

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 8, 2022

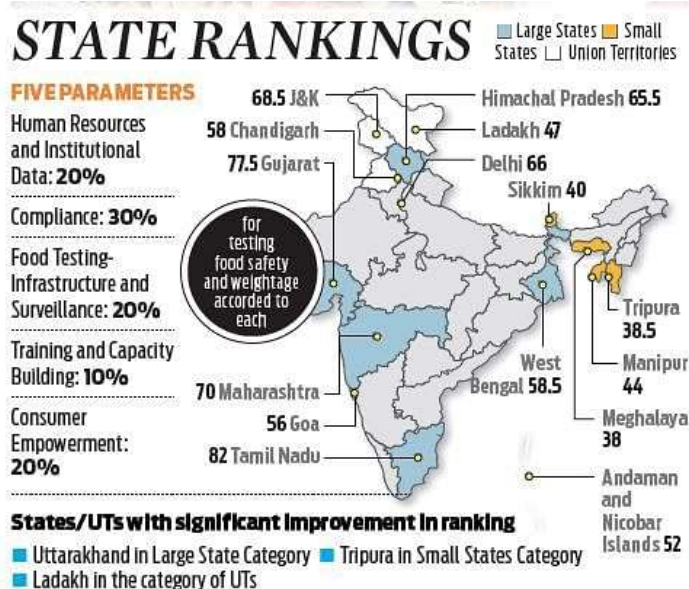
TAMIL NADU

- On June 7, Chief Minister M K Stalin - launched the beach lifeguard training for the fishermen youth in the state through video-conferencing.



- ✓ The Chief Minister inaugurated the training session of 25 youngsters from the community at Kovalam fishing village in Chengalpattu district.
- ✓ As many as 1,000 youth from 14 coastal districts of Tamil Nadu will undergo training conducted at a cost of Rs. 53 lakh.
- ✓ During the training session, the fishermen youth would be trained to attend emergencies in the seashore.
- ✓ The initiative has been taken up by the state ministry of fisheries and fishermen welfare with funding from the National Fisheries Development Board.
- ✓ ITUS Sports and Safety Pvt Ltd has been chosen to provide the training.
- ✓ To avert accidents happening in the seashore and save people who accidentally drown in the sea, the fishermen youth are trained as beach lifeguards.
- ✓ They would be also trained on basic first aid methods to resuscitate the victims.
- ✓ The youngsters can also be effectively used during the natural calamities in the coastal regions.
- ✓ Once they complete the training, these youngsters could be absorbed into coastal security, rescue and coastal resorts for employment

- ✓ MSME minister T M Anbarasan, MP G Selvam, MLA S S Balaji, Chengalpattu district collector A R Rahul Nadh were present at Kovalam.
- ✓ Fisheries minister Anitha Radhakrishnan, chief secretary V Iraianbu, and other officials joined from the secretariat through video conferencing.
- **Tamil Nadu - has bagged the first rank among large states in the State Food Safety Index 2021-2022.**
- ✓ State food safety commissioner P Senthilkumar received the award from Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya on June 7, World Food Safety Day



- ✓ The award was for the State's overall performance on various parameters of food safety.
- ✓ Gujarat and Maharashtra were ranked two and three in the fourth edition of the index of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- ✓ Tamil Nadu was ranked third among the larger states in the 2020-21 Index, while Gujarat and Kerala had secured the first and second place respectively
- ✓ The states were judged on five parameters - human resources and institutional data, compliance, food testing facility, training and capacity building and consumer empowerment.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu was ranked at the top on human resources and institutional data, compliance, food testing infrastructure and surveillance, training and capacity-building and consumer empowerment, while it was rated excellent in special outreach programmes
- ✓ Among smaller states, Goa retained its top ranking while Manipur and Sikkim secured second and third positions.
- ✓ Among UTs, J&K, Delhi and Chandigarh secured the top three ranks.
- ✓ The index, launched in 2018-19, is aimed at creating a competitive and positive change in the food safety ecosystem in the country and to motivate states and UTs to work towards ensuring safe food for citizens.

- ✓ In addition to the award for the state, 11 districts — Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Salem, Coimbatore, Chennai, Tirunelveli, Erode, Madurai, Thoothukudi, Tiruppur and Dindigul — were also honoured for best performance in 'Eat Right Challenge'
 - ✓ The EatSmart Cities Challenge was launched by FSSAI last year to motivate Smart Cities to develop and execute a plan that supports a healthy, safe and sustainable food environment by adopting 'Eat Right' initiatives
 - ✓ The minister also launched the AyurvedaAahar logo, which contains the initials of Ayurveda and Ahara, the first in Devanagari and the second in English, with five leaves symbolising five elements of nature.
 - ✓ This logo will help in easy identification of ayurvedic foods.
 - ✓ FSSAI, a statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act-2006, plays a key role in ensuring healthy and nutritious food to the people
- **The Tamil Nadu government - has decided to close down LKG and UKG in the State-run schools due to shortage of teachers.**
- ✓ Accordingly, the kindergarten classes will be shifted from the government schools back to Anganwadi centers across the State.
 - ✓ All teachers assigned to take classes for LKG and UKG have been transferred to other schools and there will be no admissions for these sections in these schools for 2022-23
 - ✓ More than 43,000 students who chose the Montessori-based pre-primary education will now study at the same anganwadi centres that will function under the social welfare department.
 - ✓ In 2019-20, the government launched on a pilot basis LKG and UKG classes in 2,381 anganwadi centres functioning in government middle schools
- **The Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation - has blacklisted Abbott Healthcare for five years for hiding the fact that it has been banned by Directorate General of Health Services and Employees' State Insurance Corporation.**
- ✓ Accordingly, the company won't be able to supply pain relievers or drug-eluting stents for hearts, which are procured by the government at low cost.
 - ✓ Abbott was under criticism from the US-FDA after a deadly bacteria, Cronobacter, was found at its baby formula-making plant in February.
 - ✓ Abbott Healthcare was first blacklisted for supply of Stromix, a blood thinner, and Becozyme C Forte on "quality" grounds by the DGHS's Medical Stores Organisation on April 24, 2018, for five years.
 - ✓ In October 2021, ESIC, New Delhi blacklisted it for concealing the blacklist by DGHS
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu was buying ibuprofen 200 mg tablets from the company.

NATIONAL

- **India - is expected to reintroduce cheetahs in the country by August with South Africa agreeing to its request of relocating 4-5 of them in Kuno-Palpur National Park in Madhya Pradesh.**



- ✓ India has plans to relocate 40-50 cheetahs from African countries including Namibia in the next five years as part of its attempts to reintroduce the species that had become extinct in the country.
- ✓ This is the first time that a trans-continental shifting of a large carnivore will take place
- ✓ The Ministry of Environment is coordinating with the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) as well as the Wildlife Institute of India, which has been spearheading the Project Cheetah on behalf of the Indian government.
- ✓ The final agreement with South Africa is being vetted by the legal cell.
- ✓ Though the country had earlier planned to first bring a couple of cheetahs from Namibia, it could not succeed due to certain issues related to hunting.
- ✓ The initial discussions to bring the cheetah back to India were launched in 2009 by the Wildlife Trust of India
- ✓ In 2020, the Supreme Court had appointed an expert panel, which approved Kuno-Palpur as the possible location for cheetah relocation.
- ✓ Earlier this year, the ministry informed the Parliament that Rs 38.7 crore from Project Tiger was allocated for the Cheetah reintroduction project between 2021-22 and 2025-26
- ✓ The Cheetah is believed to have disappeared from the Indian subcontinent when the Maharaja Ramanuj Pratap Singh Deo of Koriya is believed to have hunted and shot the last three recorded Asiatic cheetahs in India in 1947.
- ✓ In 1952, the Indian Government declared the Cheetah extinct in the country.

PERSONALITIES

- **Indian biomedical tech entrepreneur Bhargav Sri Prakash - has been awarded the first patent globally by the US patent office for a 'digital vaccine'**



- ✓ The digital vaccine is a platform that prevents real world health issues through the metaverse.
- ✓ Digital vaccines use applications via smartphones, tablets, and similar devices for nudging positive human behaviour through neurocognitive training.
- ✓ Sri Prakash, founder of the life sciences startup FriendsLearn, recently received the patent for the 'systems and methods for digital vaccine' that was developed as part of Carnegie Mellon University's digital vaccine project.
- ✓ The work involves the use of artificial intelligence and a gamified metaverse platform.
- ✓ Sri Prakash's mobile game fooya!, developed using the patented technology, has been used to conduct clinical trials on children between 3 and 18 years.
- ✓ In the game, the child is a superhero fighting junk food that an evil scientist is developing.
- ✓ Children who played fooya! for just 20 minutes a week made significantly healthier food choices immediately, and successive weekly sessions reproduced positive health outcomes.
- ✓ Digital vaccines are currently being deployed in selected school partners of Carnegie Mellon's project across the world.

DEFENCE

- **The Ministry of Defence - has issued gazette notification amending the rules of defence forces for the appointment of next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS).**

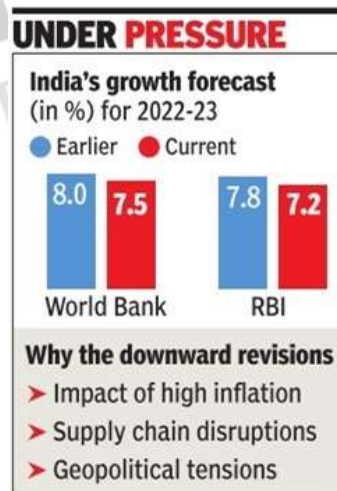
LT GEN, AIR MARSHAL, VICE ADM ELIGIBLE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ Serving or retired Lt Gen, Air Marshal and Vice Admiral under the age of 62 years will be eligible for appointment ▼ Recently retired military chiefs like Gen M M Naravane, Admiral K B Singh and Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhaduria won't be eligible ▼ The 3 current chiefs — Gen Manoj Pande, Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari and Admiral R Hari Kumar — will be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> among top contenders ▼ 3-star officers who've commanded or are commanding 17 single-service commands, 2 unified commands and the 3 vice-chiefs are also in zone of consideration ▼ A crucial task for new CDS will be creation of 4 new unified commands: integrated maritime theatre command, air defence command and 2 land-based commands for Pak and China
--	--

- ✓ The amendment to the service rules of the Army, Navy and Air Force will make serving or retired three-star military officers and present Army, IAF and Navy chiefs who are four-star Generals eligible for appointment as the next CDS.
- ✓ The three chiefs serve till the age of 62 or for three years, whichever is earlier, while the CDS can go up to 65.
- ✓ The government has tweaked the Army, IAF and Navy rules to widen the “pool of selection” for the country’s top military post to include even retired Lieutenant Generals, Air Marshals and Vice Admirals, provided they are younger than 62 years of age.
- ✓ The three current chiefs, Gen Manoj Pande, Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari and Admiral R Hari Kumar, will be among the top contenders for the CDS post.
- ✓ A crucial task for new CDS will be creation of 4 new unified commands - integrated maritime theatre command, air defence command and 2 land-based commands for Pak and China
- ✓ The chief of defence staff (CDS) post has been lying vacant since Gen Bipin Rawat’s untimely death in a helicopter crash on December 8 last year.
- ✓ Gen Bipin Rawat was appointed as the country’s first tri-service chief on December 31, 2019.

ECONOMY

- On June 7, the World Bank - cut India’s GDP growth forecast for 2022-23 to 7.5% from the earlier estimate of 8%



- ✓ The agency has cited the impact of high inflation, supply chain disruptions and geopolitical tensions for the downgrade.
- ✓ In April, the World Bank had cut India’s growth estimate to 8% for FY23 from the earlier 8.7% due to the impact of supply chain disruptions and rising inflation.
- ✓ India’s economy has staged a sharp recovery from the impact of lockdowns that were imposed to prevent the spread of Covid pandemic
- ✓ However, the war in Ukraine has dealt another blow, resulting in surging price pressures, which have prompted the RBI to raise interest rates sharply.

- ✓ The Indian economy grew 8.7% in FY22 after contracting 6.6% in the previous fiscal year.
- ✓ The RBI has also lowered its GDP growth forecast to 7.2% for 2022-23 from the earlier estimate of 7.8% due to the impact of geopolitical tensions and the impact on prices.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ World Food Safety Day – June 7



- ✓ The day is celebrated annually to create awareness of the health hazards associated with unsafe food, and to highlight the significance of hygiene in daily life to avoid diseases and infectious illnesses
- ✓ Theme 2022 - 'Safer food, better health'
- ✓ The day was marked by the United Nations General Assembly on December 20, 2018, to celebrate the benefits of safe food.
- ✓ The WHO and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations jointly facilitate the observance of the day.
- ✓ According to the UN, around 600 million cases of foodborne illnesses are reported every year which makes unsafe food one of the most concerning threats for human health
- ✓ These illnesses are caused by parasites, viruses, and bacteria present in contaminated food and water that are often not visible to the plain eye

