

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 21,2022

TAMIL NADU

- On April 20, Minister for Housing and Urban Development S Muthusamy - told the Assembly that six satellite towns will come up near Thoppur-Uchapatti in Madurai, Thirumazhisai, Minjur, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu and Kancheepuram.
- ✓ On the development of satellite townships in the State, the Minister said that a committee led by the Chief Secretary would be formed to suggest ways to develop satellite townships.

IN THE PIPELINE | SOME OF THE PROJECTS TO BE CARRIED OUT BY CMDA

➤ 30km of the Marina beach to be developed into blue beach at a cost of ₹100crore

➤ ₹100cr for development of Perumbakkam, Retteri, Mudi-chur, Madambakkam, Sembakkam, Ayapakkam, Velachery, Adambakkam and Puzhal

➤ Chennai Metropolitan Expansion to the extent of 5904 sqkm has been prepared and is under consideration

➤ Chennai Unified Metropolita

Transport Authority (CUMTA) will be revived

➤ A draft policy on new resettlement and rehabilitation plan will be unveiled

➤ New urban development authorities for Madurai, Tiruppur, Coimbatore, Hosur, Salem and Trichy to be formed

➤ Chengalpet and Tiruvallur to get new integrated bus stands

➤ New town development plans to be developed for towns with above 10 lakh populations and those with population between 50000 and 99999

➤ 20 new master plans will be completed by the end of this year for various cities in TN

➤ Several commercial buildings to come up under PPP mode by TNHB in Tiruvallur, Chennai, Sholinganallur, Vellore, Hosur, Tirumangalam, Ayapakkam and Anna Nagar



- ✓ Replying to the debate on the demand for grants for his ministry, the Minister said Tamil Nadu Housing Board projects would be implemented in joint venture mode with private participation to optimise the quality of houses
- ✓ Henceforth, the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) alone would grant approvals for all multistoried buildings above 18 metres
- ✓ The existing regulation to submit the planning permission applications to the government for the buildings of above 18 metres height has been modified.

- ✓ For the first time in the state, the State Government will be introducing B.Plan (Bachelor's of Planning) degree from this year.
- ✓ The new course will be taught at the School of Architecture and Planning, Anna University.
- ✓ Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) and Directorate of Town and Country Planning (DTCP) will be funding the course at a budget of Rs. 10 crore
- ✓ CMDA will contribute 80% of the course cost, while the rest will be borne by DTCP
- ✓ Further, a feasibility report will be prepared to develop commercial ventures under revenue sharing model at MRTS railway stations in Chennai



- ✓ Among other announcements, a residential and commercial complex at Thirumazhisai and Kakkalur in Thiruvallur district will be built under public-private-partnership (PPP) model for Rs 1,280 crore and Rs 133 crore respectively
- ✓ The department has also planned to develop the lakesides at Perumbakkam, Redderi, Mudichur, Madampakkam, Sembakkam, Ayanambakkam, Velacherry, Adambakkam and Puzhal at a cost of Rs 100 crore.
- ✓ Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (Cumta), constituted in 2010, will be revived this year and would be functional under the World Bank-assisted Chennai City Partnership Programme
 - ✓ An allocation of Rs. 9. 5 crore has been made in the budget for this purpose
 - ✓ The agency will be responsible for finalising the comprehensive mobility plan and improvise the transit-oriented development using multi-modal integration and the emphasis will be on non-motorised transport.
 - ✓ Various sub committees under Cumta will also be soon formed.
- ✓ **On April 20, Minister for MSMEs and Urban Habitat Development TM Anbarasan – said in the Assembly that Tamil Nadu Coir Business Development Corporation will be set up in Coimbatore with a seed capital of Rs. 5 crore in the first phase**



- ✓ The Corporation will aim to develop the coir sector to popularise value-added coir products made in the state like Geo Textiles and coir pith in the domestic and export markets and also to develop coir industry across the state.
- ✓ The government will provide professional accounting, tax consulting & filing and company secretaryship services free of cost for the first five years to micro enterprises of 20 micro clusters announced in the 2022-23 budget
- ✓ A report on Tamil Nadu's Startup Ecosystem, establishing regional startup hubs in tier II and III cities and setting up Fablabs in engineering colleges will be released soon.
- ✓ While presenting the policy note on the sector in the state assembly, the Minister said that 'Regional Startup Hubs' will be established in tier II & III regions of the State
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Start-up and Innovation Mission (TANSIM) will engage a third-party agency or professional consultants to prepare an authentic annual data report on Start-ups, which will be systematically updated annually.
- ✓ The report will cover stakeholder details including startups operating in the State and their stages and investments, sector-wise startups, incubators, accelerators, market connectors, angel investors, venture capital and private equity firms as well as district wise data and facilities

NATIONAL

- **Dhaksha Unmanned Systems (DUMS) guided by Anna University - has been shortlisted by the ministry of civil aviation to manufacture indigenous drones as a part of the 'Make in India' programme.**
- ✓ DUMS is provisionally selected as a drone manufacturer along with four other firms
- ✓ The four other selected firms are ideaForge Technology in Mumbai, IoTech World Aviation, Omnipresent Robot Tech in Gurugram, Haryana, and Raphe mPhibir in Noida
- ✓ Dhaksha Unmanned Systems firm is working independently registered as a private limited company under the guidance of MIT alumni and aerospace department officials of the Anna University.
- ✓ As per the first provisional list of beneficiaries, MoCA has listed 14 beneficiaries including five for manufacturing drones.

- ✓ Adani-Elbit Advanced Systems India, a JV of Adani Group and an Israeli company, is among the 14 beneficiaries under the government's production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for manufacturing drone and drone components.
 - ✓ The shortlisted nine drone component manufacturers are Absolute Composites (Bangalore), AdaniElbit Advanced Systems India (Hyderabad), Adroitec Information Systems (Delhi), Alpha Design Technologies (Bangalore), Inventgrid India (Sambalpur), Paras Aerospace (Bangalore), SASMOS HET Technologies (Bangalore), ZMotion Autonomous Systems (Bangalore) and Zuppa Geo Navigation Technologies (Chennai).
 - ✓ The list of drone manufacturers and component manufacturers has been prepared based on the financial data submitted by the applicants for April-January 2022.
 - ✓ More companies are likely to be added and the final list will be released by June 30, 2022
- **The Centre - has extended the ceasefire agreement signed with three Naga insurgent groups for one more year.**
- ✓ The agreements are signed with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland-NK (NSCN-NK), National Socialist Council of Nagaland Reformation (NSCN-R) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland K-Khango (NSCN K-Khango).
 - ✓ According to the Home Ministry, the ceasefire agreements are to be extended for a further period of one year with effect from April 28, 2022 to April 27, 2023 with NSCN-NK and NSCN-R and from April 18, 2022 to April 17, 2023 with NSCN K-Khango
 - ✓ The new extended pacts were signed on April 19, 2022

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On April 20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - inaugurated the Global AYUSH Investment & Innovation Summit at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**

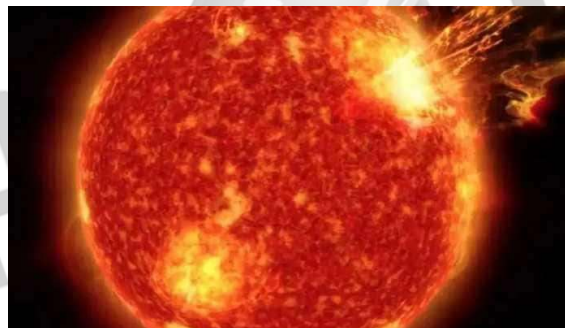


- ✓ The Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and Director-General of World Health Organization Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus were also present on this occasion.
- ✓ Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Union Minister for Ayush Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya were present during the ceremony.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave WHO director general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus a 'pucca' Gujarati name at his request—Tulsibhai.
- ✓ During the event, Ghebreyesus said he has accepted PM Modi's proposal to hold an annual international meeting on traditional medicine in Gujarat next year.
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi also digitally launched Ayush Export Promotion Council on this occasion.
- ✓ Further, PM Modi also launched IT initiatives like Ayush Information Hub, Ayush next, Ayusoft etc.
- ✓ During the occasion, the Prime Minister also announced to create a new category for Indian VISA- Ayush VISA, so that foreigners can avail the benefit of Indian expertise in Ayush sector.
- ✓ The PM also mentioned that FSSAI has also announced a new category named 'AYUSH Aahar' in its regulations last week, which facilitates producers of herbal nutritional supplements
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi further said that India is going to launch a special AYUSH Mark, which will guarantee the authenticity of the highest quality AYUSH products made in the country.
 - ✓ The initiative is part of the government's 'Heal In India' campaign to promote medical tourism in India.
- ✓ Promoting the start-ups in the Ayush sector, PM mentioned that an incubation center was developed by the All India Institute of Ayurveda few weeks back
- ✓ The PM added that the Centre has launched several new initiatives to encourage and promote the Ayush sector, including establishment of a digital portal to connect medicinal plant farmers with Ayush product manufacturers
- ✓ During his address, PM Modi said that the Ayurvedic treatment of Rosemary Odinga, daughter of former Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga, in India brought her eyesight back
- ✓ The three-day Global AYUSH Investment & Innovation Summit will witness 5 plenary sessions, 8 roundtables, 6 workshops, and 2 symposiums.
- ✓ About 90 eminent speakers and 100 exhibitors will also participate in the summit.
- ✓ The summit is aimed at bringing together Ayush leaders, academicians and scholars together and act as a platform for future collaborations in innovation, research & development, start-up ecosystem and the wellness industry
- ✓ Later, Prime Minister Modi distributed awards to the winners of 'Ayush Start-up Challenge' organised by the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in association with Start-up India.

- ✓ The main aim of the challenge, launched on February 4, is to encourage early-stage start-ups and individuals working on innovations in Ayurveda and other alternative healing and medicine systems.
- ✓ There were three entry categories for participating in the challenge - Ayush Food Innovations, Ayush Bio-instrumentation (Hardware solutions) and Ayush IT Solutions (Software solutions).
- ✓ There were two winners in each of the three categories with a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh for the winner and Rs 50,000 for the runner-up.
- ✓ The 'Ayush Start-up Challenge' was open for participation from both early-stage start-ups as well as individuals as a group
- ✓ The Government of India created a full-fledged Ministry of Ayush on November 9, 2014 with a mandate to promote and propagate Indian systems of medicine and homoeopathy.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **On April 20, the Sun - unleashed a massive solar flare that has the potential to impact satellite communications and global positioning systems**



- ✓ This was announced by the Centre of Excellence in Space Sciences, India (CESSI).
- ✓ The flare has been classified as an XClass, which denotes the most intense flare.
- ✓ The X2.2 class solar flare eruption took place at 9.27 IST from the solar magnetic active region AR12992.
- ✓ As per CESSI, strong ionospheric perturbation is ongoing over India, South East Asia and the Asia-Pacific regions
- ✓ This may lead to expected high frequency communication blackouts, satellite anomalies, GPS scintillations, and airline communication impacts
- ✓ Solar flares are powerful bursts of energy that can impact radio communications, electric power grids and navigation signals, and pose risks to spacecraft and astronauts.
- ✓ During a solar flare, the highly energetic charged particles are expelled from the Sun at speeds close to that of light.
- ✓ These rays can disturb the ionosphere region of the Earth, which plays key role in radio communications.

- ✓ According to Nasa, the smallest flares are classified as A-Class, followed by B, C, M and X.
- ✓ Each letter represents a 10-fold increase in energy output.
- ✓ An X-Class flare is 10 times M-Class eruption and 100 times a C-Class flare.

SPORTS

- **India's Greco Roman grapplers - ended their campaign at the ongoing Asian wrestling championships with five medals on April 20**
- ✓ Harpreet Singh and Sachin Sahrawat won a bronze each on the second day of the continental meet in Mongolia's Ulaanbaatar.



- ✓ Harpreet won the bronze in the 82kg category after his rival, Qatar's Jafar Khan, didn't turn up owing to an injury.
- ✓ In the 67kg category, Sachin registered a win 'by fall' over Uzbekistan's Mahmud Bakhshilloev to win the bronze medal.
- ✓ Earlier, Sachin had lost to 2018 World bronze medalist Meiirzhan Shermakhanbet from Kazakhstan in his quarterfinal bout
- ✓ A day earlier, former Asian champion Sunil Kumar (87kg), Arjun Halakurki (55kg) and Neeraj (63kg) won bronze medals.
- ✓ This was India's second-best show at the Asian Championships after the country's Greco Roman wrestlers had claimed gold and four bronze at the 2020 edition of the meet in Delhi.

