



## **EVE** **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-JULY**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- **On July 19, the Tamil Nadu government - formed a six member special investigation team (SIT) to probe the death of a Class XII girl on her school campus and the subsequent violence in Kallakurichi district.**
- ✓ The state government has also transferred the collector and SP of Kallakurichi district
- ✓ Sravan Kumar Jadavath, additional director of agriculture, has replaced Sridhar as the collector and Triplicane deputy commissioner of police Pakalavan took over from Selvakumar as superintendent of police.
- ✓ Sridhar was posted as project director of Chennai-Kanyakumari Industrial corridor while Selvakumar was not given any new posting and is kept in vacancy reserve (VR).
- ✓ The SIT, being set up on orders by the Madras high court, will be headed by deputy inspector-general of police (Salem range) Praveen Kumar Abhinapu.
- ✓ The team will comprise Avadi 5th battalion commandant S Radhakrishnan, superintendent of police M Kingshlin, and additional SPs Thirumal, Muthumanikkam and Chandramouli.
- ✓ The team will take over all three cases registered by the Chinna Salem police in connection with the incident.
- ✓ Police have made several arrests in connection with the death and subsequent violence, including the school's principal, secretary and two teachers.
- ✓ On July 17, the protestors pelted stones, vandalised school property and set fire to school buses and police vans, leading to widespread arson and rioting in the school premises
- ✓ On July 13, the class XII student from Periyanesalur village in neighbouring Cuddalore district was found dead in a private residential school's hostel premises in Kallakurichi district

# NATIONAL

- On July 18, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - unveiled 'SPRINT challenges', an initiative aimed at boosting the usage of indigenous technology in the Indian Navy.



- ✓ The PM unveiled the initiative at the naval Swavlamban seminar organised to engage Indian industry and academia towards achieving self-reliance in the defence sector.
- ✓ The seminar was organised by the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) and the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) in New Delhi
- ✓ The NIIO, in cooperation with the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO), aims to induct at least 75 new indigenous technologies/products into the Indian Navy in tune with 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' commemorating 75 years of the country's Independence.
- ✓ This collaborative project is named SPRINT — Supporting Pole-Vaulting in R&D through iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence), NIIO and TDAC (Technology Development Acceleration Cell).

# DEFENCE

- **INS Sindhudhvaj - was decommissioned at Visakhapatnam after serving the country for 35 years on July 16, 2022**
- ✓ Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, Flag Officer Commanding -in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, was the chief guest for the ceremony
- ✓ The Sindhudhvaj submarine had many firsts during its service, including operationalisation of the indigenised sonar USHUS, Indigenised Satellite Communication systems Rukmani and MSS, Inertial Navigation System and Indigenised Torpedo Fire Control System
- ✓ It was the only submarine to be awarded the CNS Rolling trophy for Innovation by the Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi



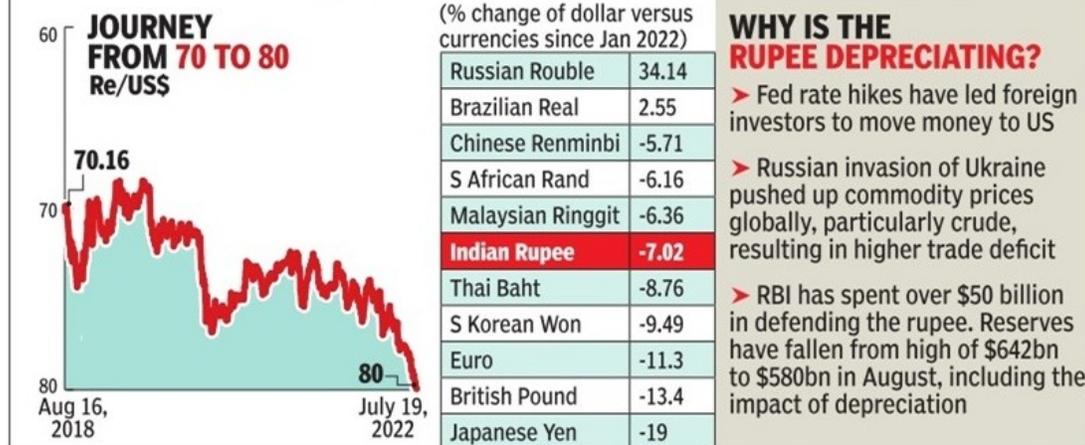
- ✓ INS Sindhudhvaj was a Kilo-class submarine acquired from Russia in 1987
- ✓ With its decommissioning, India is currently left with 15 conventional diesel-electric submarines, seven of which are of the Russian Kilo class.
- ✓ The 'Kilo' class is the most common conventional submarine in the world, with nearly 60 of them in service with various navies.
- ✓ Of the 10 that India had, it had lost INS Sindhurakshak, a 'Kilo' class submarine, in a fire accident in 2013, while INS Sindhuvir, was handed over to the Myanmar Navy in 2020 as part of a bilateral defence collaboration.
- ✓ Besides the seven Kilo class, India has four Type 209 submarines of German origin and four of the indigenously manufactured Scorpene class of French origin
- ✓ The Kilo class submarines are diesel-electric type that displace 3,000 tonnes, can dive to a depth of 300 metres, have a top speed of 18 knots, and can operate solo for 45 days with a crew of 53.
- ✓ Under the ambitious 30 year old plan that ends in 2030, India was to build 24 submarines — 18 conventional submarines and six nuclear-powered submarines (SSNs)
- ✓ The Kilo-class submarines will eventually be replaced by Scorpene-class submarines
- ✓ These are completely built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited through a transfer of technology from Naval Group
- ✓ Scorpene-class units are 67.5 metres long with a height of about 12.3 metres and are fitted with 360 battery cells powering the permanently magnetized propulsion motor.
- ✓ The first submarine from the batch, INS Kalvari, was commissioned in December 2017 while the sixth and final Scorpene-class submarine INS Vagsheer was launched in April this year

## ECONOMY

- **Indian rupee - has hit the 80-mark and settled at 80.05 against US dollar for the first time ever on July 19**

## FED RATE HIKES, UKRAINE WAR CAUSING SLIDE

It has taken 851 days for the rupee to move from 75/\$ to 80. This has been much more gradual than in 2012-13, when it slipped from 55 to 60 in 401 days and from 60 to 65 in 65 days



- ✓ Since the war in Ukraine began, and crude oil prices started going up, the rupee has steadily lost value against the dollar.
- ✓ The global factors such as the Russia-Ukraine conflict, soaring crude oil prices and tightening of global financial conditions are the main reasons behind the fall of rupee
- ✓ The Indian currency has plunged over 7% this year, with it closing at a record low in six of the last seven sessions
- ✓ Meanwhile, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Parliament in a written reply that the value of the rupee went down from 63.33 against a dollar on December 31, 2014 to 79.41 on July 11, 2022
- ✓ She further noted that foreign portfolio investors have withdrawn about \$14 billion from Indian equity markets in 2022-23 markets so far.
- ✓ Further, the rupee has been affected by an exit of foreign investors, widening trade and current account deficits
- ✓ Foreign fund outflows from the country this year are more than the combined inflows of the last two years.
- ✓ The depreciation of the rupee against the dollar is likely to have repercussions across sectors and could increase cost of imports, raise overseas education costs, make foreign loans costly for companies and has the potential to raise inflation, which is at 7%.
- ✓ Since a large proportion of India's imports are dollar-denominated, the imports will get costlier due to the weakening rupee value, while exporters benefit getting more money in exchange for the same number of US dollars
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is taking a number of measures to stabilise the value of the rupee
- ✓ It includes selling US dollars in the open markets from its forex reserves and allowing foreign companies to make payments in rupees, unlike the usual US dollars

# SPORTS

- **Junior weightlifter Harshada Garud - clinched gold medal at the Asian Youth & Junior weightlifting championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on July 18.**



- ✓ The 18-year old Pune weightlifter had created history by becoming first Indian to win gold at the World Junior Championships in May this year
  - ✓ Harshada lifted a total of 157kg to clinch the junior gold in the 45kg weight category at the Asian meet
  - ✓ The Khelo India champion improved her personal best total of 153kg achieved at the World Championships by four kilos but could not match the snatch weight at the Asian meet.
  - ✓ Harshada lifted 69kg in snatch and 88kg in clean & jerk to top the Asian meet podium, while she had lifted 70kg in snatch and 83kg in clean & jerk category at the Worlds.
- **Indian shooters Anish Bhanwala and Rhythm Sangwan - won bronze in the 25 rapid fire pistol mixed team event at the ISSF Shooting World Cup in Changwon, South Korea on July 19.**



- ✓ The Indian duo prevailed over Czech Republic's Anna Dedova and Martin Podhrasky in the bronze medal match.

- ✓ This was Anish and Rhythm's second medal as a pair in the ISSF Shooting World Cup
- ✓ They have earlier won the 25m rapid fire pistol mixed team event at the Cairo World Cup in March.
- ✓ India currently tops the medal's tally at the Changwon World Cup with 14 medals - 5 gold, 5 silver, and 4 bronze.

