

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 7, 2022

### TAMIL NADU

- On April 6, the Tamil Nadu government - announced 12 permanent flood mitigation projects to be taken up in Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur and Chengalpattu districts at a cost of Rs 434 crore
- ✓ This was announced by Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan, while replying to the debate on demand for grants for his department in the Assembly

#### WATER SCHEMES FOR REST OF TAMIL NADU



- Renovation of irrigation systems in **Coimbatore, Dindigul, Karur, Madurai, Tirupattur, Tirupur, Tiruvallur and Vellore**
- Renovation and Restoration of 200 tanks
- A pilot scheme to map groundwater table
- Three subsurface dykes across Palar in Ranipet, Tirupattur and Vellore
- Anicut in five places in Kancheepuram, Sivaganga and Tenkasi districts
- Ten check dams in Coimbatore, Dindigul, Perambalur, Salem, Tirupur, Tiruvallur, Trichy and Vellore
- Permanent flood mitigation work in Tiruvattar and Vilavancode blocks in



**Kanyakumari**

- Renovation of channels in Tuticorin
- Two check dams across river Nambiyar and Hanumanadhi in Tirunelveli
- Restoration of 50 minor irrigation tanks in Sivaganga and Tirupur
- A detailed study to get external funding for renovation of irrigation systems of Kothaiyar, Coleroon, Vennar and Parambikulam-Aliyar basins at ₹31.15 crore
- Four bed dams across rivers in Trichy and Thanjavur districts at ₹27.4 crore
- Three regulators at Tenkasi, Tiruvallur and Tuticorin districts at ₹15.6 crore

- ✓ In the first phase of the project, eight flood mitigation projects would be taken up to prevent flooding in Porur, Puzhal, Chembarambakkam, Vellivayal and Manalipudur areas in Adyar and Kosasthalaiyar sub-basins in Chennai, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur districts at a cost of Rs 250 crore
- ✓ Further, the Minister said that a mobile application will be developed to monitor the encroachments in water bodies in Chennai and its periphery

- ✓ The App will also be used to examine the quality of water with the support of artificial intelligence and Geographic Information System
  - ✓ The second phase of four flood mitigation projects in Kovalam sub-basin, Semmancheri, Perumbakkam, Tambaram, Sholinganallur and Alandur will be simultaneously launched in Chennai and Chengalpet districts at ₹184 crore.
  - ✓ A policy note tabled by Duraimurugan said the government was also examining a ₹22,004 crore “Chennai city water supply augmentation and flood mitigation resilient to climate change” scheme.
- **On April 6, Chief Minister M K Stalin - said in the assembly that a global investors’ meet (GIM) would be organised in Tamil Nadu by the end of 2023 to attract foreign investments and generate employment in the state.**
- ✓ He was making a suo motu statement under Rule 110 of the assembly.



- ✓ The CM also said that the state officials will be going Switzerland to participate in the World Economic Forum’s annual meet 2022 to attract investments into Tamil Nadu
- ✓ In May, they would visit Hannover in Germany, which would be followed by a visit to the UK to participate in the Global Offshore Wind summit in June.
- ✓ In July, they would tour the USA to participate in an investors’ meet there.
- ✓ The government would soon form a working committee to work in coordination with firms like Mubadala Investment Company and ABQ to get more investments into the state, said the CM
- ✓ In this regard, 6 MoUs were signed during the Chief Minister’s recent visit to the UAE to participate in Dubai Expo 2022.
- ✓ The agreements would bring ₹6,100 crore investment and generate 15,100 jobs, said the CM
- ✓ The CM further said Guidance-Tamil Nadu, an agency that facilitates investment in the state, had received Best Investment Promotion Agency award in the Asia Oceania Region.

## NATIONAL

- On April 6, the Rajya Sabha - passed the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, which would enable investigating officers to collect biometric details of prisoners, by a voice vote



- ✓ The Bill provides a legal safeguard for police and investigating agencies to collect and store biological and physical samples of convicts and those accused of a crime
- ✓ It authorises law enforcement agencies to collect, store and analyse physical and biological samples of convicts and other persons for the purposes of identification and investigation in criminal matters.
- ✓ The Bill provides access to a limited category of persons whose body measurements can be taken
- ✓ The record of these measurements will be retained in digital or electronic form for a period of seventy-five years from the date of collection
- ✓ The Bill proposes to allow Police to collect finger impressions, palm prints impressions, footprint impressions, photographs, iris and retina scans, physical and biological samples
- ✓ The Bill also authorises the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) to collect, store, and preserve these details
- ✓ Persons who are not convicted or arrested for crime against women or children or those who are in custody for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a period less than seven years, can deny permission to give their biological samples.
- ✓ The Bill, introduced in the lower house on 28 March, seeks to replace the Prisoners Act 1920.
- ✓ The Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha on April 4.

## RANKINGS

- The 'QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022' - was released by global higher education think-tank QS Quacquarelli Symonds on April 6
- ✓ These rankings cover a total of 51 disciplines, grouped into five broad subject areas in 1,543 institutions from across the globe.





- ✓ The QS rankings have been announced for subjects including arts and humanities, engineering and technology, life sciences and medicine, natural sciences, and social sciences and management.
- ✓ In the stream of Arts and Humanities, the University of Oxford has topped the list with a score of 98, followed by the University of Cambridge at a score of 97.9 and Harvard University with a score of 97.4.
  - ✓ Among Indian universities, Jawaharlal Nehru University has earned the 188th rank with a score of 68.5 and the University of Delhi has secured 227th rank with a score of 66.7
- ✓ In Engineering and Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology secured the first rank in the 2022 list with a score of 96.5, followed by the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford
  - ✓ The Indian Institute of Bombay and the Indian Institute of Delhi ranked 65 and 72 respectively in the engineering and technology list with a score of 79.9 and 78.9 respectively
  - ✓ Further, IIT Kharagpur ranked 101 with a score of 76.2, whereas IIT Madras and Kanpur ranked 103 and 122 respectively
- ✓ In Life Sciences and Medicine, only three Indian universities made the list this year, namely All India Institute of Medical Sciences (rank 204), University of Delhi (rank 330) and Manipal Academy of Higher Education (rank 375).
- ✓ In the category of Natural sciences, IISc Bengaluru topped with the rank of 103, followed by IIT Bombay at 142<sup>nd</sup> rank and IIT Madras at 176<sup>th</sup> rank
- ✓ University of Delhi topped the social sciences and management category at 195<sup>th</sup> rank followed by IIT Delhi at 211<sup>th</sup> rank
- ✓ In law, Jindal Global Law School of O.P. Jindal Global University has been ranked at 70 globally, making it the best law school from Indian in this ranking.
- ✓ India's highest-ranked university overall is the Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences for dentistry which debuts in the 18th position.
- ✓ The second-highest ranked university is also a new entry -- the Indian School of Mines (ISM) University, Dhanbad, at 26<sup>th</sup> place in Engineering - Mineral & Mining.
- ✓ Four Institutes of Eminence achieve top-50 ranks, including IIT Madras, which ranks 30<sup>th</sup> for Petroleum Engineering, making it India's highest-ranking public Institute of Eminence.

- ✓ Two public Institutes of Eminence - IIT Kharagpur (37th) and IIT Bombay (39th) - make the top-50 in Mineral & Mining Engineering, making it India's best subject.
- ✓ Two Indian universities - IIM Bangalore and IIM - Ahmedabad - achieved top-100 ranks in Business & Management
- ✓ The University of Delhi ranks 41st for Development Studies.
- ✓ Four subjects of IIT Delhi-- Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, and Civil Engineering -- have made it to the top 100 list
- ✓ India's most-improved entry is in pharmacy and pharmacology, with the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali, rising over a hundred places year-on-year.
- ✓ In the overall rankings, US institutions lead in 28 of the 51 subjects ranked.
- ✓ Harvard University and MIT remain the strongest-performing institutions, ranking number one in twelve subjects.
- ✓ Overall, Thirty-five Indian programmes have achieved top-100 positions, as against twenty five in the earlier edition in 2021

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

### ➤ World Health Day – April 7



- ✓ World Health Day is observed every year to raise awareness of people's general health and well-being around the world.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - 'Our Planet, Our Health'
- ✓ Apart from this, the Ministry of Ayush will celebrate 'Yoga Amrit Mahotsav' on World Health Day this year.
- ✓ The Ministry, along with its stakeholders, will also initiate a 75-day countdown to the International Day of Yoga (June 21) with a grand programme for the demonstration of common yoga protocols at the Red Fort.
- ✓ The day marks the anniversary of the setting up of the World Health Organization (WHO) in the first health assembly on April 7, 1948.
- ✓ On this day, the constitution of WHO came into force in the year 1948 with the signing of 61 countries
- ✓ On 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1949, the first World Health Day was celebrated



- ✓ However, after deciding to observe the day on April 7, the first World Health Day was held on April 7, 1950

## WORLD'S TALLEST MURUGAN STATUE - REPORT

Text: V Senthil Kumaran



### World's tallest Murugan statue unveiled in TN

*Thousands Of Devotees  
Witness Consecration  
Ceremony At Salem*

➤ N Sridhar, chairman of Sri Muthumalai Murugar Trust, said he got the idea to build the tallest Murugan statue in Tamil Nadu after he came to know about the **140-ft Murugan statue in Malaysia**

➤ Sridhar, a businessman from Attur in Salem district, decided to construct the temple and statue on his own land at Puthiragoundampalayam near Attur in Salem district in 2014

➤ He initiated the construction process with the help of sculptor **'Tiruvarur' Thiyagarajan**, who had constructed the 140ft Murugan statue in Malaysia in 2006

➤ The bhoomi puja on March, 13, 2016, and the statue was named **'Muthumalai Murugan'**

➤ Upon completion of the 146-ft statue, the consecration was performed on Wednesday

➤ The temple also has six abodes (Arupadai Veedu) of Lord Murugan

➤ Temple authorities showered rose petals on the statue from a chopper

➤ Free Annadhanam was offered to thousands of devotees who came on the occasion

➤ Traffic on the Salem-Chennai-Puducherry highway was completely halted for more than six hours

**Muthumalai  
Murugan  
towers at  
146ft**

**A SIGHT TO BEHOLD:** The statue has been built by N Sridhar, chairman of the Sri Muthumalai Murugar Trust, at Puthiragoundampalayam in Salem