

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 2, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- On April 1, Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin - announced that a world-class model government model school will be established in Chennai soon on the lines of Delhi government school.



- ✓ He invited Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal for the inauguration of the school.
- ✓ Kejriwal, his deputy Manish Sisodia and senior bureaucrats of Delhi government welcomed the Tamil Nadu chief minister at Rajkiya Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya in West Vinod Nagar and briefed about the reforms taken place in Delhi schools.
- ✓ The CM also interacted with the students of 'Business Blaster' initiative under Entrepreneurship mindset curriculum programme and with the students of pre-primary class, Happiness class and Deshbhakti class.
- ✓ The Delhi government dedicates about 25% of the state budget to education consistently and teachers are trained in IIMs, NIE Singapore, Finland and Cambridge.
- ✓ Teachers are encouraged to join globally recognised program like Fullbright Fellowship.

- ✓ The chief minister was accompanied by school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, chief secretary V Irai Anbu and senior bureaucrats.
- **On April 1, Chief minister M K Stalin - submitted a memorandum to Union minister for commerce & industry, consumer affairs, food, public distribution and textiles Piyush Goyal in New Delhi**



- ✓ During the meeting, the State expressed keen interest for the mega textile park as Tamil Nadu is a leading producer and exporter of textile products.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has aggressively pitched in for the Centre's mega textile park project after allocating 1,052 acre of land for such a park under the PM-Mega Integrated Textiles Region & Apparel Park (PM-MITRA) scheme.
- ✓ The land identified is next to National Highway 44 (Madurai to Kaniyakumari) and is in the possession of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (Sipcot) in Virudhunagar district.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has already submitted the Preliminary Project Report for setting up a textile park under the PM-MITRA scheme on March 14, 2022 to the union ministry.
- ✓ Chief minister Stalin also sought a new production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for footwear manufacturing, a segment in which Tamil Nadu is a dominant player at the national and global level.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu accounts for 26% of the national manufacturing output and 45% of the national exports of footwear.
- ✓ A PLI scheme for footwear manufacturing will increase the productivity of existing players and make India the most favoured destination for footwear exporters.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has also asked for capacity increment under the PLI scheme for advanced chemistry cell (ACC) battery storage from 50 GWh to 100 GWH.
- ✓ The Chief Minister also highlighted the rising price of steel and asked the Union government to control it to save the MSMEs
- ✓ The state government has also sought speedy transfer of 2,000 acre of land belonging to the Salt Department to state-owned TIDCO for which it has already sent letters to DPIIT.

- ✓ TIDCO will develop this land as an industrial township under the CBIC Ponneri Industrial Node project
- **The Tamil Nadu government - has increased property tax for all local bodies in the state after 24 years**
 - ✓ According to the notification by the municipal administration and water supply department, the property tax has been increased in all Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats under the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act, 1920
 - ✓ The decision followed the recommendation of the 15th Finance Commission
 - ✓ The changes are effective from April 1 in Municipality and Town Panchayat limits and in Corporations, it would take effect once the proposals are adopted by the respective councils
 - ✓ To implement the property tax revision, four slabs to determine the area of the property had been determined
 - ✓ In Chennai, the property tax revision for residential buildings in core area was 50% for those below 600 sq ft, 75% for 600-1,200 sq ft, 100% for 1,201-1,800 sq ft and 150% for those above 1,801 sq ft
 - ✓ In town panchayats and municipalities, the increase in rate will be 25% for those below 600 sq ft, 50% for 600-1,200 sq ft, 75% for 1,201-1,800 sq ft and 100% for those above 1,801 sq ft
 - ✓ For buildings for commercial purposes, the hike will be 100% while for factories and educational institutions, the hike will be 75%
 - ✓ In added areas and other corporations, the increase will be 100% and 75% respectively.
 - ✓ The Chennai Corporation saw a general revision of property tax in 1998 while the added areas and surrounding municipalities saw a revision in 2008.
 - ✓ While a GO was issued in 2013 for a property tax revision, it was stopped in 2019 and a committee was formed to provide recommendations for general revision.
 - ✓ The committee looked into the market rates, inflation, gross state domestic product (GSDP) and cost inflation rate, before suggesting the increase.
 - ✓ It found that the wholesale price index had grown by 2.98 times from 1998 to 2022, while it grew by 1.79 times from 2008 to 2022.
 - ✓ The State's GSDP also grew by 5.2 times, from ₹4,17,272 crore from 2008–09 to ₹21,79,655 crore in 2022.
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu has 15 Municipal Corporations, 121 Municipalities and 528 town panchayats
- **The single window system for building approvals by the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority - has finally begun on a trial basis.**
 - ✓ On April 1, four proposals were uploaded to <https://onlineppacmda.tn.gov.in/> for planning permission.

- ✓ The process of granting building approvals through the web-enabled single window system was first proposed in 2018
 - ✓ Under the system, a builder or developer can submit and track his application for planning permission online without going in person to the office of the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA).
 - ✓ The system will be open to general public within the next 15 days
 - ✓ The online process has been developed to ensure there was no manual intervention.
 - ✓ Earlier, Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan said in the State Legislative Assembly during the budget session that the system will soon be implemented to expedite the issue of planning permissions and approvals for construction of buildings
 - ✓ The Minister said that the system will be implemented by the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA), Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Greater Chennai Corporation, local planning authorities and other local bodies this year
- **Tamil Nadu government – has launched a massive project called ‘climate literacy’ for college and school students besides farmers and women.**
- ✓ Under the new initiative, farmers and SHGs will be involved in the climate literacy programme through departments concerned at the district level.
 - ✓ The new project aims to simplify the concept of climate change for the local community
 - ✓ It has to be recalled that the State Government has recently launched the ‘green fellowship programme’ to involve youth in tackling climate change
 - ✓ Under the scheme, the state government will actively involve youth in various initiatives for climate change adaptation and mitigation activities
 - ✓ It has been modelled based on the United Nations joint framework initiative on children, youth and climate change
 - ✓ The two-year green fellowship programme directly aims at engaging young people at the grassroots of climate change mitigation efforts.
 - ✓ With relevant area or work experience, eligible candidates below 30 years (for SC/ST-35 years) as on May 1, 2022 with knowledge of Tamil language can apply for the fellowship through ‘online’ mode
 - ✓ A total of 40 fellowships will be provided under the initiative, with one fellow for each of the 38 districts and two fellows at the state-level.
 - ✓ A reputed institute as a knowledge partner would identify and train candidates and monitor their performance every month and see if they can deliver.
 - ✓ The candidates would work alongside district collectors on all subjects that will be within the scope of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests
 - ✓ Each fellow will receive a stipend of Rs 60,000 per month along with Rs 15,000 travel allowance.

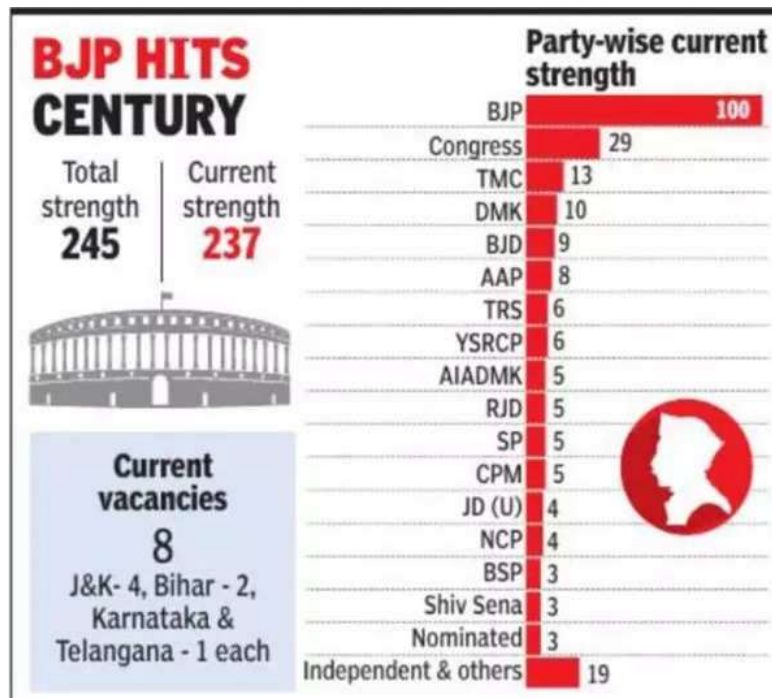
- **The State Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department – has entered into an agreement with the State Bank of India to revive the practice of monetising temple jewellery**
 - ✓ To start with, more than 27 kg of gold ornaments, valued at ₹13 crore, offered by devotees to Irukkankudi Mariamman temple in Virudhunagar will be monetised.
 - ✓ On April 1, the department has tied up with Sattur branch of SBI to monetise the gold jewellery and gold scraps of the Irukkankudi temple
 - ✓ The agreement was signed in the presence of HR & CE minister P K Sekar Babu and revenue minister K K S S R Ramachandran at the temple in Irukkankudi
 - ✓ By monetising the jewellery, the temple will receive ₹34 lakh per annum by way of interest
 - ✓ Under this scheme, which was launched in 1979 and revived in recent months, the small pieces of jewellery would be melted and converted into 24-carat gold bars.
 - ✓ They would be deposited into nationalised banks to generate revenue.
 - ✓ The interest fetched from it would be utilised to carry out repair and renovation of temples.
 - ✓ As per the direction of the Madras high court, the department decided to roll out the initiative after temple trustees gave their consent.
- **The Narcotics Intelligence Bureau Criminal Investigation Department (NIB-CID) – has designed two animation characters Tukker Pandi and DJ Rave to tackle drug abuse in the State**
 - ✓ The character Pandi is developed by delivering punch dialogues of Rajinikanth and Vijay to raise awareness about staying away from drugs
 - ✓ DJ Rave will specifically educate youngsters, citing examples of film heroes who have prevailed over drug mafias



- ✓ While Pandi is dressed in a yellow shirt and a veshti, Rave sports a punk look with spiked hair and pierced ears and eyebrow.
- ✓ The NIB-CID team has tied up with animation experts and a social media team to come up with a series of such short videos with powerful messages using film icons.

NATIONAL

- The ruling BJP – has become the first party in the country to cross the 100-mark in Rajya Sabha since 1988



- ✓ In 1988, the Congress under the PM Rajiv Gandhi had more than 100 members in the 245-member House with 108 members, while BJP had just 2 members in Lok Sabha
- ✓ It is also for the first time that the Congress does not have any representation from the Northeast in the Rajya Sabha.
- ✓ The BJP's tally in the Rajya Sabha now stands at 100 after the elections on March 31, which indicates its continuous rise from a mere 55 in 2014.
- ✓ Biennial elections for 13 Rajya Sabha seats were recently held across six states, namely, Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Kerala on March 31
- ✓ BJP and its ally won four seats, from three Northeastern states -- Assam, Tripura and Nagaland, during the elections
- ✓ In Nagaland, BJP's candidate, S Phangnon Konyak, became the first woman from the State to become a member of the Rajya Sabha
- ✓ S Phangnon Konyak is the president of BJP Nagaland unit's Mahila Morcha
- ✓ BJP Tripura president Manik Saha won the lone Rajya Sabha seat from the state to become the first member of the BJP from the state in the Upper House.
- ✓ In the opposition benches, the second biggest party after the Congress is the AITC, with 13 members, followed by the DMK (10) and BJD (nine).

- ✓ If BJP gains majority on its own in the Upper House by April 2024, it will be for the first time since 1982 when the same party had majority on its own in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- **The month of March 2022 – remained as the hottest March in India's recorded history since 1901, as per the data of India Meteorological Department (IMD).**
- ✓ The month this year surpassed the all-time average maximum temperature record of March 2010.
- ✓ India's average monthly day temperature during the month in 2010 had surged to 33.09°C.
- ✓ March 2022, however, recorded 33.1°C as its average monthly day temperature, surpassing all past heat records for the month.
- ✓ The month in 2020 was also the hottest ever March for northwest India, and second hottest for central India.
- ✓ Several stations, including Delhi, Chandrapur, Jammu, Dharamsala, Patiala, Dehradun, Gwalior, Kota and Pune, also recorded record-breaking day temperatures in March 2022.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal and his Australian counterpart Dan Tehan - will sign the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement in a virtual ceremony on April 2, 2022**



- ✓ The agreement covering trade in goods and services, is a balanced and equitable pact that aims to further strengthen the strategic relations between the countries
- ✓ It will significantly enhance the bilateral trade, create new employment opportunities, raise living standards and improve the general welfare of the peoples of the two countries

- ✓ Once the interim trade agreement between the two countries comes into force, Indian exporters from over 6,000 broad sectors, including textiles, leather, furniture, jewellery and machinery, will get duty free access in the Australian market immediately
- ✓ The pact will come into force at a mutually agreed date once it gets approval from the Union Cabinet in India and the Parliament in Australia.
- ✓ On the very first day of the implementation of the interim pact, over 6,000 tariff lines would be available for Indian exporters at zero duty.
- ✓ Australia is offering zero duty access to India on about 96.4% value of exports from day one and this covers many products, which currently attracts 4%-5% customs duty in Australia.
- ✓ Australia trade in about 6,500 tariff lines while India has over 11,500 tariff lines.
- ✓ Labour intensive sectors which would gain immensely, include textiles and apparel, few agricultural and fish products, leather, footwear, furniture, sport goods, jewellery, machinery, electrical goods, railway wagons, selected pharmaceutical products and medical devices.
- ✓ To safeguard sensitive sectors, India has several goods in the exclusion category in which no duty concessions will be accorded.

COMMITTEES

- **The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment, headed by Rama Devi - tabled its report on Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) on April 1**
- ✓ The report noted that there is a substantial gap between the number of schools proposed to be sanctioned and the actual sanctioned.
- ✓ It has pointed out that many schools under the EMRS scheme, which was started in 1997-98, are yet to be completed

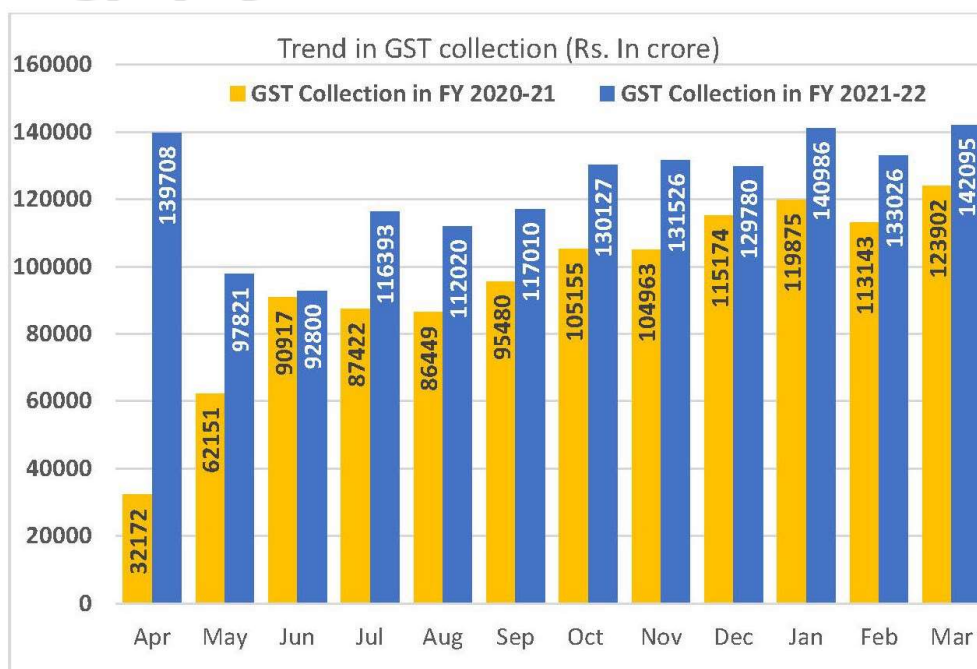


- ✓ Of the 288 schools sanctioned in 1997-98, only 244 schools could be made functional and construction work of only 202 schools has been completed till date.
- ✓ Further, out of 452 schools proposed to be sanctioned between 2018-2019 to 2021-2022, only 350 schools were approved and for the remaining 102 schools the location is yet to be finalised.

- ✓ Out of this, the construction work of only 100 schools could begin till date
- ✓ Hence, the original target of 452 new Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) including 12 Eklavya Model Day Boarding School (EMDBS) to be set up in 462 sub-districts by the year 2022 is nowhere near completion and the target year stands revised as 2025 now.
- ✓ The Committee also noted that 3 States namely Bihar, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have still not signed MoU and are reluctant to shift to CBSE Board and are insisting on continuation of State Board Curriculum in the schools set up in their States
- ✓ The norms stipulate that all the EMRSs set up across the country are to be affiliated with CBSE
- ✓ EMRS was introduced in the year 1997-98 to provide quality school education from Class VI to senior secondary level to scheduled tribes (ST) and PVTG (particularly vulnerable tribal groups) students in tribal dominated areas.
- ✓ The project was launched to impart quality education to the target children in remote areas to enable them avail of opportunities in high and professional educational courses and get employment in various sectors
- ✓ Realising the importance and revamping the scheme, the government in Union Budget of 2018-19 announced that it has been decided that by the year 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal people, will have an EMRS.

ECONOMY

- **The GST collections during March - hit a new monthly record, topping Rs 1.42 lakh crore, driven by a sharp rise in collections on imports.**



- ✓ The revenues for the month of March 2022 are 15% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year and 46% higher than the GST revenues in March 2020.
- ✓ During the month, revenues from import of goods was 25% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 11% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year
- ✓ During 2021-22, annual growth was estimated to have grown 30.5%, occurring after a 7% decline in the previous year on account of the national lockdown and the impact of Covid-19 on overall economic activity.

SPORTS

- **The draw for the 22nd edition of the FIFA World Cup 2022 – concluded at Doha, capital of the host country Qatar on April 1**
- ✓ Qatar will kickstart the World Cup on November 21 with its opening Group A match against Ecuador.

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group F	Group G	Group H
Qatar Netherlands Senegal Ecuador	England USA Iran Wales/Ukraine/ Scotland	Argentina Mexico Poland Saudi Arabia	France Denmark Tunisia UAE/Australia/ Peru	Spain Germany Japan Costa Rica/ New Zealand	Belgium Croatia Morocco Canada	Brazil Switzerland Serbia Cameroon	Portugal Uruguay South Korea Ghana

- ✓ The tournament will run from November 21 to December 18 in Qatar, the first time ever the soccer world cup hosted in the Middle East
- ✓ As hosts, Qatar received automatic qualification to the tournament.
- ✓ As on date, 29 of the 32 teams to compete are confirmed, while the remaining 3 teams will be confirmed by June
- ✓ Four-time World Cup winners Germany were the first team to guarantee a spot through the qualification process in Europe
- ✓ Brazil - the most successful national team in World Cup history with five trophies - secured qualification as one of the top four teams in South America's groups.
- ✓ Canada qualified for the world cup finals for just the second time
- ✓ The 2022 World Cup is taking place in Qatar in the winter months rather than the usual summer ones, due to the heat.
- ✓ Four matches will be played each day during the group stage, which will run over a 12-day period
- ✓ The group games will take place across eight stadia - Al Bayt Stadium, Khalifa International Stadium, Al Thumama Stadium, Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium, Lusail Stadium, Ras Abu Aboud Stadium, Education City Stadium, Al Janoub Stadium.
- ✓ The final will be played at the Lusail Stadium in Doha a week before Christmas on December 18.

- **Union minister of sports and youth affairs, Anurag Singh Thakur – unveiled the logo and mascots for the second edition of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG)**



- ✓ Bengaluru will host the games from April 24 to May 3, 2022
- ✓ On April 1, the mascots — Jaya, Vijaya and Namma Veera — were revealed along with the official jersey, a mobile app and the theme at the Sree Kanteerava indoor stadium
- ✓ Over 10 days, as many as 20 sporting disciplines will be hosted across the Jain University campus, Sree Kanteerava stadium, hockey stadium and the Sports Authority of India, South Centre shooting range.
- ✓ With a move to promoting traditional sport, mallakhamba has been introduced along with yogasana.
- ✓ The event will bring together over 4,500 athletes from universities across the country.

CHARAK SHAPATH vs HIPPOCRATIC OATH - REPORT

- **On March 31, the National Medical Commission (NMC) – has issued guidelines on the new competency based curriculum for MBBS**
- ✓ The new guidelines state that modified Maharishi Charak Shapath is recommended when a candidate is introduced to medical education.
- ✓ On March 29, junior health minister Dr Bharti Pravin Pawar had said in the Parliament, “as informed by the National Medical Commission (NMC), there is no proposal of replacement of Hippocratic Oath with Charak Shapath”.
- ✓ Incidentally, the Hippocratic oath, which is imparted when a candidate becomes a graduate, finds no mention anywhere in the NMC act
- ✓ According to the Ethics Regulations 2002 available on the NMC website, at the time of registration, each applicant is given a copy of a declaration by the registrar and the applicant is supposed to read and agree to abide by the same.
- ✓ This declaration is part of the regulations prepared during the tenure of the erstwhile Medical Council of India.

NEW GUIDELINES, NEW OATH

➤ During the period of study I shall live a disciplined life with my teachers and peers. My action shall be guarded, service oriented and free from indiscipline and envy. In my dealings I shall be patient, obedient, humble, constantly contemplative and calm. I shall aim my full efforts and ability towards the desired goal of my profession

➤ I shall always be ready to serve patients, even if I am extremely busy and tired. I shall not harm any patient for the sake of monetary or selfish gains, nor shall I entertain a desire for lust, greed or wealth. Immorality shall not emerge even in my thoughts

➤ My dressing shall be decent yet impressive

As a physician, I shall always use my knowledge for welfare of mankind

and inspiring confidence. My conduct shall always be appropriate, pleasant, truthful, beneficial and polite. I shall constantly endeavour/ keep updated with the latest developments in the field and widen my knowledge

➤ I shall treat patient of gender other than mine in presence of relatives or attendants

➤ When examining a patient, my discretion, attention and senses shall be concentrated on the cure of the disease. I shall not divulge the confidentiality related to the patient or family inappropriately

➤ Although an authority (in my subject), I shall not display my knowledge and skill with arrogance

- ✓ This declaration is neither the original Hippocratic oath nor a modified version of it, but is a modified version of the Geneva declaration.
- ✓ The Geneva Declaration is the human rights declaration adopted and adapted by the World Medical Association in 1948 to outline professional duties of physicians and ethical principles of the medical profession.
- ✓ It has been amended five times over the last 74 years, the last in 2017, to reflect the changing circumstances and understanding of medical care.
- ✓ However, many MBBS graduates read out a modified version of the Hippocratic oath and titled as such in their graduation ceremony
- ✓ While the oath is usually administered at the end of the MBBS course, the NMC circular recommends Charak Shapath when a candidate is introduced to medical education, presumably at the beginning of the MBBS course.