

**EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 1, 2019**

**TAMIL NADU**

- **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Edappadi k Palaniswami – sanctioned Rs 122 crore to Chennai Metrowater and Rs 36 crore to Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board**
  - ✓ The sanctioned budget will be used to implement various projects to ensure the Chennai city has adequate water during summer
  - ✓ The Government is planning to tide over the situation with various projects like pumping water from agricultural wells, quarries and private wells
  - ✓ Chennai had a rainfall deficit of 54% during the last north east monsoon, when it had received 343 mm of rainfall, instead of 786 mm
- **Tamil Nadu Government – is planning to award 2 marks for each subject for every 2 trees planted by the student**
  - ✓ This was announced by the State's education Minister, K Sengottaiyan, who also said that the proposal is currently waiting for the approval of the Chief Minister
- **Tamil Nadu Electoral rolls**



இறுதி வாக்காளர் பட்டியலை வியாழக்கிழமை வெளியிட்ட சென்னை மாநகராட்சி ஆணையர் தா.கார்த்தியேன்.

- **Tamil Nadu – is ranked at 7<sup>th</sup> place among other States/UTs to have more Women voters than men**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has 5.91 crore voters as per the final revised electoral rolls released on January 31
- ✓ Voters break-up
- ✓ Men Voters – 2.92 crores (up by 8.5% in the last 5 years)
- ✓ Women Voters – 2.98 crores (up by 11% in the last 5 years)
- ✓ Transexual voters – 5,472
- ✓ There are 1,020 women for every 1,000 men voters in the state
- ✓ More than 82% of the population in the state (as per 2011 census) has voting rights now
- ✓ Around 97 NRI's have also registered themselves for the rolls
- ✓ District wise statistics
- ✓ Of the 32 districts, 27 have more women voters than men.
- ✓ Only 5 districts, including Salem, Dharmapuri, Kanyakumari and Krishnagiri notorious for female infanticide some decades ago, had more men voters than women
- ✓ Chennai district has the maximum voters with 38.18 lakh voters, of which 19.34 lakh are women and 932 are transgenders enrolled

சட்டப் பேரவைத் தொகுதிவாரியாக வாக்காளர்கள்				
தொகுதி	ஆண்கள்	பெண்கள்	திருநங்கைகள்	மொத்தம்
1. பாக்டர் ராதாகிருஷ்ணன் நகர்	1,18,640	1,26,717	109	2,45,466
2. பெரம்பூர்	1,44,103	1,47,415	53	2,91,571
3. கொளத்தூர்	1,29,677	1,34,427	63	2,64,167
4. வில்லிவாக்கம்	1,20,826	1,24,415	57	2,45,298
5. திரு. வி.க. நகர் (தனி)	1,01,074	1,06,725	46	2,07,845
6. எழும்பூர் (தனி)	88,727	90,017	36	1,78,780
7. ராயபுரம்	86,335	89,453	45	1,75,833
8. துறைமுகம்	87,039	79,427	49	1,66,515
9. சேப்பாக்கம்-திருவல்லிக்கேணி	1,09,896	1,13,737	28	2,23,661
10. ஆயிரம் விளக்கு	1,13,608	1,18,159	84	2,31,851
11. அண்ணா நகர்	1,33,262	1,37,170	66	2,70,498
12. விருகம்பாக்கம்	1,35,151	1,34,770	74	2,69,995
13. சைதாப்பேட்டை	1,31,184	1,34,898	68	2,66,150
14. தியாகராய நகர்	1,13,043	1,15,680	39	2,28,762
15. மயிலாப்பூர்	1,24,160	1,31,460	35	2,55,655
16. வேளச்சேரி	1,47,264	1,49,608	80	2,96,952
மொத்தம்	18,83,989	19,34,078	932	38,18,999

- ✓ Kancheepuram has the second highest voter strength with 36.9 lakh voters
- ✓ In terms of Assembly constituencies, Chennai harbor has lowest voter strength with 1.66 lakh voters and Shozhinganallur constituency in the IT highway has maximum voters with 6.18 lakhs

✓ Age Groups statistics

வயது	வாக்காளர் எண்ணிக்கை
18-19.....	8,98,759.
20-29.....	1,18,37,274.
30-39.....	1,38,55,913
40-49.....	1,27,56,864.
50-59.....	95,86,247.
60-69.....	61,22,460.
70-79.....	30,53,480.
80 வயதுக்கு மேல்.....	10,12,200.
<b>மொத்த வாக்காளர்கள்</b>	<b>5,91,23,197.</b>

✓ National scenario

- ✓ In the 2014 polls, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Puducherry had more women than men
- ✓ In the current final rolls released, Maharashtra shows the maximum increase of women voters
- ✓ It shows the total of 8.73 crore voters with 4.57 crore men and 4.16 crore women with the voter sex ratio of 911 against 905 in 2014
- ✓ The all-India sex ratio of voters had improved to 883 female voters in 2000s from 715 female voters for every 1000 voters in 1990s
- ✓ It was 940 in 2011, the highest since 1971

➤ Presidential Awards to 2 Tamil Nadu officers

- **The Joint Director of Chennai Zone of Enforcement Directorate, K S V V Prasad - was conferred with the 'Presidential Award of Appreciation for Specially Distinguished Record of Service' by Union Finance Minister Piyush Goel**



- ✓ Prasad, whose Chennai Zone has been conferred with Best Zone award for two consecutive years, has been instrumental in attaching properties over 3,000 crore under Prevention of Money Laundering Act and launching prosecution in 56 cases against 318 persons

- ✓ He recovered 228 crore of arrears of revenue in Customs and was instrumental in seizure of Red Sanders of 240 Metric tonnes in 18 consignments and 31 consignments of narcotics including 100kg of ephedrine and 250kg of ketamine.
- ✓ Likewise, Krishnamachari Srinivasan, assistant commissioner, GST and Central Excise, North Commissionerate of Chennai Zone, has been conferred with the 'Presidential medal and certificate of Specially Distinguished Record of Service'



- ✓ He was awarded for the smooth implementation of the Government's major tax reform of Goods and Services Tax (GST)

➤ **Tamil Nadu – to start first-of-its-kind 'Amma Ambulance' soon for the maintenance of livestock**

- ✓ It was announced by the state minister for animal husbandry, Udumalai K Radhakrishnan
- ✓ It will have veterinary surgeons with sophisticated features for the treatment of various animals
- ✓ The Government also plans to launch a toll-free number to inform about any treatment needed to domestic animals

## STATES

➤ **Rajasthan – to roll out the new 'Monthly allowance scheme' for educated, unemployed youth from March 1 in the state**

- ✓ From March 1, unemployed boys will get Rs 3,000 and girls Rs 3,500 as monthly unemployment allowance, as announced by its chief minister, Ashok Gehlot
- ✓ The new scheme is likely to benefit one lakh educated youth in the state and cost the exchequer an estimated Rs 525 crore
- ✓ Currently, the state government gives Rs 600 per month to boys and Rs 750 to girls under the Rajasthan Unemployed Allowance Scheme, 2012, which was launched during the second tenure of Ashok Gehlot earlier
- ✓ The condition for the youths to avail the scheme is to have the family income less than Rs 2 lakh per annum

➤ **Punjab Government – approves 'Smart Village Campaign', a rural development scheme – to develop village infrastructure and provide basic amenities**

- ✓ The Government has set aside a budget of Rs 384.40 crore for the scheme

## NATIONAL

- **Telecom and Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) new Tariff and Regulatory framework for DTH and Cable TV networks – comes into effect from February 1**
  - ✓ As per the new regulations, the customers can choose and pay for channels of their choice
  - ✓ TRAI has capped the network capacity fee at Rs 130 for 100 SD channels with Rs 20 added for every additional 25 channels
  - ✓ In Tamil Nadu, cable TV operators have come up with a bouquet of upto 150 free-to-air channels at the price of Rs 177, including GST
- **K.J. Alphons, Union Minister for Tourism - inaugurated a project under North East India Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme**



- ✓ The circuit is the first ever project in Sikkim under the scheme
  - ✓ The Swadesh Darshan scheme provides for the development of thematic circuits in the country in a planned and manner
  - ✓ So far 13 thematic circuits have been developed -- North East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Heritage Circuit and Wildlife Circuit
- **Union Government – renames ‘The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion’ (DIPP) into ‘The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade’**

- ✓ The renamed new department will work under the Union Ministry of Commerce
  - ✓ The new department will deal with all matters regarding the start-ups, facilitating ease of doing business etc.,
  - ✓ It will also deal with the internal trade, which was under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs so far
- **The Union Government proposed – 3 models under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana – namely Insurance model, trust-based model and hybrid model**
    - ✓ Insurance model - The premiums are paid to the insurance company which administers and pay the claim
    - ✓ Trust-based model - Each state forms its own trust to manage the scheme and claims will be disbursed from a corpus created from central and state government contributions
    - ✓ Hybrid model - A part of the claim comes under the insurance model while the balance gets processed under the trust
  - **National Sample Survey Office's (NSSO's) Periodic labour force survey (PLFS) - estimates India's unemployment rate remains at 6.1% in 2017-18, the highest since 1972-73**
    - ✓ It is the first comprehensive survey on employment conducted by a government agency after demonetization.
    - ✓ The unemployment in urban areas is at 7.8% compared to 5.3% in rural areas
    - ✓ Rate of jobless rural males rose to 17.4% from 5% and among rural jobless females the rate became 13.6% from 4.8%
  - **Indian Navy and Cochin Shipyard – signs agreement worth \$93 million with Israel Aerospace industries – for providing naval Medium Range Surface to air missile systems (MRSAM) to India.**



- ✓ The Israel company would also provide complementary systems for the proposed Air defense system

## COURT VERDICT

- **The Delhi High Court – ordered the Centre to fix a uniform retirement age for all Central Paramilitary officers**
- ✓ A bench of Justices S Muralidhar and Sanjeev Narula – held that having different retirement ages for different cadres is a case of ‘discrimination’ violative of Articles 14 and 16 of the constitution
- ✓ The Government’s current policy has the retirement age of 57 years for the officers in the rank of commandants and below at the ITBP, CRPF, BSF and SSB, while those above commandant rank get 3 more years of service, till 60

## INTERNATIONAL

- **Britain, France and Germany – create a new firm, Instex (Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges) – to do business with Iran without being subject to the sanctions**
- ✓ The proposed company would allow goods to be bartered between Iranian companies and foreign ones without direct financial transactions or using the dollar
- ✓ All these countries were signatories to the Iran deal in 2015 along with US, Russia and China
- ✓ US had pulled out of the deal last year and re-imposed punitive banking sanctions

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **International Conference on Guru Padmasambhava – was held in New Delhi**



- ✓ It was organized as part of various events to commemorate the 50 years of India-Bhutan diplomatic ties, which were established in 1968
- ✓ **Guru Padmasambhava** is was born in India and travelled all across Himalayan region in the 8th century to spread Buddhism
- ✓ He is highly revered in Bhutan with every home or temple in the country having his image or painting
- ✓ Guru Padmasambhava, also known as Guru Rinpoche, is widely celebrated as “Second Buddha” by the followers of Tibetan Buddhism

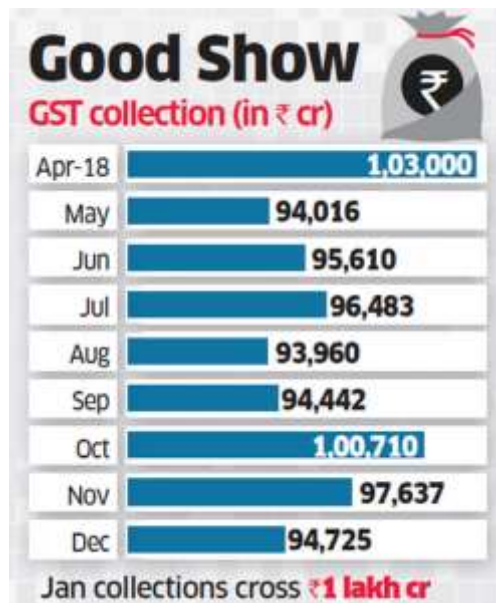
## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Human Space Flight Centre – was inaugurated at the ISRO headquarters in Bengaluru**
  - ✓ The centre will be responsible for the entire mission planning to implement the first development flight of Gaganyaan with the support of existing ISRO Centres
  - ✓ The first unmanned mission will take place in December 2020 and second in July 2021 followed by the manned mission in December 2021
  - ✓ The Gaganyaan project is headed by R. Hutton, who was the Director of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) Programme
- **ISRO – has selected 10 companies for the Lithium-ion cell technology Transfer**
  - ✓ The Lithium-ion cell technology has been developed by Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).
  - ✓ 10 Selected Companies
    - ✓ Amara Raja Batteries Limited, Chittoor.
    - ✓ Bharat Electronics Limited, Pune.
    - ✓ Carborundum Universal Limited, Kochi.
    - ✓ Exicom Tele-Systems Limited, Gurgaon.
    - ✓ GOCL Corporation Limited, Hyderabad
    - ✓ Jyoti CNC Automation Limited, Rajkot
    - ✓ National Aluminium Co Limited, Bhubaneswar
    - ✓ Sukhbir Agro Energy Limited, New Delhi.
    - ✓ Tata Chemicals Limited, Mumbai
    - ✓ Thermax Limited, Pune

## ECONOMY

- **GST collections in the month of January – crossed the Rs 1 lakh crore mark after a gap of 2 months**





- ✓ This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the current fiscal that GST collections have crossed the Rs 1 lakh crore mark after April and October 2017
- **Reserve Bank of India – removed 3 Public sector banks, Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra and Oriental Bank of Commerce – from its PCA framework**
- ✓ The Prompt corrective action (PCA) framework is a watch list for weak banks – which places lending restrictions on them
- ✓ The move follows the sizeable capital infusion in all these 3 banks during December 2018
- ✓ Overall, 11 banks were on the PCA list of RBI before the move

## APPOINTMENTS

- **Vice Admiral MS Pawar, AVSM, VSM - has assumed charge as Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff on January 30**



- ✓ An officer with over 25 years of sea experience, he remained as the Navigating Officer of INS Magar during Op Pawan in Sri Lanka, the Fleet Navigating Officer of the Western Fleet during Kargil War and the Fleet Operations Officer of Western Fleet when the IN commenced anti piracy patrols in the Gulf of Aden
- ✓ He was also the Commandant of the Mauritius National Coast Guard, during 2003.
- ✓ As Vice Admiral he has been the Director General Project Seabird and Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command
- ✓ He also received prestigious Herbert Lott Prize at Royal Naval Staff college, Greenwich, UK and the Vishist Seva Medal in 2010 and the Ati Vishist Seva Medal in 2016.

## AWARDS

### ➤ Republic Day Parade Awards

- ✓ Best marching contingent trophy – Gorkha brigade



- ✓ Best marching contingent prize for the para-military forces – The CRPF
- ✓ Category of Tableaux
- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Tripura's tableau depicting Gandhian way of fuelling rural economy
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Jammu and Kashmir's tableau depicting the state's composite culture and ethnic diversity
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Punjab's tableau with the theme of Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919

## SPORTS

- **The International Cricket Council (ICC) - signed a five-year global partnership deal with beverage manufacturer, Coca-Cola Company**



- ✓ The deal will cover all ICC events till 2023
- ✓ ICC had also signed sponsorship deals with Alcobev brands, Royal Stag and Bira 91