

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 11, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- Chief Minister M K Stalin - to hold the first meeting of Chennai Unified Metropolitan Authority (Cumta) next week to initiate steps for a common ticketing app by 2024

ROLLING OUT PLANS

- The Cumta Act was introduced in 2010 but was a non-starter for more than 10 years
- Rules for Cumta were notified in 2019
- In 2020, CM was made chairman
- In 2022, a special officer was appointed in Cumta
- In 2022, the housing department announced in the assembly that Cumta will be revived
- More than 18 agencies in it

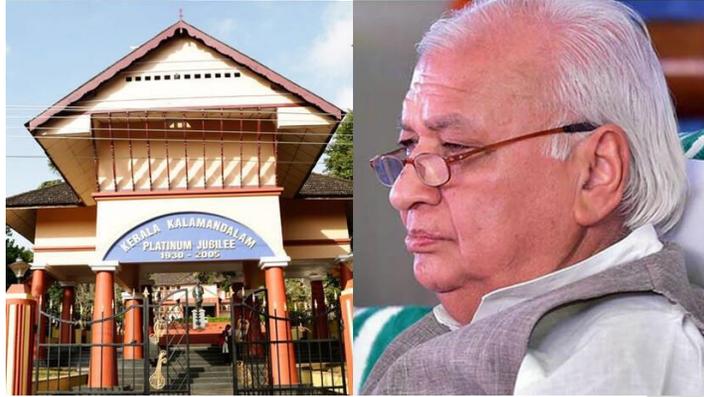


INCLUDES: Housing and Urban Development Department, transport, CMDA, MTC, CMRL, Greater

- ✓ The mobile app will serve as a journey planner and integrated ticketing platform and will provide real time information about different transport modes.
- ✓ This is the first time the meeting is happening since the inception of the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Authority in 2010.
- ✓ Initially, the transport minister was the chairman of Cumta, but in 2020, during the AIADMK regime, the act was amended, and the chief minister was made the chairman.
- ✓ However, the board has not met so far to ensure coordination between various departments.
- ✓ The proposed meeting will provide direction to Comprehensive Mobility Plan, common ticketing, Multi-Modal Integration, MRTS commercialisation amongst others.

STATES

- **On November 10, Kerala government - ordered the removal of governor Arif Mohammed Khan as the chancellor of Kerala Kalamandalam, a deemed-to-be-university for arts and culture**



- ✓ In this regard, the government issued an order amending the rules of Kerala Kalamandalam to facilitate the appointment of an eminent person of its choice from the field of art and culture as the chancellor.
- ✓ According to the order, the tenure of the chancellor shall be for five years from the date of assuming the post and no person shall be eligible to hold the office of the chancellor at Kerala Kalamandalam on attaining the age of 75 years.
- ✓ Kalamandalam is a deemed-to-be university directly run by the Kerala government
- ✓ Hence, the government has the powers to decide its matters, including the decision on its chancellor.
- ✓ The governor was functioning as its chancellor based on a government order issued in 2015.
- ✓ The order comes amid the state government's ongoing tussle with the Governor over the functioning of universities, including appointment of vice-chancellors, in the state
- ✓ On November 9, the Kerala cabinet decided to bring in an ordinance to replace the governor as chancellor of 14 universities in the state and appoint eminent academics to the post.
- ✓ On October 23, governor Khan had asked the vice-chancellors of nine universities to tender their resignation within 24 hours due to discrepancies in the selection process
- ✓ These universities include Mahatma Gandhi University, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Kannur University, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, University of Calicut and Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University.

- ✓ However, the state government had asked the vice-chancellors to continue and held that the chancellor has no authority to seek the vice-chancellors' resignations.

NATIONAL

- **The department of telecommunications (DoT) - has approved BSNL's Rs 26,821-crore contract to the Tata Consultancy Services-Tejas Networks consortium to roll out the 4G network of the state-owned telecom service operator, using indigenous technology**
- ✓ This is the first instance where an indigenous consortium will match the scale, sophistication, and standards of global giants such as Nokia, Ericsson, Huawei, and Samsung in 4G technology
- ✓ Last month, the TCS-led consortium, which also includes the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT), completed the trials for its indigenous 4G network as part of the proof of concept
- ✓ For BSNL's network rollout, TCS and the government's C-DoT have designed the core indigenous 4G equipment, whereas Tejas Networks will manufacture the network radio equipment for BSNL.
- ✓ Following the deal, the TCS will set up BSNL's 4G sites and maintain its network for nine years.
- ✓ Further, BSNL will give the purchase order for 100,000 4G tower sites to TCS to start rolling out the services in a phased manner
- ✓ Additionally, about 25,000 towers will be set up in areas affected by left-wing extremism, Lakshadweep islands and 4G saturation areas.
- ✓ Other than TCS, HFCL (partners Pertsol and Mavenir), L&T (partners Pertsol and Mavenir), Tech Mahindra (partners Pertsol and Sterlite) have also shown interest in the contract.
- ✓ However, these companies have failed to submit proof of concept (PoC) and dropped out of the process in January this year.
- ✓ While private telecom operators are updating their network to 5G, BSNL is still using 2G and 3G networks.
- ✓ The telco recently received a whopping Rs 1.64 lakh crore bailout package from the government.
- ✓ With this, the state-run telecom operator will aim to launch its 4G services by December 2022 or January 2023.
- ✓ With the launch of BSNL's 4G, India will join the likes of the USA, Sweden, South Korea and China in developing telecom network technology.
- **The government – has suggested that supporting documents may be updated “at least once” by Aadhaar holders on completion of 10 years from the enrolment date**

- ✓ The updation would ensure “continued accuracy” of Aadhaar-related information in the Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR)
- ✓ The changes have been made by tweaking the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations
- ✓ Last month, the Unique Identification Authority of India had urged people to update identification and residence proof documents, if they were issued the unique ID more than 10 years back but had not updated their details since then.
- ✓ Accordingly, to provide facility to Aadhaar holders in this regard, the UIDAI has developed a new feature of ‘update document’
- ✓ This feature can be accessed online through the myAadhaar portal, and myAadhaar app or residents can visit any Aadhaar enrolment centre to avail of the facility.
- ✓ UIDAI is the government agency that issues Aadhaar numbers

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Space technology startup Skyroot Aerospace - is set to make history by sending India’s first privately developed rocket – Vikram-S – into space between November 12 and 16.**



- ✓ Skyroot’s maiden mission, “Prarambh (the beginning)”, will carry three customer payloads and will be launched from Sriharikota.
- ✓ With this mission, Skyroot Aerospace is set to become the first private space company in India to launch a rocket into space
- ✓ Among the three payloads is a 2.5kg satellite ‘Fun-Sat’ of another space startup, Space Kidz India, which has been built by students from India, the US and Indonesia.
- ✓ Vikram-S is a single stage suborbital test rocket that will be powered by India’s first carbon-fibre-built solid fuel engine.
- ✓ It is being launched to test the technologies in the Vikram series of space vehicles.

- ✓ The Vikram-S rocket, named after Vikram Sarabhai, the Father of the Indian Space Programme, has received technical launch clearance from space regulator IN-SPACE.
- ✓ The three payloads include one for an international non-profit space research lab that seeks to launch its educational payload built by students of their country.
- ✓ The remaining two payloads are from India, including one for Indian aerospace startup Space Kidz India
- ✓ Skyroot has been developing three variants of the Vikram rocket.
 - ✓ While the Vikram-I can carry 480 kilograms of payload to Low Earth Orbit, the Vikram-II is equipped to lift off with 595 kilograms of cargo.
 - ✓ Meanwhile, Vikram-III can launch with 815 kg to 500 km Low Inclination Orbit.
 - ✓ The Vikram-I launch vehicle will be powered by Kalam-100 rocket, which successfully went through a static fire test earlier this year.
- **IIT Madras-incubated space tech startup, Agnikul Cosmos - has successfully test-fired its single piece 3D-printed engine — the Agnilet**
- ✓ The test was undertaken with the support of IN-SPACE and Isro at the Vertical Test Facility, Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS), at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram
- ✓ It was conducted to validate the technical possibility that rocket engines can be made as a single piece of hardware.
- ✓ VSSC is the lead centre of Isro for the development of launch vehicles
- ✓ Agnilet was tested as part of an MoU signed between Isro and Agnikul Cosmos in 2020 to provide opportunity for Indian space startups to avail facilities of Isro through INSPACE.
- ✓ Agnilet is fully designed and manufactured in India and Agnikul holds the patent for its design and manufacture.
- ✓ It is a regeneratively cooled 1.4 kN semi-cryogenic engine, working at a chamber pressure of 10.8 bar(a) using liquid oxygen and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) as propellants.

SPORTS

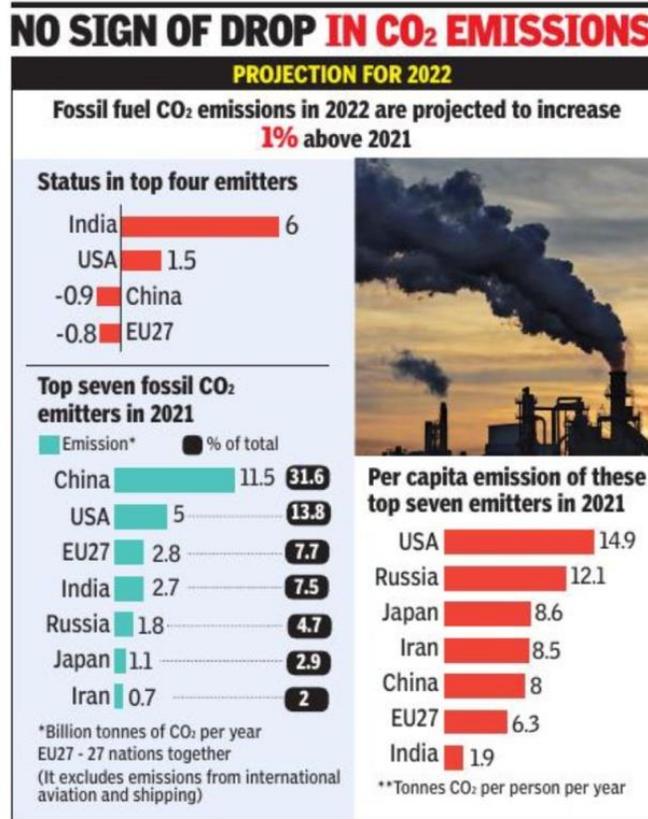
- **India - has been allotted the hosting rights of the multi-million dollar IBA women's world boxing championships in 2023.**
- ✓ India will host the prestigious event after a gap of five years.
- ✓ It was last held here in November 2018 at the Indira Gandhi stadium's KD Jadhav indoor hall in New Delhi
- ✓ The same arena has been chosen as the competition venue for the 2023 Worlds, scheduled to be held between March-April next year.

- ✓ International Boxing Association (IBA) and the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi to host 2023 IBA Women's World Boxing Championship in India.
- ✓ The women's championships will offer the same record-breaking prize money to medallists as announced for men's world boxing
- ✓ The Men's world boxing championships will be held in the Uzbek capital of Tashkent from May 1 to 14, 2023
- ✓ On November 7, the International Boxing Association had announced that for the first time the Worlds will have a prize fund of \$5.2 million (Rs 42 crore approx)
- ✓ The first-place medallist will take home a massive prize money of \$200,000 (Rs 1.6 crore), while the second place will get \$100000 (Rs 81 lakh) and for each bronze medallist \$50,000 (Rs 40 lakh).
- ✓ The prize money has been doubled from the championship held in Istanbul, Turkey this year.
- ✓ Prize money was introduced in world boxing after 2007.
- ✓ It may be recalled that MC Mary Kom won nothing when she took her first World title in Antalya, Turkey in 2002.
- ✓ This event will be the third Women's World Championships to be hosted by India after 2006 and 2018.
- ✓ IBA Women's World Boxing Championship is the biennial amateur boxing competition organized by the International Boxing Association (IBA).
- ✓ It was held for the first time in 2001 – 25 years after the sporting event was held for men in 1974
- ✓ In the 12 champions played over the years, India won a total of 39 medals, including 10 gold medals.

GLOBAL CARBON PROJECT REPORT

- **Global carbon emissions in 2022 - remain at record levels with no signs of reduction, as per the Global Carbon Project report**
- ✓ The report predicted that if the current emissions levels persist, there is now a 50% chance that global warming of 1.5°C will be exceeded in nine years.
- ✓ The Global Carbon Budget projects that atmospheric CO₂ concentrations will reach an average of 417.2 parts per million in 2022, more than 50% above pre-industrial levels.
- ✓ The global average temperature has already reached 1.15°C above the pre-industrial (1850-1900 average) level.
- ✓ The report noted that the global fossil CO₂ emissions are projected to rise 1% this year, compared to 2021, slightly above the 2019 pre-Covid levels.
- ✓ Among major countries, emissions are projected to fall in China (0.9%) and the EU (0.8%), while it is projected to increase in the US (1.5%) and India (6%) this year compared to 2021.

- ✓ India per capita emission, however, continues to be quite low as compared to other current big emitters such as US, China and EU27.
- ✓ The new report projects total global CO₂ emissions of 40.6 billion tonnes (GtCO₂) in 2022 which is close to the 40.9 GtCO₂ in 2019, which is the highest annual total ever.



- ✓ Projected emissions from coal and oil are above their 2021 levels, with oil being the largest contributor to total emissions growth.

