

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-SEPTEMBER 27,2022

TAMIL NADU

- **On September 26, the Tamil Nadu cabinet led by chief minister M K Stalin - gave its nod to an ordinance to ban online gambling.**
- ✓ The government will soon promulgate the ordinance after getting the governor's approval
- ✓ The urgency to ban online gambling arises from the fact that the state reported more than 20 suicides due to financial stress caused by playing online rummy since the year 2020.
- ✓ On June 10, the DMK government had constituted a four-member committee under the chairmanship of retired judge Justice K Chandru to advise the state on enacting a fresh legislation to ban/regulate online games
- ✓ The panel had received inputs from parents, think-tanks, teachers, students, psychologists, social activists and online gaming service providers on the proposed legislation.
- ✓ The Chandru committee submitted its report to the government on June 27 and and it was placed before the Cabinet the same day for consideration
- ✓ On August 3, 2021, the Madras HC declared the Tamil Nadu Gaming and Police Laws (Amendment) Act 2021, enacted by the previous AIADMK regime as ultra vires of the Constitution.
- ✓ Currently, the Indian online gaming market is worth around Rs 80,000 crore and predicted to reach Rs 1.5 lakh crore by 2024.

NATIONAL

- **The information and broadcasting ministry - has directed YouTube to block 45 videos circulated by 10 channels**
- ✓ The blocked videos had a cumulative viewership of over 1.3 crore
- ✓ The decision seeks to block dissemination of fake, anti-India content on social media

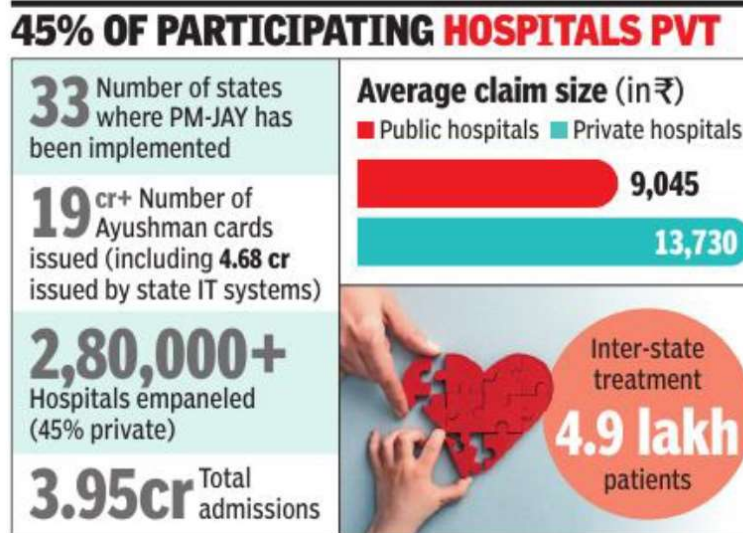
- ✓ The content included fake news and morphed videos created with the intent to spread hatred among religious communities
 - ✓ The videos had to be blocked, since they had the potential to cause communal disharmony and disrupt public order in the country
 - ✓ The orders, based on inputs from intelligence agencies, were issued under the provisions of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021.
 - ✓ The content blocked by the ministry was found to be detrimental to sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State, India's friendly relations with foreign States, and public order in the country.
 - ✓ Accordingly, the content was covered within the ambit of Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000
- **The Centre - has revised the target of reducing air pollution — particulate matter (PM) concentrations — in cities from 20%-30% by 2024 to 40% by 2025-26.**
- ✓ The new target was conveyed to states during the national conference of environment ministers in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat held on September 23 and 24
 - ✓ The guidelines for 'Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan- Ranking of Cities' was released during the conference
 - ✓ The conference also included sessions on LiFE and PARIVESH
 - ✓ According to the environment ministry, 95 cities in the country have shown improvement in air quality in 2021-22 under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as compared to 2017 levels
 - ✓ Varanasi has recorded the highest 53% reduction in PM10 concentrations in 2021-22 over 2017 levels.
 - ✓ The ministry's recent analysis of cities under NCAP showed that 20 cities, including Chennai, Madurai, Nashik and Chittur, have conformed to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)
 - ✓ According to NAAQS, the acceptable annual average limit of PM10 is 60 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).
 - ✓ Under NAAQS, the annual average prescribed standards for PM2.5 is 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
 - ✓ There are 131 cities under NCAP which have been working on their respective action plans to reduce air pollution
 - ✓ The initiative was launched in January 2019 considering 2017 as the base year for comparison of the Particulate Matter Concentration
 - ✓ LiFE (Lifestyle for the Environment) was launched on June 5, 2022 on the occasion of World Environment Day
 - ✓ It aims to create a global movement towards the adoption of simple and specific climate-friendly individual and collective behaviours in daily life to address the global climate crisis.
 - ✓ The initiative was introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland

- ✓ PARIVESH (Pro Active Responsive facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous Environmental Single window Hub) is an initiative of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
 - ✓ It provides single window clearance mechanism for those seeking environment, forest, wildlife and CRZ Clearances from central, state and district level authorities.

- **The Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC) — inducted two girls for the first time in the institution’s history of over 100 years.**
 - ✓ RIMC is regarded as a premier preparing ground for those aspiring to join the armed forces
 - ✓ The ‘July batch of 2022’ began with students of Class VIII, including the two girl students, on September 26
 - ✓ The decision to give admission to girls at RIMC came after the government opened the doors of the National Defence Academy (NDA) for women.
 - ✓ RIMC commandant Col Ajay Kumar had announced during the institution’s Centennial Founders’ Day in March that they would soon be inducting girl students as well.
 - ✓ To make the institute suitable for girl students, the military college had constituted a committee to assess all necessary steps before finalising its decision.
 - ✓ Although there were five seats for girls in this batch, only two could successfully clear the process to get enrolled.
 - ✓ A total of 568 girls from across the country had taken the entrance test for the five seats.

- **The centre – has withdrawn incentives and special allowances granted to IAS and IPS officers belonging to northeast cadres, which includes the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland and Sikkim**
 - ✓ The move is aimed at encouraging all-India services (AIS) officers to serve in the region.
 - ✓ This was announced by the centre in a letter sent by the department of personnel and training (DoPT) to chief secretaries of the concerned states on September 23
 - ✓ The Centre has withdrawn with immediate effect special benefits such as additional monetary incentive equivalent to 25% of their basic salary (in force from 2009), post-retirement housing (approved in 2007), relaxation in intercadre deputation norms (approved in 2017) and reimbursement of income-tax payable by tribal all-India officers belonging to NE cadres while on central deputation (approved in 2009).
 - ✓ Relaxed inter-deputation norms for AIS officers belonging to northeast cadres had until now allowed
 - ✓ Accordingly, male officers belonging to northeast cadres may go for intercadre deputation after completing seven years of service, if going to another northeast state

- ✓ Similarly, a women officer may take up deputation in any other cadre after six years of service.
- ✓ The intercadre deputation for northeast cadre officers could be up to nine years in two or more spells, with each spell not exceeding five years.
- **For the 12th year in a row, the Indian Railways - is likely to give 78-day bonus to over 11 lakh railway employees before Dussehra.**
- ✓ The national transporter has so far given productivity linked bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages to eligible non-gazetted railway employees for the last 11 years.
- ✓ The railway board has sent the proposal to the Centre and Union Cabinet is likely to approve it soon.
- ✓ The bonus is usually announced ahead of Dussehra and Puja festivities.
- ✓ This would cost around Rs.2,000 crore to the government.
- ✓ The wage calculation ceiling prescribed for payment of the bonus to the eligible employees is Rs.7,000 per month.
- **More than 28,000 hospitals - have been empanelled under the government's Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) over the past four years**
- ✓ This was revealed in the annual report published by the National Health Authority (NHA).
- ✓ On September 25, Health minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the 'Arogya Manthan 2022' to celebrate four years of implementation of AB-PMJAY and one year of implementation of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).



- ✓ The report also highlights that 45% of the empanelled medical facilities were provided by private hospitals.
- ✓ The NHA is responsible for implementing the ABPMJAY, a public health insurance/assurance scheme launched by the Centre in 2018.

- ✓ Of the 19 crore people who received the Ayushman cards, 3.95 crore had taken treatment under the scheme with 46% in government-run hospitals.
- ✓ ABDM was launched last year to provide digital health IDs to all citizens to help hospitals, insurance firms, and citizens access health records electronically when required.
- ✓ The ABDM has crossed the landmark of one-crore digitally linked health records with over 27 lakh records linked in a day.
- ✓ Since its launch in September 2021, the ABDM has achieved significant growth with over 24 crore ABHA numbers (earlier known as Health ID), 1.50 lakh health facilities registered in the health facility registry (HFR), over 80,000 healthcare professionals under the healthcare professionals registry (HPR), 7,11, 571 ABHA app downloads and 1,10,89,509 health records linked to ABHA of individuals.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Giorgia Meloni - is set to become Italy's first woman Prime Minister after a massive win at the elections held on September 25**



- ✓ It will also be the first time the nation will be under the most right-wing government since World War II and the fascist leader Benito Mussolini.
- ✓ The right-wing coalition led by Meloni's 'Brothers of Italy' party along with Matteo Salvini's League party and former Italian PM Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia won around 44% of the votes
- ✓ This would give the bloc at least 114 seats in the Senate, where 104 votes are required for a majority
- ✓ The center-left Democratic Party and its allies received about 26% votes followed by the unaligned five-star movement with 15% votes.
- ✓ The new parliament, which has been downsized to 200 senators and 400 lower house lawmakers, will meet for the first time on October 13.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **The general debate of 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA77) - concluded on September 26**



- ✓ Csaba Korosi, President of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly, said in his closing remarks that 126 heads of state and government took part in this year's general debate
- ✓ The general debate is an annual gathering of heads of state and government as well as other high-level representatives of UN member states at the beginning of the new session of the General Assembly.
- ✓ This year's general debate is the first time since the start of the pandemic that world leaders are asked to make their statements in person in the General Assembly Hall
- ✓ During the session, representatives of 190 member states spoke around the theme of “A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges”.
- ✓ Traditionally, the US, as the host country, speaks only after Brazil on the first day of the debate.
 - ✓ Brazil has remained the first speaker for nearly 7 decades since the 10th UNGA in 1955.
- ✓ Senegalese President Macky Sall became the second head of state to speak, and Nauru was the last member state to take the floor this year
- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar addressed the High-Level Session of the 77th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on September 24
- ✓ The 77th UNGA opened on September 13 and included a high-level debate organized from September 20 to 26 this year.

RANKINGS

- **India – was placed at the 15th spot in the overall rankings of “Out of the Shadows” index**
- ✓ “Out of the Shadows” is a benchmarking index examining the prevention and response to child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA)
- ✓ United Kingdom, France, and Sweden are ranked at the first 3 places in the index, which ranks 60 countries

- ✓ India stands 20th in prevention and 14th in response to CSEA

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ **World Tourism Day - September 27**



- ✓ The day is observed annually to raise awareness about the importance of tourism and to explore the opportunities to promote it
- ✓ The World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) observed the first World Tourism Day on September 27, 1980.
- ✓ The date marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Statutes of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in 1970, which led to the establishment of UNWTO five years later.
- ✓ Theme 2022 - 'Rethinking Tourism.'
- ✓ The UNWTO General Assembly, during its Twelfth Session in Istanbul, Turkey, in October 1997, decided to nominate a host country to act as a collaborative partner with the organisation for the celebration of World Tourism Day each year.
- ✓ This year's official celebrations will take place in Bali, Indonesia.
- ✓ To build a resilient tourism industry, the government of India adopted 'Dharamshala Declaration' recently to affirm the country's position as "global leader in the tourism sector by 2047" in a sustainable manner
- ✓ Vice President, Jagdeep Dhankhar will present the National Tourism Awards to 81 awardees highlighting the achievements of the industry in 2018-19 at a programme organized by the Ministry of Tourism to mark the World Tourism Day, 2022
- ✓ Vice President will also release India Tourism Statistics 2022, New Incredible India Global Promotional Films, and "GoBeyond:75 Experiences of North India" e-book on this occasion.

