



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS –JUNE 25, 2021

### TAMIL NADU

- **Kattur in Tiruvarur - has become the first village in Tamil Nadu to achieve 100% vaccination (at least 1 dose) for all eligible adults**
  - ✓ This was announced by the health minister Ma Subramanian on June 24.
  - ✓ The village, with a population of 3,332, has 2,334 people on the eligible list after excluding pregnant women and those younger than 18 years of age.
  - ✓ Kattur is the native place of former chief minister M Karunanidhi's mother Anjugam Ammal.
  - ✓ The village will also house a museum, that is being built in memory of the former chief minister, M Karunanidhi
  - ✓ Earlier this month, Weyan, a remote village in Bandipora district in Jammu and Kashmir, had become the first village in the country to vaccinate all its adult population against Covid-19.
  
- **On June 24, the Tamil Nadu assembly - adopted three amendment bills and adjourned the House sine die**
  - ✓ The TN Fiscal Responsibility Act 2003 was amended to extend the time limit to eliminate revenue deficit and reduce fiscal deficit to 3% of Gross State Domestic Product (GDP) by 31 March 2024
  - ✓ This legislation is amended based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission.
  - ✓ Two other bills were passed for amending laws related to local bodies, both urban and rural
  - ✓ This amendment was made to extend the term of office of special officers (as their term expires on 30 June) upto 31 December 2021 or until the first meeting of the council after polls, whichever is earlier.
  - ✓ The Bills were introduced by Ministers holding the portfolios of Finance (PTR Palanivel Thiagarajan), Municipal Administration (K N Nehru) and Rural Development (KR Periakaruppan).

## STATES

- **Cochin International Airport (CIAL) - won Airport Council International (ACI) Director General's International Roll of Excellence honour for its quality of service**



- ✓ The award was established by the ACI, a global body of airport operators
- ✓ It is given based on the opinion of the passengers for delivering excellent services in Airport Service Quality (ASQ)
- ✓ The CIAL has won multiple ASQ awards over five years during the past 10 years
- ✓ It is one of only six airports worldwide that will receive the recognition this year
- ✓ The award will be presented during the ACI customer Experience Global summit scheduled to be held on 9th September 2021 in Montreal, Canada.

## INTERNATIONAL

- **Warren Buffett - resigned as a trustee from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**



- ✓ Gates Foundation is one of the largest charitable foundations in the world
- ✓ It is managed by Bill and Melinda Gates, who have recently divorced after 27 years of marriage

- ✓ Bill Gates, who co-founded Microsoft in 1975, is the fourth richest person in the world and has a net asset worth of \$145 billion
- ✓ Last March, Bill Gates stepped down from his role on Microsoft's board of directors to concentrate solely on his work with the foundation.
- ✓ Buffett, the 90-year old chairman and chief executive of Berkshire Hathaway, gave no reason for stepping down from the Gates Foundation
- ✓ According to Buffett, he will be giving away another \$4.1 billion's worth of Berkshire Hathaway shares to 5 foundations, as part of his goal to donate 99% of his fortune.
- ✓ Out of these, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation received more than \$3.2 billion, bringing the total contribution of Buffett to the foundation to nearly \$33 billion
- ✓ This year, Buffet said that he would step down as CEO of Berkshire Hathaway.
- ✓ Buffett is the world's eighth-richest person, with a net worth of \$105 billion

## **INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS**

- **China - to operationalise the first electric train in the remote Himalayan region of Tibet soon**
- ✓ The new train will connect the provincial capital of Tibet, Lhasa with Nyingchi, which is a strategically located Tibetan border town close to Arunachal Pradesh
- ✓ The 435.5-km Lhasa-Nyingchi section of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway is expected to be inaugurated ahead of the centenary celebrations of the ruling Communist Party of China on July 1, 2021
- ✓ The Sichuan-Tibet Railway will be the second railway entering into Tibet after the Qinghai-Tibet Railway.
- ✓ It will pass through the southeast of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, one of the world's most geologically active areas.
- ✓ The Sichuan-Tibet Railway line starts from Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province
- ✓ It travels through China and enters Tibet, reducing the journey from Chengdu to Lhasa from 48 hours to just 13 hours.
- ✓ China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of South Tibet, which was rejected vehemently by India

## **ECONOMY**

- **Global rating agency, S&P - has lowered India's growth forecast for fiscal year 2021-2022 to 9.5% from the earlier projection of 11%**
- ✓ The agency cited the sharp contraction in economic activity due to the pandemic for the slash in growth outlook
- ✓ It had projected the country's growth at 7.8% in the next fiscal ending March 31, 2023.
- ✓ Indian economy contracted by 7.3% in fiscal 2020-21 as the country survived the first wave of Covid, as against a 4% growth in 2019-20.

- ✓ Earlier this month, the RBI cut India's growth forecast to 9.5% for this fiscal, from 10.5% estimated earlier.
  - ✓ Another US-based rating agency, Moody's, has projected India to register 9.3% growth in the current fiscal ending March 2022
  - ✓ The World Bank had also slashed its GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal ending March 2022 to 8.3%, from the 10.1% estimated in April 2021
- **Reliance Industries (RIL) - will appoint Yasir Al-Rumayyan, chairman of Saudi Aramco and governor of the Kingdom's wealth fund, to its board as an independent director.**



- ✓ He will be the first foreigner on the board of Reliance Industries
- ✓ Al-Rumayyan's appointment is agreed as part of the finalisation of Aramco's investment in RIL's oil-to-chemicals (O2C) business.
- ✓ Two years ago, Ambani announced to RIL shareholders that Aramco will acquire a 20% stake in RIL's O2C unit for \$15 billion.
- ✓ As part of the deal, Aramco will get one seat on the board of RIL
- ✓ It will also have the right to appoint its executives in key managerial positions in the O2C unit.
- ✓ Harvard-educated Al-Rumayyan, 51, will replace Yogendra P Trivedi, 92, who has expressed a desire to retire from the board.
- ✓ Trivedi, the oldest independent director in a listed company, was inducted in the RIL board by founder Dhirubhai Ambani in 1992.

## SPORTS

- **Saurabh Chaudhary - finished with a bronze medal in the men's 10m air pistol event on the opening day of the ISSF World Cup in Osijek, Croatia, on June 24, 2021**
- ✓ Abhishek Verma, the other Indian shooter in the final, finished fifth with a score of 179.3
  - ✓ On the same day, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar finished at the seventh position in the men's 10m air rifle event.



- ✓ In women's 10m air pistol, Manu Bhaker (137.3) finished 7th, while Yashaswini Deswal (117.1) finished last in the eight-shooter final.
- ✓ A total of 520 shooting athletes from 47 countries will be participating in the event.
- ✓ This is the fourth Shotgun and the second Rifle and Pistol World Cup for the year.
- ✓ The ISSF World Cup series commenced in Cairo, Egypt, in February this year, with a Shotgun-only world cup
- ✓ Later, the first combined world cup was then held in New Delhi, India, in March.
- ✓ It was followed by another Shotgun World Cup in Lonato, Italy

