

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – APRIL 20, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Tirupur district - has topped the state in the Class 12 board exams with 95.37% pass percentage**
 - ✓ Erode and Perambalur districts took the next two spots, with 95.23% and 95.15% respectively.

திருப்பூர் மாவட்டம் முதலிடம்

சென்னை, ஏப். 19: பிளஸ் 2 பொதுத் தேர்வில் 95.37 சதவீத தேர்ச்சியுடன் திருப்பூர் மாவட்டம் முதலிடத்தைப் பிடித்துள்ளது. அதேவேளையில் 85.47 சதவீதத் தேர்ச்சியுடன் வேலூர் மாவட்டம் கடைசி இடத்தைப் பெற்றுள்ளது. மாவட்டம் வாரியாகத் தேர்ச்சி சதவீதம்:

திருப்பூர்.....	95.37	மதுரை.....	93.64	காஞ்சிபுரம்.....	89.90
ஈரோடு.....	95.23	திருச்சி.....	93.56	அரியலூர்.....	89.68
பெரம்பலூர்.....	95.15	சென்னை.....	92.96	தருமபுரி.....	89.62
கோவை.....	95.01	தேனி.....	92.54	திருவள்ளூர்.....	89.49
நாமக்கல்.....	94.97	ராமநாதபுரம்.....	92.30	கடலூர்.....	88.45
கன்னியாகுமாரி.....	94.81	புதுச்சேரி.....	91.22	திருவண்ணாமலை.....	88.03
விருதுநகர்.....	94.44	தஞ்சாவூர்.....	91.05	நாகப்பட்டினம்.....	87.45
திருநெல்வேலி.....	94.41	நீலகிரி.....	90.87	கிருஷ்ணகிரி.....	86.79
தூத்துக்குடி.....	94.23	திண்டுக்கல்.....	90.79	விழுப்புரம்.....	85.85
கரூர்.....	94.07	சேலம்.....	90.64	வேலூர்.....	85.47
சிவகங்கை.....	93.81	புதுக்கோட்டை.....	90.01		

- ✓ The aggregate pass percentage has slightly increased by 0.2% to 91.30% this year, with 88.57% boys and 93.64% girls clearing the exams
- ✓ Kanyakumari scored a pass percentage of 94.81% overall, and topped the state in terms of pass percentage secured by government schools (92.64%).
- ✓ Nearly 8.69 lakh students appeared for the examination this year in the new pattern, where students were awarded marks out of 100 in every subject.

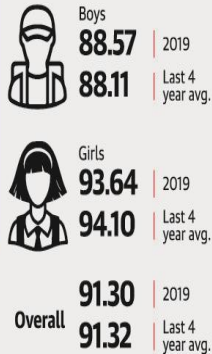
REPORT CARD

Nearly 8.4 lakh school students appeared for the higher secondary examinations in 2019, of whom close to 7.69 lakh passed. An analysis of the results on the basis of gender, school-type, subjects and districts

By Vignesh Radhakrishnan

In line with the past

The pass percentages have not thrown up any surprises and follow the trend of the last four years



Spotlight on subjects

Except Math and Commerce, all other subjects saw a drop in pass % compared to the avg. in the last four years. ▾ denotes pass % in 2019, ▴ denotes change compared to four-year avg.



Management-wise

Self-financed schools saw a better pass % as compared to the avg. over the last four years

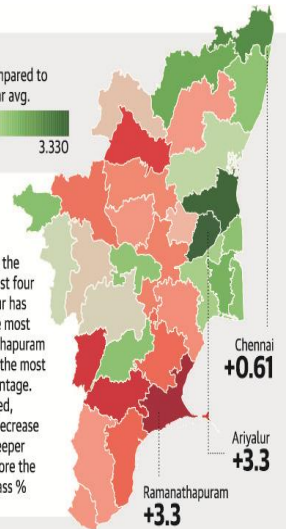


Change compared to four-year avg.

-3.320 3.330

District divide

Compared to the avg. of the last four years, Ariyalur has improved the most and Ramanathapuram has declined the most in pass percentage. Deeper the red, greater the decrease in pass %. Deeper the green, more the increase in pass %



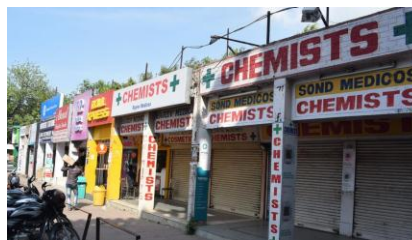
- ✓ English and Language had a single combined paper instead of two.
- ✓ Students who took the examination in March comprised the first batch to have appeared for board examinations for three consecutive years, after the School Education Department brought in a public examination for Class XI as well.

◆ Election Commission – revises Lok Sabha election turnout in Tamil Nadu to 71.8% on April 18

- ✓ The Dharmapuri Lok Sabha constituency stood first with a polling percentage of 80.49, while Chennai South registered 56.41%, the lowest in the State
- ✓ The polling percentage for the 18 Assembly constituencies that went for bypolls on the same day was 75.57%
- ✓ Among Assembly constituencies, Sholinghur recorded the highest with 82.26%, followed by Harur with 82.08% and Perambur with 64.14%, the lowest.
- ✓ The three parliamentary constituencies in Chennai witnessed the lowest polling percentage in the entire State - Chennai North, 63.47%, Chennai South, 56.34% and Chennai Central, 58.69%

NATIONAL

◆ Union Health Ministry – to replace the words ‘chemist’ and ‘druggist’ with ‘pharmacy’



- ✓ The phrase ‘chemists and druggists’ was coined first in 1945
- ✓ The change was deliberated and recommended by the 55th Drug Consultative Committee meeting held in January and March this year

◆ **Twenty states and Union territories - have so far joined a pan-India network of single emergency helpline number '112'**



- ✓ The '112' helpline is an integration of police (100), fire (101) and women (1090) helpline numbers on which immediate assistance can be sought by anyone in distress
- ✓ The project '112' helpline is being implemented under the central government's Nirbhaya Fund.
- ✓ The single number for emergency services is similar to '911' in the United States.
- ✓ The 20 states and UTs include Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Puducherry, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Jammu and Kashmir and Nagaland
- ✓ The Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) envisages a single pan-India emergency number '112', which is an internationally recognised number, to target all types of emergencies.
- ✓ The '112' India app, available in Google Playstore and Apple store, provides for 'shout facility' designed especially for women, for enlisting support of volunteers, who have registered themselves with the state police, for emergency response
- ✓ A total of Rs 321.69 crore has been earmarked for this Emergency Response Support System from the Nirbhaya fund
- ✓ The Nirbhaya Fund was set up by the central government for projects specifically designed to improve the safety and security of the women

◆ **CBSE - to allow visual aids for disabled kids from 2020**

- ✓ It has decided to allow students to use magnifying glasses and portable video magnifiers, instead of large-font question papers, during the Class X final examination

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **Malaysian government – to revive a multibillion-dollar property and transportation project in Kuala Lumpur involving a Chinese state company, linked to China’s global “Belt and Road” initiative**

- ✓ The 140-billion ringgit (\$34 billion) Bandar Malaysia development in Kuala Lumpur is expected to attract financial institutions and companies, with the Malaysian Government owning 40% of the project

- ✓ The announcement came just days after the countries agreed to resume work on a previously suspended railway project in Malaysia
- ✓ The project was originally launched in 2011 under the government of ex-leader Najib Razak, but was abandoned due to a dispute about payments.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

◆ **Two Indian warships - will be taking part in China's international fleet review (IFR), scheduled to take place on April 21, 2019 in Qingdao, China**



- ✓ **Indigenously-built guided missile destroyer INS Kolkata and fleet tanker INS Shakti will arrive at the Chinese port city of Qingdao on April 20, 2019**
 - ✓ The IFR is organized as part of 70th Anniversary celebrations of People's Liberation Army Navy (PLA Navy)
 - ✓ The Naval Parade will be reviewed by the Chinese President Xi Jinping on April 23, 2019.
 - ✓ The International Fleet Review is a parade of naval ships, aircraft and submarines
 - ✓ India conducted the IFR in February 2016 that saw overwhelming participation of 50 navies with nearly 100 warships.
 - ✓ The move intends to step-up bilateral military ties after the temporary freeze due to the 73-day troop stand-off at Doklam in 2017.
 - ✓ The two Indian warships held an exercise with Vietnamese warships off the Cam Ranh Bay while on their way to China
- ### ◆ **The Asian Tea Alliance (ATA), a union of five tea-growing and consuming countries - was launched in Guizhou in China on April 19**
- ✓ The members of the alliance are the Indian Tea Association, China Tea Marketing Association, Indonesian Tea Marketing Association, Sri Lanka Tea Board and Japan Tea Association
 - ✓ Indian Tea Association and China Tea Marketing Association have recently signed a MoU in December 2018 to promote green and black tea consumption in major tea markets of Europe, the U.S., Russia and West Asia

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ **The 139-foot-tall (42.5-meter) Antares rocket – launches uncrewed ‘Cygnus Cargo spacecraft’ for International Space Station (ISS)**



- ✓ Antares rocket, built by Northrop Grumman, was launched into the space from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility for a two-day voyage to ISS
- ✓ The mission, called NG-11, is the eleventh cargo flight for NASA by Northrop Grumman and will be the company's longest one to date.
- ✓ The Spacecraft carried about 7,600 pounds of supplies and scientific experiments to the station
- ✓ The various experiments to be done includes the study of astronaut's health in microgravity, analyse ageing-like changes in astronauts on the space station and examine effects of spaceflight on the function of antibody production and immune memory

ECONOMY

- ◆ **Royal Enfield - announced its entry into South Korea by opening its store in Seoul**



- ✓ It had appointed Vintage Motors (Kiheung International) as its official distributor-partner in the country
- ✓ To start with, Royal Enfield will offer Bullet 500cc, Classic 500cc and Classic 500 chrome and The Himalayan 410 cc

APPOINTMENTS

- ◆ **Cipla chairman Yusuf Hamied - has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society, U.K. for his service to the cause of science.**



- ✓ The Society is a Fellowship of the world's most eminent scientists and is the oldest scientific academy in continuous existence.

SPORTS

- ◆ **India's young paddlers Manush Shah and Raegan Albuquerque - clinched the bronze at the Belgium Junior and Cadet Open, a part of the ITTF Junior Circuit Premium, held in Chennai**



- ✓ The duo paired up with Iran's Amin Ahmadian and Radin Khayyam to win the medal in the junior boys' team event

