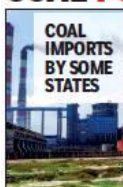


EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 22, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit - administered the oath of office to IAS officer R. Rajagopal, the new State Chief Information Commissioner, on November 21**
 - ✓ He was previously Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor
 - ✓ State Information Commissioners S. Selvaraj, S.T. Tamilkumar, R. Pratapkumar, S. Muthuraj, R. Dakshinamoorthy and G. Murugan were present along with others during the event.
 - ✓ M. Sheela Priya was the previous SCIC, whose swearing ceremony was held in December 2017.
- ◆ **TANGEDCO's coal imports - was the highest among all state-owned discoms during the first half of this financial year.**

COAL POWER

COAL IMPORTS BY SOME STATES	State	Total import till Sept 2019 (tonnes)	Same period in 2018
	Gujarat	4	238
	Maharashtra	1,159	No imports
	Tamil Nadu	2,569.30	1,418
	West Bengal	11	7

- ✓ Its imports have increased by a massive 81% compared to the same period last year.
- ✓ Tangedco's total coal imports during the first half of this FY was 2,569.3 tonnes for thermal capacity of 4,320MW, while MSPGCL, Maharashtra with a thermal capacity of 10,170MW imported only 1,159.60 tonnes — less than half that of Tangedco.
- ✓ Tangedco had earlier stopped importing coal for a few months in 2016-17, but began it again due to shortage in supply of local coal.
- ✓ Tangedco requires about 26 million tonnes of coal for full capacity generation of power by North Chennai, Mettur, Ennore and Tuticorin thermal units


- ✓ As per the Centre's guidelines, discoms must maintain 30 days stock of coal in all thermal units.
- ✓ Tangedco receives coal in Ennore and Tuticorin ports.
- ✓ From the Ennore port the downloaded coal is sent to North Chennai thermal units, as well as to Mettur through rail wagons.
- ✓ Coal downloaded in Tuticorin port is used in the thermal units there, apart from being sent to other units, including North Chennai and Mettur through rail

◆ **The Tamil Nadu government - proposes to conduct a survey soon in districts where the practice of bonded labour exists.**

- ✓ This will help the government in creating a database to identify, free and rehabilitate bonded labourers.
- ✓ Earlier, in 1996, the government conducted a similar survey with the assistance of NGOs.
- ✓ During that time, it identified around 25,000 bonded labourers in the state
- ✓ After 23 years, the state government has decided now to commence the survey on bonded labour, which was banned in the state following the enactment of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act 1976
- ✓ The state-level monitoring committee, under the chairmanship of chief secretary K Shanmugam, gave its approval to conduct the survey in 11 districts.
- ✓ The survey will include Chennai, Kancheepuram, Vellore, Tiruvallur, Villupuram, Cuddalore and Dindigul districts where the most number of cases of bonded labour were reported
- ✓ According to the Union government's data, 3.13 lakh bonded labourers were rescued across the country until December 17, 2018, out of which, 65,573 were from Tamil Nadu

◆ **The Tamil Nadu government - has set a limit of 34 characters (in English) on the online portal, Educational Management Information System (EMIS), where the students upload details for the Class X board exams.**

EXAM BLUES FOR CLASS X KIDS

<p>➤ Class X students, who will appear for SSLC exams in April-May 2020, must upload their names on EMIS</p>	<p>➤ Aadhaar is mandatory for uploading details in EMIS, and</p>
<p>➤ Tamil versions of the names shouldn't exceed 54 characters, says an advisory sent by TNDGE to all CEOs</p>	<p>Aadhaar cards of students with two initials carry their fathers' names after their name. This makes their full name lengthy. When schools tried to link their Aadhaar details with EMIS portal, it exceeds the maximum character limit</p>
<p>➤ November 29 will be deadline for making corrections in students' names</p>	

- ✓ Tamil versions of the names shouldn't exceed 54 characters, as per the advisory sent by the Tamil Nadu Directorate of Government Examinations
- ✓ Chief educational officers (CEOs) and school headmasters upload details of Class X students, who will appear for SSLC exams in April-May 2020, on the EMIS portal.
- ✓ Earlier, the Tamil Nadu government in August made Aadhar mandatory for uploading details in EMIS.

STATES

◆ **The Kerala government - has decided to impose a ban on the production, sale and storage of single-use plastic from January 1, 2020.**

- ✓ The State Cabinet resolved to ban plastic carry bags (irrespective of thickness), plastic sheets, cooling film and plastic plates and cups.
- ✓ Plastic manufacturers and wholesale/retail traders will face a penalty of ₹10,000 for the first offence and ₹25,000 for the second offence.
- ✓ Further violation will attract a fine of ₹50,000 and cancellation of the operating licence for the plant.
- ✓ The ban also covers goods made of thermocol and styrofoam, disposable plastic cups, plates, spoons, forks, straws, dishes, stirrer, plastic-coated paper cups, plates, bowls, non-woven bags, plastic flags and bunting, water pouches, juice packets, PET bottles (below 300 ml), plastic garbage bags, PVC flex materials and plastic packets.

NATIONAL

◆ **The Union government – has decided to make changes to the IT rules which will make it mandatory for social media and internet companies to provide traceability of those posting information on their platforms.**

- ✓ The changes would also be applicable to IT intermediaries – such as Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Google and TikTok – so as to remove malicious content within 24 hours upon receiving a court order, or when notified by the government.
- ✓ The changes are being made as part of amendments to the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011, that were notified under Section 79 of the IT Act.
- ✓ The key features of the proposed amendments will include having the intermediaries periodically urging users for compliance of rules and regulations, and following users' agreement and privacy policy.

◆ **Rajya Sabha - referred the bill seeking to ban commercial surrogacy to a 23-member select committee of Rajya Sabha on November 21**

- ✓ Union health minister Harsh Vardhan moved a motion in the House referring the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019, to the select committee, which was approved by members.
- ✓ Members had earlier sought amendments in certain provisions of the bill, like the ones which allow only a close relative to act as a surrogate to couples who have been legally married for at least five years.
- ✓ Some of the members also sought provisions for allowances and insurance along with maternity leave for the surrogate mother.
- ✓ The bill – which aims to ban commercial surrogacy while allowing only altruistic one for Indian citizens – was passed by Lok Sabha in the monsoon session on August 5

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **Former President Mahinda Rajapaksa - was sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka on November 21, 2019.**

- ✓ He was administered the oath of the office by incumbent President and his younger brother, Gotabaya Rajapaksa.
- ✓ Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa replaces Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, who quit on November 20 following his party candidate Sajith Premadasa's poll defeat



- ✓ Mahinda Rajapaksa will be the new President in a caretaker government until general elections due next year.
- ✓ Mahinda Rajapaksa formerly served as the President of Sri Lanka for two terms from 2005 to 2015, becoming South Asia's longest-serving leader.
- ✓ He was barred from contesting elections again due to the two-term Presidential limit.
- ✓ This would be the first time that Sri Lanka would be administered by two brothers.
- ✓ Gotabaya Rajapaksa won the November 16 presidential election with a clear majority
- ✓ He was a former military man-turned bureaucrat, who rose to the country's most powerful office marking the return of the Rajapaksas to the helm

- ✓ Both Mahinda Rajapaksa and Gotabaya Rajapaksa are largely responsible for bringing an end to the decades-long civil war in Sri Lanka by brutally crushing the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

◆ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)- announces the postponement of the launch of its new-generation earth observation satellite, Cartosat-3 from November 25 to November 27

- ✓ PSLV-C47 rocket will launch Cartosat-3 along with 13 American nano satellites from the second launch pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota at 9.28am on November 27
- ✓ The American satellites have been included in the mission as a part of a commercial deal with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), Department of Space.
- ✓ About 17 minutes after the lift-off, the 1,625kg Cartosat-3 will be separated from the rocket and injected into the 509-km polar sun-synchronous orbit at an inclination of 97.5 degrees
- ✓ This will be followed by the separation and injection of 13 US satellites, which would happen in about 8 minutes.
- ✓ Cartosat-3 is the first of third generation advanced remote-sensing and mapping satellites
- ✓ Besides its civilian use for large-scale urban planning, rural resource and infrastructure development, Cartosat-3 will boost space-surveillance capability of security forces.
- ✓ The satellite is highly advanced than its predecessor Cartosat-2 as it will have a powerful resolution of 25 cm and a wider spatial range, as all previous surveillance satellites had just 50 cm resolution.
- ✓ After Cartosat-3, ISRO will be launching two more surveillance satellites— Risat-2BR1 and Risat-2BR2 aboard PSLVC48 and C49 rocket from Sriharikota in December 2019.
- ✓ The previous two operational satellites to be launched by ISRO include surveillance satellite Risat-2B, which was launched on May 22 and electronic intelligence satellite EMISAT, which was launched on April 1.

APPOINTMENTS

◆ Former Chief Minister of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, Farooq Abdullah and BJP MP, Pragya Thakur - have been nominated as members of the consultative committee of Parliament for the Ministry of Defence.



- ✓ Mr. Abdullah is a three-time CM and a Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar constituency.
- ✓ He has been kept under detention at his Srinagar home since September 5 as per the Public Safety Act (PSA).
- ✓ The detention followed the Union government's decision to revoke special status to the State under Article 370 on August 5.
- ✓ The Consultative committee comprises 12 members from the Lok Sabha and 9 from the Rajya Sabha and is chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- ✓ It also consists of Shripad Yesso Naik, Minister of State for Defence.
- ✓ Thakur was elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time from Bhopal
- ✓ She is an accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case and is facing trial for charges under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.
- ✓ She was granted bail by the Bombay High Court on health grounds in April 2017.

SPORTS

- ◆ **The iconic Eden Gardens - will host the second and final India-Bangladesh Test with the Pink ball for the first time in the country under lights from November 22.**



- ✓ Eden, the first venue to hold ODI and T20 World Cup finals in the country, had earlier staged India's first day-night pink-ball match in 2016 — between local clubs Mohun Bagan and Bhawanipore — under the leadership of former Cricket Association of Bengal president and India captain Sourav Ganguly.
- ✓ Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamta Banerjee will join Sheikh Hasina to ring the ceremonial bell at the Eden Gardens on the first day of the match
- ✓ The ball used in the match is a pink ball instead of the usual red to enable better visibility under the lights.

- ✓ The first-ever day and night test match was played between Australia and New Zealand at the Oval in Adelaide, Australia from November 27 to December 1, 2019.
- ✓ Though the format was introduced in 2015, India was reluctant to join it until former captain Sourav Ganguly became the new BCCI Chairman.
- ✓ Moreover, this is the first time that SG pink balls will be used in an international match, as all the other 11 day-night Tests have been played with the Australian made Kookaburra pink ball
- ✓ The idea of day-night Test matches was initially mooted in the late 2000s due to low turnout and dwindling viewership for Test matches.

◆ **India – to host the \$1.75 million Grand Chess Tour (GCT) for the very first time from November 22**

- ✓ India had earlier hosted the World championship, World Cup, Candidates matches, World junior championship with government support.
- ✓ The Tata Steel rapid and blitz tournament, beginning at the National Library at Kolkata on November 22 with the private support for the first time, will witness the presence of World champion and the game's top-ranked player Magnus Carlsen.
- ✓ The Norwegian last visited India in 2013 as the World championship challenger and prevailed over five-time winner Viswanathan Anand in Chennai.
- ✓ The tour is the last stop of the seven-leg Tour before the four-player GCT Finals during the London Chess Classic next month.

◆ **Indian shooters - dominated the third day of the ISSF World Cup Finals in Putian, China by winning 3 gold medals in 4 events on a single day**



- ✓ Manu Bhaker won the gold in 10m air pistol event, while Elavenil Valarivan and Divyansh Singh Panwar won gold in women's and men's 10m air rifle events respectively.
- ✓ A gold medal at the World Cup Finals is very important as toppers of the four World Cups and having high world rankings are invited to participate in the Finals.
- ✓ This year, the event is even more noteworthy as most of the participants have qualified to shoot at the 2020 Tokyo Games.
- ✓ Manu Bhaker became only second Indian pistol shooter to win gold in 10m air pistol after Heena Sidhu's gold in 2013.

- ✓ Out of the three gold medallists, Elavenil was the only shooter who has not won a quota for the Tokyo Games.
- ✓ India has two quota places through Apurvi Chandela and Anjum Moudgil

INDIA'S FIRST PINK BALL TEST – A REPORT

Team India plays ball today with cricket's new colour

The iconic Eden Gardens in Kolkata will host India's first D/N Test, between the home country and Bangladesh, from today. Apart from the pink ball, there are many things that will be new about the game. **TOI** gives you the lowdown



The idea

D/N Tests were planned to spice-up the five-day format and make Tests more viewer friendly for people who wanted to watch the match after a day's work

The first First Class match with the pink ball
Jan 15-18, 2010
 TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO VS GUYANA, NORTH SOUND
RESULT: MATCH DRAWN

The ICC go-ahead

On October 30, 2012, the ICC cleared Test cricket to be played under lights

“ I think the dew factor will play a big role over here. We need to figure out how much dew is there. The dew will determine to what extent both teams are competing. The conditions shouldn't hinder anything

—SACHIN TENDULKAR



The pink ball experiment

In 2006, the MCC got in touch with Kookaburra to make a ball that could be used for D/N Test cricket and the Australian sports manufacturing giant swung into action



Why the colour pink?

Pink was settled upon after several trial and error experiments with yellow and fluorescent orange. But TV cameras found it difficult to pick up the ball and it was also thought to be jarring to the eye

How is the ball manufactured?

The components are the same as the red or white ball – cork, rubber, wool. However, the one major difference is that the pink ball is not dipped in grease like the red ball, which stops water from seeping in. The thinking was grease on the pink ball would affect visibility

The ball

BCCI has decided to use the SG pink ball for this Test. In Duleep Trophy matches played with pink balls, Kookaburra balls were used. The SG pink ball has yet to be tested in a competitive game

'Seams' like a dream?

The outer seam was to be green initially, but player feedback was sought and based on that it was decided that the green outer seam and white closing seam was harder to pick up. Finally, it was decided that black was the way to go

And swings too...

The pink ball swings more in the first 10 or 15 overs, but then once the seam gets soft, it becomes very easy for batsmen. Reverse swing is virtually non-existent and spinners also do not get much turn

EDEN TEST PLAYING HOURS

- 1 pm to 3 pm
- Lunch:** 3 pm to 3.40 pm
- 3.40 pm to 5.40 pm
- Tea:** 5.40 pm to 6 pm
- 6 pm to 8 pm

Normally, the first break is for tea and the second a supper break. But due to dew factor at the Eden, the sequence has been tweaked. D/N Tests in Adelaide began at 2pm local time



First-ever D/N Test

First D/N Test was played from November 27 to December 1, 2015, between Australia and New Zealand at Adelaide Oval with Australia winning a thriller by 3 wickets. Fast bowlers dominated after sunset. The spectator turnout on each of the three days it lasted was an indication the idea was here to stay

Countries that have played D/N Tests

Australia, New Zealand, England, South Africa, West Indies, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe

Teams yet to feature in a D/N Test

India, Bangladesh, Afghan, Ireland

“ Dew is a concern... If the ball is wet, just change it. Laws of the game have changed. In (Sir Don) Bradman's time, if the team

made 200 runs, they got a second new ball. (In) a night game, if the ball gets wet, just change the ball

—DEAN JONES

