

## **EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 14,2023**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- **The state government - has appointed Justice K Chandru, former judge of the Madras high court, as one-man committee to recommend measures to overhaul the functioning of government homes and other facilities handling juveniles in the state.**



- ✓ The committee has been given four months, which is extendable upto six months, to submit a report
- ✓ In this regard, a GO was issued by the social welfare and women empowerment department on April 11.
- ✓ The GO follows an announcement by Chief Minister M K Stalin on February 6, 2023.
- ✓ The Justice Chandru Committee has been given an eight-point terms of reference (ToR) for its functioning.
- ✓ The committee has been tasked to suggest the measures for effective functioning and administration of government observation homes, special homes and place of safety as per the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015.
- ✓ It shall analyse the in-mates management, study the existing procedures and practices followed in the homes with respect to admission, internment and discharge of inmates and give its recommendations for its reforms.

- ✓ The Committee will assess the existing infrastructure and amenities and give recommendations regarding adequacy, upkeep and maintenance.
- ✓ With reference to the health and medical facilities, the Committee will assess the existing procedures regarding the health checkup and the status of medical facilities for making its recommendations.
- ✓ It will review the modalities and methods currently adopted for trainings and education of inmates, including vocational trainings as well as staff in the homes and make recommendations.
- ✓ Besides, it will study the food and nutrition issues and review the participation and roles of stakeholders such as subject experts and NGOs and make recommendations in this regard.
- ✓ It will also review the requirement and qualification of officers and staff employed in homes and review the status of after-care arrangements and make necessary recommendations to the government.

## STATES

- **Delhi government – is planning to tackle pollution in the summer with a 16-point plan.**

### ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT BAD AIR

#### 16-point summer action plan

1. Dust pollution
2. Industrial pollution
3. Noise pollution
4. Water pollution
5. Solid waste management
6. Tree plantation
7. Tree transplantation policy
8. Real-time apportionment study
9. Open burning
10. Development of city forest
11. Urban farming
12. Development of *jheel*/ponds
13. Development of '*harit*' park
14. E-waste eco park
15. Eco-club activity
16. Dialogue with neighbouring states

Annual National ambient air quality standard for PM<sub>2.5</sub> | 40 micrograms per cubic metre

Daily national ambient air quality standard for PM<sub>2.5</sub> | 60 micrograms per cubic metre

WHO's annual safe limit for PM<sub>2.5</sub> | 5 micrograms per cubic metre

WHO's daily safe limit | 15 micrograms per cubic metre

#### GEARING UP

- Summer action plan to deal with pollution to be prepared soon
- All departments concerned asked to submit their plans to the environment department by April 20

#### TOP 10 CITIES WITH THE WORST SUMMER AIR QUALITY (March 1 to May 31, 2022)

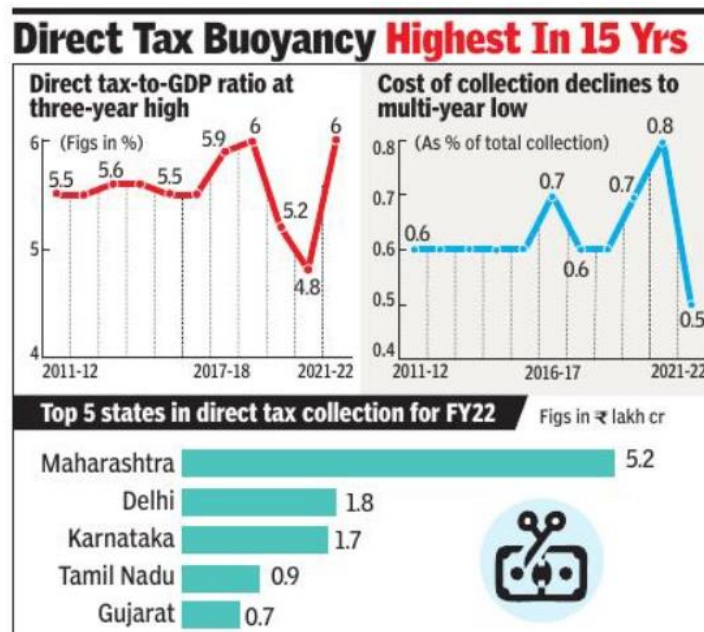
Source: CS

City	Summer PM <sub>2.5</sub> average (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Peak 24-hr value (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Bhiwadi (Rajasthan)	134	228
Manesar (Haryana)	119	198
Singrauli (MP)	110	198
Rohtak (Haryana)	108	258
Muzaffarnagar (UP)	107	188
Bahadurgarh (Haryana)	102	198
Ghaziabad (UP)	101	20
Charkhi Dadri (Haryana)	100	178
Delhi	95	168
Katihar (Bihar)	95	248

- ✓ The plan will focus on involving the neighbouring states on joint action that will tackle dust pollution, which is one of the major sources of summer pollution, and industrial pollution.
- ✓ The various elements of the plan include dust pollution, industrial pollution, noise pollution, water pollution, solid waste management, tree plantation, tree transplantation policy, realtime apportionment study, open burning and development of city forest, real time apportionment study, urban farming, development of ponds, development of park, e-waste eco park, eco club activity and dialogue with neighbouring states.

## NATIONAL

- **Maharashtra - topped the list of states and Union Territories with the highest collection of direct taxes in 2021-22**



- ✓ Delhi, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat are the other states that complete the Top 5, as per the data released by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on April 13.
- ✓ According to CBDT, India's gross direct tax collection rose 173% to Rs 19.7 lakh crore in 2022-23 from Rs 7.2 lakh crore in 2013-14.
- ✓ The data also showed net direct tax collections increased by 121% from Rs 6.4 lakh crore in 2013-14 to Rs 14.1 lakh crore in 2021-22.
- ✓ Direct taxes largely include personal income tax and corporate tax.
- ✓ Direct Tax buoyancy at 2.5 in 2021-22 is the highest recorded over the last 15 years.
- ✓ Further, Direct-tax-to-GDP ratio has increased from 5.6% in 2013-14 to near 6% in 2021-22.
- ✓ The contribution of direct taxes to total tax revenue in 2021-22 was at 52.3%, higher than the 46.8% recorded in 2020-21.

# DEFENCE

- **Exercise 'Cope India 23', a bilateral air exercise between the Indian Air Force and the United States Air Force - is currently underway at Panagarh, Kalaikunda (West Bengal) and Agra air force stations**



- ✓ This 11 days exercise aims at enhancing mutual understanding between the two Air Forces and sharing their best practices
- ✓ The two-week 'Cope India' exercise, which began on April 10, will "further enhance operational capability and interoperability between the two air forces"
- ✓ The IAF will be fielding the Russian-origin Sukhoi-30MKI, the French-origin Rafales and the indigenous Tejas fighters, as well as AEW&C (airborne early warning and control) aircraft and IL-78 mid-air refuellers for the exercise.
- ✓ The US, in turn, is likely to deploy B1B heavy bombers and F-15 Strike Eagle jets.
  - ✓ The B1-B, also known as "The Bone", is a long-range, multi-mission, conventional bomber that can carry out missions worldwide from its bases in the US, and also from forward-deployed areas.
  - ✓ Two B1 bombers were a part of the American exhibits at the Aero India 2023 in Bengaluru in February this year.
  - ✓ The aircraft, which can carry the largest unconventional payloads of guided and unguided weapons, will join the exercise in India for the first time.
- ✓ Personnel from the Japanese Air Self Defence Force will also observe the exercise and interact with the two participating air forces.
  - ✓ As per the Agreement of the Defence Ministers' Conference organized on August 20, 2018, the Japanese Air Self Defense Force participated in Cope India for the first time in December 2018 as an observer.
- ✓ Exercise Cope India 23 will conclude on April 24, 2023.
- ✓ Cope India began in 2004 as a fighter training exercise held at Air Station Gwalior, India.
- ✓ During the February-March time frame alone, the IAF has taken part in three exercises overseas.



- ✓ First, the IAF deployed five Tejas fighters, two C-17 Globemaster-III strategic airlift aircraft and 110 personnel for the multi-nation 'Desert Flag' exercise at UAE from February 23 to March 17.
  - ✓ This was the first time that the indigenous Tejas light combat aircraft took part in an international exercise outside India.
- ✓ Then, five Mirage-2000 fighters, two C-17s, one IL-78 and 145 personnel took part in another multi-nation exercise 'Cobra Warrior' in the UK from March 6 to 24.

## **ECONOMY**

- **India's overall exports - rose 14% to a record \$770 billion during the last financial year 2022-23**
  - ✓ It is an all-time high record growing from \$500 billion in 2020-21 to \$676 billion in 2021-22
  - ✓ This was announced by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on April 13 in Rome.
  - ✓ Goyal is on a three-day visit to France and Italy from April 11-13 to hold a series of meetings with leaders and top CEOs in these two countries to further boost trade and investment ties.
  - ✓ The overall imports of goods and services have touched \$892 billion reflecting the growth in the country's economic activities
  - ✓ India's merchandise trade deficit in March stood at \$19.73 billion, which was higher than \$17.43 billion recorded in the previous month
- **Chennai-based Kali Aerated Water Works Pvt Ltd - has entered into a deal with Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RCPL) for production and distribution of the former's beverage brands.**
  - Kali Aerated Water Works is a 107-year-old family run business across Tamil Nadu.
  - ✓ It has manufacturing facilities at Nilakottai in Tamil Nadu and Sri City in Andhra Pradesh
  - ✓ Under the deal, the company will manufacture cola, lemon and orange beverages under the Campa brand and distribute them through its strong network in parts of Tamil Nadu
  - ✓ Reliance, in turn, will take Kali's products including Bovonto, Tigo and Vibro pan-India.
  - ✓ The development comes after Reliance announced entering the soft drinks market recently by re-launching the 50-year-old iconic beverage brand Campa Cola.
  - ✓ At present, Campa is being manufactured from a bottling unit in Tirunelveli district.
  - ✓ Tamil Nadu accounts for 15% of the total market share of Rs.15,000 crore in the Indian aerated beverages market, which is dominated by MNC cola firms.
  - ✓ Out of the Rs.2,250 crore aerated beverages market in Tamil Nadu, the brand, popularly identified as 'Kalimark', has a share of around 15%.

## SPORTS

- **Aman Sehrawat - clinched India's first gold medal at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2023 in Astana, Kazakhstan.**



- ✓ Sehrawat topped the podium in men's 57 kg freestyle category on the penultimate day of the competition.
- ✓ He defeated Kyrgyzstan's Almaz Smanbekov to win the gold medal.
- ✓ Aman Sehrawat's victory in Astana ensured the men's freestyle 57kg gold medal stayed with India for the fourth year running
- ✓ It was the second podium finish of the 2023 season for Sehrawat, who had won a bronze at the Zagreb Open in February
- ✓ Last year, Sehrawat was the first Indian wrestler to win gold at the Under-23 world championships in Spain.
- ✓ With Sehrawat's gold, India has won 12 medals so far in the competition.
- ✓ The Greco-Roman wrestlers won four medals while the women grapplers grabbed seven.

