

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 29,2023

STATES

- **The Puducherry government - has granted its women employees two hours special permission from 8. 45 am to 10. 45 am on three Fridays a month to perform poojas at their homes.**
- ✓ However, this special permission will not be applicable to women employees at hospitals, police stations, educational institutions and other departments that extend essential services to the public.
- ✓ This was announced in a release from the secretariat of lieutenant governor Tamilisai Soundararajan
- ✓ The special facility can be accorded on a rotational basis in offices where only women employees are posted.

- **On April 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - inaugurated the Kochi Water Metro project, which is India's first Water Metro service.**

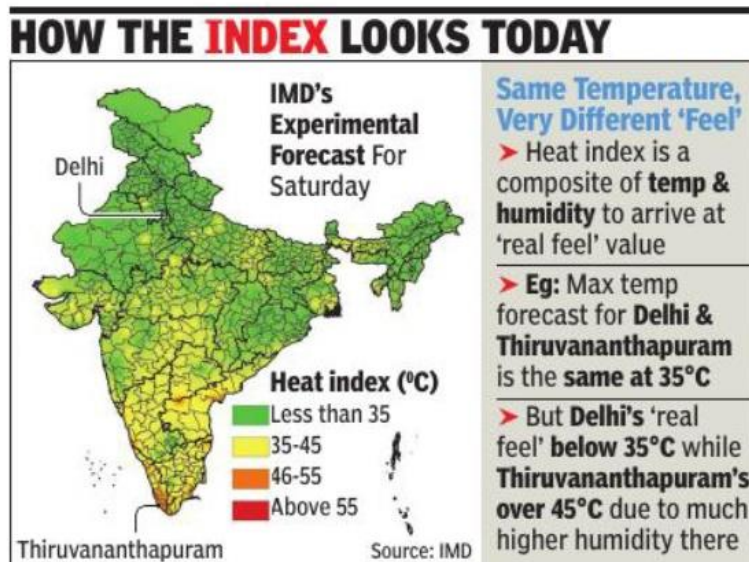


- ✓ The Kochi water metro is a long boat equipped with modern amenities including AC.

- ✓ In the first phase, the first water metro will run on a specific route and eventually, it will connect over 10 islands around the port city of Kochi.
- ✓ In the first phase of the project, the boat service will run between the High Court-Vypin route and the Vyttila-Kakkanad terminals
- ✓ The metro project will start with eight electric hybrid boats and eventually comprise 78 electric boats and 38 terminals.
- ✓ The Water Metro project costs Rs 1,136.83 crore and it will be funded by the Government of Kerala and Germany's KfW Development Bank
- ✓ The Kochi Water Metro boats are Electric-hybrid boats manufactured by Cochin Shipyard Limited
 - ✓ The boats have also won the Gucci Electric Boats Award at the international award for electric boats
- ✓ Since it's an eco-friendly project, the engines of the boat will run on lithium titanite spinel battery, unlike normal boats, which run on biofuel.

NATIONAL

- **On April 28, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) - has started issuing heat index for different parts of the country on an experimental basis, taking into account the air temperature and relative humidity.**



- ✓ The heat index, also known as the apparent temperature, is the temperature humans feel when relative humidity combines with the air temperature.
- ✓ The heat index will be issued for the entire country every day in weather bulletins.
- ✓ The index will be based on a formulation of the American National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
- ✓ The heat index is based on academic R G Steadman's table using relative humidity and dry bulb temperature to calculate the temperature a human body feels.

- ✓ A heatwave is declared when the maximum temperature is above 40 degrees Celsius and 4.5 degrees above normal.
- ✓ A severe heat wave is declared when the temperature is above 40 degrees Celsius and 6.5 degrees above normal.
- ✓ Heatwaves usually occur in the period from March to June in central and north-western India and in the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS

- **The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare - organised the Asia Pacific Leaders' Conclave on Malaria Elimination in New Delhi on April 24 in partnership with the Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA).**



- ✓ The conclave was organized on the eve of World Malaria Day under the guidance of Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers and presided over by Dr VK Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog.
- ✓ The Conclave provided a platform for leaders from the Asia Pacific region to discuss ongoing efforts toward malaria elimination and to focus their action for malaria elimination by 2030.
- ✓ Among the 11 countries that are part of the World Health Organization's High Burden to High Impact initiative, only India has reported a decline in malaria cases during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ According to the Health Ministry, Malaria cases have dropped by over 85% and deaths also dropped by over 83% from 2015 to 2022.

SPORTS

- **On April 28, Sri Lanka's Prabath Jayasuriya - became the fastest spinner to pick up 50 wickets in Test cricket.**



- ✓ The 31-year old left-armed achieved the feat in Sri Lanka's second Test against Ireland at the Galle International Cricket Stadium
- ✓ The record was achieved when Prabath picked up the wicket of Irish opener Paul Stirling in the 26th over of their second innings
- ✓ Before Jayasuriya, West Indies' Alfred Louis Valentine held the record of the fastest spinner with 50 Test wickets.
 - ✓ Valentine achieved the feat in his eighth Test way back in December 1951 against Australia in Melbourne.
- ✓ Jayasuriya got to the landmark in his seventh Test match, thereby becoming the joint second-fastest bowler to take 50 wickets among all bowlers in the test cricket.
 - ✓ England's Thomas Richardson (1896) and South Africa's Vernon Philander (2012) got to the feat in seven matches
- ✓ Australian fast bowler Charlie Turner remains the fastest bowler to take 50 Test wickets among all formats.
 - ✓ Back in August 1988, he got to the milestone in his sixth Test against England in Manchester.

➤ **Former cricketers, Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara - have been honoured with a set of gates in their names at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG)**




- ✓ The 'Brian Lara - Sachin Tendulkar' gates were unveiled on April 24, which marked Tendulkar's 50th birthday and 30 years since Lara's innings of 277 at the SCG.
- ✓ Tendulkar and Lara joined the likes of Donald Bradman, Alan Davidson and Arthur Morris by having a set of gates named in their honour at the venue.
- ✓ Lara scored his brilliant double century in his first test at the ground in January 1993.

TAMIL NADU URBAN LOCAL BODY RULES 2023 – POWERS VESTED THEREIN

- **The new Urban Local Body Rules 2023 – prescribes the sanctioning authority for various civic works to be undertaken in the local bodies in the state**
- ✓ According to the latest rules, projects up to Rs.5 crore funded by the state and central governments, and the respective finance commissions, need only the corporation commissioner's sanction, and projects worth more than Rs.5 crore only need the government's sanction.
- ✓ This means, these projects, henceforth, do not need the approval of the standing committees headed by councillors and the mayor.

POWERS TO SANCTION PROJECTS

Source of fund	Value of work	Sanction Authority
Centre, state, state finance commissions	Upto ₹5cr	Commissioner
Centre, state, state finance commissions	More than ₹5cr	Government
GCC's own funds	₹10L to ₹3cr	Commissioner
	More than ₹3cr to ₹4cr	Mayor, after consulting with commissioner
	₹5cr to ₹10cr	Council
	More than ₹10cr	Government sanction

