



FIVE **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-AUGUST**

TAMIL NADU

- **The state government - would publish annual economic surveys prior to the budget, starting from the next financial year**
 - ✓ This was announced by finance minister P T R Palanivel Thiagarajan in the assembly on August 19.
 - ✓ The government has planned a pilot internship programme to engage graduate students of finance, law, and other disciplines.
 - ✓ They would work with government departments on stipend.
 - ✓ The Finance minister further announced the introduction of a massive remedial education programme outside the school premises in the evening hours
 - ✓ It will be introduced to make up for the losses of learning during Covid pandemic and related stress for children.
 - ✓ The scheme will be implemented by roping in teachers, graduate volunteers and the non-government organisations at an estimated cost of Rs 200 crore for the next six months.
 - ✓ The government is also planning to implement a massive learning-reading movement (karpithal-vasippu iyakkam) in the state, as per the Minister
 - ✓ The school education department will take forward the movement with the support of teachers, graduate students, volunteers and non-government organisations.
 - ✓ Further, the Finance minister told the state assembly that the integrated finance complex at Nandanam would be named after former finance minister Perasiyar K Anbazhagan
- **Tamil Nadu – is ranked as the best performing state in the progress of Smart Cities Mission**
 - ✓ This was revealed in a new study by the think-tank Observer Research Foundation
 - ✓ As per the study, only about 47% of projects have been completed under the Mission

- ✓ Chennai and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, Indore, Bhopal and Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh, and Surat and Rajkot in Gujarat figure among the best performers on different criteria
- ✓ Delhi and Nagaland have completed over 70% of their projects while seven other states have finished 50-60% — Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Tripura and Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ Among cities, New Delhi has the highest percentage of completed projects, followed by Chennai, Indore, Surat and Coimbatore.
- ✓ Rajkot utilised its funds best, followed by Indore, Ujjain, Bhopal and New Town Kolkata.
- ✓ At the bottom of the list project completion, among cities, are Puducherry, Amaravati, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur and Shillong, where not even one project has been completed.
- ✓ Among states, Meghalaya has not completed a single project.
- ✓ The Smart Cities Mission was launched in 2015 to redevelop 100 cities across the country

HIGH COURT VERDICT

- **On August 19, the Madras high court - directed the Centre to ensure that all communications between the Centre and the state of Tamil Nadu and its people be in English alone**
- ✓ A division bench of Justice N Kirubakaran and Justice M Duraiswamy instructed the Centre to strictly follow the provisions of the Official Languages Act.
- ✓ Once a representation is given in English, it is the duty of the Centre to send a reply only in English, the bench held.
- ✓ The Judges asked the governments to take steps for preservation and development of all languages, as few languages in the country are thousands of years old and many are 100 years old.
- ✓ The Centre submitted that there would not be any violation to the Official Languages Act and the Official Language Rules in the future.

OBITUARY

- **Legendary athletics coach and Dronacharya awardee OM Nambiar (89 years) – passed away at Kozhikode on August 19**
- ✓ OM Nambiar is the man who nurtured one of the greatest athletes in PT Usha and turned her into a global star
- ✓ Nambiar was one of the first Dronacharya Award winners when he was bestowed with the nation's coaching honour in 1985
- ✓ In the year 2021, Nambiar was honoured with Padma Shri
- ✓ Nambiar was with Indian Air Force for 15 years and retired as a Sergeant in 1970
- ✓ He got a coaching diploma from the NIS-Patiala in 1968 and joined the Kerala Sports Council in 1970, after a brief stint with the Services.

- ✓ Besides Usha, some of the international medal-winning athletes he coached include Shiny Wilson (four-time Olympian and 1985 Asia Championships gold winner in 800m) and Vandana Rao
- ✓ Usha also won four gold medals in the 1986 Asian Games (in 200m, 400m, 400m hurdles and 4x400m relay) under Nambiar's training
- ✓ Usha missed out on a gold medal at the 1982 Asian Games in Delhi and had to be content with two silver medals (100m and 200m).
- ✓ PT Usha missed a bronze medal in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics by one-hundredth of a second in women's 400m hurdles event

SPORTS

- **Bipasha (76kg) - bagged a silver medal at the Junior Wrestling World Championships at Ufa, Russia, on August 19**



- ✓ No female wrestler has won gold at the junior worlds from India, with three silver medals before.
- ✓ The last Indian female wrestler to reach the final at U20 Worlds was Ritu Phogat in 2014
- ✓ Simran (50kg) and Sito (55kg) won bronze medals in the respective categories
- ✓ Bipasha lost her final by technical superiority to America's Kylie Renee Welker.
- ✓ India's Ravinder (men's 61kg freestyle) bagged silver medal at the championships
- ✓ Three other men – Yash (74kg), Pruthvi Babasehb Patil (92kg) and Anirudh (125kg) – clinched bronze medals through repechage in their respective categories
- ✓ Gourav Baliyan (79kg) and Deepak (97kg) had won bronze medal a day earlier

