

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 25,2022

TAMIL NADU

- The Tamil Nadu government – has announced to observe December 18 as **Minorities Rights Day** at the state level and set aside Rs 2.50 lakh for the purpose
- ✓ This was announced by Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Gingee K S Masthan in the Assembly on April 22



- ✓ At present, the day is being observed at the district level of the State under the concerned collectors concerned
- ✓ Further, in order to enable the minority girl students in rural areas to pursue their studies without any impediments, the government announced an education aid of Rs 500 to the students of Classes 3 to 5 and Rs 1,000 to the wards of Class 6
- ✓ A sum of Rs 2.75 crore would be provided as aid to the students under this new scheme
- ✓ Meanwhile, Minister for Backward Classes Welfare R S Rajakannappan informed the assembly that e-libraries would be established in 275 college hostels, run by the department, at a cost of Rs 2.20 crore

- ✓ Further, the Minister said that the government would form 25 groups with each comprising 10 members and encourage them to set up ready-made garment units.
- ✓ They would be provided an assistance of Rs 75 lakh under the new initiative, which is aimed at improving the economic prospects of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Tribes
- ✓ The medical assistance of Rs 1000 being provided to the hostellers for three medical checkups in a year, will be enhanced to Rs 3000, said the Minister

NATIONAL

- **On April 24, Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed the nation in the latest edition of his radio broadcast Mann Ki Baat**
 - ✓ During his speech, the Prime Minister urged people to switch from cash payments to digital transactions
 - ✓ According to the PM, this will not only boost the country's digital economy, but will also lead to an environment of honesty and transparency.
 - ✓ Last March, UPI transactions reached around ₹10 lakh crore.
 - ✓ The PM also spoke on the necessity for water conservation and said the government will use 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' as an occasion to build 75 'Amrit Sarovars' in every district of the country.
 - ✓ The PM also asked parents and students to try Vedic mathematics as an easy way to make a complex subject fun.
 - ✓ A digital art gallery of paintings showcasing the work of persons with disability was one of the key highlights of PM's speech.
 - ✓ The PM also played quiz master on museums and asked people to respond on the NaMo App and to the hashtag #MuseumQuiz on social media
 - ✓ Among other issues, the PM also highlighted the power of technology and how it is changing the lives of ordinary people.
- **The Centre - has approved assistance of more than Rs 1.6 lakh crore for 12 states and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir for implementing measures in power sector.**
 - ✓ These include installing smart meters, cutting line losses and erasing gap between cost of supply and revenue realisation, with the aim of restoring financial viability of discoms (distribution companies).
 - ✓ Of the total sanctioned amount, Rs 88,000 crore alone is meant for smart meters and Rs 75,000 crore is for measures to reduce line losses and developing institutional capabilities
 - ✓ Smart meters are key element in the Centre's plan for tackling billing inefficiency and theft, contributing as major factors for the poor financial health of discoms.
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu will be the biggest recipient on this count (Rs 19,235 crore), followed by Uttar Pradesh (Rs 18,956 crore).

UTTAR PRADESH TO GET ₹36K CRORE

| States/UTs | For smart meters* | For loss reduction* |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 4,128 | 9,277 |
| Assam | 3,677 | 2,609 |
| Gujarat | 10,642 | 5,917 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 1,788 | 1,913 |
| J&K** | 1,053 | 5,882 |
| Kerala | 8,231 | 2,347 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 8,769 | 9,403 |
| Meghalaya** | 310 | 817 |
| Mizoram** | 180 | 375 |
| Rajasthan | 9,715 | 8,912 |
| Tamil Nadu | 19,235 | 9,066 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 18,956 | 16,746 |
| Uttarakhand | 1,051 | 1,447 |

*In ₹ crore; **Under scrutiny; Source: Govt data

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh will be the biggest beneficiary in terms of total assistance, pegged at Rs 35,702 crore, followed by Tamil Nadu with Rs 28,301 crore, Rajasthan (Rs 18,627 crore), Madhya Pradesh (Rs 18,172 crore), Gujarat (Rs 16,559 crore), Andhra Pradesh (Rs 13,405 crore) and Kerala (Rs 10,578 crore).
 - ✓ The assistance has been approved under a Rs 3.3-lakh results-linked distribution reforms scheme approved in June 2021.
 - ✓ In the current scheme, release of assistance is linked to verifiable results.
 - ✓ First, the states have to take over the discom losses fully or partially and clear all government department dues by 2024-25.
 - ✓ Next is modernisation of infrastructure to reduce line losses to 12-15% by 2024-25.
 - ✓ Finally, states will have to bring the gap between energy cost and revenue to zero through smart metering to qualify for the Central assistance.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi – inaugurated the country's first ever dairy community radio station (CRS) dedicated to animal husbandry, Dudh Vani, during his recent Gujarat tour**
- ✓ This will be the country's first community radio station dedicated only to cattle breeders.
 - ✓ The Banas Dairy Community Radio station was set up by the Banaskantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union or Banas Dairy
 - ✓ The new radio station seeks to connect over five lakh dairy farmers across 1,700 villages in the State
 - ✓ Banas Dairy is located in Gujarat's Banaskantha district and it is the largest milk producer of Asia

- ✓ This Community Radio Station operating at frequency 90.4 has been established to offer farmers essential scientific information relevant to agriculture and animal husbandry
- ✓ Notably, the apex dairy development organization, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), has launched a biweekly podcast series dedicated to dairy farmers in cooperation with All India Radio
- ✓ The Prime Minister also inaugurated a potato processing plant built at a cost of over Rs. 600 crore at the newly-commissioned greenfield dairy complex in Diyodar.
- ✓ The potato processing plant will make a variety of processed potato products, including french fries, potato chips, aloo Tikki, patties, and more, with many of them being exported to other nations.
- ✓ PM Modi also laid the foundation stone for the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar during his visit to Gujarat.
- ✓ To construct the WHO Global Centre, thirty-five acres of land have been provided by the Gujarat government for free.
- ✓ Global Centre for Traditional Medicine will be the first and only global outpost centre for traditional medicine across the world.

DEFENCE

- **The Army and IAF - have begun to induct advanced Israeli anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) with longer ranges and greater armour-penetration capabilities**
- ✓ The Israeli 'tank killers' were ordered under emergency procurement last year due to the troop standoff with China
- ✓ Recently, Ukrainian troops armed with US-origin Javelin ATGMs and western next-generation light anti-tank light missiles (NLAWs) have destroyed hundreds of Russian tanks and other armoured vehicles
- ✓ The Israeli family of Spike ATGMs is equally lethal and versatile.
- ✓ The Army is inducting the Spike LR-2 launchers and missiles, which have a ground strike range of 5.5 km
- ✓ Meanwhile, the IAF is integrating its Russian-origin Mi-17 V5 armed helicopters with Spike NLOS (non-line of sight) missiles that can destroy ground targets around 30 km away.

AWARDS

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - was honoured with the first Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award for his selfless service to the nation and society on April 24**
- ✓ Late singer Lata Mangeshkar's sisters Asha Bhosle, Usha Mangeshkar, and Meena Khadikar presented the award to PM Modi.



- ✓ Maharashtra governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari and Maharashtra Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis were present during the event
- ✓ The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award was instituted in the memory and honour of Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar
- ✓ It will be given every year to a person for path-breaking, spectacular and exemplary contribution towards the country, its people and the society
- ✓ Incidentally, April 24 marks the 80th anniversary of the death of Master Deenanath Mangeshkar, the singing legend's father
- ✓ During the ceremony, veteran actors Asha Parekh and Jackie Shroff received the Master Deenanath Puraskar (special honour) for their "dedicated services in the field of cinema"
- ✓ Lata Mangeshkar died at 92 on February 6 following multiple-organ failure.

SPORTS

- **Grandmaster D Gukesh - won the Menorca Open chess tournament in Spain defeating compatriot B Adhiban in the final round on April 24.**



- ✓ The country's youngest Grandmaster, 15-year old Gukesh scored 6 points out of 7 rounds and earned 1,600 Euros as prize money
- ✓ This is his second title in the last eight days

- ✓ Gukesh's brilliant performance earned him 13 rating points, raised his live rating to around 2660 and reinforced his freshly-earned spot in the world's top-100.
 - ✓ Aryan Chopra, one of the seven leaders, drew with fourth seeded Armenian Shant Sargsyan to finish runner-up following a seven-way tie at 5.5 points.
 - ✓ Gukesh had won the 48th Open Ajedrez La Roda chess tournament held in La Roda, Spain on April 17
- **Indian duo Ridhi Phor and Tarundeep Rai - gave India its second gold medal in the recurve mixed team event at the Archery World Cup Stage 1 at Antalya on April 24.**



- ✓ India thus ended its campaign in the first outdoor event of the year with two gold medals
 - ✓ Earlier, the first gold for India came through the compound men's team of Abhishek Verma, Rajat Chauhan and Aman Saini on April 23.
 - ✓ The mixed India duo combined to beat Great Britain duo of Bryony Pitman and Alex Wise in a shoot-off.
 - ✓ Pairing up for the first time ever, two-time Olympian Rai and the young Ridhi trailed twice but fought back to their maiden gold medal.
 - ✓ This was 38-year-old Rai's first-ever mixed team medal in the World Cup.
 - ✓ Haryana's 17 year old Ridhi is the reigning national champion
 - ✓ It has to be recalled that Rai won the Asian Games silver in Guangzhou 2010
- **On April 24, Tokyo Olympian Deepak Punia - settled for silver, while Viky clinched bronze at the Asian Wrestling Championships in Mongolia's Ulaanbaatar**
- ✓ India ended the campaign with 17 medals, with Ravi Dahiya being the lone gold winner, in the men's freestyle 57kg category.
 - ✓ The country's haul included one gold, five silver and 11 bronze medals.
 - ✓ On the final day of the event, Deepak got the 86kg men's freestyle silver after losing to Kazakhstan's Azamat Dauletbekov in the title bout.
 - ✓ It was Deepak's fourth medal at the Asian Championships, having won a silver (2021) and two bronze (2019, 2020) in the earlier editions.



- ✓ In the 92kg division, Viky secured a bronze after defeating Uzbekistan's Ajiniyaz Saparniyazov.

India's medallists

- ✓ Greco Roman - Sunil Kumar (87kg) bronze, Arjun Halakurki (55kg) bronze, Neeraj (63kg) bronze, Harpreet Singh (82kg) bronze, and Sachin Sahrawat (67kg) bronze.
- ✓ Women's freestyle - Sarita Mor (59kg) bronze, Sushma Shokeen (55kg) bronze, Manisha (62kg) bronze, Anshu Malik (57kg) silver, and Radhika (65kg) silver.
- ✓ Men's freestyle - Ravi Kumar Dahiya (57kg) gold, Bajrang Punia (65kg) silver, Gourav Baliyan (79kg) silver, Naveen (70kg) bronze, Satywart Kadian (97kg) bronze, Deepak Punia (86kg) silver, and Viky (92kg) bronze.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ World Malaria Day – April 25



- ✓ World Malaria Day is observed every year to create awareness of the life-threatening disease named malaria
- ✓ Malaria is caused due to the bite of the female Anopheles mosquito, which is infected with the malaria-causing plasmodium parasite
- ✓ The symptoms of the disease start appearing 10-15 days after the bite of female anopheles mosquitoes.
- ✓ According to the World Health Organization, around 241 million people were infected with this deadly disease in 2020, with most of these cases reported in Africa.

- ✓ In Africa, governments have been observing Malaria Day since 2001.
- ✓ However, it was only in 2007, during the 60th session of the World Health Organization, that it was proposed to observe Africa Malaria Day as World Malaria Day to recognise the impact of the disease worldwide.
- ✓ The first World Malaria Day was held in 2008.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - "Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives"

