

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu Government – to celebrate the birth anniversary of social reformer Periyar E V Ramasamy, September 17, as ‘Day of Social Justice’ every year**



- ✓ This was announced by chief minister M K Stalin in the assembly on September 6, while making a suo motu statement under Rule 110 of the Tamil Nadu assembly
- ✓ The announcement of the chief minister was unanimously welcomed by all parties
- ✓ On the eve of Day of Social Justice, employees in all state government offices will take an oath to follow the principles of self-respect, rationalism, equality, brotherhood, and social justice.
- ✓ Thanthai Periyar, as he is popularly known, founded the Dravidar Kazhagam, a precursor to the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK).
- ✓ The chief minister recalled former chief minister and DMK founder CN Annaduarai’s 1967 statement in the Assembly that the first DMK government was “a tribute to Periyar”.
- ✓ He also said the first amendment to the Indian Constitution came about because of Periyar, who “never went to Parliament.”

- ✓ The first amendment to the Constitution in 1951 was regarding “fundamental rights”, the right to freedom of speech, rights against the compulsory acquisition of property and rights against non-discrimination
 - ✓ Periyar is highly revered in the state for his fight against discrimination of women and some of his revolutionary ideas like the right to women in family properties were transformed into legislation
 - ✓ Born on September 17, 1879, Periyar is hailed as the father of the Dravidian movement and enjoyed an iconic status with his ideals, particularly his stance against oppression.
 - ✓ Periyar dropped his surname ‘Naicker’– a caste name – to highlight his ideal on caste discrimination
- **On September 6, state-run power utility, Tangedco - signed a memorandum of understanding with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, a government of India enterprise for mutual collaboration**
- ✓ The MoU is aimed at providing advisory services to Tangedco to augment the capacity with new projects and technology in the sector.
 - ✓ The MoU was signed in the presence of chief minister M K Stalin at the Secretariat.



- ✓ Electricity minister V Senthil Balaji, Tangedco CMD Rajesh Lakhoni and IREDA CMD Pradip Kumar Das were present during the occasion.
- ✓ Under the MoU, IREDA will extend its technical expertise to TANGEDCO for Renewable energy project development, bid process management, and implementation support.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu plans to add 25,000 MW of new capacity in the next 10 years to bring down power purchase cost and achieve self-sufficiency in meeting energy needs of the State.
- ✓ Accordingly, TANGEDCO is planning for 20,000 MW of Solar Power Project, 3,000 MW of Pumped Storage Hydro Electric Project, and 2,000 MW of Gas Based Power Plant for efficient Renewable integration.

- ✓ The estimated loan required for the above projects is about Rs. 1.32 lakh crore.
 - ✓ As per the agreement, IREDA will provide advisory services in matters relating to assistance in market assessment, assessment support in project development, assistance in bid process management and implementation support.
 - ✓ In debt raising, the agency will provide support in understanding the market instrument, undertake due diligence activities and prepare the information memorandum for raising funds.
 - ✓ The MoU can be extended after five years upon mutual consent.
 - ✓ The state government is keen on investing in renewable energy as its own generation from thermal power stations is only 4,320MW, in comparison with the average demand of 15,000MW.
 - ✓ Moreover, half of TANGEDCO's thermal plants are over 25 years old and need to be replaced.
 - ✓ IREDA is the financing arm of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, created for funding renewable and energy efficiency projects, for advisory services and for providing its technical expertise
- **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) - has approved a \$150 million (about Rs.1,095 crore) loan for a sustainable housing project for the urban poor in Tamil Nadu**
- ✓ The loan to provide access to inclusive, resilient, and sustainable housing for the urban poor in the state was approved on September 3, 2021
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu has a population of more than 72 million, with nearly half of which are living in urban areas.
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu's housing shortfall accounts for 6.66% of the national deficit
 - ✓ The project will construct housing units in nine different locations and relocate about 6,000 households vulnerable to natural hazards to safer locations through the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board
 - ✓ It will also help Tamil Nadu's Directorate of Town and Country Planning develop regional plans to map the state's economic and infrastructure development.
 - ✓ A portion of ADB's assistance will be invested by the state government as equity into the Tamil Nadu Shelter Fund
 - ✓ This will assist private sector financing and support investments mainly in industrial housing and working women's hostels for low-income and migrant workers.
 - ✓ In addition, ADB will provide a \$1.5 million (around Rs 10.95 crore) technical assistance (TA) grant from its Technical Assistance Special Fund
 - ✓ This funding will support the capacity building of government agencies responsible for delivering affordable housing and regional planning in the state
- **SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur - received the first prize in AICTE national level clean and smart campus award 2020 in the "University/Deemed-to-be University" category.**



- ✓ The certificate of excellence was presented by Union minister of education Dharmendra Pradhan to university vice-chancellor C Muthamizhchelvan.
- ✓ Dr P Supraja, Assistant Professor, Department of Networking and Communications, School of Computing, SRMIST, has been awarded as 'Best Teacher' under AICTE-Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Award 2021 in recognition of her teaching excellence in technical education
- ✓ Further, the institution's team Clotech has won second prize in the category "Barriers in Accessing Adequate Health Care Service" for presenting a prototype/innovative solution of 'Niramay'

INTERNATIONAL

- **On August 5, the UAE – has announced a new class of visas called 'Green Visas' which will allow expats to apply for work without employer sponsorship**
- ✓ Another stream of visa that was announced under the banner of 'Projects of the 50' was the federal freelancers visa for self-employed workers based in the UAE and overseas in specialised fields such as artificial intelligence, blockchain and digital currencies.
- ✓ The existing Golden Visa eligibility will be expanded to include managers, CEOs, specialists in science, engineering, health, education, business management and technology.
- ✓ The decision of the government is targeted on investors and highly skilled workers as well as students and graduates
- ✓ The Green Visa holders can sponsor their parents and children up to the age of 25 on their permits.
- ✓ Green visas are work permits with residency for pioneers, entrepreneurs and other professionals.
- ✓ The UAE government has also decided to allow people who lost their jobs to remain in the UAE for up to 6 months

- ✓ Generally, foreigners are only given limited visas tied to their employment, and long-term residency is difficult to obtain
- ✓ 'Projects of the 50' is a series of development and economic projects aimed at making UAE an ideal destination for highly skilled individuals and investors
- ✓ Foreign residents form 80% of the population of the UAE and are critical to the economy of the country for the past few decades.
- ✓ The UAE tops the list of hosting the largest number of immigrants from India, stated to be 3.5 million, according to a 2020 UN report
- ✓ In 2019, the UAE launched the 10-year "Golden visa" to attract wealthy individuals and highly skilled workers, the first such scheme in the Gulf.
- ✓ Along with the UAE government, the governments in Saudi Arabia and Qatar have also allowed permanent residency for expats in some categories.

DEFENCE

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh – to meet his Australian counterpart Peter Dutton in New Delhi to discuss specific measures to further expand the bilateral defence cooperation on September 10.**
- ✓ This will be followed by the two defence ministers joining foreign minister S Jaishankar and his counterpart Marise Payne for the first 'two-plus-two' ministerial dialogue between the two countries on September 11.
- ✓ Defence ties with Australia have gained a lot of momentum after the bilateral relationship was upgraded to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' in June 2020.
- ✓ With Australia now becoming a permanent member of the quadrilateral 'Malabar' naval exercise, the 25th edition of the exercise was conducted off Guam in the Western Pacific late last month
- ✓ Australia is also keen on India joining his country's largest biennial wargames called 'Talisman Sabre' in 2023.
- ✓ **On September 6, India and Australia kicked off the 4th edition of their bilateral naval exercise 'AUSINDEX' off Darwin.**



- ✓ India has deployed guided-missile frigate INS Shivalik and anti-submarine warfare corvette INS Kadmatt for the exercise under the Command of Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Fleet
- ✓ Australia is taking part with frigate HMAS Warramunga and submarine HMAS Rankin as well as F-18A fighter jets and P-8A maritime patrol aircraft.

SPORTS

- **Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo - overtook Iran's Ali Daei as the top men's career international goal scorer in the history of football**
- ✓ The Portugal captain scored his 110th goal for Portugal in the 89th minute against Ireland in a World Cup qualifier recently



Leading international goalscorers in history

Name	GOALS	GAMES	Goals Per Game
1 Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)	111	180	0.62
2 Ali Daei (Iran)	109	149	0.73
3 Mokhtar Dahari (Malaysia)	89	142	0.62
4 Ferenc Puskas (Hungary)	84	85	0.99
5 Godfrey Chitalu (Zambia)	79	111	0.71
6 Hussein Saeed (Iraq)	78	137	0.57
7 Pele (Brazil)	77	92	0.84
8= Ali Mabkhout (UAE)	76	92	0.83
8= Lionel Messi (Argentina)	76	151	0.5

- ✓ The 36-year-old Ronaldo, who recently switched to Manchester United from Juventus, was playing in his 180th game for Portugal
- ✓ The forward made his debut for the national team in 2003 and began his historic scoring run at the 2004 European Championship in a 2-1 loss to Greece in the group stage.

- ✓ Daei scored 109 goals in 149 games for Iran from 1993-2006 and played for German clubs Bayern Munich and Hertha Berlin.
- ✓ The topmost scorer in international soccer is 38-year-old Christine Sinclair of Canada, who scored her 187th goal at the Tokyo Olympics where she won gold last month
- ✓ Ronaldo drew level with Daei's mark of 109 earlier this year at Euro 2020 with a two-goal performance in group-stage action against France.
- ✓ Ronaldo, whose only title with Portugal came at Euro 2016, was top scorer at this year's European Championship with five goals in four games
- ✓ He also made Euro history when he scored twice in Portugal's opening group-stage game against Hungary to become the tournament's all-time leading scorer with 11 goals.
- ✓ He became the first man to appear at five Euros, second overall only to Italy's Carolina Morace who has appeared at six tournaments.
- ✓ Ronaldo is the only man to score in five Euros, extending his own record.



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