

FIVE **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-august**

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu - has become the first state to unveil an exclusive footwear and leather products policy.**



- ✓ The policy includes non-leather footwear which has a growing global demand.
- ✓ The policy was unveiled by chief minister M K Stalin at the Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Sector Conclave 2022 on August 23
- ✓ It seeks to attract Rs.20,000 crore in fresh investments and generate employment for two lakh people by 2025.
- ✓ The policy aims to transform Tamil Nadu into a favoured destination for footwear and leather products manufacturing in Asia.
- ✓ During the event, the Tamil Nadu government signed five memoranda of understanding (MoUs) for an investment worth Rs 2,250 crore in the footwear and leather sector and generate jobs to 37,450 people
- ✓ KICL SEMS, Wagon International, KICL, Walkaroo and KICL (footwear cluster) are the five firms with which the state government signed the MoUs

- ✓ Also, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a Rs 400 crore mega footwear manufacturing park at Panapakkam, Ranipet, on the occasion
 - ✓ The policy also introduces a subsidy skilling programme where women, transgender persons, people with disabilities, and those from the SC/ST community can avail Rs. 6,000 each monthly for six months
 - ✓ According to the policy, two special incentive packages will be offered by the government - one for footwear and leather products (FLP) manufacturing and the other for FLP design studios.
 - ✓ Investments made from April 1, 2022 will be considered eligible for the incentives
 - ✓ This policy will be valid till March 31, 2025, and will be periodically revised.
 - ✓ During the event, the CM said that Tamil Nadu will soon release policies on green hydrogen, ethanol and revise electric vehicle, airspace and defence policies
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu, the national leader in leather exports, contributes 26% of India's footwear production and 45% of footwear and leather products export.
 - ✓ Ambur, Ranipet, Vaniyambadi, Vellore, Peranampattu, Tiruchirappalli, Dindigul, Erode and Chennai are among the major centres for leather and leather goods production
- **In a first for the country, Tamil Nadu - has issued a government order (GO) publishing glossary of Tamil terms to address LGBTQIA+ community members.**

Tamil equivalents	
Transgender person – Maruviya/Maariya paalinam	
Trans man – Thirunambi	
Gender dysphoria – Paalina mana ulaichal	
Cisgender – Migai paalinam	
Pansexuality/Pansexual – Anaithu paaleerpu	

- ✓ Besides recognised terms like gay, lesbian, queer and transgender, it now has specific nomenclature for asexual, aromantic, pansexual people, and descriptions like gender fluidity, gender incongruence, gender dysphoria, etc.
- ✓ The glossary includes terms such as Thirunangai (transgender woman), Thirunambi (transgender man), Paal Puthumaiyar (queer), Oodupal (intersex), among others
- ✓ The glossary, notified in English and Tamil, was published in the gazette of the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment department on August 20.
- ✓ Last year, the Madras High Court had directed the government to come up with a list of terms to address the community in a dignified manner.

- ✓ The GO was passed following a suggestion made by Justice N Anand Venkatesh to address people belonging to the LGBTQIA+ community with dignity and respect.
 - ✓ The government has also made it mandatory for all forums, including the media, to address the LGBTQIA+ community members only by using the specific terms published in the gazette.
 - ✓ In 2018, the Supreme Court scrapped a colonial-era law criminalising same-sex relations
- **On August 23, Health minister Ma Subramanian - launched a tuberculosis eradication programme in association with CII at the Omandurar government hospital.**
- ✓ The programme aims at providing quality treatment to TB patients and aims at finding employment opportunities and financial support through corporates.
 - ✓ It will promote awareness about tuberculosis and to create active involvement in TB eradication programme
 - ✓ The programme will also focus on quality nutrition and health care for TB patients and support through CII member industries, corporates and other institutions
 - ✓ CII Member Industries will also undertake a TB Awareness Pledge as part of the TB Eradication Programme
 - ✓ Several organisations including SRM Medical College in Trichy, Kaveri Hospital, Trichy, PSG Medical College Hospital from Coimbatore, Saravana Hospital in Salem, Devdas Hospital from Madurai and L-T Constructions from Chennai have come forward to join the initiative

STATES

- **Tomato flu, a clinical variant of the Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD) - has now spread to Haryana and Odisha**



- ✓ The disease was first reported in India on May 6 from Kollam district in Kerala.
- ✓ However, there were no cases of tomato flu notified in Tamil Nadu, according to the state public health department.

- ✓ According to the Union health ministry, as of July 26, more than 82 children younger than five years have confirmed positive for tomato flu in Kerala, mainly in Kollam district.
- ✓ Additionally, 26 children (aged 1–9 years) have been reported as having the disease in Odisha by the Regional Medical Research Centre in Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ Tomato flu is a viral disease, whose name comes from the main symptom of this disease — the tomato-shaped blisters on several parts of the body.
- ✓ The blisters start as red-coloured small blisters and resemble tomatoes when they enlarge.
- ✓ Primary symptoms observed in children with tomato flu are like those of other viral infections, which include fever, rashes, and pain in joints
- ✓ The sores are usually located on the tongue, gums, inside of the cheeks, palms and soles.

NATIONAL

- **The government - is set to roll out a dedicated health insurance scheme for transgender (TG) people from September**
- ✓ The scheme provides a composite health package, which will also cover components of hormone therapy and gender re-affirmation surgery.
- ✓ It can be redeemed at all private and government healthcare facilities empanelled under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- ✓ An 'Ayushman Bharat TG Plus Card' will be generated for verified beneficiaries.
- ✓ On August 24, the ministry of social justice and empowerment will sign a memorandum of understanding with the National Health Authority for providing this package.
- ✓ Only those TG people who hold a TG certificate and ID card issued by the National Portal for Transgender Persons as per self-perceived identity of applicant in keeping with the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 can avail of this facility.
- ✓ Also, those already receiving such benefits under any other central or state sponsored schemes will not be eligible.
- ✓ The benefits will be available to all eligible TG people irrespective of their economic status.
- ✓ Under this initiative, TG persons will receive a medical cover of Rs.5 lakh per year
- ✓ The cost would be fully funded by the ministry of social justice and empowerment under its 'Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE)' scheme.
- ✓ The whole process for beneficiary will be completely cashless.
- ✓ As per the latest data available since the launch of the national portal in November 2020, so far 10,639 TG persons have applied for certificates.

- **On August 23, the Centre - dismissed three Indian Air Force (IAF) officers for accidentally misfiring a BrahMos supersonic cruise missile that crashed 124km inside Pakistani territory on March 9, 2022.**
- ✓ The commanding officer (CO) of the BrahMos unit and two other officers have been terminated by the central government with immediate effect.
- ✓ According to IAF, the Court of Inquiry (Col) was entrusted to an Air Vice Marshal posted at the Air Force headquarters.
- ✓ It found that “deviation from the standard operating procedures (SOP) by the three officers” led to the accidental firing of the 290-km range tactical or conventional (non-nuclear) missile.
- ✓ Apart from the CO, a Group Captain-rank officer (equivalent to a Colonel in the Army), the other two officers dismissed are a Wing Commander (Lt-Col) and a Squadron Leader (Major).
- ✓ BrahMos missile, jointly developed with Russia, flies at almost three times the speed of sound at Mach 2.8
- ✓ It was launched by mistake from near an IAF base in north India at about 7pm on March 9 during an exercise being audited by Command Air Staff Inspection (CASI).

- **On August 23, Union Minister Piyush Goyal - released a major overhaul plan for the commerce department with eight focus areas**



- ✓ The revamp plan included a dedicated trade promotion body, digitisation of trade facilitation processes and intake of private sector talent in the Indian Trade Service
- ✓ The overhaul plan seeks to make the department "future ready" and help achieve the \$2-trillion export target by 2030
- ✓ The revamp rests on 5 major pillars - Increasing India's share in global trade, assume leadership role in multilateral organisations, democratisation of trade, creating 100 Indian Brands as Global Champions, and setting up Economic Zones in India to strengthen the manufacturing base and attract greater investments to India.

- ✓ Based on a 14-volume 'restructuring dossier' prepared by the Boston Consulting Group, the commerce department has already implemented some of the recommendations.
- ✓ The trade promotion body will formulate and drive overall trade promotion strategy; create and drive India's branding across focus markets and sectors; drive coordinated action across missions, states and export promotion councils; strategic initiatives, including advisory and buyer-seller meet; and develop digital platforms for exporters and buyers.
- ✓ Under the new structure, Indian Trade Service (ITS) will house all expertise on trade matters in the Department of Commerce ecosystem with lateral entry of experts from the private sectors.
- ✓ In the revamped structure, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) will be positioned as a nodal entity to carry out trade regulation and facilitation.
 - ✓ An e-governance division is proposed in DGFT to ensure sharp focus on digitisation of internal and exporter-focused processes.
- ✓ The commerce department plans to overhaul the data and analytics ecosystem via centralised data management and embedded analytics capabilities.
- ✓ A Trade Intelligence & Analytics wing is proposed to be set up for in-house analytics and dissemination capabilities

INTERNATIONAL

- **On August 23, Malaysia's top court - has upheld ex-Prime Minister Najib Razak's conviction and 12-year jail sentence in a multi-billion dollar corruption case linked to 1MDB state fund.**



- ✓ Najib's loss in his final appeal means he will have to begin serving his sentence immediately
- ✓ With this, Najib becomes the first former prime minister to be jailed in Malaysia
- ✓ 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) was a development fund Najib set up shortly after taking power in 2009.
- ✓ According to investigators, at least \$4.5 billion was stolen from the fund and laundered by Najib's associates.

- ✓ In July 2020, Najib was found guilty of abuse of power, criminal breach of trust and money laundering for illegally receiving \$9.4 million from SRC International, a former unit of 1MDB.
- ✓ The former premier, who had pleaded not guilty, was sentenced to 12 years' jail and a 210 million ringgit (\$46.84 million) fine
- ✓ The British-educated son of Malay's noble family held the premiership from 2009-2018
- ✓ The 1MDB scandal led to investigations in the US and several other countries and caused the downfall of Najib's government in 2018 elections

