

April - 13

## TAMIL NADU

### 16th Tamilnadu assembly election

- ❖ Tamilnadu registered 72.78 percentage of polling in the recent 16th Assembly election.
- ❖ Karur topped the districts with a high turnout of 83.92%.
- ❖ It is followed by Ariyalur (82.47%) and Dharmapuri (82.35%).
- ❖ Chennai recorded the least polling in the state with 59.06% voter turnout.



## ECONOMY

### Consumer Confidence Survey

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India recently released the report of Consumer Confidence Survey.
- ❖ The survey was conducted in major cities of the country over 5,000 respondents.
- ❖ The Survey measures consumer perception on five economic variables such as
  - employment,
  - economic situation,
  - price level,



- spending and
- income.
- ❖ The Consumer Confidence Survey has two main indices namely current situation index and future expectations index.

### **Key findings**

- ❖ The Consumer Confidence Index declined from 55.5 points in January 2021 to 53.1 points in March 2021.
- ❖ The Future Expectations dipped from 117.1 in January 2021 to 108.8 in March 2021.
- ❖ When the index measure is above 100, it signals optimism and while it is below 100, it represents pessimism.

### **G-sec acquisition programme**

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India recently announced a Government Security Acquisition Programme, GSAP 1.0.
- ❖ Under the programme, the central bank will purchase government bonds of worth Rs 1 trillion (or one lakh crores of rupees).
- ❖ The first purchase of Rs 25,000 crore is to be made on April 15, 2021.
- ❖ The GSAP 1.0 will provide more comfort to the bond market.
- ❖ As the borrowing of the Government increased this year, RBI has to ensure there is no disruption in the Indian market.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Climate Change platform**

- ❖ The World Bank and International Monetary Fund have launched a platform to advise the poor countries on funding for conservation and climate activities.
- ❖ Both the financial organizations will use the platform to factor climate change into negotiations about reducing debt burdens of poor countries.
- ❖ According to the World Bank and IMF, there prevail twin global problems.
- ❖ They are
  - The need to restructure or reduce the heavy debt burden of poor countries
  - The need to reduce fossil fuel emissions contributing to climate change
- ❖ Therefore, the solution of including climate change into debt restructuring process will help motivate to reduce this.

## STATES

### Mask Abhiyan of Odisha

- ❖ The Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik recently launched a fourteen day “Mask Abhiyan” initiative.
- ❖ The main objective of the initiative is to turn the use of mask into a habit.
- ❖ This will play a huge role in controlling the current resurgence of COVID-19.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### International Ranger Award

- ❖ Ramanathapuram Forest Range Officer S Sathish was honoured with the International Ranger Award.
- ❖ The award was jointly announced by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), International Ranger Federation (IRF), Global Wildlife Conservation and Conservation Allies.
- ❖ He is one of the 10 recipients of the first edition of the award.
- ❖ Sathish shared the award with Mahendra Giri from Rajaji National Park in Uttarakhand and eight other Forest Rangers from Cambodia, Myanmar, Russia, Georgia, Zambia, Madagascar, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) and Colombia.

### Veerni Award

- ❖ Indian sprinter, Dutee Chand has been chosen for the inaugural edition of the Chhattisgarh Veerni Award.
- ❖ The award is given by the Chhattisgarh state government.
- ❖ The award recognises the contribution of Indian women in different fields, including sports.

### Note

- ❖ The Odisha sprinter became the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the World University Games held in Italy in 2019.
- ❖ She is a silver-medalist in 100 and 200 metres at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games.
- ❖ Apart from this, Dutee holds the national record of 11.22 secs in 100m.



### **Prince Philip passes away**

- ❖ Prince Philip, husband of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom has passed away.
- ❖ He was aged 99.
- ❖ Prince Philip had been a leading figure in the British royal family for almost seven decades.
- ❖ He was officially known as the Duke of Edinburgh.

## **SPORTS**

### **Two Guinness World Records**

- ❖ Indian Army's Lieutenant Colonel, Bharat Pannu has earned two Guinness World Records.
- ❖ This is for his fastest solo cycling feats from October 2020.
- ❖ The first record was created when Lt Col Pannu cycled from Leh to Manali (472 km distance) on October 10, 2020, in just 35 hours and 25 minutes.
- ❖ Lt Col Pannu created a second record when he cycled the 5,942 km long 'Golden Quadrilateral' route in 14 days, 23 hours and 52 minutes.
- ❖ Golden Quadrilateral' route connects Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Table Tennis day – April 06

- ❖ The World Table Tennis day is an initiative of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).
- ❖ World Table Tennis Day (WTTD) is annually observed across the globe to promote table tennis globally to be played in every part of the world.
- ❖ The day also marks the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
- ❖ To promote Gender Equality and FEMpowerment, the World Table Tennis Day 2021 will focus to make table tennis popular, universal and inclusive.
- ❖ The celebration of the WTTD 2021 aims to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goal 5: Gender Equality.



### World Homeopathy Day - April 10

- ❖ World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year to spread awareness about homoeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine.
- ❖ The day marks the birth anniversary of German physician Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann.
- ❖ He is considered the founder of the system of alternative medicine called Homeopathy.
- ❖ The year 2021 marks the 266th birthday of Hahnemann.
- ❖ The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), Ministry of AYUSH, organised a two-day scientific conference on the occasion of #WorldHomoeopathyDay in New Delhi.
- ❖ The theme of this conference is “Homoeopathy - Roadmap for Integrative Medicine”.

### **National Safe Motherhood Day - April 11**

- ❖ National Safe Motherhood Day is an initiative of the White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI).
- ❖ It is to enforce that women must have availability and adequate access to care during pregnancy childbirth and postnatal services.
- ❖ The day also marks the birth anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi.
- ❖ Kasturba Gandhi is the wife of the father of Nation Mohan Das Karam Chand Gandhi.
- ❖ At the request of WRAI, an alliance of 1800 organizations, in 2003, the Government of India declared April 11th as National Safe Motherhood Day.
- ❖ India is the 1st country in the world to have socially declared a National Safe Motherhood Day.

