

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 15, 2024

TAMIL NADU

- **‘Smart Cards’ Launched to Help Start-ups**
- ✓ Minister for MSME T.M. Anbarasan on Wednesday launched ‘Smart Cards’ for start-ups.



- ✓ According to details provided by the Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN), the ‘Smart Card’ offers a comprehensive selection of products and services, at subsidised rates, tailored to meet the needs of start-ups in their early stages.
- ✓ The products and services have been broadly classified into six different categories — legal and compliance; marketing/business consulting; finance and insurance; human resource and smart workspace; software; and IT/ITES.
- **Naan Mudhalvan Scheme – Arts & Science College Students – Four Districts**
- ✓ Thousands of students who are in their final year of arts & science courses in government colleges in Krishnagiri, Salem, Ariyalur and Kallakuruchi regions, have got job placements in top firms through the Naan Mudhalvan Statewide Placement Programme 2024.



- ✓ The Naan Mudhalvan Scheme, launched in March 2022, aims to equip about 10 lakh youth across the State annually with skills that will help them realise their talents for the benefit of the country.
- ✓ In 2022-23, during the same placement drive, over 1.19 lakh students were given job offers.
- **Investment to the Tune of 3,440 crore During Visit to Spain**
- ✓ Describing his visit to Spain as “very useful”, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday said that Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for investments to the tune of 3,440 crore were signed during the trip.



- ✓ He exuded confidence that Tamil Nadu would receive more investments in the near future.
- ✓ Addressing the media on his arrival in Chennai, he said that German shipping and container transportation major Hapag-Lloyd AG had signed an MoU to invest 2,500 crore; Spain-based Edibon, which designs and manufactures technical teaching and research equipment, would invest 540 crore; and Spain-based sanitaryware major Roca had agreed to invest 400 crore in the State.

NATIONAL

- **Abu Dhabi's First Hindu Stone Temple**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated Abu Dhabi's first Hindu stone temple, describing it as a symbol of the shared heritage of humanity and thanking the UAE for scripting a new golden chapter of human history.



- ✓ Speaking at the inauguration of the temple built by the Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS), the Prime Minister profusely thanked the President of UAE, Sheikh Mohammad Zayed Al Nahyan, for making the grand temple in Abu Dhabi a reality and said he has not only won the hearts of Indians living in the Gulf nation but also of 140 crore Indians.

PERSONALITIES

➤ V. Sripathy

- ✓ Young tribal woman is the first from her community to become a civil judge.
- ✓ A 23-year-old woman from the Malayali tribe in Yelagiri Hills (along Jawadhu Hills), Tirupattur district, has scripted history by becoming the first civil judge from her community.



- ✓ V. Sripathy, who is a young mother, cleared the examination conducted by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) to achieve this feat.
- ✓ "I did my entire schooling in Yelagiri Hills before pursuing law.
- ✓ The idea to do a law course was to provide legal aid for the people of my community as they are not aware of their legal rights.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ **World Hippo Day: February 15**

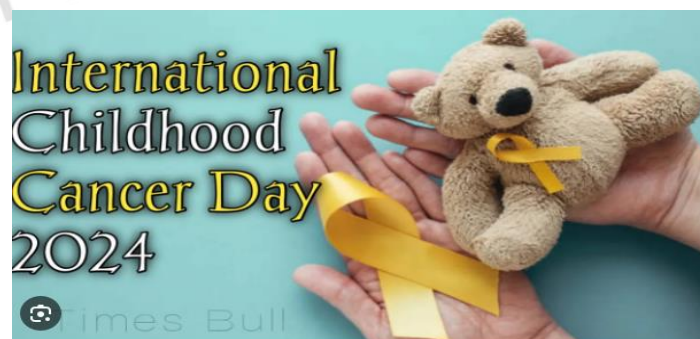
- ✓ World Hippo Day is celebrated on 15 February every year to raise awareness about the plight of hippos, which are one of the most endangered large mammals on the planet.



- ✓ Today, the hippo population is estimated to be between 115,000 and 130,000, with the decline being attributed to poaching, loss of access to fresh water, mechanised farming, and urbanisation.
- ✓ World Hippo Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the threats faced by the hippo and promote conservation efforts to protect this endangered species.

➤ **International Childhood Cancer Day: February 15**

- ✓ Every year on February 15th, the world comes together to observe International Childhood Cancer Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the challenges and struggles faced by children and adolescents battling cancer.



- ✓ This day serves as a poignant reminder of the resilience of young patients and the collective effort required to support their journey towards recovery.
- ✓ Established in 2002 by Childhood Cancer International, International Childhood Cancer Day aims to shed light on the impacts of childhood cancer on young patients, their families, and society.

