

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 13, 2022

### TAMIL NADU

- **The Directorate of Public Libraries - is planning to launch a new scheme, “Friends of Library” from December 2022**
- ✓ Under the initiative, about 12,500 volunteers will deliver books at the doorsteps in their neighbourhood across the state.

#### **BOOKS AT YOUR DOORSTEP**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Tamil Nadu has <b>4,640 public libraries with more than one crore members</b></li><li>➤ Friends of Library scheme aims to provide last mile connectivity to elderly readers, disabled persons</li><li>➤ Directorate of Public Libraries plans to enrol 12,500 volunteers from across the state</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Teachers, civil service aspirants, youth and school students can become volunteers in libraries in their neighbourhood</li><li>➤ A volunteer will get a maximum of <b>25 books to distribute in their neighborhood</b></li><li>➤ Volunteers will also get ID card and a bag from the libraries</li></ul> |
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- ✓ The initiative aims to help elderly people, disabled, housewives, children and others to get the books at their doorstep
- ✓ Volunteers will be provided up to 25 books to circulate in their neighbourhood.
- ✓ Local librarians will approach resident welfare associations in apartments and gated communities to identify the volunteers interested in this service.
- ✓ Teachers, school students studying above Class VII, civil service aspirants and members of the library also can be enrolled as volunteers to deliver books.
- ✓ Volunteers will be asked to ensure that books are returned within 15 days and if needed, the readers can also renew the books.
- ✓ They will maintain a separate register to distribute books till the launch of a mobile app.
- ✓ There is also a plan to deliver books to hospitals to make them available for patients.

- ✓ The directorate has also started gathering data on lending of books in public libraries to assess the popularity of books and subjects.
- ✓ There are 4,640 public libraries with more than one crore members.
- ✓ The average book lending in a day is 14,773 and average footfall to public libraries in a day is 1,12,755.

## STATES

- **On November 12, the world's highest polling station in Himachal Pradesh's Tashigang village - created history by registering 100% voter turnout for the assembly election.**



- ✓ Located at a height of 15,256 feet above sea level, the booth saw all 52 registered voters of the village exercise their franchise.
  - ✓ The 52 voters included 30 men and 22 women from Tashigang and Gete villages
  - ✓ The booth was turned into a model polling station to make voting easy for senior citizens and voters with disabilities
  - ✓ The Tashigang village is located in the Lahaul-Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh
  - ✓ Himachal Pradesh recorded a little below 71% provisional turnout in the single phase assembly elections on November 12
  - ✓ The highest polling of 72.8% was recorded in Sirmour district, followed by 68.5% in Solan and 68.5% in Una, 68% in Mandi and 67.5% in Lahaul and Spiti
  - ✓ The fate of 412 candidates—24 women included—for the 68-member assembly was to be decided on December 8, when the results are to be declared.
  - ✓ The state registered a turnout of 75.57% in the 2017 elections
- **Kerala government - has launched a scheme to reimburse the expense incurred by the new startup ventures to procure technology licenses from government research institutions.**
  - ✓ The new 'Technology Transfer Scheme' will be implemented through Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM)

- ✓ Under the initiative, the government will reimburse upto Rs.10 lakh to startups purchasing or sourcing technology from government research institutions to commercialise and develop their products.
  - ✓ As part of the fiscal support scheme, 90% of the technology fee paid by startups to the research institutions from where technology licenses are purchased or sourced will be reimbursed
  - ✓ The eligible startups with an active registration with KSUM can submit online applications via the KSUM portal
  - ✓ KSUM is the nodal agency of the Kerala government for entrepreneurship development and incubation activities in the state
- **On November 10, the Government of Odisha signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata Steel Foundation for implementing the Jaga Mission across five municipal corporations of Odisha**
- ✓ As part of this agreement, the Foundation will be partnering with the Housing and Urban Development Department to transform slums into liveable habitat by developing civic infrastructure and services at par with developed areas



- ✓ The mission will be implemented within the municipal corporations of Sambalpur, Rourkela, Berhampur, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar in the state
- ✓ Jaga Mission or Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission is a unique land titling project to assign land rights to eligible residents and upgrade the physical infrastructure with roads, drains, streetlights, sanitation and clean water supply.
- ✓ As part of the partnership, the Foundation and Government of Odisha will work together to provide land rights to around 2,50,000 families in 1,110 slum areas for the next two years
- ✓ In addition, the Foundation will provide technical support for drone surveys, slum mapping, holistic habitat planning and, housing and common spaces design

## **NATIONAL**

- **The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy – has announced recently that it will continue National Bio Energy Programme till 2025-26 with a budget outlay of Rs 858 crore for the first phase.**

- ✓ The Programme will boost the use of huge surplus biomass, cattle dung, and industrial and urban bio-waste available in the country for energy recovery.
  - ✓ The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) will be the implementing agency for the programme.
  - ✓ The MNRE has continued the National Bioenergy Programme for 2021-22 to 2025-26 and it will be implemented in two phases.
  - ✓ The National Bioenergy Programme will include the three Sub-schemes - Waste to Energy Programme (Rs 600 crore), Biomass Programme (Rs 158 crore) and Biogas Programme (Rs 100 crore).
  - ✓ The Waste to Energy Programme will support setting up of large Biogas, Bio-CNG and Power Plants
  - ✓ The biomass Programme will support the setting up of pellets and briquettes for power generation and non-bagasse-based power generation projects.
  - ✓ The biogas Programme will also support the setting up of family and medium size Biogas in rural areas
- **Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri - virtually launched the Transport 4 All Challenge Stage-2 and Citizen Perception Survey 2022 recently on November 9.**



- ✓ The Transport 4 All Challenge is an initiative aiming at enhancing the mobility experience of citizens.
- ✓ The Challenge focuses on digital innovation and invites cities, citizens, and innovators to join hands to develop digital solutions to improve public transport to better serve the mobility needs of all citizens.
- ✓ The Stage-2 is opened to startups for developing solutions to transport problems in 46 participating cities.
- ✓ Earlier, more than 130 cities have signed up for stage 1 of the Challenge, launched on April 15, 2021
- ✓ Among them, 100 cities formed a Transport 4 All Task Force (TTF) with key government stakeholders and governments working in the transport sector, along with academic institutes and non-profit organisations.

- ✓ The Transport 4 All Challenge is organised in partnership with The Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) as co-host and challenge coordinator
  - ✓ Startup India and City Innovation Exchange is the technology partner of the challenge, while Association of State Road Transport Undertaking (ASRTU) is the city-engagement partner.
  - ✓ The Citizen Perception Survey (CPS) is launched under Ease of Living Index-2022 for 264 cities to obtain citizens feedback about the quality of life in their city.
  - ✓ It carries 30% of the total mark under the Ease of Living Index and includes citizens' perceptive on public transport, education facilities, healthcare services, water availability, cost of living, employment opportunities, among others
  - ✓ The 2022 survey will be conducted in over 264 cities to capture and reflect opinions from more than 21 lakh citizens across India.
  - ✓ This survey is to be conducted from November 9 till December 23, 2022.
  - ✓ The CPS was conducted for the first time in 2020 with responses from over 32 lakh citizens in 111 cities.
  - ✓ The Ease of Living Index is a comprehensive assessment that evaluates cities across India based on their quality of life, economic ability and sustainability
- **The government - has designated National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as the implementing agency for setting up of 100 fodder-centric Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) during this fiscal to address the fodder deficit situation in the country.**
- ✓ In 2020, the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying had proposed the establishment of fodder-centric FPOs
  - ✓ It had requested the agriculture ministry to allow such FPOs under the central scheme "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new FPOs".
  - ✓ In a normal year, India has a fodder deficit of 12-15%, 25-26% and 36% when it comes to green fodder, dry fodder and concentrated fodder, respectively.
  - ✓ The total area under fodder is limited to about 4.6% of cropped area and this has remained static for the last four decades.

## INTERNATIONAL

- **Saudi Arabia - pledged \$2.5 billion to a green initiative in the Middle East for the period of the next ten years**
- ✓ This was announced by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman during the COP27 UN climate summit held in Egypt on November 7
  - ✓ The kingdom aims to fulfill the goal of providing sustainable energy systems for the world and would build a prominent headquarters for the initiative
  - ✓ Saudi Arabia also aims to generate an estimated 50% of its electricity from renewables by 2050 and plans to reduce 44million tonnes of CO2 by 2035.

- ✓ The funding committed by Saudi Arabia at the COP27 UN climate summit will come from the kingdom's sovereign wealth fund, the Public Investment Fund.
  - ✓ The country also announced that it will target net zero emissions through sustainable development by 2050.
  - ✓ The Crown Prince unveiled his plans of “planting 50 billion trees to increase the area covered with trees 12 times and the reclamation of 200 million hectares of degraded land, reducing 2.5 percent of global emissions”.
  - ✓ Another 10 billion trees will be planted in KSA under a separate green initiative
  - ✓ Saudi Arabia announced the launch of Ceer, the Saudi automotive brand to manufacture electric vehicles to reduce the carbon footprint
  - ✓ Last year, the kingdom pledged that it would contribute 15% of the \$10.4 billion estimated requirements for the Middle East Green Initiative’s clean energy projects
  - ✓ The Middle East Green Initiative (MGI) is a first-of-its-kind regional alliance that was launched by the Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in 2021 to curb greenhouse gas emissions from the Middle East
  - ✓ The 2<sup>nd</sup> MGI Summit was held in Sharm El Sheikh at the sidelines of the COP27.
  - ✓ The inaugural edition of the summit was hosted by Saudi Arabia in 2021.
- **The International Monetary Fund - has reached a preliminary agreement to provide Bangladesh with a \$4.5 billion support package to help it cope with soaring energy and food prices.**
- ✓ On November 9, Bangladesh became the third South Asian nation to secure a “staff-level agreement” with the IMF for loans this year, after Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
  - ✓ Funds will be disbursed in seven tranches till December 2026, while the first instalment of USD 447.48 million will be available in February 2023.
  - ✓ Bangladesh in common with other Asian economies has been hit hard by the sharp rise in prices in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine
  - ✓ The South Asian nation of around 170 million people approached the IMF earlier this year for support.
  - ✓ Bangladesh plans to use the IMF loan to boost its foreign exchange reserves, which have dropped from \$46 billion to \$34 billion
  - ✓ The Bangladesh government has been forced to close diesel plants, leave some gas-fired power stations idle and impose lengthy power cuts of up to 13 hours a day to conserve existing stocks.
  - ✓ In August the government raised the prices of petroleum and diesel by up to 50 per cent
  - ✓ Bangladesh’s \$416-billion economy has been one of the world’s fastest growing for years
  - ✓ Bangladesh hopes to graduate from Least Developed Country status and become a "middle-income" nation by 2031

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On November 11, countries, including India – have jointly launched a package of 25 new collaborative actions at the UN climate talks (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt**
- ✓ These actions are to be delivered by the next year's conference to speed up decarbonisation of five key sectors - power, road transport, steel, hydrogen and agriculture.
- ✓ These sectors collectively account for more than 50% of global emission.
- ✓ One of the collaborative actions under the plan is to work out a common target date to phase out polluting cars and vehicles in various countries considering their domestic circumstances
- ✓ The actions under each sector will be delivered through coalitions of committed countries
  - ✓ This includes the G7, European Commission, India, Egypt, Morocco and others, supported by leading international organizations and initiatives, and spearheaded by a core group of leading governments.
  - ✓ These efforts will be reinforced with private finance and leading industry initiatives.
  - ✓ The participating countries in this package represent more than 50% of global GDP
- ✓ The countries have taken the decision to decarbonise these sectors under the 'Breakthrough Agenda'
  - ✓ The 'Breakthrough Agenda' was launched by a coalition of 45 world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at the COP26 in Glasgow last year.
  - ✓ It is an international clean technology plan to help keep the 1.5 °C temperature goal within reach.

## SPORTS

- **Star Indian boxer Shiva Thapa – bagged a historic silver medal at the 2022 ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships in Amman, Jordan on November 12.**



- ✓ Thapa, seeded third in the championships, was forced to withdraw from the final midway due to an injury
  - ✓ The 28-year-old sustained an injury in his right knee in the opening seconds of the second round of the light welterweight (63.5 kg) gold medal bout against Abdullaev Ruslan of Uzbekistan
  - ✓ This ends India's magnificent campaign in the Championships with 12 medals, which included four gold, two silver and six bronze.
  - ✓ This was Thapa's third silver and sixth medal overall at the prestigious tournament, making him the most successful male boxer in the championships' history
  - ✓ The seasoned pugilist's haul now includes a gold (2013), three silvers (2017, 2021 and 2022) and two bronze medals (2015 and 2019).
  - ✓ Out of the 12 medals, women pugilists contributed to 7 medals as India claimed No.1 position in the women's section followed by Kazakhstan, who finished second with 3 gold medals.
  - ✓ The 2022 edition of the championships saw tough competition in the presence of 257 top boxers from 27 countries.
  - ✓ Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain (75kg) won the gold medal along with Alfiya Pathan (+81kg), Saweety Boora (81kg) and Parveen Hooda (63kg).
  - ✓ Minakshi (52kg) claimed silver while Ankushita Boro (66kg) and Preeti Dahiya (57kg) bagged bronze medals each
  - ✓ Narender (+92kg), Sumit (75kg), Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg) and Govind Kumar Sahani (48kg) managed to win bronze medals in the men's category.
- **On November 12, Mehuli Ghosh and Tilottama Sen - bagged two gold medals for India in the 15th Asian Airgun Championship in Daegu, Korea.**



- ✓ Mehuli won the gold in the women's 10m air rifle event, beating Cho Eunyong of Korea.
- ✓ It was one-two finish for India in the 10m women's air rifle junior event with Tilottama and Nancy winning the gold and silver respectively.



- ✓ Tilottama beat Nancy in the final to claim the top two medals, while Nobata Misaki of Japan won the bronze.
- ✓ Indian shooters began their campaign in the tournament on a positive note by bagging a gold, silver and bronze on November 11.
- **On November 12, New Zealand's Greg Barclay - was unanimously re-elected as chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for a second two-year term.**



- ✓ BCCI secretary Jay Shah was elected as the head of ICC's all powerful Finance and Commercial Affairs (F&CA) committee.
- ✓ Shah will have the responsibility of heading ICC's most important committee.
- ✓ The major financial policy decisions are taken by the F&CA committee before it is ratified by the ICC board
- ✓ Sourav Ganguly will remain the head of ICC's Cricket Committee.

## WORLD ANTIMICROBIAL AWARENESS WEEK

### UP TO 10% RISE IN DRUG RESISTANCE A YEAR

#### WHAT IS AMR

➤ Antimicrobials could be antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals and antiparasitics

➤ **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)** occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites evolve over time to such an extent that regular medicines have no effect on them

➤ **Main cause:** Misuse and overuse of antimicrobials

➤ Drug-resistant infections are harder to treat; can cause disability, prolonged illness, hospitalisations and increased costs

➤ World Health Organisation says AMR is among the top 10 global public health threats

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week from November 18 to 24



#### BURDEN OF AMR IN THE WORLD

**7,00,000** people die due to antimicrobial resistance every year

➤ Another 10 million are projected to die from it by 2050

➤ AMR kills more people than

cancer and road traffic accidents combined

➤ By 2050, AMR would decrease gross domestic product (GDP) by 2%-3.5% with a fall in livestock by 3%-8%, costing US\$100 trillion to the world

### AMR IN INDIA

- ▶ India has been referred to as 'the AMR capital of the world'
- ▶ More than 70% isolates of superbugs *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Acinetobacter baumannii* and nearly half of all *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were resistant to medicines called



fluoroquinolones and cephalosporins

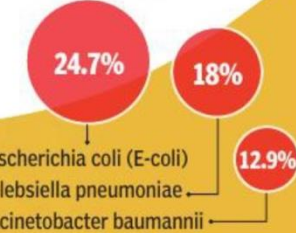
- ▶ Increasing rates of carbapenem resistance to the tune of 71% in *A baumannii* led to frequent use of colistin as the last-resort antimicrobial
- ▶ The resistance to colistin has also emerged in India

### ICMR REPORT'S FINDINGS



Indian Council for Medical Research's (ICMR) latest AMR surveillance report shows rising resistance to all known antibiotics

The report looked at **95,728** culture positive isolates between January 1 and December 31, 2021



### FINDINGS

The most common drug-resistant bacteria were

- *Escherichia coli* (E-coli)
- *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
- *Acinetobacter baumannii*

