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History, Art and Culture

162nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Ayyankali

• He is a social reformer from Pulaya caste.
• **Birth –** 1863, in erstwhile *princely state of Travancore*.
• **Contributions –** He fought against *caste-based oppression and social inequality* and opened a school.
• **Organised –** The *Villuvandi (ox-cart) journey and 'Kallumala' struggle,* dealt a severe blow to upper caste dominance.
• **Found –** *Sadhu Jana Paripalana Sangham* (Association for the Protection of the Poor), inspired by Sree Narayana Guru.

Economy

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY

• It is a government-led *financial inclusion initiative.*
• **Launched in –** 2014, by Ministry of Finance.
• **Aim –** To provide *universal access to banking facilities* for all households in the country, especially the unbanked.
• **Services –** It offers basic zero balance savings accounts, remittance services, access to credit, insurance, pensions at affordable costs & Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT).
• **Business correspondents –** To provide a minimum monthly remuneration of Rs 5,000.

SCOPE Eminence Awards

• **Instituted by –** Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) with Department of Public Enterprises (DPE).
• **Aim –** To commemorate the remarkable achievements and contributions of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) across multiple domains.

Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE)

• It is an apex body of Public Sector Enterprises.
• **Started in –** 1973 by Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), Ministry of Finance.
• **Objectives –** To promote competitiveness and excellence amongst its members.
• To enhance their efficiencies and operational capacities with the help of conducive policies and strategies.

Security

Emerging Leaders Panel Discussion

• **Held at –** Southern Naval Command, Kochi.
• **Conducted by –** Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), Ministry of Defence.
• **Delegates from –** 19 member countries.
• **Aim –** To provide an inclusive platform for young naval leaders to exchange ideas, share experiences, and deliberate on the future of maritime cooperation in the *Indian Ocean Region*.
• **4 thematic sessions –**
- Strategic importance of the Indian Ocean Region & the challenges faced from the perspective of young officers.
- Emerging technologies in maritime security.
- Future role of IONS in fostering collaboration towards maritime security.
- Harnessing training capabilities amongst IONS countries “Future Road Map”.

Science

Independent Drive Test (IDT)

• **Conducted by –** Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).
• **Aim –** To evaluate the *quality of mobile voice and data services* provided by various telecom operators within a licensed service area.
• **Key Parameters -**
- **Voice Services –** Call Setup Success Rate, Drop Call Rate, Call Setup Time, Call Silence Rate, Speech Quality, Coverage.
- **Data Services –** Download/Upload Throughput, Latency, Jitter, Packet Drop Rate, and Video Streaming Delay.

Advance India's Digital Addressing System

• **MoU between –** Department of Posts & MapmyIndia's Mappls.
• **Nodal ministry –** Ministry of Communications.
• **Objectives –** To utilize MapmyIndia's mapping platform and products to support the development and implementation of DIGIPIN.
• To enhance visibility for users and enable accurate generation of geographic location.
• To allow users to search for and navigate to locations.

DIGIPIN

• It is a nationwide *geo-coded addressing system* in India.
• **Developed by –** Department of post with IIT Hyderabad.
• **Division –** It divides India into approximately 4m*4m grids and assigns each grid *a unique 10-character alphanumeric code* based on *latitude and longitude coordinates*.
• **Aim –** To simplify the addressing system for public and private services, improving logistics efficiency and emergency response capabilities.

Miscellaneous

National Sports Day

• **Observed annually on –** 29th August.
• **Organised by –** Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with Fit India Mission.
• **Theme –** "Sport to Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies".
• **Tribute to –** Major Dhyan Chand.
• **Aim –** To promote sports and fitness among citizens, especially the youth.

Major Dhyan Chand

• He also known as the *"Hockey Wizard".*
• **Born on –** 29 August 1905.
• **Olympic gold medals –** In hockey in 1928, 1932, and 1936.
• **Recognition –** Government of India declared his birthday as *National Sports Day* to inspire future generations.

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