EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS–july

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government - signed 60 MoUs with investors to attract a cumulative investment of Rs 1,25,244 crore and generate 74,898 jobs at the 6th edition of investor's conference called "Tamil Nadu- Investors' First Port of Call" in Chennai**

- ✓ The MoUs were signed in the presence of Chief Minister M K Stalin, Thangam Thennarasu, Industries Minister and Industries Secretary S Krishnan on July 4
- ✓ With this 'single day record' at the Investors' Conclave, the government has registered cumulative investments of Rs. 2.2 lakh crore since May last year through 192 MoUs signed.
- ✓ During the event, Chief Minister MK Stalin inaugurated 12 projects with an investment of Rs. 1,497 crore employing 7,050 persons.
  - ✓ These projects by companies like Tech Mahindra, Avigna Industrial Park, Gainup Industries, Steel Shoppe, BSA Corporation Ltd are set to come up in

 044-24339436, 044-42867555, 9840226187

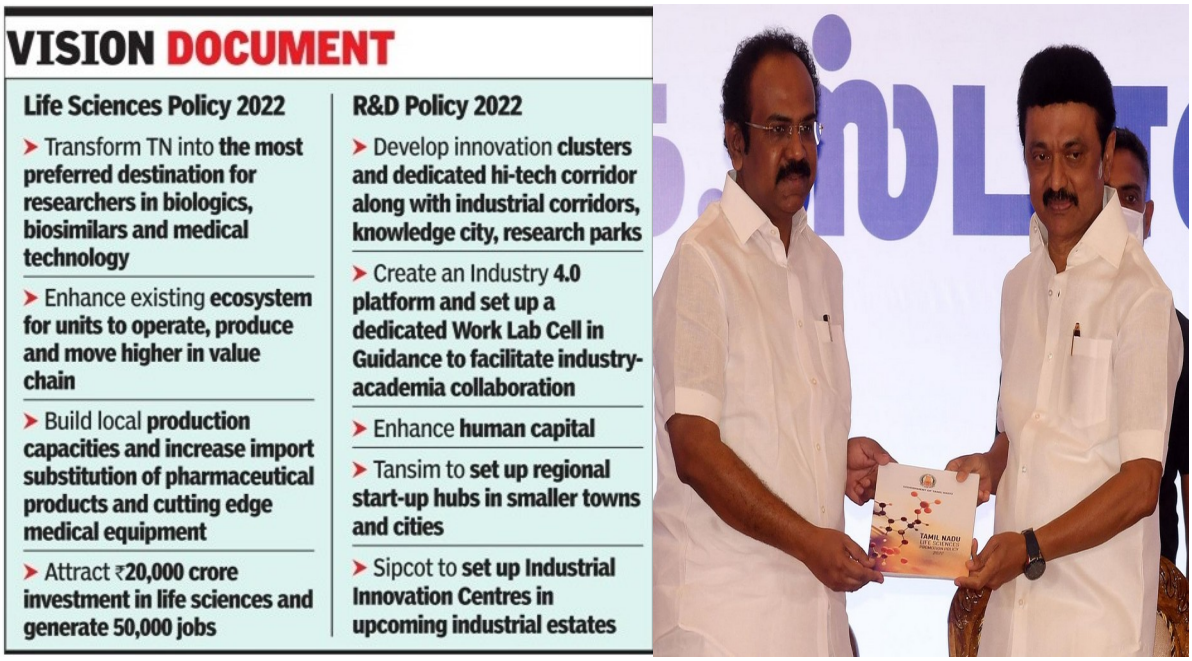
22 districts of Tamil Nadu, including Chennai, Coimbatore, Chengalpet, Sivaganga, Tiruchirapalli, Karur, Namakkal, Tiruvannamalai, Thoothukudi and Madurai

- ✓ The CM also laid the foundation stone for 21 companies that brought investment worth Rs. 22,252 crore and creating 17,654 jobs.
- ✓ Further, the CM also launched the Tamil Nadu Life Sciences Promotion Policy 2022 and Tamil Nadu R&D Policy 2022.
- ✓ During the event, CM Stalin said that the state should aspire to become the best investment destination in South Asia and realize the vision of making 'one trillion dollar economy' by the 2030-31 financial year
- ✓ The bulk of the deal went to Thoothukudi district which managed to attract Rs 82,674-crore investments in green hydrogen and green ammonia production
- ✓ The Centre's policy targets production of five million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030.
- ✓ The other new investments include industrial units that make auto components, electric vehicles, solar power components, lithium cells, green energy and aerospace, besides FinTech and data centres.
- ✓ The key investors include Gurugram-based ACME Green Hydrogen and Chemicals, which is planning to invest Rs. 52,695 crore for a green ammonia plant at Thoothukudi and Tata Power which will invest Rs.3,000 crore to make 4GW solar cells.
- ✓ Amplus, a PETRONAS company, will also invest in green hydrogen in Thoothukudi, while Cubic PV will set up a manufacturing unit of 4 GW cell and 4 GW module in the state.
- ✓ Another important agreement was the MoU that International Aerospace Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd. (IAMPL), a joint venture between Rolls-Royce and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., signed for setting up of new manufacturing facilities in Hosur.
- ✓ Also in the pipeline is a module manufacturing unit at Sipcot Gangaikondan in Tirunelveli district and a lithium ion cell manufacturing unit by Lucas TVS in Tiruvallur district with an investment of Rs. 2,850 crore
- ✓ The conclave placed a special thrust on FinTech with the signing of 11 MoUs in the sector.
- ✓ To encourage FinTech adoption in the State, the Chief Minister launched the TECXPERIENCE program, a suite of technology services available for free or at a discounted price for a limited period.
- ✓ A dedicated website (tntecxperience.com) was launched as well during the event.
- ✓ Further, the CM also inaugurated TN PitchFest, organised by Guidance and StartUp TN, to provide a platform for StartUps in the State to venture capital firms and angel investors.

- ➢ **On July 4, Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin - unveiled two new policies - Tamil Nadu Life Sciences Policy 2022 and Tamil Nadu Research &**

Development Policy 2022 - at the Tamil Nadu-Investors First Port of Call investment conclave in Chennai

- ✓ These policies seek to define the growth of life sciences and research & development in the state
- ✓ The Life Sciences policy is aimed at attracting Rs. 20,000 crore investment in the field and generate 50,000 jobs in the State
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in life sciences with more than 300 NABL labs, the second largest health sciences university in India and the establishment of TICEL Bio-Park to support and expand the life sciences research ecosystem.
- ✓ This policy aims to strengthen the industrial ecosystem for life sciences by investing in infrastructure and skill development for four broad segments – biotechnology and bioservices, pharmaceutical and nutraceutical industry, medical devices and medical textiles.

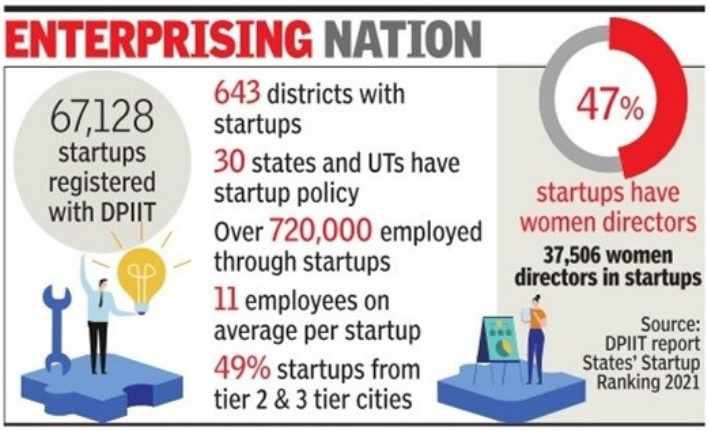


- ✓ The R&D policy aims to double expenditure for research by 2030
- ✓ The policy aims to increase the inputs to R&D including the number of researchers and scientists in both government and private sectors, besides improving innovation outputs such as patents and publications.
- ✓ It also seeks to develop an innovation ecosystem of research parks, knowledge cities, research centres, centres of excellence and innovation hubs
- ✓ The policy also aims promoting R&D in private sector by targeting new indigenous R&D performing firms in both manufacturing and service sectors.
- ✓ It also proposes TANSIM to set up regional start-up hubs in smaller towns and cities, i-Tamil Nadu Technology Hub (iTNT) to build India's first Deeptech Innovation Network connected to the world and MSME Innovation Research Programme.
- ✓ The policy aims to strengthen knowledge infrastructure in the State, including innovation clusters, dedicated hi-tech corridor along with the industrial corridors,

creation of an Industry 4.0 platform, setting up of a dedicated Work Lab cell in Guidance to facilitate industry-academia collaboration and facilitate national and international R&D collaboration.

- ✓ It will provide grants for R&D labs, support publications and conferences, increase admission intake and stipend for PhD programmes and create training programmes for faculty members
- ✓ Further, the policy aims to create a 100 Talent Plan to attract renowned academicians and scientists of Tamil origin living abroad to undertake short-term assignments in universities in the State and set up Technology Transfer Offices in technical colleges and universities.

➢ **Tamil Nadu - rose six spots in the national ranking of the startup ecosystem of states released by the Centre's department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT).**



- ✓ Tamil Nadu stood at the 11th spot, categorised among "leader" states in the state startup rankings 2021.
- ✓ In the previous ranking exercises (2019 and 2018), Tamil Nadu was at the bottom-most category, classified as an "emerging ecosystem" for startups.
- ✓ The report noted that Tamil Nadu has shown "remarkable performance" through the evaluation pillars of institutional support, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship and capacity building for enablers.
- ✓ The setting up of Tamil Nadu startup and innovation mission (Tansim), an agency driving the state's startup ecosystem, and launch of Tanseed to support startups with a seed grant of up to Rs.10 lakh were mentioned as key initiatives.

➢ **A public health emergency - was declared in Karaikal district following an outbreak of acute diarrhoeal diseases including cholera triggered by contamination of drinking water.**

- ✓ The Puducherry government shut down schools for three days, increased surveillance and introduced measures such as chlorination of drinking water over the weekend.

- ✓ Neighbouring districts in Tamil Nadu — Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam — were put on high alert for the “highly contagious” bacterial infection.
- ✓ The Union territory has said there were no deaths due to the bacterial infection, but the district has recorded more than 2,500 cases of diarrhoea, including 17 cholera cases, over the past one month.
- ✓ The health department has identified contamination of drinking water with E Coli in the district to be the cause of the outbreak.
- ✓ Escherichia coli, also known as E. coli, is a gram-negative bacterium which causes diarrhoeal disorders.

NATIONAL

- ➢ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - unveiled a 30-feet bronze statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju at Bhimavaram in Andhra Pradesh’s East Godavari district on July 4, 2022**

- ✓ The statue was installed commemorating Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav, that marks the 75th anniversary of Independence.
- ✓ The statue was unveiled on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Alluri Sitarama Raju, also known as ‘Manyam Dora’ (Hero of the Jungles) by the local people
- ✓ Born on July 4, 1897, Alluri Sitarama Raju is remembered for his fight against the British, in order to safeguard the interests of the tribal communities in the Eastern Ghats region.
- ✓ The Rampa or Manyam Rebellion continued in the form of a guerrilla war from 1922 until May 1924, when Raju was finally captured and executed on May 7, 1924
- ✓ In 1986, the Indian Postal Department issued a stamp in honour of Raju and his contribution to India’s struggle for Independence
- ✓ In July 2019, on the occasion of Raju’s 122nd birth anniversary, the government of Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy announced the naming of a district after the legendary freedom fighter

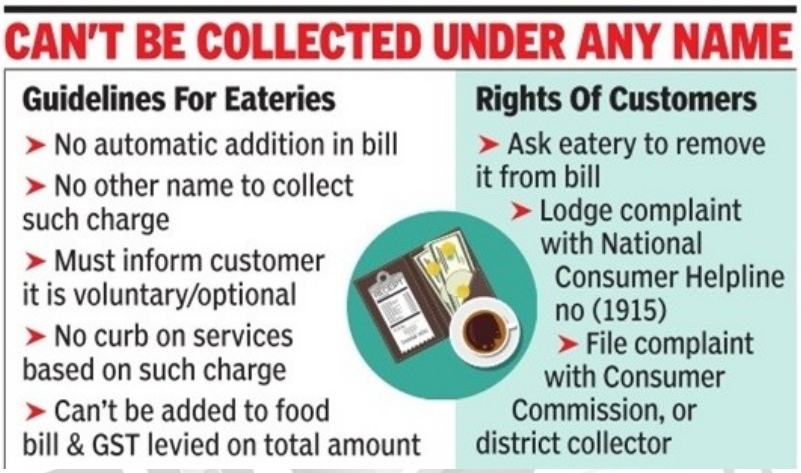
 044-24339436, 044-42867555, 9840226187

- ✓ The district of Alluri Sitharama Raju came into being on April 4 this year, made up of Paderu and Rampachodavaram of the existing districts of Visakhapatnam and East Godavari respectively.
- ✓ These two areas have tribal populations of 10.4% and 4.1%, according to a May 2014 estimate by the Andhra Pradesh government.
- ✓ In November last year, on the occasion of the first Tribal Day celebration on the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, the government announced the setting up of 10 Tribal Museums across the country.
- ✓ **Later in the day, the PM visited Gandhinagar in Gujarat where he inaugurated the Digital India Week 2022 in Gandhinagar, whose theme is 'Catalyzing New India's Techade'.**

- ✓ The Digital India Week 2022 is being organised from July 4 to July 9, 2022.
- ✓ During the event, the PM launched multiple digital portals including a single sign-in portal Meri Pehchaan, a website Indiastack.global and MyScheme
- ✓ 'Indiastack.global' is a global repository of key projects implemented under India Stack like Aadhaar, UPI, Digilocker, Cowin Vaccination Platform, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), DIKSHA Platform and Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission.
- ✓ 'MyScheme' is a service discovery platform facilitating access to Government Schemes.
- ✓ It aims to offer a one-stop search and discovery portal where users can find schemes that they are eligible for.
- ✓ 'Meri Pehchaan'- National Single Sign On for One Citizen Login. National Single Sign-On (NSSO) is a user authentication service in which a single set of credentials provide access to multiple online applications or services.

- ✓ PM Modi also launched ‘Digital India Bhashini’ which will enable easy access to the internet and digital services in Indian languages, including voice-based access, and help the creation of content in Indian languages.
- ✓ The first edition of ‘The Digital India Programme’ was launched on July 1, 2015 by the Prime Minister.

➢ **On July 4, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) - barred hotels and restaurants from levying service charges automatically or by default in food bills.**



- ✓ It allowed customers to file complaints in case of violation with the consumer commissions, including through ‘e-daakhil’ and district collectors.
- ✓ The authority has issued detailed guidelines specifying the duties of eateries and the rights of customers, and termed levying of service charge as “unfair trade practice”.
- ✓ It has prohibited eateries to collect such charges in any other name.
- ✓ The CCPA also said hotels and restaurants must not link the entry of a customer and consumption of food to the service charge.
- ✓ Customers must be informed that any such payment is at their discretion, say the guidelines.
- ✓ The Authority has said service component is inherent in the price of food, which covers both the material and service.

PERSONALITIES

➢ **Mountaineer Savita Kanswal – sets a national record of 10 expeditions in climbing Mount Everest, the world’s highest mountain peak**

 044-24339436, 044-42867555, 9840226187

- ✓ The 26-year-old mountaineer from Uttar Kashi, ascended Mount Everest (8,849m) and Mount Makalu (8,485m), the highest and the fifth-highest peaks of the world respectively, in a gap of just 16 days and returned home now.
- ✓ Kanswal's mountaineering expedition is backed by crowdfunding where hundreds of people contributed to support her aspirations.
- ✓ She is currently employed by the Nehru Mountaineering Institute as a qualified instructor.
- ✓ Kanswal completed a beginner's course in mountaineering from the Nehru Mountaineering Institute, Uttar Kashi
- ✓ Till now, Kanswal's scaled Trishul Parvat (7120 metres), Hanuman Tibba (5930 metres), Kolahai (5400 metres), Draupadi's Danda (5680 metres), Tuliyan Peak (5500 metres), and world's fourth-highest peak, Mount Lhotse (8516 metres), and mount Makalu, world's fifth tallest mountain peak

OBITUARY

➢ **Acclaimed Bengali filmmaker, Tarun Mazumdar (91 years)**

- ✓ Legendary Bengali film director Tarun Majumdar died at a state-run hospital in Kolkata following age-related illnesses on July 4
- ✓ Majumdar was one of the last great stalwarts from the period known as the ‘golden age’ of Bengali cinema

- ✓ Majumdar had remained one of the most revered and relevant directors for six decades, having made 39 films highlighting the life of middle-class families with 90% of them being huge box office successes
- ✓ He created a significant impact in uplifting the Bengali film industry during the 60s, 70s and 80s.
- ✓ In his decades-long career, he worked with several notable actors such as Uttam Kumar, Suchitra Sen, Chhabi Biswas, Soumitra Chatterjee and Sandhya Roy, to name a few.
- ✓ Some of Majumdar's best work include Balika Badhu (1976), Kuheli (1971), Shriman Prithviraj (1972), Dadar Kirti (1980), Smriti Tuku Thak (1960), Palatak (1963) and Ganadevata (1978).
- ✓ Tarun Majumdar's last work was the 2018 documentary feature film titled Adhikar and another film Bhalobashar Bari released in the same year.
- ✓ Ganadevata was the first Bengali film to win the National Award in the "Best Popular Film providing Wholesome Entertainment" category
- ✓ He received his first National Award for the 1962 Bengali film Kancher Swarga
- ✓ The other films that fetched him the National Award includes Nimantran (1972), Ganadevata (1979), and Aranya Aamaar in 1984.
- ✓ Filmmaker Tarun Mazumdar is a four-time National Award winner, Padma Shri recipient (1990), seven Bengal Film Journalists' Association (BFJA) Awards, five Filmfare awards and Filmfare Lifetime Achievement awardee (2021)

RANKINGS

- ➢ **Commerce & industry minister Piyush Goyal - released the third edition of States' Start-up ranking, 2021 at New Delhi on July 4, 2022**
- ✓ Gujarat and Karnataka emerged as the 'Best Performers' in a category of States which included NCT of Delhi, while Meghalaya won the top honour among UTs and North-eastern (NE) States.
- ✓ While Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa and Telangana got the 'Top Performers' award among states, Jammu & Kashmir emerged as the 'Top Performer' among UTs and NE states.
- ✓ Assam, Punjab, Tamil Nādu, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh were adjudged the winners in the 'Leaders' category among states, while Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Goa bagged the 'Leaders' honour among the UTs and NE states
- ✓ Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan were declared as 'Aspiring Leaders' among the States, while Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Puducherry and Tripura were the 'Aspiring Leaders' from the UTs and NE states.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh and Bihar from States category and Mizoram and Ladakh from the UTs/NE States were clubbed under the 'Emerging Start-up Ecosystem'

 044-24339436, 044-42867555, 9840226187

- ✓ Karnataka was ranked best performer for launching an engineering research and development policy to attract sector-focused incentives, and creating regulatory sandboxes for startups to avail exemption from state and municipal laws.
- ✓ For the purposes of the Ranking, States and Union Territories are classified into 5 Categories, viz. Best Performers, Top Performers, Leaders, Aspiring Leaders and Emerging Start-up Ecosystems.
- ✓ The consideration period for the third edition ranking exercise was October 1, 2019 to July 31, 2021.
- ✓ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has been conducting the States' Start-up Ranking exercise since 2018 with the exception of last year due to the pandemic.
- ✓ The study looks at areas like institutional support to startups, access to markets, incubation support and funding support
- ✓ This year, three areas were added to the framework, including capacity building of enablers, mentorship support and fostering innovation & entrepreneurship
- ✓ India has the world's third biggest startup ecosystem with over 71,000 recognised start-ups and more than 100 unicorns, after the US and China
- ✓ The call for mentors for the 'Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience and Growth' (MAARG) portal was also announced during the event.
- ✓ The portal has been developed with the idea to create a tool for start-ups in India.

- ➢ **India - will have 122 new unicorns in the next two to four years, according to the Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2022 released recently by Hurun Research Institute**
- ✓ The index has classified companies as would-be unicorns (those founded after 2000 and valued at least $1 billion), Gazelles (those most likely to become

unicorns in the following two years), and Cheetahs (start-ups that could go unicorn in the next four years).

- ✓ Gazelles are projected to be worth between $500 million and $1 billion
- ✓ The Gazelle pack is led by Shiprocket, a five-year-old LogisticsTech startup, followed by Zepto, Turtlemint, Ather Energy, Vivriti Capital, Ninjacart, Dunzo, Rapido, ClearTax and Twin Health
- ✓ The 'Cheetahs' pack is led by Pepperfry, followed by Bengaluru-based Juspay, FinTech firm Mswipe Technologies, Pixis, SUGAR cosmetics, WayCool, ZestMoney, Bluestone, Cuemath and Winzo
- ✓ Hurun Research identified 122 future unicorns in 25 Indian cities.
- ✓ The findings showed that Bengaluru continues to be the start-up capital of India with 46 probable Unicorns, followed by Delhi NCR (25) and Mumbai (16).
- ✓ E-commerce, FinTech, and SaaS comprise 43% of the Future Unicorn Index 2022.
- ✓ A majority of the prospective unicorns sell software and services, and only 17% sell physical goods.
- ✓ As many as 37% are business-to-business sellers, while 63% are consumer-facing.
- ✓ Venture capital firm Sequoia has emerged as the most active investor in the nation's start-up ecosystem after investing in 39 probable unicorns, followed by Tiger Global, which has invested in 27 potential unicorns, as per the report
- ✓ India has 84 unicorns, 51 Gazelles, and 71 Cheetahs, as against 51 unicorns, 32 Gazelles, and 54 Cheetahs in the 2021 index.
- ✓ India's future unicorns are currently worth $ 49 billion, with an increase of 36% as compared to last year.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➢ **World Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) day - July 2**

- ✓ The day is observed to create awareness among people about the Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO), which are connected with the alien world
- ✓ American aviator and businessman Kenneth Arnold is considered to be the first one to draw the world's attention towards the UFO phenomenon because he saw a UFO.

- ✓ A UFO is supposed to be a special aircraft on which aliens or extraterrestrial beings travel to the earth
- ✓ In the past, there were two days that were celebrated as World UFO Day - 2 July and 24 June.
- ✓ However, World UFO Day Organization (WUFODO) declared 2 July to be the official World UFO day in order to avoid any confusion
- ✓ June 24 is the date that reporter Kenneth Arnold wrote is generally considered to be the first widely reported UFO in the United States while July 2 is related to the 1947 UFO crash in Roswell
- ✓ The first World UFO Day was celebrated in 2001 by UFO researcher Haktan Akdogan.

APPOLO STUDY CENTRE