

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 11, 2025

NATIONAL

- **Asia's Longest Freight Train 'Rudrastra'**
- ✓ Indian Railway has achieved a new milestone by successfully conduct a trial run of Asia's largest, a 4.5 km long freight train 'Rudrastra'.



- ✓ The trial run was conducted from the Ganjkhwaja railway station in Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh to Garhwa in Jharkhand covering a distance of 209 km in 5 hours 10 minutes at an average speed of 40.50 km per hour.
- ✓ Rudrastra is Asia's longest freight train, which will make freight transportation and loading quick. This will not only save resources but also time.

SCHEMES

- **MERITE**
- ✓ The MERITE (Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education) Scheme is a Central Sector initiative.



- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the MERITE Scheme to enhance technical education across India.
- ✓ It targets 275 government and government-aided institutions including engineering colleges, polytechnics, and technical universities.
- ✓ The scheme aligns with the National Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020) and aims to improve quality, equity, and governance in technical education.

➤ **Agal Vilakku Scheme**

- ✓ In an effort to ensure the safety of girl children in the online world, the Tamil Nadu school education department has introduced the Agal Vilakku scheme for girl students of Classes 9-12.



- ✓ The scheme aims to empower the students with tools to protect them from mental, physical, and social challenges, with a strong focus on cyber safety.
- ✓ In this regard, the department has launched awareness booklets.
- ✓ Under the initiative, committees of teachers and students will identify problems faced by girl students and suggest solutions.

