



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS –JUNE 21, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- On June 20, the Tamil Nadu government - extended the Covid-19 lockdown in the state by one more week till 6am on June 28 with more relaxations
- ✓ In this regard, the government has divided the state's 38 districts into three categories based on number of Covid-19 infections
- ✓ The continuation of existing restrictions will remain in force in 11 districts (Category I), where the cases are high.
- ✓ The government has permitted establishments and industries to function and for extended hours in 23 other districts (Category II) with moderate cases.
- ✓ The state has allowed public transport (with only non-AC buses) to resume with 50% occupancy in Chennai and neighbouring Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Chengalpet districts (Category III), which have lesser cases.
- ✓ The state also allowed resumption of metro rail service with 50% occupancy in Chennai, alongwith film and television shooting with a cap of 100 people.
- ✓ People in the above four districts can hire taxis and autos without e-registration, thereby allowing free movement of people within the districts.
- ✓ All types of construction work will also be permitted in these districts.

WHAT'S OPEN, WHAT'S SHUT IN CITY

WHAT'S OPEN IN CITY	
➤ Non-AC buses with 50% occupancy	
➤ Metro rail service with 50% occupancy	
 ➤ No need for e-pass for using cabs/autos	
➤ Sports training, contests without spectators	
➤ Restaurants can remain open from 6am to 9pm; Only take-aways allowed	
➤ Private offices with 50% staff	

WHAT'S SHUT IN CITY Cinema theatres, shrines, beaches, bars, gyms 

- ✓ Automobile showrooms and service centres can function in Category III districts as also sports related training and competitions without spectators.

- ✓ All state government offices, export units and their vendors can function with 100% employees, while private offices and other industries can function with 50% workers.
- ✓ In the districts coming under Category II, state government offices involved in essential services can function with 100% employees, while other government offices are permitted to function with just 50% employees.
- ✓ All private offices will function with 33% employees, while export units and their vendors are allowed to operate with 100% workers in these 23 districts.
- ✓ People can travel intra-district by taxis and autos after applying for e-registration.
- ✓ Theatres will be permitted to undertake maintenance work once a week with prior approval in Category II and Category III districts.
- ✓ People from districts falling within these two categories can obtain e-pass and attend weddings, with a cap of only 50 people permitted to attend a wedding.

STATES

- **On June 17, the Union ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change - has notified the constitution of Karnataka Coastal Zone Management Authority under provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**
- ✓ The authority has been constituted to protect and improve the coastal environment by preventing and controlling environmental pollution in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) in Karnataka.
- ✓ It is headed by the Additional Chief Secretary, State Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Bengaluru.
- ✓ The term of the present members of the 15-member body is for three years.
- ✓ The authority will be responsible for regulating, enforcing and monitoring all developmental activities in the CRZ areas as specified in the 2011 notification published by the erstwhile Ministry of Environment and Forests
- ✓ In case of any proposals received from the Karnataka government for changes or modifications in classification of CRZ areas and in the Coastal Zone Management Plan, the authority will make specific recommendations to the National Coastal Zone Management Authority.
- ✓ The authority should have its own website and post information relating to its functions, including the agenda in its meetings, minutes of the meetings, decisions taken in each meeting, website court matters and recommendations for matters on violations
- ✓ It is mandated to furnish reports of its activities at least once in six months to the National Coastal Zone Management Authority.

NATIONAL

- **The Ministry of Tribal Affairs and NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training) – to collaborate for a joint mission named as the**

‘NISHTHA capacity-building programme’ for Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

- ✓ Under the programme, teachers and principals from 120 EMRSs from 3 States (Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh) participated in the first batch of the programme spanning 40 days.
- ✓ NISHTHA stands for National Initiative for School Heads’ and Teachers’ Holistic Advancement.
- ✓ It was launched by the Department of School Education and Literacy as a national mission under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme in 2019-20.
- ✓ The initiative aims to develop the skill levels of the teachers and school principals at the elementary stage, thereby improving the quality of school education
- ✓ It is also the world’s largest teachers’ training programme, consisting of 18 standardized comprehensive training modules developed at the national level
- ✓ The training of NCERT’s flagship program was conducted in an online mode on the NISHTHA portal
- ✓ As per the agreement with NCERT, the Ministry plans to conduct such programs across 350 functional EMRS schools across the country.
- ✓ Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) is an initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to provide quality residential education to Scheduled Tribes (ST) students from class 6 to 12 in remote areas.
- ✓ The programme has been in operation since 1998 and was revamped in 2018-19 to expand its’ geographical outreach

➤ India – becomes the fifth largest recipient of FDI inflows, after receiving \$64 billion in 2020

- ✓ This was revealed in a new UN report, titled “World Investment Report 2021”, released by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ✓ As per the report, the FDI inflows into the country has increased by 27% to \$64 billion in 2020, from \$51 billion in 2019
- ✓ The global Foreign Direct Investment flows have been severely hit by the pandemic and dropped by 35% in 2020 to \$1 trillion from \$1.5 trillion last year.
- ✓ India ranked 18 out of the world’s top 20 economies for FDI outflows, with \$12 billion of outflows recorded from the country in 2020 as compared to \$13 billion in 2019

➤ On June 20, Union minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot - announced to set up five “Divyangta Khel Kendras” across the country

- ✓ The proposed centres will support the interest of Divyangjans (Disabled persons) in sports for their good performance in Paralympics
- ✓ According to the Minister, one such Kendra will come up in Ahmedabad City



- ✓ The Minister made the announcement while virtually addressing 'Samajik Adhikarita Shivar' in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- ✓ The Shivar was organised to distribute aids and assistive devices to 'Divyangjan' under ADIP Scheme (Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons) of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- ✓ A total of 6225 aids and assistive devices worth Rs.3.57 crore will be distributed free of cost to 3805 Divyangjans in the state
- ✓ The ADIP scheme was launched in the year 1981 with the objective of providing assistive devices to the Divyangjan people to assist their independent functioning

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **Foreign minister S Jaishankar - will travel to Italy next week to participate in the G20 foreign ministers' meeting scheduled for June 29 in Matera, Southern Italy.**
- ✓ The Minister will also travel to Greece for bilateral consultations.
- ✓ Italy, being the G20 president, has announced the theme of the summit this year on three related pillars of action — People, Planet, Prosperity.
- ✓ In 2020, G20 countries had focused on dealing with the Covid-19 challenge.
- ✓ A joint session of foreign and developments ministers will also take place on the same day.
- ✓ The meetings will be hosted by Italian foreign minister Luigi di Maio.
- ✓ Health ministers from G20 countries will meet in September, and trade ministers in October.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **India - is to host a two-day summit on Green Hydrogen Initiatives through video conferencing on June 22, 2021 involving the BRICS nations.**
- ✓ The event will be anchored by India's state-run power major National Thermal Power Corporation Limited.
- ✓ The summit will provide a forum for the countries to share and promote their initiatives on utilisation of hydrogen alongwith their future plans.

- ✓ The speakers will share different technologies developed on hydrogen and discuss ideas integrating hydrogen in the overall energy policy framework of respective countries.
- ✓ Hydrogen, when produced by electrolysis using renewable energy is known as 'Green Hydrogen', which has no carbon footprint and lead to zero emissions.
- ✓ Recently, the US-India hydrogen taskforce was launched under the aegis of US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership to achieve affordable hydrogen solutions
- ✓ This task force was launched by United States Department of Energy, Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and USISPF.
- ✓ India's planned National Hydrogen Energy Mission recommends green hydrogen exports to Japan, South Korea, and Europe, also suggests setting up four integrated hydrogen hubs and running long-range public transport buses fuelled by hydrogen cells.
- ✓ India, Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa constitute the BRICS forum.

PERSONALITIES

- **Flying officer Mawya Sudan - has become the 12th woman to be commissioned into the fighter stream of IAF.**



- ✓ Sudan hails from Lamberi village in Rajouri district of J&K
- ✓ She was commissioned at the combined graduation parade at the Air Force Academy in Dundigal near Hyderabad after basic training on June 19
- ✓ Sudan will now undergo rigorous fighter training for over a year before she can become "fully operational" as a fighter pilot
- ✓ Flight Lieutenants Avani Chaturvedi, Bhawana Kanth and Mohana Singh were the first women to be commissioned as flying officers into the fighter stream in June 2016.
- ✓ IAF currently has 11 women fighter pilots, who have undergone the arduous training to fly supersonic jets.

DEFENCE

- **The Indian Air Force - has raised the second Rafale squadron, the 101 'Falcons of Chhamb and Akhnoor', in Ambala ahead of their formal induction at the Hasimara airbase in West Bengal**



- ✓ The first Rafale squadron, the 17 'Golden Arrows' squadron, is already fully operational at the Ambala airbase with its full complement of 18 fighters
- ✓ The second '101 squadron' has been now resurrected with five jets
- ✓ The remaining 13 of the 36 twin-engine Rafales, contracted under the ₹59,000 crore deal signed with France in September 2016, are expected to arrive in batches before April next year, as per the plan.
- ✓ Group Captain Rohit Kataria is the commanding officer of the 17 squadron, while Group Captain Neeraj Jhamb 'Jammy' is heading the 101 squadron.
- ✓ Ambala and Hasimara were selected as the 'main operating home bases' for the 4.5-generation Rafales, even though the omni-role fighters can operate from anywhere in the country as and when required.
- ✓ Hangars, shelters, maintenance facilities and infrastructure for the Rafales have come up at both the airbases.
- ✓ The Hasimara airbase, close to the Sikkim-Bhutan-Tibet tri-junction, was established with Toofani aircraft after the 1962 war with China.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ **International Yoga Day – June 21**



- ✓ The day is observed every year globally to raise awareness about the importance of Yoga and the key role it plays in rejuvenating our mind and the body, contributing to a healthier lifestyle.
- ✓ Theme 2021 - 'Yoga for well-being'

- ✓ On 27 September 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his speech at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly, first proposed the idea of observing 'Yoga Day'.
- ✓ The resolution to adopt June 21 as the International Yoga Day was introduced by India's Ambassador, Ashoke Kumar Mukerji.
- ✓ The draft resolution passed by India was backed by 177 nations, the highest number of co-sponsors for any UN Resolution
- ✓ The first International Yoga Day was celebrated on June 21, 2015 with PM Modi and other personalities performed 21 asanas for 35 minutes in New Delhi
- ✓ The day June 21 was chosen as it is the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the summer season in the northern hemisphere during which the sun is at its highest position in the sky emitting maximum sunlight onto the earth
- ✓ Yoga is believed to have originated in India several years ago and also finds mention in ancient mythological books like the Rig Veda.
- ✓ The World Health Organisation (WHO) has also asked its member states to practice Yoga and has included it in its Global Action Plan for physical activity 2018-30.
- ✓ This year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the 7th edition of the event through video conferencing
- ✓ He will be launching "mYoga app" during the occasion, which was developed in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.
- ✓ The App will have yoga training videos and audio practice sessions in English, Hindi and French languages
- ✓ The event will also include an address by the Minister of State for Ayush Kiren Rijiju and a live Yoga demonstration by the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga and by 15 spiritual leaders and gurus
- ✓ This year's Yoga Day celebrations are supported by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the State Bank of India in New York.

