



EVE RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-june

TAMIL NADU

- In Tamil Nadu, Dharmapuri and Villupuram districts – were ranked as the top districts having better learning outcomes, as per the Performance Grade Index-District (PGI-D) 2019-20 report released on June 27

HOW TN FARED IN THE EDUCATION INDEX

In the performance grading index 2019-20, the state's overall score is 906 of 1,000, it increased from 793 points in the previous year

PERFORMANCE METER

Domain	Score
Learning outcome and quality	132 (150)
Access	77 (80)
Infrastructure and facilities	142 (150)
Equity	219 (230)
Governance Process	336 (360)

DISTRICT-WISE

Dharmapuri and Villupuram districts scored **71% to 80%** in categories such as learning outcomes, classroom interactions, infrastructure and safety
 Krishnagiri, Ariyalur and Tirupur scored **51% to 60%**; others scored between **61% to 70%** in these parameters

- ✓ These two districts secured “Ati-Uttam” (a second grade with 71% to 80% score) in the education index released by the Union ministry of education.
- ✓ Dharmapuri and Villupuram districts scored 175 and 169 in learning outcomes out of 290 points which was the top scores among the Tamil Nadu districts
- ✓ Overall, these two districts scored 431 and 425 out of 600 points in the six basic categories.
- ✓ Surprisingly, Chennai with better infrastructure is among the bottom 10 districts with an overall score of 395 of 600.
- ✓ Of 290 points for learning outcome category, it scored 141, below the 50% mark.
- ✓ In fact, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts, Chennai's neighbouring districts, fared better compared to the state capital, registering overall scores of 420 and 419.

- ✓ As many as 27 districts including Chennai, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur managed to get the third grade, 'Uttam', with a score of 61% to 70% in six categories
 - ✓ The six basic categories chosen for the rankings are learning outcomes, effective classroom interactions, infrastructure facilities, school safety and child protection, digital learning and governance process.
 - ✓ Krishnagiri, Ariyalur and Tiruppur districts got the lowest scores of 104, 84 and 86 out of 290 in learning outcomes and secured fourth grade in the index.
 - ✓ In the education index for 2019-20 released in 2021, Tamil Nadu had shown a big improvement as it was ranked among the top five achievers with 906 out of 1000 points
- **On June 27, a four-member committee led by retired judge of Madras high court, Justice K Chandru - submitted its report on the impact of online rummy to chief minister M K Stalin.**



- ✓ The cabinet that met in the evening was also apprised of the report.
- ✓ The members of the committee include IIT expert Sankararaman, SNEHA founder and psychiatrist Lakshmi Vijayakumar and additional DGP Vinit Dev Wankhede.
- ✓ The government had constituted the committee on June 10 following a series of suicides allegedly due to losses sustained by online rummy players
- ✓ According to the Chief Minister, an ordinance would be promulgated based on the committee's recommendation considering the immediate need for finding a solution to the menace
- ✓ The terms of reference for the committee included, studying the potential risks including financial losses and suicides caused by playing online rummy.
- ✓ It also analysed the adverse effects of the advertisements of these games that had on the community and found ways to control them.
- ✓ The report included the causes and effects of the game along with recommendations on actions to be taken to control it.

- ✓ The state government's move comes against the backdrop of Madras high court striking down the law enacted by the previous AIADMK government banning online games.
 - ✓ Similar laws enacted by neighbouring Kerala and Karnataka for banning online rummy also failed judicial scrutiny
 - ✓ The DMK government's petition challenging the lower court order has been pending since last November.
- **On June 27, Higher education minister K Ponmudy - announced that Anna University and its 16 constituent colleges will reserve 2% of seats for vocational group students from 2022-23 academic session.**
- ✓ Vocational students will be admitted in six branches —civil, mechanical, electrical, electronics, automobile engineering and textile technology branches, said the Minister.
 - ✓ Earlier, students used to get 100 seats in government engineering colleges and 4% seats in government-aided and affiliated colleges.
 - ✓ However, Anna University's four campuses and 16 constituent colleges used to admit students who studied in the academic stream alone, without accommodating vocational group students
 - ✓ Around two thousand vocational group students are expected to join under the proposed 2% quota by the government
 - ✓ The higher education department also plans to fill vacant seats in Anna University through lateral entry admissions.
 - ✓ Accordingly, diploma holders will get to study on the Anna University's four campuses including College of Engineering, Guindy and Madras Institute of Technology for the first time.

SILVER NATIONAL

- **The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE) - has released the new 'Performance Grading Index for Districts' (PGI-D) for 2018-19 and 2019-20 on June 27**
- ✓ The PGI-D assesses the performance of the school education system at the District level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis.
 - ✓ According to the PGI-D 2019-20 report, Rajasthan leads in performance in school education with all of the three districts graded 'Utkarsh' (having scores between 81% to 90%) coming from the state
 - ✓ Rajasthan's achievements are exemplified by Jhunjhunu which scored the maximum (236 out of 290) in learning outcomes.
 - ✓ The top three districts in terms of scores out of 600 are Sikar (488), Jhunjhunu (486) and Jaipur (482).
 - ✓ As per the report, none of the districts attained highest grade Daksh in both 2019-20 and 2018-19, while no districts attained 'Utkarsh' grade in 2018-19

- ✓ The number of districts in the third Ati-Uttam grade rose from 49 to 86 during 2018-19 and 2019-20

SCORE CARD

PGI scores in grades			
Grades	PGI scores (%) out of total points	2019-2020	2018-2019
PGI-D is Daksh	Districts scoring more than 90% of the total points	0	0
Utkarsh	81% to 90%	3	0
Ati-uttam	71% to 80%	86	49
Uttam	61% to 70%	276	267
Prachesta-1	51% to 60%	238	257
Prachesta -2	41% to 50%	87	90
Prachesta-3	31% to 40%	39	57
Akanshi-1	21% to 30%	3	4
Akanshi-2	11% to 20%	1	1
Akanshi-3	Upto 10%		
TOP 3 DISTRICTS	Sikar (488), Jhunjhunu (486), Jaipur (482)		

Top 3 states with maximum with Ati-Uttam are Rajasthan (24), Punjab (14), Gujarat (13) & Kerala (13)

- ✓ In the second grade 'Ati-Uttam', Rajasthan is significantly ahead of the second and third top states, having 24 of its districts in this category
- ✓ It was followed by Punjab having 14 districts in 'the Ati-Uttam' grade (scoring 71-80% on a scale of 100), followed by Gujarat and Kerala with each having 13 districts in this category
- ✓ Punjab, Chandigarh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Gujarat are among the top 5 achiever states in the analysis.
- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Goa, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura are the 12 states and UTs that do not have a single district in the 'Ati-Uttam' and 'Uttam' categories.
- ✓ In digital learning, Junagadh in Gujarat with 39 and Jaipur in Rajasthan with 38 are the two top districts at the national level.
 - ✓ None of the districts could make it to the top two categories of “Daksh” and “Utkarsh” in the category of digital learning
 - ✓ Among the southern states, digital learning grading is lowest in the districts of Andhra Pradesh and the highest in Kerala
 - ✓ Most of the Tamil Nadu districts have scored less than 30, Chennai being the best with 27 and Thoothukkudi lowest with 14 in digital learning
 - ✓ The districts with lowest scores (1 out of 50) in the digital learning category were South Salmara-Mankachar (Assam), Alirajpur (Madhya Pradesh), North Garo Hills and South Garo Hills in Meghalaya, and Khowai (Tripura) in 2019-20
- ✓ DoSE&L had devised the Performance Grading Index (PGI) for States and released its report for the reference years 2017-18 to 2019-20

- ✓ Based on the success of the State PGI, an 83-indicator-based PGI for District (PGI-D) was designed to grade the performance of all the districts in school education.
- ✓ PGI-D has graded the districts into ten grades viz., Highest achievable Grade is Daksh, which is for the districts scoring more than 90% of the total points in that category or overall.
- ✓ The 'Utkarsh' category is for districts with scores between 81-90% followed by 'Ati-Uttam' (71-80%), 'Uttam' (61-70%), 'Prachesta-I' (51-60%), 'Prachesta-II' (41-50%) and 'Prachesta III' (31-40%)
- ✓ The lowest grade in PGI-D is called Akanshi-3 which is for scores upto 10% of the total points
- ✓ Across all the states and Union Territories, the PGI-D report graded 725 districts in 2018-19 and 733 in 2019-20
- ✓ The PGI-D scores are the aggregate score of six categories of educational attainment of districts - learning outcomes, effective classroom interactions, infrastructure facilities and student's entitlements, school safety and child protection, digital learning and governance process.
- ✓ The PGI-D assessed district-level performance in school education based on the data collected from various sources, including Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE +), National Achievement Survey (NAS), 2017 and data provided by respective districts

INTERNATIONAL

- **Russia - defaulted on its international bonds for the first time in more than a century, as per the United States**
- ✓ However, the claims were quickly rejected by Russia, which said it has the money to make payments thanks to oil and gas revenues
- ✓ The sanctions effected by the western countries have cut Russia off from the global financial system, rendering its assets untouchable.
- ✓ Russia has struggled to keep up payments on \$40 billion of outstanding bonds since its invasion of Ukraine on February 24.
- ✓ Russia is trying to avoid what would be its first major default on international bonds since the Bolshevik revolution debts in 1918
- ✓ The payments in question are \$100 million in interest on two bonds, one denominated in US dollars and another in euros, that Russia was due to pay on May 27.
- ✓ The payments had a grace period of 30 days, which expired on June 26.
- ✓ According to Russia's finance ministry, it made the payments to its onshore National Settlement Depository in euros and dollars, adding it had fulfilled obligations.
- ✓ However, the US said that payments had been blocked by the clearing house, Euroclear because of Western sanctions on Russia

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- On June 27, Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed a G7 summit session on food security and gender equality



- ✓ During his speech, the PM emphasised that India's approach had transitioned from women's development to women-led development.
- ✓ Further, the PM suggested the following focus areas for ensuring food security –
 - ✓ Fertilisers' availability
 - ✓ Structured system for use of Indian agricultural talent
 - ✓ Nutritious alternatives like millets and
 - ✓ Natural Farming
- ✓ Earlier on the day, the PM addressed the G7 leaders at a session on 'Investing in a better Future: Climate, Energy, Health'
- ✓ During his address, the PM asserted that India's dedication to climate commitments is evident from its performance and called upon rich nations to support India's efforts towards meeting its climate commitments
- ✓ Further, the PM said that the country ensured poor people getting energy access and rights by delivering LED bulbs and clean cooking gas door to door, thereby saving millions of tonnes of carbon emissions
- ✓ The PM also highlighted the fact that India has the world's first fully solar power operated airport at Cochin, Kerala
- ✓ India have achieved the target of 40% energy capacity from non-fossil sources nine years before time, said the PM
- ✓ He also highlighted that, although 17% of the world's population resides in India, its contribution of global carbon emissions is only 5%
- ✓ The G7 condemned Russia's actions in Ukraine in a statement while pledging financial, military, diplomatic and humanitarian aid for Ukraine.

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a series of bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the G7 summit including with the leaders of EU, Germany, Canada, Indonesia and South Africa.
- ✓ PM Modi also had a casual meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron and exchanged greetings with US President Joe Biden



- ✓ The PM congratulated Indonesian President Joko Widodo on Indonesia's ongoing G-20 presidency and discussed India's forthcoming G-20 presidency.
- ✓ In another bilateral with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, PM Modi thanked him for the invitation to the G7 Summit and discussed ways to take forward their Green and Sustainable Development Partnership
- ✓ PM Modi and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa welcomed the WTO agreement reached in June 2022 that supports production of Covid-19 vaccines in developing countries
 - ✓ India and South Africa had submitted the first proposal suggesting a waiver for all WTO members on the implementation of certain provisions of the TRIPS Agreement in relation to the prevention, containment or treatment of Covid-19.
- ✓ The Group of Seven (G7) is an inter-governmental political grouping consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US, while the European Union is a 'non-enumerated member'
- ✓ PM Modi is attending the G7 summit at the invitation by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz
- ✓ The German Presidency has invited Argentina, India, Indonesia, Senegal and South Africa as Partner countries to the G7 Summit that is being held in Schloss Elmau, Bavaria.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- On June 27, the US space agency NASA - successfully launched a commercial rocket from Australia's remote Northern Territory for the first time



- ✓ This the first commercial space launch in Australia's history and NASA's first-ever launch from a commercial site outside of the United States
- ✓ This is the first of three planned launches from the Arnhem Space Centre
- ✓ Following the launch, the rocket soared into the sky to study interstellar x-rays emanating from the Alpha Centauri A and B systems, the closest star system to Earth
- ✓ According to NASA, the launch offers a glimpse of the distant systems and provide fresh possibilities for scientists
- ✓ NASA last launched from Australia in 1995, when its rockets lifted off from the Royal Australian Air Force Woomera Range Complex in South Australia.

