

SHIKSHA BY SWATHIKA-AN IAS ACADEMY

Govt. Job is Not Anymore A Dream!

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ACADEMY**

TAMIL NADU CURRENT AFFAIRS

JAN 2022 – DEC 2022

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1. SIRPI SCHEME - CM launches scheme to instill discipline, awareness in students

1. Under SIRPI, nearly 5,000 students will get sports, parade and fitness training.
2. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched the 'Students in Responsible Police Initiatives' (SIRPI) for students of 100 State-run schools.
3. About 5,000 Class VIII students are expected to benefit from the scheme.
4. Under SIRPI, over 2,700 boys and 2,200 girls (on a voluntary basis) from 100 government schools in Chennai would report to nodal officers every Wednesday.
5. Two nodal officers have been appointed in each of these schools.
6. The students would be offered classes in physical fitness, sports and parades, among others, by police officers and experts.
7. The students would be provided a booklet and food during the classes. They would be taken on camping trips to eight tourist spots.
8. SIRPI aims to inculcate discipline and social awareness among students.
9. In his speech after launching the scheme, Mr. Stalin said there was a need to create awareness among students on the ill effects of drugs and alcoholism.
10. The initiative would create awareness among students on law and help them establish contact with government and non-governmental organisations, he added.

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11. Self-discipline, obedience to parents and adherence to traffic rules are among the ideals that are to be inculcated in the students, Mr. Stalin said.
12. He had announced in the Assembly that SIRPI would be implemented at a cost of 4.25 crore, and 50 students each from 100 government schools were expected to benefit from it.
13. Mr. Stalin said lack of attention from family members, lack of family income, lack of support, and unemployment were among the reasons for children getting involved in offences.
14. The Chief Minister also administered a pledge to SIRPI volunteers and handed over appointment orders to nodal officers.

2. Sahitya Academy award – Tamil



1. Ambai has won this year's Sahitya Akademi award.
2. She has been awarded for her short story collection Sivappu Kazhuthudan Oru Patchaiparavai.
3. Ambai is the fourth woman writer from Tamil Nadu to get the award. Her original name is C.S. Lakshmi.
4. Tamil writer Mu Murugesu bagged the Bala Sahitya Puraskar for his collection of short stories.

5. The name of the book is ‘Ammavukku Magal Sonna Ulagin Mudhal Kadhai’.

3.New Draft Policy for Women 2021

1. The state of Tamil Nadu has released its “New Draft Policy for Women 2021” on December 29, 2021.
2. This policy will be implemented for more than five years. The new policy provides for martial arts training for school and college girls.
3. It talks about 50 more person-days for all single-headed households and womenheaded households under MGNREGS.
4. The Women will also get 33.3% representation in registered parties.
5. Scope of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya will be extended specifically in educationally backward blocks, to cover adolescent girls aged up to 19 years of age.
6. This move will help them in completing their school education.
7. The policy also aims to support at least 1,000 women student researchers from disadvantaged sections of society each year, particularly in STEM subjects.

4.3rd National Water Awards 2020

1. Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat declared the winners of the 3rd National Water Awards 2020.
2. Tamil Nadu secured the third prize in the Best State Category.
3. Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan bagged first and second prizes respectively.

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1. The Tamil Nadu government announced that K. Thirunavukkarasu, a historian documenting the Dravidian movement, and the retired Madras High Court judge, K. Chandru, would be honored with the Thanthai Periyar Award for Social Justice and the Dr. Ambedkar Award for 2021 respectively.
2. Mr. Thirunavukkarasu's work, Needhi Katchi Varalaru, documents in two volumes the history of the Justice Party since its founding in 1916 until it was named Dravidar Kazhagam in 1944.
3. He has also been commended for his works, Dravida Iyakka Vergal and Dravida Iyakka Thoongal.
4. He is fondly called the mobile encyclopedia of the Dravidian movement. Mr. Chandru has delivered judgments in over 96,000 cases during his service.
5. The Tamil Nadu government has every year been honoring those who have made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of social justice with the Thanthai Periyar Award.
6. The Ambedkar Award is given to an eminent personality who has contributed to the socio-economic and educational development of the Adi Dravidar community.
7. The cash component of the awards was hiked from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh this year by Chief Minister MK Stalin.

8. Reservation of seats in Urban Bodies

1. In a significant decision, the Tamil Nadu Government issued orders to reserve the Chennai Mayor post for a woman belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC).
2. It also reserved the Mayor posts in Tambaram and Avadi Municipal Corporations for SC (Women) and SC (General) respectively.
3. This will be the first time a woman from the SC community will be elected as Mayor of the Greater Chennai Corporation

when “indirect elections” are held for the urban local bodies this year.

4. All three municipal corporations in and around the State capital would be held by members of the SC community - two of them women.
5. The Mayor posts in nine Corporations - Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Erode, Kancheepuram, Karur, Madurai, Sivakasi, and Vellore have been reserved for Women (General) candidates.
6. The State government also reserved the post of chairperson of 10 municipalities to SC (General) candidates, 10 Municipalities to SC (Women), one Municipality to a woman from the Scheduled Tribes (ST), and 58 others to Women (General).
7. It also reserved 288 chairperson posts in town panchayats - two for ST (Women), one for ST (General), 43 for SC (Women), 42 for SC (General), and 200 for Women (General).

9. Fourth Police Commission

1. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has issued orders to constitute the Fourth Police Commission.
2. He has named retired Madras High Court judge, C.T. Selvam, to lead the panel.
3. This is the first time a retired judge heads the police commission in Tamilnadu.
4. Retired IAS officer K. Alauddin, retired IPS officer K. Radhakrishnan, Dr. C. Rama subramaniam, and retired Professor Nalini Rao are the other members of the panel.
5. Senior IPS office Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal will function as the panel’s MemberSecretary.
6. The Police Commission will extensively examine measures towards the welfare of police personnel and various other

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aspects related to policing and will submit its recommendations within a timeframe.

10. Semmozhi Tamil Awards

1. The awards were presented by the Kalignar M. Karunanidhi Tamil Aaivu Arakkatalai.
2. The awards were presented to those who excelled in archaeology, the study of stone inscriptions, coins, literature, fictional literature, research in literature, translation, and fine arts.
3. The awards were not presented for 10 years between 2010 and 2019.
4. The awards were given to
 - a) Professor Pon. Kothandaraman (2011)
 - b) Professor E. Sundamoorthy (2012)
 - c) Professor Pa. Marudhanayagam in (2013)
 - d) Professor Ku. Mohanarasu (2014)
 - e) Professor Maraimalai Ilakkuvanar in (2015)
 - f) Ka. Rajan in (2016) Kavignar Erode Tamilanban (2018)
 - g) Ku. Sivamani (2019)
5. Two winners - Dr. V. S. Rajam in 2010 and Professor Ulrich Nicholas will receive the awards at a later time

11. Raoul Wallenberg Prize

1. Arokiasamy Vincent Raj, better known as "Evidence" Kathir has been selected to be the recipient of the 2022 Raoul Wallenberg Prize.
2. He was selected for his work with the Madurai-based organization Evidence, founded and headed by him. 35 Evidence works to defend the rights of Dalit and tribal people in Tamil Nadu.

3. In recognition of their work, the European Council has conferred Kathir with Raoul Wallenberg Prize.
4. The Raoul Wallenberg Prize came about through the joint efforts of the Swedish government and the Hungarian Parliament.
5. It is awarded in memory of Raoul Wallenberg for his efforts to save Jewish lives during the Holocaust and World War 2.

12. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve

1. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (Erode district, Tamil Nadu) has been given the prestigious TX2 award after its tiger numbers doubled to 80 since 2010.
2. Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuary was declared a tiger reserve in 2013.
3. It is an important link between the Nilgiris and Eastern Ghats landscape.
4. The Nilgiri biosphere landscape that this reserve is part of is currently the home to the largest tiger population in the world.
5. TX2 award acknowledges the efforts by the State governments and the local communities which have played one of the most important roles to turn a relatively new tiger reserve into one of the source populations of tigers in India.
6. Apart from the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, the Bardia National Park in Nepal has won this year's TX2 award for doubling the population of wild tigers.

13. Draft policy for senior citizens

1. The Tamil Nadu Government has created a draft policy for senior citizens.
2. Under the policy, the government plans to work with academic institutions, field experts, and civil society organizations.

2. Governor RN Ravi had recently returned the "Tamil Nadu Admission to Undergraduate Medical Degree Courses Bill" to the Assembly.
3. He said that it goes against the interests of students hailing from poor economic backgrounds.
4. It is for the first time in its 70-year history that the Tamil Nadu Assembly is unanimously re-adopting the same draft of a bill without amendments.
5. Now that the Tamil Nadu Assembly has passed the same Bill again, the Tamil Nadu Governor cannot reject it for the second time.
6. The Governor has to give his assent and send it to the President.
7. The Bill requires the President's assent before it can become a law.

16. Tamil Nadu poverty reduction

1. Tamil Nadu is considered the best-administered State in terms of implementation of schemes.
2. All the three editions of NITI Aayog had one common feature of Tamil Nadu finishing on top with regard to Goal 1 "No Poverty."

17. T.N. Neutrino Observatory

1. Tamil Nadu has told the Supreme Court that it does not want the Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO) to be built in a vulnerable ecological zone in the Western Ghats, at the cost of wildlife and biodiversity, along with local opposition and public outcry against the project.
2. The proposal for the observatory, according to the Tamil Nadu government, would create permanent damage to the Western Ghats.

3. According to the State, this corridor connects the Periyar Tiger Reserve on the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border and the Mathikettan Shola National Park.
4. The project area also has ecological ties to the Srivilliputhur Meghamalai Tiger Reserve, which is located in the eastern habitats.

18. Marine Elite Force – Tamilnadu

1. Two units of Marine Elite Force will be set up in the State.
2. This is to combat marine wildlife crimes, including smuggling, prevention, and poaching of marine animals, particularly in the Gulf of Mannar biosphere and Palk Bay.
3. The primary objective is to strengthen the protection and sustainable management of the marine areas and watch out for disasters affecting marine and coastal wildlife

19. Panruti Cashews GI tag

1. The Tamil Nadu Cashew Processors and Exporters Association has applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Panruti cashews.
2. Panruti cashew is mainly cultivated in laterite, red and coastal sands

20. Palk Bay Dugong Reserve

1. Tamil Nadu government has begun work to set up the first Dugong Conservation Reserve of India in the Palk Bay region.
2. Dugongs are endangered species and are protected under the Wildlife Protection Act's, 1972 Schedule 1.
3. The size of the reserve will be spread over around 500 sq km and will be located in Palk Bay's northern part from Adiramapattinam to Amapattinam.

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4. Dugongs are also known as Sea Cows

21.Ambulance for street animals

1. India's first ambulance for street animals has been launched in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
2. It has been started by the Blue Cross of India in collaboration with the international animal welfare organization "Four Paw".
3. The Stray Animal Care programme will be a "hospital on wheels" with an onboard veterinarian to provide on-site treatment to injured and sick street animals.

22.Top borrower state - TN

1. The Tamil Nadu government has been the top borrower among States in the current fiscal 2022.
2. Overall, the State has raised ₹65,400 crores through the issuance of bonds called State Development Loans (SDLs) in April-February 2022.
3. It is about 18% lower than the ₹79,500 crore raised during the same period in fiscal 2021.
4. After Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal are the top borrowing States.

23.Rectangular ivory dice

1. A rectangular dice made of ivory measuring 4.5 cm was recovered during the eighth phase of archaeological excavations in Keeladi.
2. This is the first time that the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology has stumbled upon a rectangular dice after it took over the excavations from the fourth phase in Keeladi.

24.Reservation to transgenders

1. The Madras High Court strongly recommended to the Tamil Nadu government to provide a specified percentage of special reservation for the Transgenders/Third Genders (TGs) in future public employments.
2. This was recommended apart from other relaxations and concessions extended to the socially and economically backward classes.

25.Overall Installed Renewable Capacity - TN

1. According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Tamil Nadu (TN) has achieved the first position in overall installed renewable energy capacity in India surpassing Karnataka.
2. As of 31st January 2022, TN's total installed renewable capacity stood at 15,914 MegaWatt.
3. Karnataka's total clean energy capacity was 15,795 MW.
4. In recent years, Tamil Nadu has increased its capacity across solar and wind segments to regain its top position against Karnataka.

26. Excavation at Maligaimedu

1. A broken piece of bracelet made of gold and copper, a brick structure, and Chinese potsherds were unearthed in Ariyalur.
2. These were found during the second phase of excavation at the southern part of Maligaimedu near Gangaikondacholapuram.
3. The broken bracelet, weighing 7.920 grams and 4 mm thick, and made of copper and gold was the first remnant excavated from the site.

4. Objects made of gold and other metals combined indicate that there was a royal palace here.

27.India's first furniture park

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin laid the foundation stone for India's first international furniture park at Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu.
2. The park seeks to create a better ecosystem to meet 70-80 percent of the raw material demand.

28.Floating solar project in Tamilnadu

1. A floating solar project at Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu has been set up by leading fertilizer manufacturer Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd.
2. The unit is claimed to be India's largest and first floating power plant in Tamil Nadu.
3. Greenam Energy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of AM International, owns this project.
4. Yearly, this plant can generate 42.0 million units of electricity.

29.Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd

1. Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd. (TPL) has received the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification for its product linear alkylbenzene (LAB) from the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
2. With the BIS certification, TPL emerges as the only authorized seller of LAB in the Indian market.
3. It has also become the world's first LAB manufacturer accredited with BIS 12795:2020 certification.

30. Spotted Royal butterfly

1. The Spotted Royal (*Tajuria maculata*) butterfly was rediscovered again in the Nilgiris district.
2. It has not been recorded in the Nilgiris for over a century.

31. Tamil Nadu Data Policy

1. Aiming to harness data for effective decision-making, the Tamil Nadu government has formulated the Tamil Nadu Data Policy, 2022.
2. It is expected to support policy-making, improve implementation of schemes, encourage value-added services, improve access to and quality of services

32. Tamilnadu Budget 2022 – highlights

1. The revenue deficit has been brought down by ₹ 7,000 crores from 4.61 per cent to 3.80 per cent.
2. The revenue deficit which has been going up in an alarming trend since 2014 will be reversed this year.
3. The revised budget estimate had pegged the revenue deficit at ₹58,692.68 crores for 2021-22.
4. Tamil Nadu's outstanding debt as of 31st March 2023 will be ₹6,53,348.73 crore.
5. This constitutes 26.29% of Gross State Domestic Product in 2022-23.
6. The fiscal deficit also will see a reduction from 4.61 per cent last year to 3.8 per cent.
7. For the third consecutive year, the school education department has been accorded the highest allocation in the State Budget, at Rs 36,895.89 crore.

Important initiatives

1. The earlier 'Thalikku Thangam' scheme, which provided gold and financial assistance for women's marriages, has been reshaped into a higher education assurance scheme.
2. ₹5 crores have been allocated to translate Periyar's writings and works in other languages.
3. To provide quality mental health services, the government has planned to establish a Tamil Nadu Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, by upgrading the Institute of Mental Health (IMH), Kilpauk, Chennai.
4. The New museums will be built this year in Villupuram and Ramanathapuram districts at an estimated cost of ₹10 crores.
5. It has decided to set up a Children's Nature Park to house birds, butterflies and animals by remodelling the Guindy Children's Park.
6. The State government has allocated ₹10 crores towards upgrading the disaster early warning system in Chennai. ⚡ This is the first such initiative set up by the state government in India.
7. To motivate government school students to aspire to join premier higher education institutions like IIT, IISc & AIIMS, the Tamil Nadu government will bear the full cost of undergraduate education of students who studied in government schools from classes 6-12.
8. The Tamil Nadu government will revive and implement the Maduravoyal - Chennai Port Elevated Corridor Project. ⚡ The Special Social Media Monitoring Cells would be set up in the state.
9. It is to battle fake news and misinformation on social media platforms.

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10. In order to commemorate the 200th birth anniversary of a famous Tamil saint and poet Ramalinga Adigal, or Vallalar, the government will launch 'Vallalar Palluyir Kappagangal' scheme, that will help NGOs take care of abandoned animals.
11. The tribal on-site museum at Courtallam in Tenkasi district, the pre-historic onsite museum at Poondi in Tiruvallur district and the Hero-Stone on-site museum in Dharmapuri district will be upgraded.
12. Under the 'Climate-Friendly Modernisation of Buses in Major Cities of Tamil Nadu' Project being implemented with Germany's KfW bank assistance, 2,213 BS-VI new diesel buses and 500 new electric buses will be procured.

MSME sector

- 1) It has hiked the allocation for Micro, Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (MSMEs) Department by almost 48%.
- 2) With a view of helping micro enterprises' clusters, it would launch a new "Micro Cluster Development Programme".
- 3) The Budget has announced an allocation of ₹50 crores for the development of 20 microclusters, including artificial jewellery making by Narikuruvars in Kancheepuram district, toy cluster in Madurai district, the cookware cluster in Tirunelveli district and cashew processing cluster in Cuddalore district.
- 4) Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation will be set up in Coimbatore.
- 5) The government would set up new industrial parks in Coimbatore, Perambalur, Madurai, Vellore and Tiruvallur districts to promote widespread industrial development.
- 6) For the manufacturing of electronic products, two exclusive clusters will be established at Pillaipakkam and Manallur.

- 7) In order to ease traffic movement and to regulate the parking of heavy vehicles, Truck Terminal Facilities at Cheyyar and Gummidipoondi will be constructed.
- 8) Reserving 5% of all government divisible procurement for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs is another significant initiative.

33. Tamil Nadu Agriculture Budget

1. Tamil Nadu Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister MRK Paneerselvam presented his first full-fledged Agricultural Budget 2022-2023.
2. The state has increased the agricultural land area to 53.50 lakh acres.
3. Further, the state allotted Rs 400 crore for organic farming and also decided to implement special schemes to enhance millet production.
4. The state is set to provide Rs 1 lakh to 200 educated youngsters for starting up agriculture-related businesses.
5. Tamil nadu will launch State Agricultural Development Plan for Rs 71 crore.
6. The State is to increase subsidy for SC/ST farmers by 20% and Rs 5 crore has been allotted for the purpose.
7. Special zones are to be set up for cultivation of Toor dal in Salem and Krishnagiri.
8. New soil testing center is to be set up in Mayiladuthurai for Rs 75 lakh.
9. Tamilnadu allotted Rs 5,157 crore for providing free electricity to farmers.
10. The NPKR Ramasamy Coop Sugar Mills to be reopened in Mayiladuthurai
11. Rs 2 crore has been allotted for reviving cultivation of traditional vegetables. For the cultivation of unseasonal tomatoes, Rs 4 crore has been allotted.

12. The state is to distribute 10 lakh palm seeds to increase palm trees in the state.
13. The state aims to achieve 126 lakh MT of food grains production this year.
14. Three food parks are to be set up in Theni, Dindivanam, and Manaparai for Rs 381 crore.
15. Farmers are to be involved in the production of jiggery
16. 3,000 solar pumps are to be set up under TN CM's scheme.
17. Digital Agricultural is to be allocated Rs 8 crore. State government is to allot Rs 150 crore for purchasing machinery to overcome the agriculture labour shortage.
18. A special team is to be set up under Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary to find solutions to problems faced by the farmers.
19. Farmers excelling in agriculture are to be honored with a state government award.
20. Millet festivals are to be conducted at the state and district level.
21. The Government designed the app is to be launched for farmers to know details about seedings to sales.
22. A Vegetable market complex is to be set up in partnership with private players in Coimbatore, Theni, and Kanyakumari.

34. Tamilnadu Agricultural Budget 2022 highlights

1. Rs 33,000-crore are allocated in this year for the Agriculture Budget for 2022-23.
2. This year, the allocation for the agriculture sector rose by Rs 231.90 crore from Rs 32,775.78 crore allotted last year.
3. The Tamil Nadu government will provide free electricity to all farmers across the state and has allocated Rs 5,157.56 crore for the same.
4. The food grain production target for 2022-23 will be 126 lakh metric tonnes.

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5. The “Sustainable Cotton Cultivation Mission” will be implemented at a budget of Rs.15.32 crore with Union and State Government fund, in order to enhance the Cotton yield.
6. The special measures are being taken to increase soybean cultivation in Tanjore, Salem, Tiruvallur, Nellai and Villupuram districts of the state.
7. Kalaingar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Programme scheme will be implemented at an outlay of Rs.300 crore in 3,204 village panchayats converged with Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam.
8. 4 new Uzhavar Sandhais will be established in the districts of Dharmapuri, Nagapattinam, Vellore and Tirupattur at a total cost of Rs 10 crore.
9. The state government will distribute 10 lakh palm seeds to increase the number of the state tree - palmyra.
10. A special incentive of Rs 195 per metric tonne will be given to the sugarcane farmers. It will benefit 1.2 lakh farmers.
11. An exclusive portal called “Tamil Mann Valam” will be launched in co-ordination with the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

35.Narasingapettai nagaswaram

1. The Narasingapettai Nagaswaram has earned the Geographical Indication (GI) tag under 'musical instruments of class 15'.
2. The unique feature of the nagaswaram is its production process.
3. It is handmade in Narasingapettai village in Thanjavur, unlike the other machinemade ones.
4. Artisans of the nagaswaram choose the wood wisely.
5. It is a type of ebony, ensuring it is 200 years old.

6. The reeds are made from the leaves of a locally grown plant called 'naanal' (a variety of bamboo).

36.Green Fellowship programme

1. The Tamil Nadu government has launched a Green Fellowship programme.
2. This is to actively involve youth in initiatives for climate change adaptation and mitigation activities.
3. They will monitor and evaluate the outcomes, communicate the impact of policies and deliver better services.
4. There will be a total of 40 green fellows, one per district and two at the State level

37.Resolution against Mokedatu dam

1. The Tamil Nadu Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution urging the Cauvery Water Management Authority not to consider the detailed project report submitted by Karnataka for the Mokedatu dam project.
2. It urged the Centre to decline permission for the project.

38.First woman dubashi

Rajalakshmi joined the Legislative Assembly as an assistant in 1990.

39.World Press Photo Award

1. Madurai-based photographer R. Senthil Kumaran is the winner of the prestigious World Press Photo Award.
2. He had received this for his submission titled 'Boundaries: Human-Tiger Conflict'.

40. Foreign direct investment - Tamil Nadu

1. The foreign direct investment (FDI) in Tamil Nadu grew about 41.5% to ₹17,696 crores (about \$2.4 billion) in April-December 2021.
2. This has improved from ₹12,504 crores (about \$1.7 billion) in the same period of 2020 (when the first wave of COVID-19 started).
3. Of this, 53% or ₹9,332 crores came in the October-December 2021, the third quarter of the financial year 2021-22.
4. According to data from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Tamil Nadu's share in the total FDI in the country increased to 5% from 4%.

41. Supreme Court on Vanniyar reservation

1. The Supreme Court upheld the Madras High Court judgment striking down the law (Tamil Nadu Special Reservation Act, 2021) brought in Tamil Nadu last year providing 10.5 percent reservation to Vanniyars, within the Most Backward Classes community.
2. The reservation was in government jobs and admissions to educational institutions.
3. The top court said it was done solely on the basis of numbers without adequate data to show the relative backwardness of the Vanniyar community.
4. The court also ruled that though there is no fetter placed on the power of the state to legislate.
5. For that caste can be the basis of such internal reservation, it cannot be the sole basis.

44.State education policy

1. The Tamil Nadu government formed a 13-member panel headed by Delhi high court retired chief justice D Murugesan to frame the state education policy.
2. Chief Minister M K Stalin said the panel would give its recommendations to frame the new education policy within a year.
3. The members of the panel are: L Jawaharnesan, former vice-chancellor of Saveetha University, R Ramanujam, retired professor from Institute of Mathematical Science, Sulthan Ismail and R Sreenivasan, both members of State Planning Commission, Aruna Ratnam, former education specialist with Unicef, Tamil writer S Ramakrishnan, former chess world champion Viswanathan Anand, musician T M Krishna, educationists Tulsidas and S Madasamy, R Balu, headmaster of Government Panchayat Union Middle School in Kichankuppam and Jayashree Damodaran from Agaram Foundation.

45.7.5 quota for govt school students

1. The Madras High Court upheld the constitutional validity of a State law passed in October 2020.
2. It was to provide 7.5% horizontal reservation to students who pass out of government schools and clear the National Entrance-cum-Eligibility Test (NEET), in medical admissions.
3. It was based on recommendation by the Kalaiyaran Committee.

46. Equality Day

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin announced that the birthday of Dr. BR Ambedkar will be celebrated as 'Equality Day'. Dr. Ambedkar's birthday falls on April 14.
2. He made the announcement under Rule 110 in the Assembly.
3. Under rule number 110, the Chief Minister or any minister can announce or bring any resolution to the Assembly which can be passed without any discussion.

47. State Development Loans - Tamilnadu

1. Tamil Nadu government has indicated that it will borrow ₹23,500 crores in the first quarter of fiscal 2022-23.
2. The State governments/Union Territories are expected to borrow ₹1,90,375 crore in the April-June 2022 period through the issue of bonds called the State Development Loans (SDLs).
3. In the comparable period during the first quarter of 2021-22, the Tamil Nadu government had indicated it will borrow ₹23,450 crores.
4. But the actual amount raised was slightly higher at ₹24,000 crores.
5. According to rating firm ICRA Ltd, Maharashtra has indicated the highest borrowing of ₹32,000 crores in the first quarter of FY2023.

48. Tamil Nadu Minorities Rights Day

1. The state government of Tamil Nadu has decided to observe the 18th of December annually as Minorities Rights Day at the state level.
2. This day is being observed at the district level of Tamil Nadu under the concerned collectors.

49.Olive Ridley protection and rehabilitation Centre

1. The Tamil Nadu government will set up an international olive ridley turtle protection and rehabilitation center in Chennai.
2. The center will undertake research on olive ridley turtles, collect data and create awareness.
3. The facility will be set up with funding from the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Tamil Nadu government.

50.Tamil Nadu based products - GI tags

1. The Puliyanakudi acid lime, Thooyamalli rice and Virudhunagar sambha vathal (Chilly) have applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag recently.
2. Puliyanakudi, a village in Tenkasi, is famous for acid lime cultivation.
3. In Tamil Nadu, chillies are mainly grown in the districts of Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai and Thoothukudi. Thooyamalli rice is high in iron, magnesium and zinc.

51.TNEB 2.0

1. The Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) will roll out 'TNEB 2.0'.
2. This is to meet the surging power demand and modernize the distribution system by 2030.
3. 'TNEB 2.0', similar to Singara Chennai 2.0, is aimed at doubling the electricity production in the State and upgrading the distribution system to ensure an uninterrupted supply.
4. TNEB 2.0' was aimed at more than doubling the electricity production from 33,877 mega watt (MW) to 77,153 MW.

5. The State's power generation capacity, comprising thermal, hydro and gas turbine, would be increased from 7,175 MW to 41,085 MW.

52.FDI FLOW INTO TAMIL NADU

1. Tamil Nadu ended the 2021-22 fiscal with foreign direct investment (FDI) of ₹22,396 crore.
2. This is high about 30.1% from ₹17,208 crore in 2020-21.
3. Karnataka topped the table, with \$22 billion of FDI, followed by Maharashtra with \$15.4 billion.
4. Delhi had about \$8.2 billion, followed by Tamil Nadu with \$3 billion and Gujarat with \$2.7 billion.

53.UNIQUE USE OF PLASTIC BOTTLES

1. Arignar Anna Zoological Park introduces a new initiative on World Environment Day
2. It introduced a new method to keep a check on the littering of plastic bottles and pollution inside the park.
3. On the occasion of World Environment Day, the traditional cloth bags called "Manchappai," which means 'yellow bags,' were distributed.
4. The zoo has started charging ₹10 for each plastic water bottle from the visitors.
5. The visitors have to return the emptied bottle to the seller in the zoo and they'll get refunds.
6. Arignar Anna Zoological Park is also known as Vandalur Zoo.
7. It is the first public zoo in India which was established in the year 1855.

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54.44TH CHESS OLYMPIAD'S LOGO

1. M.K. Stalin unveiled the logo and mascot for the 44th Chess Olympiad.
2. It will take place in Mamallapuram in July 2022.
3. The Mascot is known as 'Thambi'.
4. The words "Chess Believe" are seen on its shirt.
5. He also unveiled a countdown clock for the Olympiad at the Greater Chennai Corporation's headquarters, Ripon Buildings.
6. After the World Championship encounter between India's Viswanathan Anand and Magnus Carlsen in 2013, this is Chennai's second big international chess event.

55.HOMOSEP

1. It is a robot developed by the researchers of the Indian Institute of Technology of Madras to eliminate manual scavenging in India.
2. It is supported by the NGO, Safai Karamchari Andolan (SKA) dedicated to the elimination of manual scavenging in India.
3. At present, the first two HomoSEP units have been distributed to self-help groups led by Ms. Nagamma and Ms. Ruth Mary whose husbands died tragically during sanitation work.

56.ENNUM EZHUTHUM SCHEME

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched a 'Ennum Ezhuthum' scheme in Tiruvallur.
2. A scheme is aimed at ensuring that by 2025, all students under eight years of age in Tamil Nadu are able to read with comprehension and have basic arithmetic skills.

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3. The scheme will be implemented in government and government-aided schools for three years starting this academic year.
4. The scheme aims to bridge the learning gap.

57. "BHARAT GAURAV" EXPRESS TRAIN

1. The 'Bharat Gaurav' train service from Coimbatore to Shirdi, was inaugurated at the Coimbatore North Railway Station.
2. To promote and attract tourism business, the Indian Railways launched Bharat Gaurav trains.
3. It is country's first private train.
4. This will be operated by private players and run-on theme-based circuits.

58. FIRST WOMAN MACE-BEARER

1. In a first, the Madras High Court has appointed a woman mace bearer.
2. Justice R.N Manjula is the first to utilize the services of the court's first woman mace bearer.
3. The Mace bearer/ Chobdar, a position traditionally held by men.
4. It is an officer who carries the mace and walks before a dignitary signifying the dignitary's power.
5. In courts, the mace helps in the free passage of Judges between the court halls.
6. The Mace Bearer/ Chobdars are appointed through direct recruitment by the High Court.

59. OUTSTANDING PORTFOLIO

1. Tamil Nadu has displaced West Bengal to emerge as the largest State in terms of the outstanding portfolio of microfinance loans.

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4. It will be made in the form of equity or debt based on the evaluation and recommendation of the Investment Committee.
5. To be eligible for the funding, more than 50% of equity of the company should be held by one or more persons who belong to SC/ST category.
6. The entrepreneur should be a native of Tamil Nadu or of Tamil origin.
7. And the preference will be given to those who have their principal base of operation within Tamil Nadu.

63. NEW TIDEL PARKS IN TAMILNADU

1. Chief Minister MK Stalin inaugurated Tamil Nadu Centre of Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing (TANCAM), in Chennai.
2. It was established in partnership with Dassault System.
3. It is one of the three Centres of Excellence planned by the State.
4. The other two, Tamil Nadu Smart and Advance Manufacturing (TANSAM) set up by Siemens and TN Advanced Manufacturing Centre of Excellence (TAMCOE).
5. The above is to be operated in collaboration with GE Aviation. He also established two Industrial Innovation Centres (IICs) in Sriperumbudur and Hosur.
6. It aims to usher in fourth industrial revolution and change the manufacturing eco-system of Tamil Nadu.
7. The CM also laid the foundation stone for Tidel Neo Parks in Villupuram and Tiruppur districts.
8. The CM also launched an Industry 4.0 Maturity Index Survey in partnership with Infosys, IIT-Madras and University of Nottingham.

64. KALLOORI KANAVU

1. Chief Minister MK Stalin launched the Kalloori Kanavu (College Dreams) programme
2. It was inaugurated under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' programme.
3. It will offer higher-education guidance to students who have cleared Class 12
4. The Naan Mudhalvan programme is a plan to further refine this and make Tamil Nadu the best in education.

65.PROJECT SURIA

1. The Singapore-based IGSS signs MoU with Tamilnadu to set up 300-acre semiconductor park in Tamil Nadu with an investment and grants of ₹25,600 crore.
2. This hi-tech industrial park will come up near Chennai.
3. IGSS Ventures will launch its semiconductor fab under the name 'Project Suria'.

66.EASE OF DOING BUSINESS' RANKING

1. Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) of 2020 was recently released by the union finance ministry.
2. The BRAP 2020 includes 301 reform points covering 15 business regulatory areas.
3. Tamil Nadu has been ranked among the top seven achievers based on the implementation of the business reform action plan (BRAP).
4. TN's rank jumped to three from the earlier ranking of 14.
5. Andhra was ranked top with 98%, followed by Gujarat at 97.7% and Tamil Nadu at 97%.

67.INDIA'S FIRST ROCKET ENGINE FACTORY

1. Agnikul Cosmos has inaugurated India's first-ever factory to manufacture 3Dprinted rocket engines in Chennai.
2. It will be used to produce engines for its own in-house rockets.
3. The manufacturing facility has a capacity to make two rocket engines per week and thereby one launch vehicle every month, ☞
4. It builds the number of engines required to launch Agnibaan.
5. It is a customizable, 2-stage launch vehicle.
6. It is capable of taking up to 100 kg payload to orbits around 700 km high (low Earth orbits)
7. Also, it enables plug-and-play configuration.

68.CHESS OLYMPIAD INAUGURATION

1. Prime Minister inaugurated the 44th Chess Olympiad in Chennai.
2. This is the first time the chess Olympiad is being held in India. ☞ It has the highest number of countries, number of teams, and number of female chess players participation.
3. Originally this Olympiad was scheduled in Russia.
4. But due to Russia- Ukraine conflict it was cancelled.
5. Out of the 73 Indian grandmasters, 26 were from Tamil Nadu.
6. Olympiad's veshti-clad mascot Thambi was a symbol of brotherhood.

69.PRESIDENT'S COLORS AWARD

1. The Vice-President presented the prestigious President's Colours to the Tamil Nadu police.

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2. It is a recognition of the State police's commendable service and many achievements.
3. Tamilnadu will be the first in Southern India to receive this award.
4. Only ten police forces in India have won the prestigious President's Colour Award.
5. The Tamilnadu state Police force celebrated its 150th year of existence in 2009.

70.URBAN ANIMAL RESCUE CENTER

1. Urban animal rescue centre set up in Guindy National Park
2. The first of its kind by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department has been helping injured and rescued wildlife.
3. The centre is a transit facility.
4. There we take rescued animals, treat their injuries and release them when they are sufficiently stable.

71.I-TAMIL NADU TECHNOLOGY HUB

1. The state will launch the i-Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) hub.
2. It is a centre that will coordinate efforts to use technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and blockchain to solve complex challenges.
3. The move is aimed at giving a major push for the growth of the sector in Tamil Nadu.

72.CLOSING CEREMONY OF CHESS OLYMPIAD

1. The Grand Closing ceremony of the 44th Chess Olympiad held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai.
2. The international chess event was held at Sheraton Mamallapuram Resort and Convention Centre near Chennai.

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3. The event witnessed players from across the globe representing 187 countries competing on 700 boards.
4. The next edition of the FIDE Chess Olympiad will be held at Budapest, Hungary in September 2024.
5. Manuel Aaron, the 86-year-old Grandmaster from Chennai who was India's first International Master, is felicitated by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.
6. A total of 17 Indians has won medals in the 44th Chess Olympiad.
7. This includes 2 individual gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze each and 10 bronze for teams.
8. In the open category, Uzbekistan, Armenia and India B teams won gold, silver and bronze respectively.
9. India B team, consists of Praggnanandhaa, Gukesh, Nihal, Raunak and Adhiban.
10. In the women's category, Ukraine, Georgia and India A team won gold, silver and bronze respectively.
11. In the Indian Women's A team, Harika Dronavalli, Koneru Hampi, R. Vaishali, Bhakti Kulkarni and Tanya Sachdev were included.
12. In the individual medals, awarded based on the success and rating of the players, the Indian young players Gukesh and Nihal Sareen won gold.
13. A team player Arjun Erikaisi won silver and B team player Praggnanandhaa won bronze.
14. Tanya Sachdev, Divya Deshmukh and R. Vaishali won bronze in women's category.

73. CHENNAI'S SECOND AIRPORT

1. Parandur near Sriperumbudur has been chosen as the site to construct the greenfield facility.

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3. Nallakannu began his fight against British rule at the age of 11 (1936).
4. He was 12 when he works for the Congress in the 1937 elections.
5. He joined the Communist party in 1944 and started working for the Jana Sakthi in Chennai.
6. CPM leader N Sankaraiah was the first recipient of this award.

77.5TH ELEPHANT RESERVE

1. The Tamilnadu State government notified a new elephant reserve – Agastya Malai Elephant Reserve.
2. Agastya Malai is the fifth elephant reserve and located in Tirunelveli district.
3. India has 31 elephant reserves.
4. In the last three years,
 - a) Dandeli Elephant Reserve has been notified by Karnataka.
 - b) Singphan Elephant Reserve by Nagaland.
 - c) Lemru Elephant Reserve in Chhattisgarh.

78.NEW RAMSAR SITES

1. Four sites in Tamil Nadu have been added to the Ramsar list.
2. It is taking the state's total number to 14.
3. The Union Environment Ministry added 11 Indian sites to the Ramsar list.
4. Thus, the number of wetlands of international importance in the country is 75.
5. The new Indian wetlands of international importance in Tamil Nadu are:
 - a) Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary - Ramanathapuram district

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- b) Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary - Ramanathapuram district.
 - c) Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary - Tiruvarur district
 - d) Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex - Kanyakumari district
6. The other sites include, three in Odisha, two in Jammu and Kashmir and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
 7. Now, Tamil Nadu has the maximum number of Ramsar sites in the country (14), followed by Uttar Pradesh (10).
 8. A total of 26 sites were added to the Ramsar list from 1982 to 2013.
 9. Since 2014, 49 sites have bagged the coveted tag.

79. SIDDHA UNIVERSITY BILL

1. The Governor's office has sent back the Bill passed by the Assembly in April for setting up a Siddha Medical University.
2. According to the Bill, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister would be the Chancellor of the proposed university and not the Governor.
3. The State government has kept around 20 acres of land in Madhavaram near Chennai for setting up the university.

80. INTEGRATED LAND RECORD

1. The Tamil Nadu government will soon roll out the Integrated Land Record (ILR).
2. It is a single document containing details of 'chitta', field measurement book (FMB) and 'adangal' for land parcels.
3. As of now, the textual data in the 'chitta' and the spatial data in the FMB have been integrated.
4. The e-adangal details are being revised to reflect the latest data.

5. Once e-adangal 2.0 is launched and auto-populated with the other two documents, the Integrated Land Record would be available to land-owners.
6. 'Chitta' has details of the name of the owner or owners of the land, its survey number and the sub-divisions of a revenue district where it is located, along with the extent of the land. The
7. FMB is the cadastral map of the land and 'adangal' consists of the details of crops grown on the land.

81.FOOTWEAR AND LEATHER PRODUCTS POLICY 2022

1. The Tamilnadu Chief minister unveiled the Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022.
2. The policy is aimed at attracting Rs 20,000 crore investment in the leather sector by 2025 and in creating employment opportunities to 2 lakh people.
3. He laid the foundation stone for a mega footwear manufacturing park at Panapakkam, Ranipet.
4. Tamil Nadu is contributing 26 per cent to the national manufacturing output and 48 per cent of the national exports in the footwear segment.

82.NEW SCHEMES FOR MSME

CM of Tamil Nadu introduced several initiatives for Micro, Small, and Mediumsized Enterprises at the Regional MSME Meet in Tirupur.

Tamil Nadu Credit Guarantee Scheme (TNCGS)

1. The TNCGS will collaborate with the Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises of the Government of India to provide a 90% guarantee on qualified loans up to Rs. 40 lakhs.

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2. The TN government has allocated aside Rs. 100 crores for this scheme.
3. Under this policy, at least three Nationalized Banks will give loans to MSMEs within a fortnight.

Tamil Nadu Trade Receivables Discounting System (TN TReDS)

1. TN TReDS is an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform that will tackle issues with late payments for supplies made to larger enterprises.
2. This platform will be accessible to all state-owned enterprises, statutory boards, corporations, and apex cooperatives.
3. If the state entity does not pay the MSMEs that are on the TReDS platform by the end of the 179th day, TAICO Bank will settle the dues for the bills that were uploaded to TN TReDS on the 180th day.

Other initiatives

1. Government renamed the MSME Trade and Investment Promotion Bureau (MTIPB) as "FaMeTN" during the event.
2. CM virtually inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation in Coimbatore.
3. It focuses on establishing new coir clusters, connecting with international customers, establishing research and development centres, and fostering industry-academia collaboration.

83. SAHITYA AKADEMI'S BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR 2022

1. The Sahitya Akademi announced that Bal Sahitya Puraskar would be given to writers of 23 languages.

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2. The Akademi has also announced that writers in 24 languages will be given the Yuva Sahitya Puraskar.
3. In the category of Bal Sahitya Puraskar, the award in Punjabi language is not being given this year.
4. While the award in the Bal Sahitya Puraskar, Santhali language will be announced later.
5. In the category of Youth Award, the winner will be announced later in Marathi.
6. In Tamil, Bal Sahitya Puraskar will be given to G. Meenakshi for Mallikavin Veedu.
7. In Tamil, Yuva Puraskar will be given to Paa. Kalimuthu for Thaniththirukkum aralikalin mathiyam.

84. THAGAISAL PALLIGAL SCHEME

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin inaugurated the School of Excellence and Model School scheme in the state in the presence of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
2. This scheme is based on the Delhi Model School Scheme.
3. These schools will be named Thagaisal Palligal and Mathiri Palligal Model School in Tamil language.

85. TAMIL NADU'S NEW BIRD SANCTUARY

1. The Tamil Nadu government issued an order to set up a bird sanctuary at Nanjarayan Tank in Tiruppur district.
2. This will be the 17th bird sanctuary in Tamil Nadu.
3. The area attracts more than 130 bird species including migratory birds.
4. It was built by King Nanjarayan as a source for irrigation.
5. It is also known as Sarkar Periyapalayam Reservoir.

86. ST STATUS OF NARIKURAVAR

1. The Union Cabinet approved the Tribal ministry's proposal for the inclusion of Narikuravars under ST category.
2. The Kuruvikkaran community of Tamil Nadu was also included in the category.
3. This will be done through the introduction of a Bill in Parliament to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.
4. The Narikuravars is one of the most deprived and vulnerable communities living in the hills of Tamil Nadu.
5. The Union Cabinet cleared the proposal to notify several tribal communities under the Scheduled Tribes (ST) category in Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh as well.
6. The Hatti community in the Trans-Giri area of Himachal Pradesh's Sirmour also added in the list of notified Scheduled Tribes.

87. JOYMALA'S CASE

1. The Assam government filed a petition in Guwahati High Court seeking the custody of Joyamala.
2. Joyamala is a temple elephant that the state had given to Tamil Nadu on lease.
3. Tamil Nadu government refused to return the elephants it had taken from Assam.
4. This controversy started after the animal rights group, PETA claiming that Joyamala was being subjected to cruelty at a temple in Tamil Nadu.
5. Assam claims it had leased nine elephants, including Joyamala, to Tamil Nadu.

88. INDIA'S FIRST DUGONG RESERVE

1. The country's first 'Dugong Conservation Reserve' has been notified in Tamil Nadu.
2. The move was aimed at conserving the endangered species as it would help protect and improve marine fauna.
3. The reserve has been notified in Palk Bay.
4. Dugongs are largest herbivorous marine mammals which primarily thrive on sea grass beds.
5. There were only about 240 such Dugongs estimated to be present in the country.
6. And a majority of them was found on the Palk Bay area.

89. 4000 YEARS OLD USED GOLD

1. Archaeological excavations in the vadakkupaddu Panchayat have found gold that was used in ancient times.
2. The site for excavation was selected in the village of Oragadam next to Kanchipuram district.
3. Black and red pottery, painted pottery and inscribed pottery, and Roman pottery were also found.
4. It also found 2 gold ornaments weighing 1.5 grams.
5. Flint earrings, gold ornaments, flint round chips, iron products and bracelet fragments have been found.
6. These may be items used by people who lived 4000 years to 10000 years ago.

90. ORDINANCE TO REGULATE ONLINE GAMBLING

1. The Tamil Nadu Cabinet gave its nod to promulgate an ordinance to regulate online gambling.
2. This move came more than a year after the Madras High Court struck down the Tamil Nadu Gaming and Police Laws (Amendment) Act 2021.

3. This law had imposed a broad ban on wagering or betting in cyberspace.
4. The State government constituted a panel under the retired judge of the Madras High Court Justice K Chandru.
5. 20% of the Indian population plays online games, compared to 60–70% in the United States.
6. This panel recommended the promulgation of an ordinance to regulate online gambling in the State.
7. 20% of the Indian population plays online games, compared to 60–70% in the United States.

91. Tamira SES PROJECT

1. TamiraSES project is being implemented to restore Thamirabarani river.
2. It is jointly implemented by the district administration of Tirunelveli and Bengaluru-based NGO Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE).
3. The project involves the use of “hyper-local” approach to restore one Thamirabarani river.
4. It will restore Thamirabarani as well as all the waterbodies in the riverscape.
5. Under the first phase of this project, five social ecological observatories will be set up.
6. These will act as pilots to help the project expand further. This phase will be limited to the borders of Tirunelveli district.

Thamirabarani river

1. The Thamirabarani river originates from Agastyarkoodam peak of Pothigai hills in Western Ghats.
2. It is the only perennial river in Tamil Nadu.

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3. Its source is the confluence of the tributaries of Kodayar River – Kothai and Madhumalai.
4. This river flows through Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts.

92. 17TH WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Tamil Nadu government has notified the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary on as the state's 17th wildlife sanctuary.

1. The sanctuary is covering reserve forest areas in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri districts. It is home to 35 species of mammals, 238 species of birds and other red-listed species.
2. This landscape maintains further continuity to the Nilgiri Biosphere through Malai Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, Billigiri Rangaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve in Karnataka and Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve and Erode District.
3. Two important and large elephant corridors namely, the NandimangalamUlibanda Corridor and the Kovaipallam-Anebiddahalla Corridor fall in this area.

93. THIRD-LARGEST STATE IN OWN TAX REVENUES

Tamil Nadu has displaced Karnataka to emerge as the third largest state in terms of own tax revenue collections in the first half of the current fiscal.

1. It is driven largely by excise duty on liquor sales.
2. Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh take the first two positions.

94. INDIA'S FIRST MULTIMODAL LOGISTICS PARK

1. Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has been awarded the project to build India's first multimodal logistics park (MMLP) in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

2. Under the National Logistics Policy (NLP) and PM-Gati Shakti, it wants to bring down logistics costs to under 10 per cent of the GDP (from the current 14%) in a bid to make exports competitive and supply chains more efficient.
3. India's first MMLP is being set up in Mappedu village in Thiruvallur district.
4. It is located near the automobile and electronics manufacturing clusters on the Sriperumbudur-Oragadam industrial belt.

95. CHENNAI - MYSURU VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS

1. PM Modi flagged off Chennai-Mysuru Vande Bharat Express and Bharat Gaurav Kashi Yatra train from Bengaluru KSR Railway Station.
2. It is India's fifth and south India's first Vande Bharat Express.
3. The other four are being run between New Delhi - Varanasi and New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra, Gandhinagar and Mumbai, and New Delhi-Una.
4. It was indigenously built at Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Perambur.
5. Vande Bharat is a semi-high-speed train.
6. It is a self-propelled engine train.
7. It does not have a separate engine

96. TAMIL NADU ELEPHANT DEATH AUDIT FRAMEWORK

This is the first of its kind initiative in the country

1. Tamil Nadu's Forest Department has introduced an elephant death audit framework to put in place a more

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- detailed and transparent process for recording and monitoring elephant deaths in the State.
2. It prescribes a systematic standard protocol for conducting post-mortem to determine the reasons for death of an elephant.
 3. It will help to study the circumstances of preventable and unnatural deaths and formulate measures to prevent them.
 4. It will be applicable all over Tamil Nadu for the death of elephants in the wild.
 5. It has to be uniformly followed in all wildlife areas and territorial divisions.
 6. India is home to over two-thirds of the World's Asian elephant population.
 7. Incredibly, they live alongside people across much of India, with only about 20 per cent of their range inside protected areas.
 8. Yet their population is stable or even increasing in some regions.
 9. Elephants are among the most long-lived mammals, with a life expectancy of around 50 years in the wild, and a generation length of 22 years.

97.TAMIL NADU BACKWARD CLASSES COMMISSION

1. The Tamil Nadu government has reconstituted this commission.
2. Earlier, it has been headed by a retired High Court judge M. Thanikasalam who has submitted his resignation letter to the government.
3. So, the government named retired Madras High Court judge V. Bharathidasan as its chairperson.

98.KASHI TAMIL SANGAMAM

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1. 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' will be organized by the Ministry of Education.
2. The 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' is a month-long program that will be held from the 16th of the next month.
3. It aims to rediscover the centuries-old bond of knowledge and ancient civilizational linkage between Varanasi and Tamil Nadu.
4. The hosting partners of this event will be IIT-Madras and Banaras Hindu University.

99. ARITTAPATTI BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE SITE

1. The Tamil Nadu Government issued a notification declaring Arittapatti and Meenakshipuram villages in Madurai district as the first biodiversity heritage site in the State.
2. The site comprising 139.63 hectares in Arittapatti village (Melur block) and 53.8 hectares in Meenakshipuram village (Madurai East taluk) will be known as the Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage site.
3. Arittapatti village, known for its ecological and historical significance, houses around 250 species of birds including three important raptors - birds of prey, namely the Laggar Falcon, the Shaheen Falcon and Bonelli's Eagle.
4. It is also home to wildlife such as the Indian Pangolin, Slender Loris and pythons.
5. The area is surrounded by a chain of seven hillocks or inselbergs that serve as a watershed.
6. The Anaikondan tank, built during the reign of Pandiyan kings in the 16th century is located here.
7. Several megalithic structures, rock-cut temples, Tamil Brahmi inscriptions and Jain beds add to the historical significance of the region.

100. HEALTHCARE RANKINGS

1. Tamil Nadu Health and Family Welfare Department has ranked State-run healthcare institutions.
2. It rated districts based on 17 criteria including Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR), Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), and out-patient treatment.
3. This is the first time the State has ranked primary healthcare centres (PHCs), healthcare sub-centers, district headquarters hospitals, and medical college hospitals.
4. Kancheepuram, Namakkal, and Thoothukudi districts have performed the best.
5. Tenkasi, Tirupathur, and Dindigul are at the bottom of the list.

101. TAMIL NADU CLIMATE SUMMIT 2022

1. The State government has kick started Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 2022 in Chennai.
2. The CM launched initiatives such as climate smart villages, green schools and green temples.
3. The Climate Summit addressed the three major missions of the state government - Climate Change Mission, Green Tamil Nadu Mission, and Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission.

Tamilnadu climate change mission

1. Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission (TNCCM), has partnered with the Anna University's Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Management to form 'Climate Studio'.
2. It will be a single-source data point for all climate activities.
3. The Green Climate Change Company formed as a special-purpose vehicle to steer Tamil Nadu to become a climate smart state.

4. The Tamil Nadu Green Climate Change Company will focus on
 - a) Preparing decarbonisation pathways for various sectors,
 - b) Conceptualising and setting up finance models and a climate studio,
 - c) Climate budgeting and
 - d) Partnerships with local agencies.
5. Increasing the State's green cover from 23.71 percent to 33 percent is the Green Tamil Nadu Mission's major goal.
6. TNCCM will focus on bio fencing of coastal areas, green fellowship, climate smart villages, green rating of industries and buildings.
7. The state is first to launch its own Climate Change Mission to make Tamil Nadu a climate smart state.

102. MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (MMR)

1. TN's MMR dropped to 54 per one lakh live births in 2018-20 from 58 in 2017-19.
2. Tamilnadu conducts a death audit for every maternal death in the state at four levels (community, hospital, collectorate, and expert panel).
3. Postpartum Haemorrhage (PPH) and pregnancy-induced hypertension are the main causes of maternal deaths in TN.
4. Among southern states, Kerala has the lowest MMR with 19 deaths per one lakh births.
5. It is followed by Telangana at 43, and Andhra Pradesh at 45, while Karnataka stayed behind TN with an MMR of 69.

103.TN ECONOMIC'S DATA

1. Tamil Nadu's net market borrowings (after adjusting for repayments) have been down by about 30.3% till September in FY 2022-23.
2. It is reduced to ₹24,403 crore from ₹35,000 crore in the same period last year.
3. Tamil Nadu borrows from the market through the issue of bonds known as State Development Loans (SDLs).
4. Tamil Nadu's total revenue receipts stood at about ₹1.12 lakh crore in the first half of 2022-23, up from ₹85,209.74 crore last year.
5. As on September 30, 2022, Tamil Nadu's fiscal deficit stood at ₹18,726.32 crore and the revenue deficit at ₹4,184.10 crore.
6. Maharashtra and Odisha have witnessed fiscal surpluses in the first half of fiscal 2023.
7. Some large states like Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have posted very small deficits (less than 30% of budgeted estimates).
8. Bihar and Andhra Pradesh have already breached their full-year targets in the first half of 2023.

104.TRACKD

1. The Tamil Nadu police have launched "TrackD" application.
⊗ This application will help them in real-time monitoring of known delinquents across the State.
2. Details of more than 30,000 habitual offenders belonging to all the 39 districts and nine Commissionerate in the State have been digitised.
3. The application would classify the suspects based on the nature of offence, modus operandi and the gang involved

which would be useful to investigators to narrow down on the criminals.

105. SANITATION WORKERS' DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

1. The Sanitation Workers' Development Scheme was launched by Tamil Nadu government.
2. It aims to ensure the welfare of conservancy workers in the state.
3. As part of this scheme, a mobile application was launched for the identification and census collection of sanitation workers.
4. A survey will be conducted to identify sanitation workers and the collected data will be uploaded into the application.
5. The first phase of this scheme will be implemented in five urban local bodies in the state.
6. It will later be expanded to other local bodies.

106. FRIENDS OF LIBRARY

1. The Tamil Nadu government has launched the 'Friends of Library' programme to promote reading.
2. Under this, books will be personally provided to those who are unable to visit state-run libraries.
3. Accordingly, differently abled persons, senior citizens, children and hospital inpatients among others who cannot come to a library will benefit from the initiative.
4. The service of volunteers will be used for this purpose
5. The aim of such an initiative was to promote a knowledge-based society.

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107.NAMMA SCHOOL FOUNDATION

1. Chief Minister M K Stalin launched this project in Chennai aimed at developing the government schools in the state with private participation.
2. It aims to better equip government schools in terms of infrastructure and reputation.
3. It will be the programme amongst educationalists and members of non-profit organisations (NGOs).
4. Through this scheme, former students who have studied in government schools and are now holding high positions in various companies, former students who are businessmen and socially concerned organizations (NGOs) will adopt government schools through their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds, infrastructure of the schools,
5. The scheme will be launched to improve basic facilities like perimeter wall, painting, internet facilities, sanitary toilets, laboratories, libraries etc.
6. Venu Srinivasan, chairman of TVS Motors is the chairman for the Namma School Foundation while Vishwanathan Anand is the brand ambassador.
7. Namma Oor Palli scheme is an extension of the same.
8. Namma oor palli lays the foundation for bringing local students, alumni, industrial sector and expatriate Tamils living across the world.
9. Earlier, the chief minister renamed the DPI complex of the state school education department as “Perasiriyar K Anbazhagan Education Complex”.

108.DGCA APPROVAL FOR KISAN DRONES

1. Drone manufacturer Garuda Aerospace Private Ltd has received Type Certification and Remote Pilot Training

Organisation (RPTO) approval from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

2. This is received for its indigenously-designed Kisan drones.
3. Thus, it become India's first drone start-up to get these approvals.
4. DGCA Type certification is provided on the basis of the quality check of the drones and is issued after a rigorous testing process.
5. In India, the government introduced Type certification in August 2021 under Drone Rules.
6. The Made in India 'Kisan' drones are particularly developed for agricultural purposes such as reducing crop loss, crop health monitoring, yield measurement, and crop loss mitigation with the latest manufacturing capacities.

109. DEBRIS FREE GULF OF MANNAR

1. The state forest department has joined hands with HCL Foundation (HCLF) to resolve the ghost net and marine debris problem in the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Tamil Nadu.
2. Discarded or lost fishing gears is known as 'Ghost nets'.
3. It poses a severe threat to coastal and marine habitats across the globe.
4. A three-year action plan and 'Debris Free Gulf of Mannar' mass awareness campaigns for a larger citizen's action will also be conducted.

110. NILGIRI TAHR CONSERVATION PROJECT

1. The Tamil Nadu government launched an initiative for the conservation of the State animal - Nilgiri Tahr.
2. Under The project, the government plans

- a) To develop a better understanding of the Nilgiri Tahr population through surveys and radio telemetry studies;
 - b) To reintroduce the Tahr to their historical habitat and address proximate threats;
 - c) Also, to increase public awareness of the species.
3. The project is to be implemented from 2022 to 2027.
 4. Furthermore, October 7 will be celebrated as 'Nilgiri Tahr Day' in honour of E.R.C. Davidar.
 5. He was responsible for pioneering one of the first studies of the species in 1975.
 6. It is an endangered species and the sole Caprinae species found in the tropical mountains of southern India.

111. SEAWEED PARK

1. The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying recently shared that for the first time in the country, a seaweed park will be set up in Tamil Nadu.
2. The Tamil Nadu government has been requested to set aside space for a Special Economic Zone for seaweed farming.
3. In 2021, the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) had launched a Seaweed Mission.

Seaweed Farming

1. Seaweed farming or kelp farming is the practice of cultivating and harvesting seaweed. In its simplest form, it consists of the management of naturally found batches. In its most advanced form it consists of fully controlling the life cycle of the algae.
2. Seaweed farming has minimum capital and technological requirements and provide important economic opportunities to marginal coastal communities with limited livelihood options.

3. The largest seaweed-producing countries are China, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Other production in India is primarily confined to the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay in Tamil Nadu. notable producers include South Korea, North Korea, Japan and Malaysia, Currently, seaweed production in india is primarily confined to the gulf of mannar and palk bay in tamil nadu.

4. The seaweed industry in India is mainly a cottage industry and is based only on the natural stock of agar yielding red seaweeds and algae yielding brown seaweeds. Currently most of the seaweed produced in India is used for plant growth factor, which reduces the requirement of fertilizers by nearly 13%.

Significance:

By an estimate, if seaweed cultivation is done in 10 million hectares or 5% of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) area of India, it can

1. Provide employment to 50 million people.
2. Set up a new seaweed industry.
3. Contribute to National Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
4. Enhance ocean productivity.
5. Abate algal blooms.
6. Sequester millions of tons CO₂.
7. Could produce bio-ethanol of 6.6 billion litres.

112.MAYILADUMPARAI- IRON AGE IN TAMILNADU

1. Excavations carried out by the Tamil Nadu Department of Archaeology at Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district have

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placed the beginning of the Iron Age in Tamil Nadu 4,200 year before.

2. The Department released a report, 'Mayiladumparai was Beginning of Agrarian Society, 4,200-year-old Iron Age Culture in Tamil Nadu'. The late Neolithic phase was identified before 2200 BCE as there is a cultural deposit of 25 cm below the dated level.

3. Before this, the earliest evidence of iron use was from 1900-2000 BCE for the country, and from 1500 BCE for Tamil Nadu. The latest evidence dates the findings from Tamil Nadu to 2172 BCE.

4. It also announced that the Department of Archaeology would undertake excavations at Pattanam in Kerala, Thalakkadu in Karnataka, Vengi in Andhra Pradesh and Palur in Odisha.

5. Dense forests were converted into fertile lands only after humankind began realising the use of iron. This provides the start of agricultural activity in Tamil Nadu.

6. The excavations are from Mayiladumparai near Krishnagiri in Tamil Nadu. Mayiladumparai is an important site with cultural material dating back between the Microlithic (30,000 BCE) and Early Historic (600 BCE) ages.

7. The site is situated in the midst of several archaeological sites such as Togarapalli, Gangavaram, Sandur, Vedarthattakkal, Guttur, Gidlur, and Kappalavadi. All these important archaeological sites lie within 10 kms.

113.TN URBAN E-SEVAI - MINISTER LAUNCHES APP FOR URBAN E-SERVICES AND TAX PAYMENTS

1. 'Govt. has planned to achieve zero-waste status in cities by 2026'

2. Minister for Municipal Administration K.N. Nehru launched a mobileapp 'TN urban e-sevai' for strengthening the grievance redress mechanism and paying taxes.
3. He also launched a monthly magazine Ezhilmigu Nagaram in the presence of Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department (MAWS) Secretary Shiv Das Meena.
4. Inaugurating a conference on the formulation of an action plan for solid waste management, Mr.Nehru said the State government had launched various initiatives for the 100% scientific management of solid waste in 21 municipal corporations, 138 municipalities and 490 town panchayats.
5. Urban areas in Tamil Nadu would become the cleanest in the country, he said.
6. The State government has planned to achieve zero waste status in cities by 2026, formulating an action plan for all urban areas.
7. "Door-to-door collection, segregation and processing of waste are the important aspects of solid waste management.

114.DENGUE PREVENTION – STEPS TAKEN BY TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT

1. Health Department, in coordination with local bodies, has intensified measures to control mosquito breeding
2. In eight months, Tamil Nadu has reported a total of 3,528 cases of dengue.
3. With cases being reported in many districts following intermittent rain, the Health Department, in coordination with local bodies, has stepped up mosquito control measures by deploying 17,000-odd domestic breeding checkers (DBC's) and taking preparatory measures on the field and at hospitals.

4. According to data from the Directorate of Public (DPH) and Preventive Medicine, the State has reported 3,528 cases till August 28, with the total in-patients as of now being 269.
5. Last year, there were 6,039 cases in the State. Health Minister
6. Ma. Subramanian said dengue cases were under control.
7. At a State-level coordination meeting, precautionary measures were chalked out and field-level activities were taken up in the districts.
8. “Following continuous rain, there will be mosquito breeding. So, we are taking preventive measures across the State,” he told reporters on Monday.
9. A meeting of three Ministers (Health, Rural Development and Town Panchayat) at the State level was held, following which there is good coordination and support from the Departments of Municipal Administration and Rural Development.
10. We are hoping that this year, it will not be a challenge and all our surveillance mechanisms are in place for early diagnosis and intervention,” said T. S. Selvavinayagam, Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine.
11. January accounted for the highest number of cases — 980 — so far this year. February had 684 cases, while March reported 419 cases.
12. The DBCs would focus on source reduction and take up anti-larval work and fogging.
13. Their work plan is based on the following — areas where dengue and fever cases are reported, areas of high larval indices, mosquito pool positive areas and areas affected by dengue in the previous year.
14. Local bodies should engage DBCs for identifying and reducing mosquito breeding sources, initiate door-to-door source reduction activities, periodical overhead tank

cleaning, mass cleaning, fogging for adult mosquito control and weekly mass cleaning.

15. The Directorates of Medical Education and Medical and Rural Health Services should earmark fever and isolation wards, have adequate medicines, blood and components.
16. Continuing Medical Education programmes should be held for government and private hospital doctors on the management of dengue among adults and children.

115.HOW TAMIL NADU HAS FARED IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) ?

1. Nearly 73.40 crore in wages was paid to unskilled labour in the state under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Gurantee scheme durng 2021-22, illustrating its performance in tackling poverty when SDG Week is being observed glogally.
2. The payment of nearly 7,340 crore in wages to unskilled labour in Tamil Nadu Rural Employment Gurantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during 2021-22, marking one of the highs in the country, illustrates the State's performance in tackling poverty when the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Week is being observed globally.
3. (According to an official of the Rural Development Department, the amount of wages paid to unskilled labour last year was around 7,340 crore and the expenditure towards materials and skilled labour was 3,427 crore.)
4. As the State was in the midst of the virulent second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, the effective implementation of the MGNREGS, which meant the completion of around 4.87 lakh works and the provision of

- jobs to almost 80 lakh individuals, had ensured numerous families in rural parts stayed above the poverty line.
5. There were issues concerning the disbursal of wages in view of the time taken for the fund transfer from the centre to the state.
 6. Yet, the state got around 1,000 crore more last year than in 2020-21.
 7. According to the MGNREGS portal, Rajasthan and West Bengal were the other two states which had spent a higher amount of unskilled wages than Tamil Nadu. The case of the former, the figure was approximately 7755 crore, while it was 7363 crore in the case of the latter.
 8. However, what is to be pointed out is that the MGNREGS, a central scheme, is one of the measures implemented in the state, which has a good record in implementing poverty alleviation programmes.
 9. It is no wonder that Tamil Nadu was identified by NITI Aayog as a top performer in Goal No Poverty for 2020-21.
 10. In the area of poverty elimination, the DMK government, which assumed office in May 2021, took two key steps.
 11. One was the provision of 4000 each to rice-drawing ration cardholders along with the COVID-19 relief hamper.
 12. The second was the launch of the State Urban Employment Scheme on an experimental basis in 37 town panchayats.
 13. It took care of issues such as creation and maintenance of public assets, including parks and play fields, and rejuvenation of waterbodies.
 14. As regards the Goal No. 2-Zero Hunger, the latest measure of the state, which has a rich tradition in the implementation of free meals programmes for school

children, is the inauguration of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme.

15. The execution of schemes such as 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' (to address non-communicable issues),
16. 'Illam Thedi Kalvi' (to compensate for the learning loss due to closure of schools) and 'Pudhumai Pen' (to provide a monthly assistance of 1,000 each to women for pursuing higher education at the undergraduate level) is meant to accomplish Goals 3-5 which cover good health and well-being, quality education and gender equality.
17. As part of fulfilling Goal 10 (Reduced Inequality), Tamil Nadu has got a panel for the protection of social justice, besides providing for 7.5% horizontal quota in professional higher education for government school students.
18. Thanks to the persistent efforts of the state, the Union Cabinet has decided to include the Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran communities in the list of the SCHEDULED Tribes of Tamil Nadu.
19. Towards translating into action Goal No.11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), the government has established 'Anaithum Sathiyam', a museum in Chennai for the differently abled, at a cost of 1 crore.
20. The museum showcases accessible devices, assistive technologies and a model accessible home.
21. The constitution of biodiversity management committees in all local bodies and a conservation authority for the Pallikaranai marshland was directed towards Goal No. 15 (Life on Land).
22. As for Goal No. 16 (PEACE, justice and Strong Institutions), the government launched in November last a forensic DNA profile search tool, which would be useful for various purposes, including reunion of abducted and missing children with parents.

116. DESIGN OF CLIMATE-RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

1. City needs more relief shelters with modern toilets to help vulnerable residents during disaster events, says study
2. Chennai is expected to get climate resilient infrastructure, including additional disaster relief centres, and retrofitting of civic infrastructure to tackle the impact of climate change.
3. Civic agencies in the city, including the Greater Chennai Corporation, Metrowater, Water Resources Department, Highways Department and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, are likely to develop climate resilient infrastructure.
4. For instance, various studies in progress have focussed on the potential impact of major floods in the city and the direct flood damages suffered by civic infrastructure and disruption of transportation and electricity.
5. After a series of meetings with various civic agencies of the city in the next few weeks, the government is likely to take a decision on the line agencies that will play an essential role in building climate change-resilient infrastructure.
6. As studies have suggested that the frequencies of disaster events, including extreme rainfall, are expected to increase in the city, the civic agencies are likely to ensure that the infrastructure is climate resilient to reduce direct losses and indirect costs.
7. According to the draft of a study submitted on Tuesday, there is an urgent need to build or identify more relief shelters with modern toilets where people can gather in the event of a disaster.
8. In the previous disaster events, less than 200 relief shelters were readied at various parts of the city.
9. A study has outlined a slew of possible policy interventions such as improving communication, warning systems,

addressing drainage concerns, management of waterbodies, facilitating community resilience and climate budgeting.

10. Infrastructure assets have to be planned, designed, built and operated to account for the climate changes.
11. Existing infrastructure may need to be retrofitted. Additional infrastructure, including sea walls, are likely to be proposed to address the climate change impact.

117. GENDER BUDGETS – TAMIL NADU

1. The Tamil Nadu government has called for the formulation of gender budgets in all its departments.
2. A government order to this effect has been issued by the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment.
3. The guidelines have also been framed.
4. Gender budgeting, according to the guidelines, is keeping a gender perspective in policy or programme development, implementation and review.
5. This is also expected to bring about budget transparency and accountability.
6. Checklist for schemes New schemes will have to pass through a gender checklist.
7. A gender analysis of all schemes and policies, which are released from 2022-23, will be carried out, and slotted in four categories under a gender lens classification.
8. These are gender transformative, responsive, neutral, and blind.
9. Each department will need to form a gender bud get cell, to be manned by one or two staff members from the budget cell thereof.
10. The existing schemes will also go through a gender res ponsive review.

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11. Analysis of issues The gender cell will have to identify a maximum of six largest programmes in terms of budget allocation and conduct an analysis of the gender issues addressed by them.
12. The cell will also collect data periodically to measure the impact of the programmes on both men and women for the gender budgeting to be done on the basis of evidence.
13. It will also suggest further policy interventions and organise capacity building workshops for officials.
14. The gender budget cell will also need to undertake special initiatives to ensure that women have better access to services and they are active participants in the decision-making process.
15. An announcement was made in the Assembly earlier this year by Social Welfare Minister Geetha Jeevan on the formulation of gender budgets in all departments.

118. T.N. LAUNCHES 100 CRORE URBAN EMPLOYMENT SCHEME

1. Like MGNREGS, it offers a livelihood for urban poor
2. The urban employment scheme will be on the lines of MGNREGS, to improve livelihood of urban poor.
3. The Tamil Nadu government will implement an urban employment scheme on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) at a cost of 100 crore to improve the livelihood of urban poor, Minister for Municipal Administration, Urban and Water Supply K.N. Nehru said in the Assembly on Tuesday.
4. "In the current year, it will be implemented in two zones in Greater Chennai Corporation, one zone each in other Municipal Corporations, one municipality each in under the seven Regional Directorate of Municipal Administration and one town panchayat each in 37 districts," the Minister said

- while replying to the debate on demands for grants for his department.
5. Mr. Nehru said, unlike other States, the urban population in Tamil Nadu was growing fast and it would reach 60% of the total population by 2036.
 6. A total of four crore people are now living in urban areas, accounting for 53% of the total population.
 7. Mr. Nehru added that as announced in the State budget, the government would implement the Kalaignar Urban Development Scheme at a cost of 1,000 crore. “Infrastructure including community hall, markets, modern libraries will be created in municipalities and town panchayats,” he said.
 8. Government sources told The Hindu that this was a pilot scheme and the government would soon come out with guidelines for providing wages under the scheme.
 9. The objective of the programme was to provide employment to urban poor, who had lost their jobs because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 10. A committee headed by former RBI Governor C Rangarajan had also recommended that the Tamil Nadu government start an employment scheme in urban areas in the wake of the pandemic.
 11. “Thousands of jobs were lost and the government discussed ways to create jobs for them.
 12. Under the scheme, workers will be used for activities such as desilting of water bodies and maintenance of public parks and other places,” a senior official said.
 13. if the scheme would be implemented permanently, he said, “no decision has been taken so far” but added the government wanted to implement this on a pilot basis with its own funding.

14. The State government had submitted a memorandum to the Centre seeking funds for an urban employment scheme but was yet to get a response.

119. TAMIL NADU SETS ITS VISION ON FINTECH AND AEROSPACE

1. Government is establishing a fintech city and trying to bring in more investments into aerospace hubs and defense corridors
2. The Tamil Nadu government has initiated the process of establishing a fintech city in Chennai and bringing in more investments in aerospace hub and defense corridor.
3. A consultant has been finalized for design-cum-project management soon for setting up of Fintech City at Nandambakkam according to an official of the Tamil Nadu Industrial development Corporation (TIDCO) Limited, the nodal agency.

Dedicated policy:

1. With a dedicated fintech policy to accelerate investments, the government, driven by its investor-friendly policies, is confident of nurturing, fostering and developing of the fintech eco-system, the official told *The Hindu*.
2. For Fintech City, the TIDCO has earmarked 112 acres. It will be a state-of-the-art centre as the government wants to develop Chennai as a hub of financial services and related activities, largely driven by next-generation technologies.
3. A Fintech Tower with a minimum built-up area of five lakh square feet in a single phase, as part of Fintech City, would be constructed to accommodate fintech companies.
4. A Startup Hub with a minimum built-up area of 1 lakh square feet would also be set up to house startups.

5. The Fintech City would comprise entities that over time would connect with the proposed regional fintech hubs in the State.
6. “The objective is to increase the share of Chennai in the fintech industry in the coming years from its current level of 5%,” the official said.

Marketing consultant:

1. The TIDCO is selecting a marketing consultant for investment promotion of the Defence Industrial Corridor in the State.
2. Apart from supporting the existing aerospace units technically, the plan is to attract more aerospace and defence companies towards creating an integrated ecosystem for the aerospace industry development, covering design, engineering, manufacturing, servicing and maintenance of aircraft for the civil and defence sectors in Tamil Nadu, officials said.
3. A separate policy for the development of the aerospace industry was released (in 2019) with a vision to achieve more than 30% share of the Indian aerospace industry output.
4. As a part of the plan to make the State move up the value chain, it has set up an Aerospace Components Manufacturing Park at Sriperumbudur near Chennai in an area of around 260 acres.
5. The area will be expanded to 600 acres.
6. As of now around 20 companies are setting up facilities and the government expects at least 50 companies to start operations here as there are 170 acres more available, an official said.
7. The Aerospace Park is expected to attract an investment of 5,000 crore.

8. The government is also setting up such aerospace and defence parks in all the nodes of the Defence Corridor.
9. The construction of an Advanced Computing & Design Engineering Centre (AeroHub), which would host the engineering and design centres of the aerospace and defence companies at Sriperumbudur, was nearing completion, according to officials.

120. "PARAVAI" -DRIVE LAUNCHED TO REFORM FIRST-TIME OFFENDERS:

1. The Greater Chennai City Police on Monday launched a pilot project called "PARAVAI" (Personality Attitude Reformation Assistance Venture Affirming Identity) for reforming young first-time offenders and their rehabilitation and reintegration.
2. This project has been initiated by the Greater Chennai City Police in association with the Prisons and Correctional Services Department, Social Defense Department, and the Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority being stakeholders.
3. Aimed at reducing and preventing recidivism and re-arrest, the project is being implemented along with PRISM, an NGO.
4. P.N. Prakash, judge of Madras High Court, and Commissioner of Police Shankar Jiwal launched the programme and released a logo in the presence of DGP (Prisons and Correctional Services) Sunil Kumar Singh.
5. Mr. Prakash recalled a pilot project which was launched for the rehabilitation of first-time petty offenders aged 18-24 and lodged in the Saidapet sub-jail under the name

PATTAM (Personality and attitude transformation through therapeutic assistance and management).

6. He said the face of the police had to change and they should have paternal and maternal roles while handling young offenders.
7. Mr. Jiwal said: “We did study the offences that were committed in the last three months and about how many were involved in acts such as bodily harm and property offences.
8. We found that almost 50% of the offenders are juveniles.
9. The figure is mind boggling. Among the 50%, 74% are from urban habitats in socially backward areas.
10. Now, we are working with the University of Madras and some questionnaires have been designed to identify the population of youth who are addicted and those who have seven or eight cases against them.”

121.GROUND WATER IMPROVEMENT- MEASURES

1. Construction of 10,000 check-dams is among the schemes
2. To create villages that can tackle climate changes, Rural Development Minister K.R. Periakaruppan on Tuesday announced schemes entailing an investment of 948.50 crore for improving the groundwater level in rural areas.
3. He said schemes for the current year included the construction of 10,000 check-dams, 25,500 community percolation pits for recharging watertable with treated sewage from houses and 1,75,000 individual percolation pits, besides the planting of 68 lakh saplings.
4. Mr. Periakaruppan said 500 community wells and 1,500 individual ones would be dug at a cost of 200.5 crore to meet the water requirements for irrigation.

122.T.N. TO GET 'BALA SABHAS' IN ALL PANCHAYATS

1. Like gram sabhas, they will pass resolutions on matters related to children, says the new State policy
2. The creation of 'bala sabhas' at all village panchayats for children aged 12 to 18, on the lines of gram sabhas, the introduction of a child protection policy at all panchayats and urban bodies and a child safeguarding policy at all schools are among the provisions envisioned in the Tamil Nadu State Policy for Children, 2021, released by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday.
3. "Bala sabhas, which will meet at least four times a year like the gram sabhas, will pass resolutions on matters related to children and submit them to gram sabhas to take appropriate action," the policy said.
4. The policy has also provided for strategic approaches in four specific areas — life, survival, health and nutrition; education; protection, and participation.
5. Though it makes a mention of POSH, it does not mention the POCSO Act.
6. The policy also notes that the pandemic has exacerbated the existing inequity in education, digital divide, learning crisis, violence against children and poverty, and has further increased the vulnerability of children.
7. "Tamil Nadu has already achieved near universal elementary education, and health indicators for children too are in an advanced stage.
8. It remains a problem only for the last-mile population. But there are some exclusive issues that the children in Tamil Nadu face, which have not yet developed in other States.
9. There is a big gap in secondary education, and there are many pockets of poor enrolment in secondary education within the districts," he said.

10. Adolescent children are at crossroads, he said, adding: “They are subjected to hard labour, they face sexual and other abuses, and early marriages and teen pregnancies, substance abuse, trafficking and mental health issues are the other problems that they face.
11. By addressing these specific issues upfront in the policy, Tamil Nadu can show the way for addressing second-generation issues of children for the whole country,” said the former child protection specialist with UNICEF.
12. “The policy should have paid more attention to providing life skills education and guidance for adolescents, including on reproductive health and other aspects,” he said, adding the two innovative things that could be done were making secondary education free and compulsory for all, and providing specific legal protection to adolescent children, who are treated neither as children nor as adults under most laws.
13. The policy will be implemented by developing a comprehensive plan of action.
14. An exclusive multi-sectoral advisory group will be constituted at the State level for the implementation of the policy and for further monitoring.
15. The policy said Tamil Nadu would regularly carry out a child budget analysis.

123. A NEW SCHEME – VALLALAR PALLUYIR KAPPAGANGAL

1. Kappagangal – will be launched at a cost of 20 crore to support NGOs that take care of abandoned and injured pet animals.

124. SOLAR ENERGY- TAMIL NADU

- 1) The road map to wean the State away from polluting thermal plants
- 2) Tangedco proposes to add about 20,000 MW of power from renewable energy sources by 2030, of which 11,500 added through pumped storage plants.
- 3) The State could have more than 60% of renewable energy by adding 20,000 MW
- 4) Renewable energy's share 13,065 MW
- 5) Wind 8,565 MW
- 6) solar 4,500 MW
- 7) A 3-MW solar battery storage project is being set up in Virudhunagar district.
- 8) The project would have 1-MW solar plant and 2-MW storage battery capacity
- 9) KUSUM Scheme is a pilot project for solarization in Villupuram district. 22 sub-stations have been selected for setting up a 50-MW solar plant each.
- 10) At present, work is executed in 5 sub-stations by Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd.

125.A RECENT STUDY SHOWS TAMIL NADU HAS EMERGED AS THE MOST ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT DESTINATION IN THE FIRST 9 MONTHS OF FY 2022. WHAT LED TO THIS?

- 1) It is due to the multiple policy initiatives taken by the State.
- 2) A life sciences promotion policy, a research and development policy, a footwear policy and an updated EV policy are on the cards.
- 3) The single window portal 2.0 has helped industries.
- 4) Another 100 services are being planned to be offered through the single window portal by this year.

- 5) The State has repealed, subsumed or amended archaic Acts and rules to reduce the burden of compliance.
- 6) Reforms to reduce and simplify over 300 such mandates were introduced and 165 obsolete/redundant Acts were repealed.

How supportive is the Centre when it comes to industrial development in Tamil Nadu?

- 1) We have not had issues on industrial projects.
- 2) We had discussions on the defence corridor and have identified some projects.
- 3) Steps are being taken to industrial parks in Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi Sivaganga, Theni, Pudukottai, Dindigul and Four sites near Chennai have been identified. The government and TIDCO have requested the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to depute a team to evaluate them.
- 4) AAI will send a team shortly. Once the site is finalised, TIDCO will appoint consultants for preparing a technoeconomic feasibility report and selection of a developer.

126. Green T.N. Mission

Initiative to improve forest, tree cover

- 1) The State Government has granted its administrative and financial sanction for implementing the 'Green Tamil Nadu Mission' during 2021-22 that aims to increase the forest and tree cover in the State from the present 23.8% to 33% by 2030-31.
- 2) Under this mission, 265 crore seedlings of native trees of economic and ecological significance would be planted over a period of 10 years on suitable public lands like urban areas, farms, educational institutions, temple grounds, sacred groves, industrial areas, tank foreshore,

- 3) padugai areas among others, covering an area of about 13,500 square kilometres.
- 4) The funding sources for the mission would be from the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, the Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation Corporation and the Tamil Nadu State Compensatory Afforestation Fund.
- 5) Tamil Nadu intended to sustainably manage its forest and tree cover, recognising its key role in climate change adaptation and mitigation, a
- 6) "The State plans to augment the national efforts in creating the additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes in its forest and tree cover by the year 2030 as a part of its National Determined Contribution commitments under the Paris Agreement," it said.

127. 'Kalaingar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Programme'

- 1) The State government will introduce the State Agricultural Development Scheme this year with a total allocation of crore to fulfil farmers' needs and increase their income, Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare M.R.K. Panneerselvam said on Saturday
- 2) Presenting the agriculture budget in the Assembly, he said the scheme would be implemented by the 'Kalaingar All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Programme' with 15 key features.
- 3) One of these would be the promotion of organic farming, for which the government had initiated the establishment of a Nammazhwar Organic Farming Research Institute.
- 4) Mr. Panneerselvam announced t4 crore for the production of organic produce in foodgrains, vegetables and fruits for the development of immunity.

- 5) Farmers groups interested in the production and sale of organic inputs, such as vermicompost and jeevamirtham, will get 1 lakh per group.
- 6) This scheme will be extended to 100 such groups.
- 7) In a separate announcement, the Minister said the Tamil Nadu Organic Farming Mission would be implemented by the Horticulture Department on a cluster based approach.
- 8) There will be two clusters in each district with a size of 50 hectares.
- 9) The project outlay is t30 crore.
- 10) Another feature of the Agricultural Development Scheme is the distribution of tarpaulin to safeguard harvests.
- 11) Tarpaulin will be distributed to 60,000 farmers at a cost of 5 crore, the Minister said. Mr. Panneerselvam said the Farmer Producer Companies Management Centre would be established to support the farmer producer organisations.

