

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-MARCH 11, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government - has announced the Tamil Nadu chief minister's fellowship programme for young professionals**
- ✓ Under the programme, young professionals from diverse backgrounds will assist the government in the implementation of its flagship programmes.
- ✓ The two-year fellowship programme is aimed at creating a pool of action-oriented resources to work on policy efficacy
- ✓ The programme would also aim at developing key performance indicators across various departments for effective service delivery and to compare against global best practices.
- ✓ The state has allocated ₹5.7 crore for two years (2022-2024), while ₹41.8 lakh has been allocated for the programme for the fiscal year 2021-2022.
- ✓ Twelve sectors have been identified for implementation, monitoring and evaluation under the programme by grouping various departments and schemes
- ✓ They are - Augmentation of water resources, infrastructure & industrial development, agricultural production, productivity and creation of marketing linkages, skill development and entrepreneurship development, housing for all, institutional credit, improving educational standards, heritage and culture, improving health indicators, ecological balance and data governance.
- ✓ Around 30 people would be engaged to work under the programme and they will be placed under the Chief Minister's Office and departments concerned.
- ✓ The fellows will be part of the Special Projects Implementation Department headed by T Udhayachandran, who is also the principal secretary to Chief Minister M K Stalin.
- ✓ Out of the 30 fellows, 24 will work in pairs in each of the 12 areas, while another 6 fellows will be in the implementation and monitoring cell of the Special Projects Implementation Department.
- ✓ The fellows will also have to undertake field visits to districts to assess ground situation, obtain feedback and assist in taking appropriate follow-up action.

- ✓ Bharathidasan Institute of Management in Trichy district will be the academic partner for the fellowship and the nodal agency to select the fellows.
 - ✓ It will select the fellows through a three-stage process – preliminary assessment test, written examination and personal interview.
 - ✓ The Government will enter into an in-depth Memorandum of Understanding with BIM in this regard.
 - ✓ Selected candidates would get a monthly remuneration of ₹50,000 and an additional allowance of ₹10,000 to meet assignment work such as travel and mobile usage.
 - ✓ To be eligible, a candidate must hold a first class bachelor degree in professional courses such as engineering, medicine, law, agriculture, veterinary science, or first class in master's degree in arts/science from any of the recognised universities.
 - ✓ Candidates with a Ph.D. degree will be preferred, while work experience will be an added advantage and emphasis will be given to research experience.
 - ✓ The age limit is between 22 and 33 years and for candidates belonging to SC/ST and BC/MBC categories, the maximum age limit will be 35 and 33 years, respectively.
 - ✓ The reservation policy of the Tamil Nadu government followed in admissions to academic institutions will be applicable for the selection of fellows under the programme
 - ✓ The newly inducted fellows will have a 30-day orientation programme jointly organised by Bharathidasan Institute of Management in Trichy and the Special Programme Implementation Department at the Anna Administrative Staff College, Chennai.
 - ✓ On successfully completing the two-year-fellowship, the fellows will receive a certificate in public policy and management.
- **A constellation of 75 cubesats built by students - is likely to be launched in the second half of 2022.**
- ✓ This includes the cubesats designed by students from seven colleges and universities in Tamil Nadu
 - ✓ The satellites, a class of research spacecraft weighing 1.5kg each, will be built as part of the '75 Students' Satellites Consortium: Mission 2022'
 - ✓ The Mission is an initiative by Bengaluru-based Indian Technology Congress Association.
 - ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation has given a launch window between August and November 2022 to place all 75 satellites in the orbit.
 - ✓ As part of the mission, nearly 150 government and private schools, colleges and universities will team up to design, build, integrate, test and help launch the 75 student-built satellites.


- ✓ Government school students from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab are participating in the mission
- ✓ As part of the initiative, three satellites were launched onboard Isro's PSLV-C51-A mazonia Mission on February 28, 2021.
- ✓ Mylswamy Annadurai, former Isro scientist and vice chairman, Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology, will mentor and help students build the satellites
- ✓ According to him, the constellation of satellites will have Internet application apart from having the capability of inter-satellite communication.

NATIONAL

- **The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) – has won the assembly elections in four out of the five states – Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur, while Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has emerged victorious in Punjab Assembly elections**
- ✓ A total of 690 assembly constituencies voted in these five states between 10 February and 7 March, 2022

Results at a glance


The BJP retained its majority in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Manipur while reaching the halfway mark in Goa. The AAP swept Punjab by winning 92 seats



UTTAR PRADESH

BJP wins two-thirds of the seats in U.P.


	Wins/Leads	Vote %
BJP+	273	44.0%
SP+	125	36.5%
INC	2	2.3%
BSP	1	12.9%
Oth.	2	-



PUNJAB

AAP comes to power for the first time


	Wins/Leads	Vote %
AAP	92	42.0%
INC	18	23.0%
SAD+	4	20.2%
BJP+	2	7.7%
Oth.	1	-



UTTARAKHAND

BJP retains its majority in Uttarakhand


	Wins/Leads	Vote %
BJP	47	44.3%
INC	19	37.9%
Oth.	4	-



MANIPUR

BJP's seat tally is just above the halfway mark

	Wins/Leads	Vote %
BJP	32	37.8%
INC+	5	16.8%
NPEP	7	17.3%
NPF	5	8.1%
Oth.	11	-



GOA

BJP falls just one seat short of majority

	Wins/Leads	Vote %
BJP	20	33.3%
INC+	12	25.3%
AAP	2	6.8%
AITC+	2	12.8%
Oth.	4	-

Oth.: Others

AS OF 11.30 PM

SOURCE: ECI

Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ In Uttar Pradesh, BJP secured a comfortable victory as the state elected the same government for a second consecutive term for the first time since 1985.
- ✓ Yogi Adityanath is set to become the first chief minister in the history of the state to retain power after completing a full five year term
- ✓ Yogi Adityanath, who took oath as Chief Minister on March 19, 2017, was the third CM (after Akhilesh Yadav and Mayawati) to complete their five-year tenure.
- ✓ In UP, the ruling BJP won 273 seats in Uttar Pradesh, while its principal rival the Samajwadi Party won 125 seats

- ✓ The BSP of Mayawati, who was a four time chief minister, won only on one seat in a 403 member Assembly.
- ✓ The Congress, now in power only in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, an all-time low, lost Punjab and could bag only two seats in UP
- ✓ BJP candidate from Sahibabad constituency, Sunil Kumar Sharma, won the seat by a margin of 2,14,835 votes, the highest ever in the country.
- ✓ The constituency also has the highest number of voters in UP.
- ✓ BJP MLA from Noida, Pankaj Singh, retained the seat and managed to increase his victory margin from 1.04 lakh in 2017 to 1.81 lakh this time.
- ✓ Both the BJP MLAs beat NCP leader Ajit Pawar's resounding victory of October 2019 in which he had won Baramati seat by 1.65 lakh votes, setting a national record until it was beaten — twice in a day
- ✓ Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav won his first assembly elections in Karhal assembly seat — a BJP stronghold — by 67,504 votes

Uttarakhand

- ✓ In the 70-member Uttarakhand Assembly, BJP won on 47 seats, the Congress won 19, while the BSP secured 2, as per the final tally released by the poll panel
- ✓ For the first time in Uttarakhand after its creation 22 years ago, a party has come to power for a second consecutive term
- ✓ Incidentally, the 'CM faces' of all three major parties — Pushkar Singh Dhami of BJP, Harish Rawat of Congress and Col Ajay Kothiyal (retd) of AAP — lost in their constituencies

Manipur

- ✓ In the 60-member Manipur Assembly, the BJP emerged as the single largest party winning 32 constituencies, while the National People's Party won 7 and the JD(U) won 6 seats.
- ✓ The Congress and Naga People's Front got five seats each, independent candidates won three seats and Kuki People's Alliance secured win on two seats
- ✓ With the absolute majority, BJP is set to form its second successive government in the northeastern state on its own, unlike five years ago
- ✓ The party is planning to keep Naga People's Front, a partner of the past five years
- ✓ However, it had decided to part ways with National People's Party (NPP) of Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma, with whose support it formed its first government in the state in 2017
- ✓ This will be the second instance of BJP keeping an ally in the northeast, despite having the majority.
- ✓ In 2018, it won with an absolute majority in Tripura, but retained its pre-poll ally IPFT and made the tribal-based party a partner in the government

Goa

- ✓ In the 40-member Goa Assembly, the BJP reached the half way mark by winning 20 seats – just one seat short of majority
- ✓ This is BJP's second highest number of seats in Goa's political history
- ✓ Three Independents who got elected — Chandrakant Shetye (Bicholim), Aleixo Reginaldo Lourenco (Curtorim) and Antonio Vaz (Cortalim)— have all extended support to BJP
- ✓ Goa's oldest regional party MGP, which won two seats, will also be part of the new government
- ✓ The party is all set to form the government for the third consecutive term in the tiniest state of the country.
- ✓ In 2012, BJP led by Manohar Parrikar had won 21 seats in Goa, its highest ever tally.
- ✓ Among other parties, Congress won 11 seats, while the Aam Aadmi Party won on 2 constituencies.

Punjab

- ✓ The Arvind Kejriwal led Aam Aadmi Party scored a spectacular victory in Punjab by winning 92 seats in a 117 member Assembly.
 - ✓ According to the Election Commission figures, the Congress won 18 seats, Shiromani Akali Dal won 3 seats and others won on four seats
 - ✓ The electoral landslide also crushed several bigwigs, including former CMs Charanjit Singh Channi, Parkash Singh Badal, Amarinder Singh and Rajinder Kaur Bhattal.
 - ✓ Eleven of Congress' 18 cabinet ministers lost, alongwith the party's state unit chief Navjot Singh Sidhu.
 - ✓ AAP leader Bhagwant Mann, who won from Dhuri Assembly seat by a margin of over 58,000 votes, is set to become the next chief minister of the state
- **Indian Railways - has invited bids for manufacturing and procurement of 90,000 wagons at an investment of ₹30,000 crore over the next three years**



- ✓ The wagons will be used for unhindered transportation of coal, cement and food grains among other goods to achieve loading target of 5 million tonnes per day.
- ✓ The floating of Rs 31,500 crore tender is part of the railways' big push in the infrastructure sector as envisaged in the 2022-23 Budget.
- ✓ While 42,000 wagons are meant for coal transportation, 40,000 wagons for cement and foodgrains, the remaining 8,000 wagons will be procured for transportation of rails and heavy steel products.
- ✓ The existing capacity of wagon manufacturers are about 30,000 wagons per annum, while only about 9,600 wagons are actually supplied
- ✓ The move would help Railways to utilize its full capacity, and enhance by 25%, besides increasing employment generation at wagon manufacturing units.
- ✓ Railways have set the target to increase the freight loading to 2,024 million tonnes (MT) in 2024
- ✓ The total freight loading is expected to touch 1,400 MTs during the current financial year ending March 31.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **National Security Advisor, Ajit Doval – represented India at the 5th NSA-level Colombo Security Conclave meeting in Male on March 10, 2022**



- ✓ The Colombo Security Conclave identified five “pillars” of cooperation to strengthen regional security
- ✓ They are countering terrorism and radicalisation, maritime safety and security, combating trafficking and transnational organised crime, cyber security, protection of critical infrastructure and technology and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief
- ✓ The Member states agreed upon a roadmap for further cooperation and collaboration on these pillars of cooperation.
- ✓ India, Maldives and Sri Lanka are the founding members of Colombo Security Conclave, while Mauritius is the newest member of the Conclave

DEFENCE

- **Exercise Dharma Guardian, an annual exercise between Indian Army and Japanese Ground Self Defence Force - concluded at the Maratha Light Infantry Regimental Centre in Belgaum (Karnataka) on March 10**



- ✓ The exercise had commenced on February 27 at the Foreign Training Node of the Indian Army in Belgaum
- ✓ The Exercise Dharma Guardian featured several events – from cross training and combat conditioning in the field environment to sports and cultural exchanges
- ✓ Both contingents shared their expertise on contemporary subjects of counter-terrorism operations and on exploiting disruptive technologies such as drone and anti-drone weapons.
- ✓ Combat-experienced troops of the 15th Battalion of Maratha Light Infantry Regiment of the Indian Army and 30th Infantry Regiment of Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces (JGSDF) participated in the exercise this year
- ✓ The first edition of the Dharma Guardian was held at Counter Insurgency Warfare School of the Indian Army at Vairengte in November 2018 to promote military cooperation between India and Japan

