

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 21, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- On November 20, the Tamil Nadu government - released the Tamil Nadu State Policy for Children, 2021
- ✓ The Policy, which was released by chief minister M K Stalin, seeks to ensure prevention and protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation.

KEY PROVISIONS

➤ TN reaffirms that its children are state's 'supremely important asset'

➤ All children below six to have universal and equitable access to quality early childhood care and development by strengthening anganwadis

➤ Internal complaints committee in all schools under POSH Act

➤ Promote creches, day care



facilities for children of working, underprivileged or ailing mothers

➤ Safe and age-appropriate digital education for all children

- ✓ According to the policy, every child shall have access to quality healthcare and education and will be able to freely express views on any issue concerned.
- ✓ The policy aims to build a safe and secure environment and child friendly spaces as a foundation for realisation of the rights of all children in the state.
- ✓ It also wants to strengthen and sustain community based mechanisms to protect children from all forms of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual, neglect, denial and online), discrimination, exploitation, violence or any other activity that will harm them or affect their care, protection and overall development.
- ✓ The policy also reaffirmed its commitment towards zero tolerance to any form of violence against children.

- ✓ It further wants to introduce a child safeguarding policy in all schools to make all schools safe for children.
 - ✓ Other measures suggested in the policy includes -
 - ✓ forming internal complaints committee in all schools under POSH Act (The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013)
 - ✓ conducting awareness campaigns against all forms of violence against children and its negative impact on children,
 - ✓ laws/ institutions to be accessed or approached for redressal, implementing highest standards of safety and security within all child care institutions,
 - ✓ building a preventive, responsive children protection system,
 - ✓ promoting effective enforcement of legislation
 - ✓ upgrading rehabilitation services under the child protection system with special focus on mental health and psycho-social support
 - ✓ ensuring privacy of the children in need of care and protection,
 - ✓ allocation of adequate budget in proportion to the hilt population of the state.
 - ✓ The policy wants to consider institutional care as a last resort and wants to strengthen family care and alternative care.
 - ✓ According to the Government, the policy will be implemented by developing a comprehensive plan of action with consultation of all stakeholders.
 - ✓ The policy was framed based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989.
- **On November 20, Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated a new DNA profile-based search tool at the Secretariat.**



- ✓ The new device will help trace abandoned children, inter-state criminals and child sexual predators among others.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has become the first state in the country to get the state-of-the-art device as part of the efforts to modernise the state forensic department

- ✓ Developed by the state forensic sciences department, the newly developed tool can be used to create profiles of victims of human trafficking and help trace them so that they can be reunited with their parents.
- ✓ The tool can help in identifying missing children, track criminals from other states who have taken shelter in Tamil Nadu
- ✓ It can also be used to help identify unidentified bodies and create profiles of history-sheeters and people who die of natural disasters.
- ✓ Of the 14 units that make up the state forensic sciences department, DNA profiling is a key component.
- ✓ The present structure in the department takes time to identify and isolate the DNA of required samples.
- ✓ However, the newly introduced tool, which has advanced kits, will be able to deliver accurate results in less time, for even the most challenging casework samples.

➤ **Chennai - improved its ranking in cleanliness in 2021 by securing 43rd spot in the Swachh Survekshan report for 2021 released on November 20.**

- ✓ The city — which got a rank of 45 last year — bettered Coimbatore and Madurai placed at 46th and 47th place, respectively.
- ✓ Twenty-three small cities from the State, too, have made it to the national list.
- ✓ Three urban local bodies near the city — Avadi, Tambaram and Pallavaram — have also improved their rankings for urban local bodies that have populations between one lakh and 10 lakh.
- ✓ Avadi is now ranked 267 as against 367 last year, while Tambaram ranked at 200 compared to 314 and Pallavaram was at 233 compared to 283 in 2020.
- ✓ Other urban local bodies that performed better were Trichy, Salem, Dindigul, Tuticorin and others
- ✓ Swachh Survekshan is an annual survey of cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in cities and towns across India
- ✓ It was launched as part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which aims to make India clean and free of open defecation.
- ✓ In 2021, the national-level ranking was done based on the feedback given online by residents.
- ✓ The list categorises cities based on their population - Cities that have a population of more than 10 lakh are clubbed as major cities, while those that have a population of 1 lakh to 10 lakh are considered small cities.

STATES

➤ **Arunachal Pradesh Government – has declared ‘Kaiser-i-Hind’ as the state butterfly.**

- ✓ The butterfly carries ‘India’ in its name and it is found in southern China, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan.



- ✓ Kaiser-e-Hind, meaning emperor of India, is a very rare and elusive swallowtail butterfly, which is found at medium and high elevations.
- ✓ It flies high in broad-leaved temperate evergreen forests and its presence indicates the existence of a good forest ecosystem
- ✓ For the first time, the Arunachal Pradesh Cabinet meeting was held outside the capital of Itanagar, in the Pakke Tiger Reserve in Pakke Kessang district
- ✓ The Cabinet proposed to name the rare butterfly species as the state butterfly to boost butterfly tourism and save the species from extinction
- ✓ Kaiser-I-Hind, named *Teinopalpus Imperialis*, has a wingspan ranging from 90 mm to 120 mm and can be found in 6 states in the eastern Himalayan region at the height of 6,000 to 10,000 feet in forests
- ✓ The butterfly species is protected under Schedule 2 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- ✓ The Pema Khandu Cabinet adopted the Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Declaration on Climate Change-Resilient and Responsive Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ The Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Declaration is aimed at reducing emissions and achieving sustainable development.

NATIONAL

- **Indore in Madhya Pradesh - retained the tag of the cleanest urban local body (ULB) for the fifth time in a row, according to the government's cleanliness survey Swachh Survekshan 2021 released on November 20**
- ✓ The second and third positions in the 'cleanest city' category of the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards, 2021' were secured by Surat and Vijayawada, respectively.
- ✓ Navi Mumbai lost its third spot to Vijaywada and was in the fourth position in the latest survey results
- ✓ Varanasi has been adjudged the "cleanest Ganga town" while Bihar's Munger and Patna have been ranked second and third in the category.

WHAT DID THE TRICK FOR INDORE, DEWAS

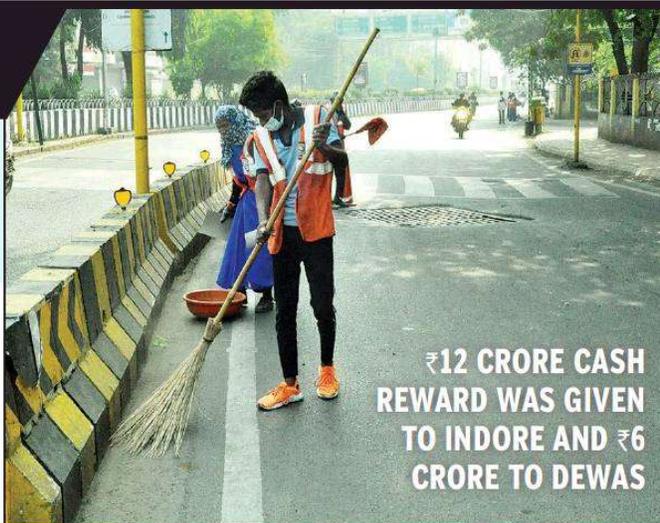
➤ **200+ advanced machines are used in Indore** for man-hole and drainage line cleaning

➤ **870 sanitation workers trained and deployed**

➤ **11,000 PPE kits distributed**

➤ **A dedicated helpline for monitoring purpose** has also been set up in both the cities

➤ **19 workers were provided loans of up to ₹1.63 lakh in Indore**, while four staffers were provided loans in Dewas



₹12 CRORE CASH REWARD WAS GIVEN TO INDORE AND ₹6 CRORE TO DEWAS

- ✓ The biggest show of improvement was of Noida, which jumped from 40th position in 2020 to 9th this year among ULBs with more than one lakh population.
- ✓ The New Delhi municipal council (NDMC), which covers the Lutyens' Bungalow Zone, also improved its ranking to 5th from last year's position of 8th among ULBs.
- ✓ The NDMC also received the award of being the cleanest city in the category of ULBs with '1-10 lakh' population.

CHENNAI CLEANEST IN TN, COIMBATORE JUMPS TO 46

2021 SWACHH SARVEKSHAN

Cleanest Urban Municipal Bodies

1 lakh-plus population
Figures in brackets are last year's rankings

1. Indore (1)
2. Surat (2)
3. Vijayawada (6)
4. Navi Mumbai (3)
5. NDMC (5)
6. Ambikapur (4)
7. Tirupati (12)
8. Pune (38)
9. Noida (40)
10. Ujjain (22)



Cleanest Cities (less than 1L popn)

1. Vita (Maharashtra)
2. Lonavala (Maharashtra)
3. Savsad (Maharashtra)
4. Panchgani (Maharashtra)
5. Dungarpur (Rajasthan)

NDMC TOPS SEGMENT

- ▼ New Delhi Municipal Corporation named cleanest city in the 1 to 10 lakh population category
- ▼ Indore bags the top spot for 5 years in a row
- ▼ Surat stays at No. 2 for the second consecutive year
- ▼ Chhattisgarh gets cleanest state tag for the 3rd time
- ▼ Varanasi adjudged best Ganga ULB (urban local body)
- ▼ 9 ULBs – Indore, Surat, NDMC, Navi Mumbai, Ambikapur, Mysuru & Noida – get 5-star rating for 'Garbage Free Cities'
- ▼ 8 out of top 10 cleanest cities (under 1L popn) from Maharashtra

Trichy's Poor Show Continues..

- ▼ In 2021, most of the cities in the state have fared better than the ranking received last year in terms of cleanliness
- ▼ In 1 lakh-plus popn category (2021|2020)
- ▼ Trichy | 121 | 102
- ▼ Tambaram | 200 | 314
- ▼ Pallavaram | 233 | 283
- ▼ Avadi | 267 | 367



Cities in TN Show Improvement

Ranking In 2021 | 2020
Chennai 43 | 45
Coimbatore 46 | 40

MORE REPORTS ON P 5 & 16

- ✓ Hoshangawad and Triputi emerged as the 'Fastest Mover Small City' and 'Best Small City in Citizens' Feedback' categories, respectively.
- ✓ Chhattisgarh has been adjudged India's cleanest state, while Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, having more than 100 urban local bodies, have been adjudged the second and third cleanest states in the country
- ✓ In the category of states with less than 100 urban local bodies, Jharkhand has been ranked first, followed by Haryana and Goa.



- ✓ The 10 top-ranked cleanest cities, having a population of more than one lakh, are Indore, Surat, Vijaywada, Navi Mumbai, New Delhi, Ambikapur, Tirupati, Pune, Noida and Ujjain.
- ✓ Lucknow has been ranked the lowest among 25 cities in the same category.
- ✓ Noida emerged as the country's 'cleanest medium city' in the category of 3-10 lakh population.
- ✓ Navi Mumbai bagged the first award in the category of 'Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge'.
- ✓ It also got the first position as India's 'cleanest big city' in the category of 10lakh-40 lakh population

- ✓ In the category of cantonment boards, Ahmedabad was ranked the cleanest city, followed by Meerut and Delhi.
 - ✓ Surat has bagged the first award in the district ranking category while Indore and New Delhi have secured second and third positions, respectively
 - ✓ Among all ULBs with less than one lakh population, eight out of the top 10 were from Maharashtra with Vita emerging as the cleanest among them, followed by Lonavala and Sasvad.
 - ✓ Maharashtra bagged a total of 92 awards, the highest by any state, followed by Chhattisgarh with 67 awards.
 - ✓ Additionally, under the Prerak Daaur Samman, a new performance category introduced under Swachh Survekshan 2021, five cities – Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai, NDMC and Tirupati were categorized as ‘Divya’ (Platinum).
 - ✓ Unlike last year, the annual swachhta (cleanliness) survey did not put out a comprehensive list of ULBs under the category of ‘more than 1-lakh population’.
 - ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind gave away the awards to the top-ranking cities at an event in Delhi in the presence of Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and others
 - ✓ The award ceremony was conducted as part of the “Swachh Amrit Mahotsav” organized by Union ministry of housing & urban affairs (MOHUA)
 - ✓ Since the inception of the national level survey of ULBs in 2016, the housing and urban affairs ministry has introduced changes in the scoring pattern to make the findings more accurate and progressive.
 - ✓ To that end, this year, it increased the citizens’ feedback to a maximum score of 1,800 compared to 1,500 in the 2020 survey.
 - ✓ Swachh Survekshan 2021 has become the world’s largest cleanliness survey by surveying around 4320 cities
 - ✓ The 2021 edition was conducted in just 28 days despite on-ground challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic with over 4.2 crore people giving their feedback
 - ✓ Swachh Amrit Mahotsav also paid tribute to sanitation workers by means of recognising top performing cities under ‘Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge’
 - ✓ Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge is an initiative launched by ministry to promote mechanised cleaning of septic tanks and sewers besides preventing ‘hazardous manual cleaning’
- **The Centre - has started the process of auctioning non-core assets of the two loss-making state-run telecom companies, BSNL and MTNL.**
- ✓ The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (Dipam) has invited bids on the MSTC portal for six properties of BSNL and MTNL
 - ✓ This commences the non-core asset monetisation of the two struggling telecom PSUs in a phased manner.
 - ✓ The two companies have failed to show any credible turnaround despite being given a massive ₹70,000-crore revival package some time back
 - ✓ They own massive land assets across the country worth thousands of crores.

- ✓ Apart from land bank, the government had previously also discussed monetising the tower assets of BSNL and MTNL, without much progress
 - ✓ The Centre unveiled a ₹6 lakh crore asset monetisation plan over the next four years.
 - ✓ Assets which have been identified include roads, power transmission and generation, gas pipelines, warehousing, railways, telecom, 25 airports, 31 projects in nine major ports, coal and mineral mining, sports stadia, redevelopment of colonies.
 - ✓ Only brownfield assets will be considered and land has been left out.
 - ✓ The top five sectors include - roads (27%), followed by railways (25%), power (15%), oil & gas pipelines (8%) and telecom (6%).
 - ✓ Roads and railways together account for 52% of the total NMP value.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - unveiled the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel recently, at the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India to mark the First Audit Diwas (16th November, 2021).**



- ✓ CAG Girish Chandra Murmu was also present on the occasion
 - ✓ Audit Diwas was being celebrated to mark the historic origin of the institution of CAG and the contribution it had made to the governance, transparency and accountability over the past several years.
 - ✓ The institution was founded in the year 1858 .
 - ✓ CAG was established under Article 148 of the Constitution to audit expenditures of the central as well as state governments
 - ✓ It is the statutory auditor and also conducts a supplementary audit of companies in which the government has an equity share of 51%.
 - ✓ The CAG is ranked ninth in the order of precedence and enjoys the same status as a Supreme Court judge.
- **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh - inaugurated "Tech Neev @75" as part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" at New Delhi on November 15, 2021**



- ✓ Tech NEEV@75 is an initiative launched by Ministry of Science & Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences
- ✓ The event also included compilation of 75 impactful stories on progress of India towards Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.
- ✓ During the occasion, the Minister interacted with successful start-ups including those from the tribal communities on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.
- ✓ The day November 15 marks the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda as “Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas”
- ✓ The Minister informed that the Government will be setting up 30 Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Hubs in different parts of the country for Scheduled Tribes (STs) by end of 2022
- ✓ These STI hubs seek to promote scientific talent among tribal communities and for their overall socio-economic development.
- ✓ During the event, the Minister said that “Tech NEEV@ 75” is a year-long celebration highlighting the impact of Science Technology Innovation (STI) in empowering the community for creating equitable inclusive economic growth

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India - was re-elected to the executive board of the UN's cultural and education organization (UNESCO) for the 2021-25 term with 164 votes on November 17, 2021**
- ✓ India was re-elected to Group IV of Asian and Pacific States which also include Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Cook Islands and China
- ✓ The UNESCO Executive Board is one of the three constitutional organs of the UN agency (the others being the General Conference and the Secretariat) and it is elected by the General Conference
- ✓ The executive board consists of 58 member-states, each with a four-year term
- ✓ UNESCO is a specialised agency of United Nations (UN), founded in 1945
- ✓ It examines the programme of work for the organisation and corresponding budget estimates submitted to it by the Director-General
- ✓ The UNESCO aims to promote world peace & security through international cooperation in education, science, arts, and culture.

- ✓ It comprises of 193 member states and 11 associate members besides other partners in intergovernmental, non-governmental, and private sector.
- ✓ The agency is headquartered at World Heritage Centre in Paris, France.
- ✓ Apart from that, it has 53 regional field offices and 199 national commissions which facilitate its global mandate.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- Union minister for information & broadcasting Anurag Thakur - presented the Indian Film Personality of the Year 2021 Award to MP & actress Hema Malini at the 52nd International Film Festival of India, Panaji.



- ✓ Union MoS for information & broadcasting L Murugan and Goa chief minister Pramod Sawant were present during the occasion
- ✓ The festival was embracing new technology by including, for the first time, OTT (over the top) platforms.
- ✓ The IFFI also conferred the first 'Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement' award on filmmakers Martin Scorsese and Istvan Szabo

DEFENCE

- The sixth edition of Indo – France joint military exercise “Ex SHAKTI 2021” – to take place from November 15 to November 26 in Frejus, France.



- ✓ The biennial training exercise has commenced at the Military School of Draguignan, France with an opening ceremony
 - ✓ The Indian Army contingent is being represented by a composite team of three Officers, three Junior Commissioned Officers and 37 soldiers from a battalion of Gorkha Rifles and support Arms
 - ✓ The French side is being represented by troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment of the 6th Light Armoured Brigade.
 - ✓ The exercise is being conducted in two phases which will end with a grueling 36 hours exercise to validate the standards achieved during the two phases.
 - ✓ The training focused on aspects of joint planning, mutual understanding of conduct of operations and identification of coordination aspects required in a Counter Terrorism environment under United Nations mandate.
 - ✓ India and France carry out three biennial training exercises — Exercise Garuda with the Indian Air Force, Exercise Varuna with the Indian Navy and Exercise Shakti with Indian Army
 - ✓ India has already conducted joint Air Force and Naval exercises with France earlier in the year.
 - ✓ Exercise Desert Knight-21, between the Air Forces of the two nations, was held in January at the Jodhpur Air Force Station
 - ✓ In April, the two Navies participated in the 19th edition of the Varuna exercise in the Arabian Sea
 - ✓ The last edition of the Shakti exercise had taken place at the Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan in 2019
- **A total of 153 cadets - were commissioned in Indian Army on November 20, after completing training at the Officers Training Academy in Chennai**
- ✓ Sixteen men and nine women from Afghanistan, Bhutan and Maldives, too, completed their training.



- ✓ Witnessing the passing-out parade, Vice-Chief of the Army Staff Lt Gen CP Mohanty said women officers have been playing a significant role in the Army over the past few decades.

- ✓ He presented the Sword of Honour and OTA gold medal to ACA Siddhanth Sharma, the silver medal to BUO Dimple Singh Bhati and the bronze to BCA Muneesh Kumar.

ECONOMY

- **Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) - released an investor charter on November 17**
 - ✓ The new charter outlines the rights and responsibilities of investors and dos and don'ts of investing in the securities market
 - ✓ The Investor charter was first proposed in Union Budget 2021-2022 with the aim of protecting investors from mis-selling the financial products
 - ✓ The charter protects the interest of investors by enabling them to understand the risks involved and invest in a fair, transparent, secure market, and to get services in a timely and efficient manner.
 - ✓ All the SEBI registered entities will be mandatorily required to adhere to this charter.
 - ✓ The charter warns investors against making any payments in cash beyond the prescribed limit when making investment in the securities market and sharing sensitive financial information, such as account details, login IDs, passwords, etc with anyone
 - ✓ Before making an investment, investors must read and understand documents related to a financial product, know the risks involved and read about various fees, margins and premiums, among other charges involved in a transaction
 - ✓ Among other things that investors must do, they should know about the Investor Grievance Redressal Mechanism, keep track of account statements and bring any discrepancy to the notice of the concerned stock exchange, intermediary or AMC
 - ✓ They must preserve all relevant documents related to documents that will come in handy when rising grievances

