



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 12,2023

### TAMIL NADU

- **On April 11, Tamil Nadu government - notified the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Act, 2022, which was given assent by governor R N Ravi on April 7.**
- ✓ The state government enacted the legislation as several people died by suicide over the loss of money in online games.
- ✓ The Act prohibits banks, financial institutions, and payment gateway providers from facilitating any transactions for online gambling or online games of chance.
- ✓ It proposes the establishment of the Tamil Nadu Online Gaming Authority, which will be led by a retired officer of the rank of Chief Secretary to the Government.
  - ✓ The authority will have members with expertise in law enforcement, information technology, psychology, and online gaming.
  - ✓ It will be responsible for issuing registration certificates to local online games providers, overseeing the functioning of online games providers, collecting and maintaining information on their activities, identifying online games of chance and resolving grievances or complaints against them.
  - ✓ The Authority will have the power to summon individuals, receive evidence on oath, require document production, and issue summons for witness or document examination.
- ✓ The Madras high court had earlier struck down the Tamil Nadu Gaming and Police Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021, which banned betting in cyberspace, as it ultra vires the Constitution.
- ✓ The DMK government had constituted a five-member committee under the chairmanship of retired judge Justice K Chandru to advise on enacting a fresh legislation on online games.
- ✓ Following the recommendations of the committee and after holding a public consultation, the state government promulgated an ordinance and subsequently passed a Bill along the same lines.

- ✓ The governor returned the Bill, asserting that the state had no legislative competence to adopt the Bill.
- ✓ The assembly readopted the Bill with no amendments on March 23.
- **On April 11, Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin - said that in the first phase 10 constituencies will get mini stadia and they will be called 'Chief Minister Mini-Stadia'.**
- ✓ While making announcements for the sports department, the Minister said that along with the existing 29 mini stadia, 10 more will be constructed and along with the existing ones, the new ones would be named as "Chief Minister Mini-Stadium".
- ✓ The government had already announced construction of mini stadia in all the 234 constituencies at the cost of Rs.3 crore each.
  - ✓ According to the Minister, mini-stadiums would be established in the 'remaining' 173 constituencies as 61 constituencies already have stadiums.
  - ✓ In the first phase, 10 new mini stadia will be constructed in Kolathur, Chepauk, Vaniyambadi, Kangeyam, Cholavandhan, Thirverumbur, Srivaikundam, Padmanabhapuram, Alangudi and Karaikudi constituencies.



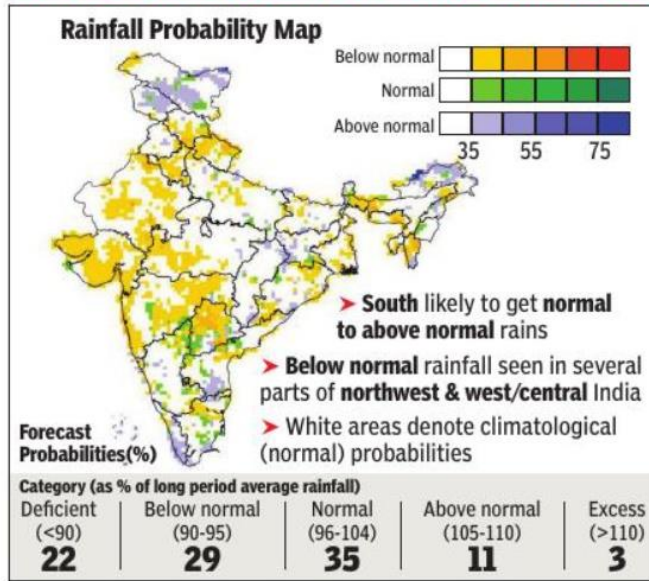
- ✓ Replying to the debate on demand for grants for the sports department, the Minister announced that district sports complexes will be developed in six newly formed districts at the cost of Rs.90 crore to enable sportspersons to train for individual and team sports events.
- ✓ Further, the financial assistance for elite sportspersons and potential medal winners at national and international level games will be increased to Rs 30 lakh from the existing Rs 25 lakh, and the number of beneficiaries will also be increased to 25 from 12.
- ✓ Financial assistance under Mission International Medals Scheme will be increased to Rs 12 lakh and the number of beneficiaries will be increased to 75 from 50.
- ✓ To encourage para-sports activities in the state, a special para-sports arena will be set up in six district stadiums for Rs 6 crore.
- ✓ To mobilise the support of general public, big firms and sports enthusiasts, Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation will be established at an outlay of Rs 3 crore.

- ✓ The Minister also mentioned that the financial assistance for NCC camps will be increased to Rs 1 crore
- ✓ Further, the Minister announced that five major sports facilities in Chennai - Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Jawaharlal Nehru indoor stadium, Mayor Radhakrishnan hockey stadium, Nungambakkam tennis stadium and Velachery swimming complex - would be restored and redeveloped at an estimated cost of Rs 25 crore.
- ✓ Minister Udhayanidhi, who also holds the Special Programme Implementation portfolio, announced that the "Naan Mudhalvan Skill and Employment Centre" would be established in all government engineering colleges and constituent colleges of Anna University at a budget of Rs 21.70 crore
- ✓ Besides, the 'Naan-Mudhalvan Olympiad' will be conducted by spending Rs 1 crore, while Rs 15 crore has been allotted to extend the skill development programmes to ITI and polytechnic colleges.
- ✓ Among other announcements made by the Minister, a comprehensive "Tamil Nadu Sports Policy" would be unveiled to serve as a guidebook for sports development in the state.
- ✓ Further, the Minister announced that Tamil Nadu Centre for Sports Science would be established at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai at a budget of Rs 3 crore and Tamil Nadu Olympic Water Sports Academy to be set up in Ramanathapuram.
- ✓ Besides, sports equipment would be provided to all panchayats in the state under "Dr Kalaignar Sports Equipment Provision Scheme" at an estimated cost of Rs 42 crore.
- ✓ Further, the government has allocated Rs 2.68 crore and Rs 1.5 crore to host the World Surfing League at Mamallapuram and 2023 Chennai Squash World Cup, respectively, Rs 25 lakh for international conference on sports science and financial assistance to host Asian Hockey men's Championship 2023 and ATP Chennai tour 2023.

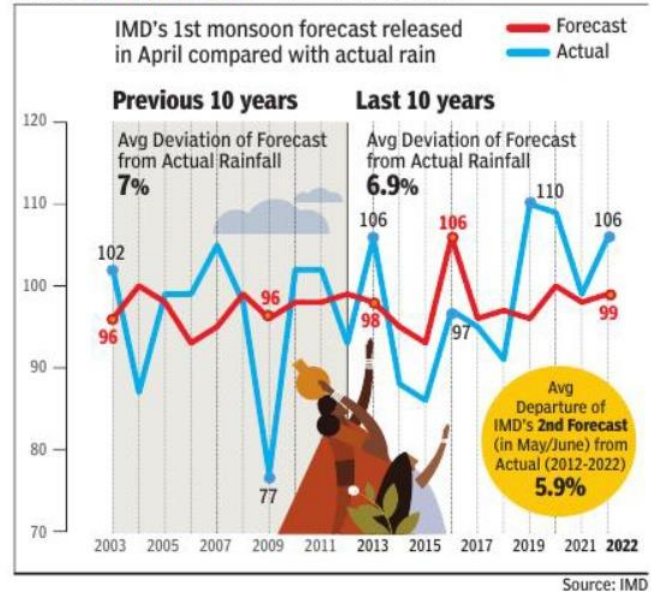
## NATIONAL

- **The India Meteorological Department (IMD) - predicted "normal" rainfall during the southwest monsoon season this year, despite the possibility of El Nino conditions.**
- ✓ On April 11, the IMD said rainfall is likely to be 96% of the long period average of 87 cm for the four months from June to September this year
- ✓ It means the country is likely to receive about 83.5 cm during the said period.
- ✓ The long period average is calculated with data from 1971 to 2020.
- ✓ The forecast for this year is at the lower end of the IMD's range for normal rainfall — 96% to 104% of the long period average.
- ✓ In the last four years (2019 to 2022), India has received normal to above normal rainfall.

## OUTLOOK GOOD FOR SOUTH INDIA



## IMD FORECAST VS ACTUAL



- ✓ If IMD's forecast is accurate, this will be the fifth year with "normal" rainfall .
- ✓ The Met department head said El Nino conditions are likely to develop during the monsoon season and its impact may be felt in the second half.
  - ✓ El Nino conditions are usually associated with suppressed rainfall over India during the monsoon season
  - ✓ It refers to a warming of central and eastern Pacific Ocean waters, in contrast to La Nina conditions which refer to a cooling of these waters.
  - ✓ According to IMD data, in 2002, 2004, 2009 and 2015, El Nino conditions coincided with below normal rainfall, with the lowest (78.2 cm) being recorded in 2009.
  - ✓ Of the 15 El Nino years from 1951 to 2022, six years recorded normal to above normal rainfall.
- ✓ According to figures from IMD, India received 971.8 mm of rain during the monsoon season in 2019, 961.4 mm in 2020, 874.5 mm in 2021, and 924.8 mm in 2022.
- ✓ There are 5 categories of monsoon rainfall - normal (96 to 104%); below normal (90 to 95%); deficient (less than 90%); above normal (105 to 110%) and excess (more than 110%).
- ✓ IMD will update its forecast twice -- once in May and then in June

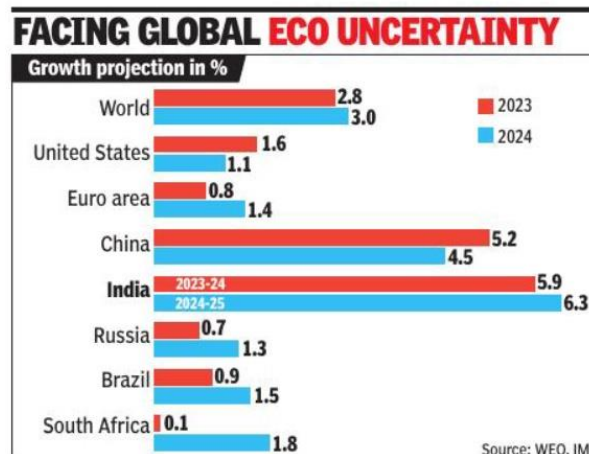
## DEFENCE

- **The Indian Army - has approved the constitution of the Girls Sports Company (GSC) to recruit young women athletes.**
- ✓ It will be on the lines of the Boys Sports Company (BSC) which was started by the Army Sports Institute (ASI) in 2005
- ✓ The BSC will scout, recruit and train young and talented athletes at its campus which was set up in 2001 in Pune.

- ✓ The ASI has already started training women athletes and will soon begin recruiting young girls in four disciplines.
- ✓ In the initial phase, athletes from age groups 10-16 years will be recruited in four disciplines – wrestling, weightlifting, boxing and athletics – with 30 recruits in each discipline.
- ✓ They will be trained to prepare for the Olympics and other international tournaments.
- ✓ The GSC will have a total of 120 athletes to be inducted over a period of four years.
- ✓ Prior to this, women athletes have trained at the army establishment only once, when the Indian women's boxing contingent trained at the ASI ahead of the Tokyo Olympics.
- ✓ The BSC has produced some big names – including Commonwealth Games gold medallist weightlifters Jeremy Lalrinnunga, Achinta Sheuli.
- ✓ Along with the recruits, ASI will also appoint female coaches, physios and masseuses, for the female athletes.

## ECONOMY

- **On April 11, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) - slashed India's GDP growth forecast to 5.9% for 2023-24 and 6.3% for 2024-25 consequent to global economic uncertainty.**



- ✓ In January, the IMF in its World Economic Outlook (WEO) update had said that India remained a bright spot and with China would account for half of global growth this year, as against just a tenth for the US and euro area combined.
- ✓ According to the WEO update, India's GDP growth projections were pegged at 6.1% for 2023-24 and 6.8% for 2024-25.
- ✓ The report maintained that global growth will be at 2.8% this year before rising modestly to 3% next year.
- ✓ As per the IMF, global inflation is expected to fall, though more slowly than initially anticipated, from 8.7% last year to 7% this year and 4.9% in 2024.

- ✓ This is the lowest growth estimate among the multilateral agencies and the first below 6% projection.
- ✓ The World Bank has estimated GDP growth for the current fiscal year at 6.3% and the Asian Development Bank at 6.4%.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had in its latest monetary policy statement raised its GDP growth forecast marginally to 6.5% from 6.4% earlier.
- ✓ China's GDP growth has been projected at 5.2% for 2023 and 4.5% next year, slower than India's expansion for both years.

