innings
- 4** ●●●●●●●●●●  
**AB de Villiers (SA)**  
Opponent – India  
11 innings

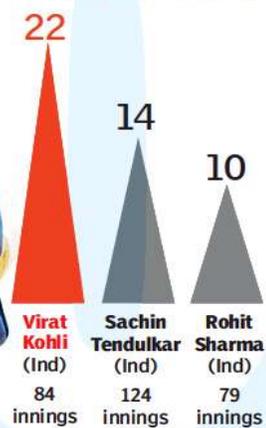
## Most ODI Tons As Captain



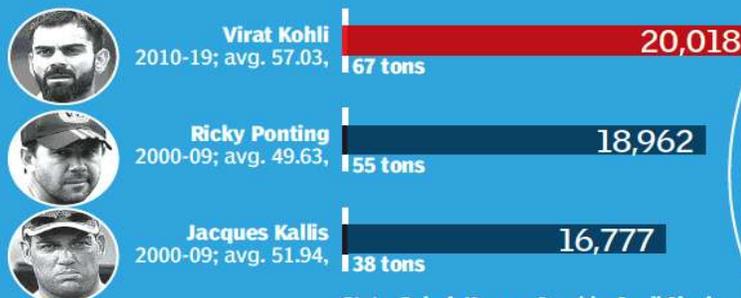
## Most ODI Tons In Chases



## Most ODI Tons In Successful Chases



## Most International Runs In A Decade (Tests + ODIs + T20Is)



# 8

Times Virat Kohli has won the **Player of the Series** award in ODIs, making him **joint 4th** on the all-time list. The record belongs to **Sachin Tendulkar (14)** followed by Sanath Jayasuriya (11), Shaun Pollock (9), Virat Kohli & Chris Gayle (8)

Stats: Rajesh Kumar; Graphic: Sunil Singh

# WINNERS OF TAMIL NADU CHIEF MINISTER'S INDEPENDENCE DAY AWARDS - REPORT

- ✓ **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Award** - K Sivan, chairperson, Indian Space Research Organisation
- ✓ **Kalpana Chawla Award** - P Ramyalakshmi, assistant director of fisheries (marine), Cuddalore, for courage and daring enterprise
- ✓ **CM's special award for extraordinary act of bravery** - P Shanmugavelu and Senthamarai of Tirunelveli



- ✓ **CM's best practices**
  - ✓ Greater Chennai Police commissionerate - for installing CCTV cameras and using 'Facetagr App' for crime detection
  - ✓ Department of rural development and Panchayat Raj - for Naganathi River Rejuvenation Project in Vellore district
  - ✓ Department of commercial taxes - for developing a mobile app and launching 24x7 help desk to assist migration to GST
  - ✓ Certificate of appreciation to Greater Chennai Corporation - for establishing Infinity Park at Santhome as a pilot project for creating sensory parks for differently-abled children
- ✓ **Best institution for differently-abled** - Opportunity School for Intellectually Disabled, Vepery, Chennai
- ✓ **Best doctor** - Dr S Vetrivel Chezian, Institute of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Government Coimbatore Medical College Hospital
  - ✓ Dr V Ramadevi, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Government Kilpauk Medical College Hospital, Chennai
- ✓ **Best Private Employer Award** - Everest Stabilizers Pvt. Ltd.
- ✓ **Best Social Worker Award** - Chandra Prasad of Pathway
- ✓ **Best cooperative Bank award** - Salem District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd
- ✓ **Best services rendered towards the welfare of women** - M. Soosai Marian
- ✓ **Best institution for serving of women** - Bothimaram in Salem district
- ✓ **Chief Minister's State Youth Award** - P. Naveenkumar of Namakkal district, M. Anandakumar of Dindigul district and R. Kalaivani of Madurai district
- ✓ **Best Corporation** - Salem Municipality
- ✓ **Best Municipalities**
  - ✓ **First prize** – Dharmapuri
  - ✓ **Second prize** - Vedaranyam
  - ✓ **Third prize** - Aranthangi

## **50 YEARS OF ISRO – A REPORT**

◆ **August 15, India's 73rd Independence Day, also marks the golden jubilee year for Isro, which was founded on this day in 1969.**

- ✓ The year also marks the centenary year of Vikram Sarabhai, the father of the Indian space programme.
- ✓ India's space journey began after Dr Vikram Sarabhai formed Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) in 1962
- ✓ In 1969, INCOSPAR was renamed as ISRO (Indian Space Research organisation).

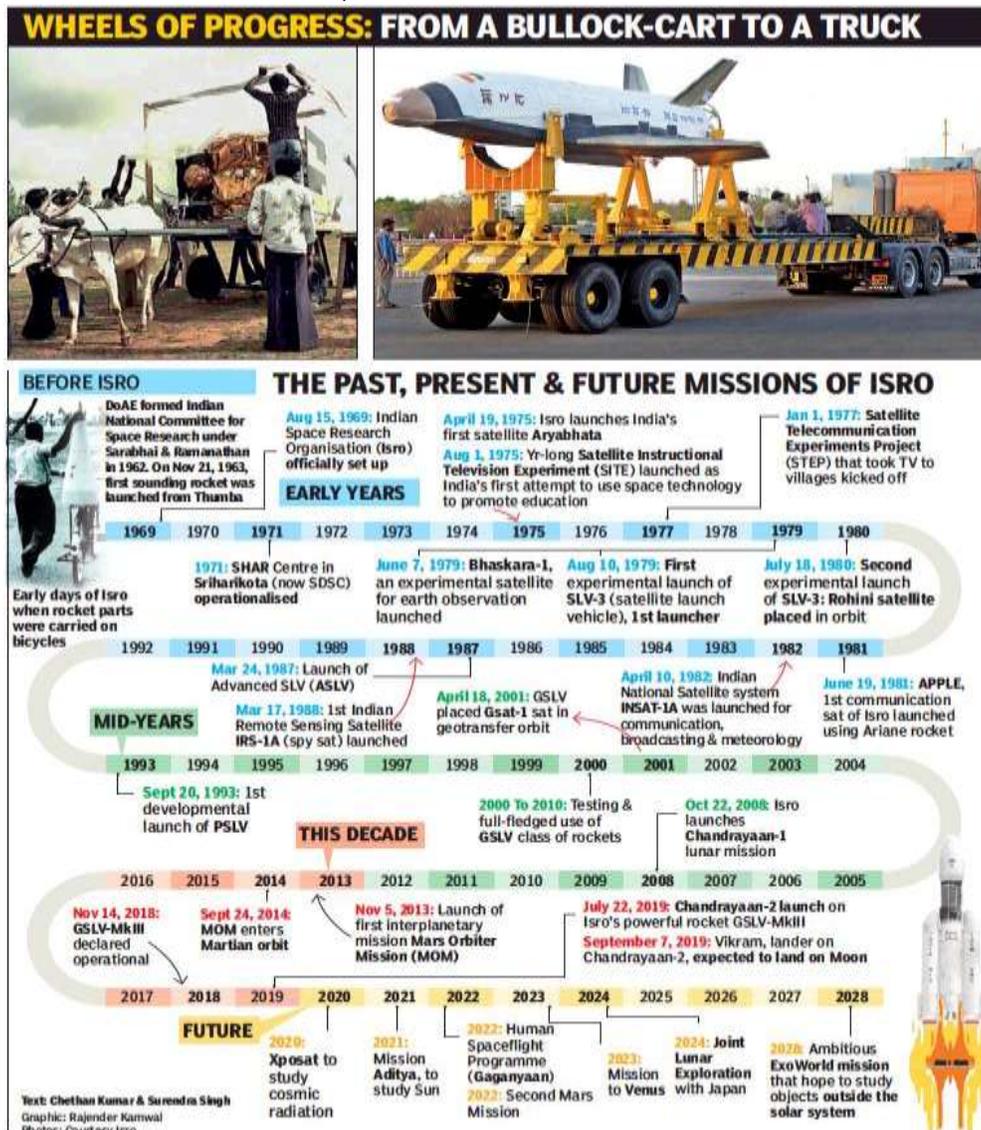
**Isro's achievements**

- ✓ **Apr 19, 1975**
  - ✓ ISRO built India's first satellite, Aryabhata, which was launched by the Soviet Union on April 19, 1975
- ✓ **Jul 18, 1980**
  - ✓ Rohini became the first satellite to be placed into orbit by an Indian-made launch vehicle, SLV-3
- ✓ **May 20, 1992**
  - ✓ Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) & Insat - 2A were launched by ISRO
- ✓ **Oct 22, 2008**
  - ✓ ISRO sent an unmanned lunar orbiter, Chandrayaan-1, into orbit.
  - ✓ The spacecraft carried 11 scientific instruments built in India, USA, UK, Germany, Sweden and Bulgaria.
  - ✓ The mission was concluded when the communication with the spacecraft was lost on August 29, 2009.
- ✓ **Sep 09, 2012**
  - ✓ ISRO's 100th space mission was successfully launched using PSLV-C21 rocket, by placing two foreign satellites in earth's orbit
- ✓ **Nov 5, 2013**
  - ✓ India launched Mars Orbiter Mission on 5 November 2013 and entered Mars' orbit on 24 September, 2014, making India the first nation to succeed on its maiden attempt to Mars
  - ✓ ISRO became the fourth space agency in the world, as well as the first space agency in Asia, to reach the Mars orbit
- ✓ **Feb 15, 2017**
  - ✓ On 15 February 2017, ISRO launched 104 satellites in a single rocket (PSLV-C37), a world record
  - ✓ ISRO launched its heaviest rocket, Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle-Mark III (GSLV-Mk III), on 5 June, 2017 and placed a communications satellite GSAT-19 into the orbit
- ✓ **Nov 14, 2018**

- ✓ ISRO successfully launched GSAT-29 satellite from Sriharikota, the heaviest satellite weighing at 3,423 kg aims at providing better communication for remote areas of country.

✓ **Jul 22, 2019**

- ✓ On 22 July, 2019, India launched GSLV-Mk III, India's second moon mission 'Chandrayaan-2'
- ✓ Chandrayaan-2 is India's first space mission that will conduct a soft landing on the moon's south polar region.
- ✓ The mission will make India 4th country to soft land rover on the surface of the moon after Russia, America and China.



- ✓ In the past three years, ISRO has launched 239 commercial satellites helping ISRO'S commercial arm, Antrix Corporation, garner Rs 6,289 crore revenue.

