

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-JUNE 11, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- On June 10, the state government - announced setting up of a four-member committee headed by retired Madras high court judge K Chandru to recommend grounds to promulgate an ordinance on “online rummy”.



- ✓ The decision was taken at a meeting chaired by chief minister M K Stalin on June 9.
- ✓ This committee has been given a two-week deadline to give its recommendations.
- ✓ IIT professor Sankararaman, SNEHA founder and psychiatrist Lakshmi Vijayakumar and additional DGP Vinit Dev Wankhede are the other members of the committee
- ✓ The terms of reference of the committee include finding out potential risks of online game such as financial loss and suicide, exploring dangers posed by the games with relevant data, the impact of advertising on the community and how to restrain it appropriately.
- ✓ Following the increase in crimes related to online games, the previous AIADMK government had passed a legislation ‘Tamil Nadu Gaming and Police Laws (Amendment) Act’ banning online games involving betting in cyberspace in February 2021.
- ✓ It was however, struck down by the Madras high court in August last year

- ✓ After Tamil Nadu and Kerala, Karnataka became the third state in India last September to ban online gaming by bringing in a new legislation.
- ✓ The legislations enacted by Karnataka and Kerala have, however, also been struck down by the respective high courts.
- **Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation, Rosatom - has supplied the first batch of upgraded nuclear fuel to India for two functioning units of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant.**
 - ✓ The new fuel is more reliable and cost-efficient, and has increased uranium capacity and longer fuel cycle.
 - ✓ Rosatom's TVEL fuel company has supplied the first batches of TVS-2M nuclear fuel to India.
 - ✓ Earlier, TVEL has signed an agreement with Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited on implementation of a comprehensive engineering project
 - ✓ The project involves introduction of TVS-2M nuclear fuel and elongation of the fuel cycle from 12 to 18 months for both VVER-1000 nuclear reactors
 - ✓ Compared to the UTVS fuel model, which was supplied to the Kudankulam plant earlier, TVS-2M fuel assemblies have a number of advantages.
 - ✓ Because of the welded frame, fuel assemblies in the reactor core retain their geometry, spacer grids protect fuel rod cladding from fretting wear (preventing depressurisation) and an additional spacer grid makes fuel assemblies more vibration-resistant.
 - ✓ The new fuel also has increased uranium capacity — one TVS-2M assembly contains 7.6% more fuel material as compared to UTVS.
 - ✓ The special feature of the fuel is the new generation anti-debris filter ADF-2.

STATES

- **The northeastern state of Assam – started celebrating the annual spring festival called 'Baikho' festival**



- ✓ The festival is meant to bring in an auspicious harvest season filled with abundant crops and good health

- ✓ The Baikho festival is predominantly observed by the Rabha tribes every year in June
- ✓ During the festival, a series of rituals are carried out to ward off evil spirits, provide ample rain and bring goodwill to the community
- ✓ Rabhas are a Tibeto-Burman community who reside majorly in Lower Assam, Garo hills and West Bengal's Dooar region
- ✓ They are an agriculture based community who have distinctive culture and celebrations.

NATIONAL

- **The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) - has notified new guidelines to stop misleading advertisements across all platforms and has banned surrogate advertising.**
- ✓ Regardless of form, format and medium, the new guidelines aim to protect people from being exploited or affected by misleading advertisements

'ENDORSERS NEED TO DO DUE DILIGENCE'	
Misleading advertisements are those, which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Falsely describes a product or service ➤ Gives a false guarantee to, or likely to mislead the consumers ➤ Deliberately conceals important information 	Bait advertisements: Where goods, products or services are offered for sale at low prices to attract consumers Surrogate or indirect advertising: Advertisements for goods, products or services whose advertisement is prohibited by law Free claims advertisements: Only those where consumers need to pay only for collecting or paying for delivery of items
WHAT'S BANNED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Misleading & surrogate advertisements ➤ Advertisements that condone or encourage practices detrimental to children's physical or mental wellbeing ➤ Claims that consumption of a product helps enhancing physical or mental ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> without valid scientific evidence ➤ Advertisements targeting children that develop negative body image ➤ Advertisements giving impression that advertised products are better than natural or traditional food

- ✓ The new guidelines also include norms for commercials that seek to lure consumers with 'discounts' and 'free' offers and also advertisements that target children.
- ✓ Such advertisements usually promote regulated products such as tobacco, cigarettes and alcohol in the disguise of another product such as music CDs, soda and pan masala.
- ✓ People can identify prohibited products being advertised through surrogate advertisements.
- ✓ The new guidelines came into effect from June 10

- **Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah - inaugurated the National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI) in Delhi recently on June 7**



- ✓ The NTRI will be the premier national institute for the promotion and preservation of tribal heritage and culture
- ✓ It will act as the hub for tribal research issues and matters in academic, executive and legislative fields
- ✓ The institute will collaborate and network with reputed research institutes, universities, and organisations as well as academic bodies and resource centres

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India - was among the three countries that abstained from voting against Iran at the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).**
- ✓ The voting took place while Iran's foreign minister was in India for a meeting with his counterpart S Jaishankar.
- ✓ The IAEA's 35-nation board passed a resolution, condemning Iran for its failure to provide explanation on technically credible evidence about the detection of nuclear traces at three undisclosed locations.
- ✓ India abstained from voting along with Pakistan and Libya, while Russia and China voted against
- ✓ Thirty countries voted in favour of the resolution, that was drafted by the US, UK, France and Germany.
- ✓ India had earlier voted against Iran during the UPA era in 2005, 2006 and 2009.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore - have designed a new class of artificial peptides or miniproteins that can render viruses like SARS-CoV-2 inactive**
- ✓ The miniproteins can bind to and obstruct the spike protein on the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which helps it enter and infect the human cells
- ✓ These miniproteins are spiral, hairpin-shaped peptides, each having the ability to pair up with another of its class, forming what is known as a dimer

- ✓ The researchers noted that a protein-protein interaction is often like that of a lock and a key.
- ✓ The miniproteins can not only block virus entry into our cells but also clump virus particles together, reducing their ability to infect.
- ✓ This type of clumping can simultaneously inactivate multiple spike proteins of the same virus and even multiple virus particles.

ECONOMY

- **Fitch Ratings - has revised the outlook on India's sovereign rating to stable from negative, following rapid economic recovery and easing financial sector weaknesses**
- ✓ It retained the rating at BBB (minus) and said that it expects robust growth relative to other countries to support credit metrics in line with the current rating.
- ✓ It said India's economy continues to see a robust recovery from the pandemic shock.
- ✓ All three major global ratings agencies Moody's, S&P and now Fitch have stable outlook for India's sovereign ratings
- ✓ The agency forecasts growth of around 7% between FY24 and FY27, based on the government's infrastructure push, reform agenda and easing pressures in the financial sector.

SPORTS

- **Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa - won the Norway Chess Group A open tournament on June 10 scoring 7. 5 points from 9 rounds.**



- ✓ The 16-year old GM, the top-seed, finished a point ahead Marsel Efroimski and Jung Min Seo, who tied for second place.
- ✓ He finished the tournament with a win over compatriot V Praneeth and remained unbeaten through the nine rounds
- ✓ Magnus Carlsen emerged as the winner of the 10th edition of Norway Chess 2022.
- ✓ It is the World Champion's fourth straight title at his home tournament and the fifth overall.
- ✓ The 10-player round-robin took place at Finansparken in Stavanger, Norway, from May 30 to June 10.

- ✓ Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand defeated Norway's Aryan Tari in the ninth and final round of the Classical section to clinch the third place in the Norway Chess tournament
- ✓ Anand finished with 14.5 points to end his tournament campaign in third place behind Carlsen (16.5 points) and Azerbaijan's Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (15.5).
- ✓ During the tournament, Anand pulled off an impressive win over World No. 1 Carlsen

TAMILNADU'S MMR – A REPORT

- **Dharmapuri - has recorded the lowest maternal mortality rate (MMR) in the state along with Palani.**
- ✓ As per the health information management system (HMIS) data maintained by the Tamil Nadu government, only 25 maternal deaths were reported in Dharmapuri in 2021-22.
- ✓ It is less than half of the state average and lower than that of some more urbanised districts.
- ✓ During the same period (2020-21), Tamil Nadu's MMR average dropped from 73 to 62 per one lakh live births.



Highest MMR in April 2021-March 2022
(excluding Covid deaths)

Health Unit District*	Maternal deaths April 2021 to March 2022	Live births in HMIS from April 2021 to March 2022	MMR per one lakh live births
Nagapattinam	10	7,770	128.7
Myladuthurai	12	10,458	114.7
Tiruvallur	27	24,858	108.6
Virudhunagar	8	8,180	97.8
Nilgiris	7	7,173	97.6

Lowest MMR in April 2021-March 2022
(excluding Covid deaths)

Health Unit District	Maternal deaths April 2021 to March 2022	Live births in HMIS from April 2021 to March 2022	MMR per one lakh live births
Palani	2	10,062	19.9
Dharmapuri	6	24,260	24.7
Tiruvarur	5	14,459	34.6
Cuddalore	12	32,333	37.1
Paramakudi	3	8,059	37.2

In TAMIL NADU



- ✓ On the other hand, Chennai reported 40 deaths of 73,627 live births, registering an MMR of 54.

- ✓ Coimbatore had an MMR of 40, while Trichy, Madurai and Salem have MMR of 78, 55 and 53 respectively.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu registers all pregnant women in Pregnant and Infant Cohort Monitoring and Evaluation (PICME) and asks urban and village health nurses to track pregnant women with risks such as gestational diabetes, hypertension, and anaemia.
- ✓ These nurses encourage women to eat healthy, exercise and follow the drug regimen prescribed by the doctors.
- ✓ They also bring them for regular medical checks, vaccinations, and scans.

