

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-NOVEMBER 6, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government - sets up the first ever Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) – Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company – to professionally manage three critical natural conservation missions of the state**
- ✓ The proposed company will manage three missions namely, Tamil Nadu Climate Change mission, Tamil Nadu Wetlands mission and Tamil Nadu Green movement mission.
- ✓ The SPV's authorised capital will be ₹5 crore and it will have environment secretary as its chairperson and managing director.
- ✓ The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and five secretaries of Departments of finance, energy, municipal administration, agriculture and forests will be the board members of the SPV
- ✓ In this regard, the state has issued a GO from Environment Secretary Supriya Sahu
- ✓ As per the GO, a specialised 'Project Management Unit' will be established in partnership with the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Fund Management Corporation Limited (TNIFMC) to coordinate and monitor project activities under the three missions.
- ✓ The SPV has been mandated with the planning, execution and monitoring of the State-wide programme for the climate change adaptation and mitigation, wetlands mapping and restoration, enhancing the forest and tree cover of the State to 33% from the present 23.27% over the next ten years.
- ✓ It will create strong policy support for climate change, with the involvement of all sectors of governance
- ✓ The SPV will devise strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, benchmarking of industries to move towards green manufacturing and promote eco-friendly technologies towards a sustainable future.
- ✓ It will also develop collaborations and strengthen community engagement to build long term commitment for a net zero carbon future for Tamil Nadu

- ✓ On November 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi committed to India achieving net-zero carbon emission by 2070.
 - ✓ The State Finance Minister announced the three missions while presenting the revised budget for 2021-2022.
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission will identify and map 100 wetlands in 5 years and restore the ecological balance with focus on livelihood options at a cost of ₹150 crore.
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission will focus and take action on climate change adaptation and mitigation activities with a total outlay of ₹500 crore
 - ✓ The Green Tamil Nadu Mission aims to enhance carbon absorption potential on an average of eight Mt every year from the year 2024-2025 to 2030-2031 by increasing the forest and tree cover
 - ✓ The State plans to restore degraded forest areas by undertaking tree planting and soil moisture conservation efforts, plant tree species in farm lands with suitable agri-silviculture model, plant in public lands like community lands etc.,
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu is a coastal State, having a coastline of 1,076 km and a total land area of 1,30,058 sq.km spread across 38 districts
 - ✓ The forest cover of the State as per the ISFR 2019 has absorbed 216 Million tonnes (Mt) of carbon, which is 3.03% of the total carbon stock of 7,124 Mt stored in India's forest cover
- **The government - has declared the formation of the Tambaram corporation by promulgating an ordinance on November 4, 2021**



- ✓ Governor RN Ravi has promulgated an Ordinance for upgrading Tambaram municipality as a municipal corporation
- ✓ The Tambaram municipal corporation has been formed by merging 10 adjacent urban local bodies — five municipalities and five town panchayats
- ✓ According to the ordinance, the Municipalities of Pallavaram, Pammal, Anakaputhur and Sembakkam and the Town Panchayats of Chitlapakkam, Madambakkam, Perungulathur, Peerkankaranai and Tiruneermalai will be integrated into Tambaram city Municipal Corporation.
- ✓ The ordinance says the corporation will be formed based on the Municipal Corporation Act 1981, which was used to form Avadi corporation.

- ✓ Tambaram is the 21st municipal corporation in Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ The announcement to form Tambaram Municipal Corporation along with five other Corporations such as Kancheepuram, Karur, Kumbakonam, Cuddalore and Sivakasi was made by Minister for Municipal Administration KN Nehru in the state Assembly, on August 24, 2021
 - ✓ The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation Ordinance, 2021 was notified in the TN government Gazette (Extraordinary) on November 3, 2021
 - ✓ The ordinance was issued as the legislative assembly is not in session.
 - ✓ The State government has also issued notification for upgrading Kumbakonam municipality as a municipal corporation by merging Darasuram town panchayat.
- **Anna University vice-chancellor R Velraj – has been named among the top 2% scientists in the world listed by Stanford University.**



- ✓ A team from Stanford University along with Elsevier BV released an updated list of top 2% scientists, based on the references and research citations made in the year 2020.
- ✓ Of 1,86,177 scientists featured in the list, 2,042 were from India with more than 100 researchers and faculty members from Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Scientists working in areas such as chemistry, nanoscience, mechanical engineering, material science, bioinformatics, automation, energy, geology and environmental engineering feature on the list.
- ✓ Dr V Mohan from Madras Diabetes Research Foundation was the highest ranked researcher who got 8,741 overall rank.
- ✓ Forty-seven faculty members from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT Madras) were on the list, highest for any institution in the state.
- ✓ Professor Sarit K Das from IIT Madras was the top ranked scientist in mechanical engineering in the country.
- ✓ Das was also a former director of IIT Ropar and institute chair professor.
- ✓ He worked in multiple areas including fuel cells, using engineering in biological research, nanoparticle mediated drug delivery in cancer cells.
- ✓ He is currently working on developing human organs on chips.

- ✓ Anna University has three professors including its vice-chancellor R Velraj on the list.
- ✓ Stanford University also released a second list based on single-year impact (2020), which has 13 professors from Anna University.
- ✓ Professor L Elango from the department of geology was ranked number one in hydrogeology.
- ✓ Among the state universities Bharathiar University and Annamalai University have nine faculty members each, Alagappa University had four, Bharathidasan University had three, and Madurai Kamaraj University and Manonmaniam Sundaranar University had two members each on the list.
- ✓ Among private institutions, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) has 14 researchers on the list and Christian Medical College 10.
- ✓ Four faculty members from SRM Institute of Science and Technology and two each from Amrita School of Engineering and PSG College of Technology also featured on the list.

SCHEMES

- **The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) - launched the 'Krishi UDAN 2.0' scheme to focus on transporting bio-degradable food products from the hilly areas, northeastern states and tribal areas**



- ✓ Union Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurated the 'Krishi Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) 2.0' scheme recently to tackle the problem of wastage of agricultural food wastes in the country
- ✓ Under Krishi Udan 2.0, the Centre will facilitate the development of hub and spoke model in India and create cargo terminals at the airports in a phase-wise manner.
- ✓ The ministry will setup cargo terminals in Leh, Srinagar, Nagpur, Nashik, Ranchi, Bagdogra, Raipur and Guwahati under the scheme.
- ✓ Further, a full waiver of landing, parking, Terminal Navigation and Landing Charges and Route Navigation Facilities Charges will be given for domestic airlines under the scheme.
- ✓ The Krishi UDAN 2.0 scheme will be implemented at 53 airports across the country mainly focusing on Northeast and tribal regions and is likely to benefit farmers, freight forwarders and Airlines.

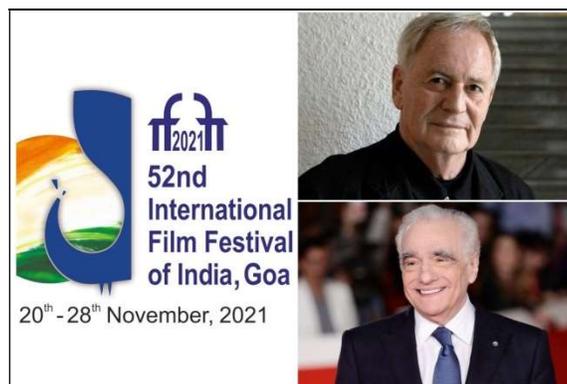
- ✓ Further, eight domestic and international trade routes will also be started under the scheme
- ✓ The routes include Amritsar-Dubai to transport baby corn, Darbhanga and the rest of India to transport Lychees, Sikkim and the rest of India for organic produce, Agartala-Delhi-Dubai for Pineapple, Dibrugarh-Delhi-Dubai for Mandarin Oranges and Guwahati to Hong Kong for pulses, fruits and vegetables.
- ✓ The government will also work towards setting up a trade route between Chennai, Vizag and Kolkata and East Asian countries to transport seafood.
- ✓ The ministry has asked states to reduce sales tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to 1% for airlines under Krishi UDAN 2.0 scheme.
- ✓ The ministry will also develop an online portal 'E-KUSHAL' (Krishi Udaan for Sustainable Holistic Agri-Logistics) to facilitate sharing of information to all stakeholders regarding the transportation of agriculture produce
- ✓ The ministry has also proposed convergence of E-Kushal with the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM).
- ✓ Currently, the scheme has been planned till 2025 and will be developed further based on the result of the pilot project
- ✓ Earlier, ahead of UDAN Day (21st October), the Ministry of Civil Aviation flagged off 6 routes, expanding the aerial connectivity of North-East India, under the UDAN Scheme.
- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had first announced the scheme during her Budget speech on February 1, 2020.
- ✓ The Krishi Udan scheme was launched by the Centre in August 2020 on international and national routes to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products

NATIONAL

- **On November 5, the food ministry - said there is no proposal at present to extend the PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) beyond November 30, 2021**
- ✓ Under the scheme, nearly 80 crore people got monthly distribution of 5 kg foodgrains over and above the 5 kg they get at very subsidised rate under National Food Security Act.
- ✓ Earlier, the government has extended the scheme till the month end
- ✓ Initially, the additional free foodgrain under the PMGKAY was provided for three months (April-June 2020) to bring quick relief to migrants and poor hit during the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The scheme was again extended for another five months, till November 2020.
- ✓ After the onset of the second wave, the scheme was again re-launched for two months (May-June 2021) and was then extended till November end

- **The government - is going to implement new rules - Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules – for the packaging of items from April next year.**
 - ✓ It aims to empower the customers to make the right decisions before buying any packaged item.
 - ✓ Under the new rules, manufacturers will have to add additional declarations to the MRP
 - ✓ They have to mention the price per unit of the commodity — per kg or litre for items weighing more than a kg or litre and per gram or millilitre (ml) for items of less than one kg or a litre.
 - ✓ There will be similar norms for items that can be measured in metres and centimetres.
 - ✓ The amended Rules also removes the “specified quantities” norms for packaging for 19 types of items including milk, tea, biscuits, edible oil, wheat flour, soft drink and drinking water, baby food, pulses and cereals, cement bag, bread and detergents.
 - ✓ This means there will be no government mandated specifications on quantities and manufacturers will have full freedom to decide the quantities of all packaged items they sell in the market.
 - ✓ Another major change is mandatory declaration of “month and year of manufacture” on imported packaged items
 - ✓ In the present system, the importer or seller has the option of mentioning either month and date of import or pre-packing
 - ✓ The consumer affairs ministry has notified the changes in the rules.

- **The 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) - will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28 with the opening film being ‘The King of All the World’ by Carlos Saura**
 - ✓ The festival is being organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in collaboration with the State Government of Goa



- ✓ Hungarian filmmaker Istvan Szabo and Hollywood icon Martin Scorsese will be honoured with “Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award” during the festival

- ✓ In the year 2021, to mark the birth centenary of Satyajit Rai, Directorate of Film Festivals will pay tribute to him by means of a 'Special Retrospective'
- ✓ The selection of films for the Indian Panorama section to be screened during IFFI has been announced.
- ✓ Semkhor, the first-ever Dimasa language movie directed by Aimee Baruah, renowned actress of Assam, is the jury's choice for the opening feature film of Indian Panorama 2021
- ✓ The choice for the opening non-feature film is Ved, the Visionary (English) directed by Rajiv Parkash.
- ✓ A total of 25 feature films and 20 non-feature films have been selected for screening this year
- ✓ The list of 25 feature films selected in the Indian Panorama 2021 comprises five Bengali, four Kannada, five Malayalam and two Hindi films.
- ✓ The jury has picked films for screening from a wide pool of 221 contemporary Indian films and 203 contemporary Indian non-feature films
- ✓ The jury, comprising 12 members, was headed by acclaimed filmmaker and actor SV Rajendra Singh Babu.
- ✓ The non-feature film jury of seven members was headed by acclaimed documentary filmmaker S Nallamuthu.
- ✓ India's official Oscar entry, Koozhangal, a Tamil Film will be screened in the Indian panorama section in the IFFI
- ✓ The festival will be held in hybrid mode – both physical and virtual – this year

APPOINTMENTS

- **Retired Commodore Amit Rastogi - has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of the National Research Development Corporation**
- ✓ Commodore Amit Rastogi is a distinguished alumnus of Defence Services Staff College Wellington and College of Defence Management, Secunderabad.



- ✓ Having an illustrious career of 34 years in Indian Navy, Commodore Amit Rastogi was involved in induction of missile systems, state-of-the-art technology intensive

combat systems, Phased array radars, Communication equipment etc. for warships through Indigenous development and simultaneous engagement of R&D community, Academia and Industry.

- ✓ Earlier, Commodore Amit Rastogi served as Director, Electrical Engineering at Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence for five years and Additional General Manager, Tech Services at Naval Dockyard for two years.
- ✓ He also held the position of Deputy Director General Quality Assurance for five years and Director, Electrical Trials Modification Authority for two years.
- ✓ NRDC is an enterprise of DSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology and involved in the development, promotion and transfer of technologies from various national R&D institutions.

SPORTS

- **Indian boxer Akash Kumar - won the bronze medal in 54-kg category at the 2021 AIBA men's World Boxing Championships in Belgrade, Serbia**
- ✓ The 20-year-old Akash lost 0-5 against Kazakh teenager Makhmud Sabyrkhan in the semifinals on November 4

MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MEDALLISTS !

VIJENDER SINGH

BRONZE (MILAN, 2009)

VIKAS KRISHAN

BRONZE (BAKU, 2011)

SHIVA THAPA

BRONZE (DOHA 2015)

GAURAV BIDHURI

BRONZE (HAMBURG, 2017)

AMIT PANGHAL

SILVER (YEKATERINBURG, 2019)

MANISH KAUSHIK

BRONZE (YEKATERINBURG, 2019)

AKASH KUMAR

BRONZE (BELGRADE, 2021)



- ✓ Akash is playing in his debut World Championships as well as his first major international tournament
- ✓ Akash had defeated former Olympic silver-medallist Yoel Finol Rivas of Venezuela in the quarterfinals.
- ✓ He also claimed prize money of \$25,000 in the tournament.
- ✓ With this loss, Indian challenge came to an end at the 21st edition of the tournament

- ✓ The tournament witnessed participation of 650 top boxers from more than 100 countries across the world.
- ✓ Akash is only the seventh Indian male boxer to secure a medal in the World Championships.
- ✓ India's previous medal winners at the World Championships were Vijender Singh (Bronze, 2009), Vikas Krishan (Bronze, 2011), Shiva Thapa (Bronze, 2015), Gaurav Bidhuri (Bronze, 2017), Amit Panghal (Silver, 2019) and Manish Kaushik (Bronze, 2019).

