

August - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government announced the Constitution of a separate board for the welfare of gig workers employed in food and cab aggregators.
- ❖ The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced a renaming of the women's fare-free bus travel scheme into 'Vidiyal Payanam'.
- ❖ The Kalaignar Memorial Centenary Park, to be established on a plot of 6.09 acres at Chennai, will be modelled after the Botanical Garden and Gardens by the Bay in Singapore.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board has filed an application seeking a GI tag for Madurai sengarumbu, peravurani coconut and mulanur kuttaimurungai.
- ❖ Learners Cortex, a partner of Magoosh Inc USA, is organising a one-day Global Education Meet 2023 in Chennai.
- ❖ Sulabh International founder, Padma Bhushan recipient, and social worker Bindeshwar Pathak passed away recently.
- ❖ SEBI halved the timeline for listing of shares on stock exchanges after the closure of Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) to three days from six days at present.
- ❖ Goa became the first state in India to provide free IVF treatment along with assisted reproductive technology (ART) and intrauterine insemination (IUI) at Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim.
- ❖ 17 years old, Aditi Swami from Satara, became the youngest-ever senior world champion and the first Indian to win an individual compound gold medal at the World Archery Championships.
- ❖ Indian Navy conducted a bilateral naval maritime partnership exercise with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Navy under the bilateral exercise named 'Zayed Talwar'.

TAMIL NADU

Capital expenditure 2023-24

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's capital expenditure increased by about 31% to Rs. 5,196.21 crore in the first quarter of 2023-24.
- ❖ This was Rs.3,976.45 crore in the same period last year.
- ❖ However, Tamil Nadu's share in aggregate capex among 20 States went down to 5% in the first quarter of 2024 from 6.7% in first quarter of 2023.

- ❖ Capital expenditure is incurred by State governments to create fixed assets such as roads and bridges, irrigation structures, schools, hospitals and investments made in public sector undertakings.
- ❖ It helps to improve economic activity and create jobs.

Weak capex spending

Particulars	in ₹ cr		% of Actuals to BE	
	Budget Estimates 2022-23	Actuals (Apr-Dec)	Current year	Corresponding period of the previous year
Revenue receipts	2,31,407	1,65,323	71	66
SOTR*	1,42,800	1,09,714	77	67
Revenue expenditure	2,89,609	1,81,018	63	57
Capital expenditure	44,863	21,476	48	57

*State own tax revenue *Provisional figures Source: CAG

Exhibition of exotic animals

- ❖ The Forest Department of Tamilnadu prohibits exhibition of exotic animals in private aviaries and petting zoos across the state.
- ❖ All privately-run aviaries and petting zoos in Tamil Nadu face closure by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department.
- ❖ Private collectors of exotic animals have, till recently, exhibited animals through a license obtained from the Animal Welfare Board of India.
- ❖ Exotic animals are those listed under the appendices I, II and III of the CITES and included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.



UAV Common Testing Centre

- ❖ India's first Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drone) Common Testing Centre under Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS) will be established in Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ This centre would be established at the SIPCOT Industrial Park, Vallam Vadagal near Sriperumbudur.
- ❖ This will be established by the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO).
- ❖ TIDCO is the nodal agency for the implementation of the Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor (TNDIC).
- ❖ The testing centre would enable the State to be a significant contributor to the self-reliance of the country in the aerospace and defence sectors.



NATIONAL

Bhagat Bridge









- ❖ The Indian Army linked this Last Village on LoC in Machhal Sector, Kupwara District, of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) with 115 Feet Long Bridge.
- ❖ This Bridge has been named as Bhagat Bridge in memory of Late Major Bhagat Singh.


- ❖ The Veer Chakra awarded Major laid down his life defending this sector in the 1965 war.

Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill – 2023

main objectives of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill are:

-  to harmonize the CAA Act with the CRZ Notifications issued from time to time and to treat the registration granted under CAA Act as a valid permission under CRZ Regulations;
-  to keep Coastal Aquaculture outside the prohibitions imposed by CRZ Notifications;
-  to reduce the regulatory compliance burden without diluting the core principles of environment protection in coastal areas;
-  to remove difficulties and ambiguities in the Act for effective implementation, and for promoting ease of doing business;
-  to decriminalize the offence(s) under the Act;

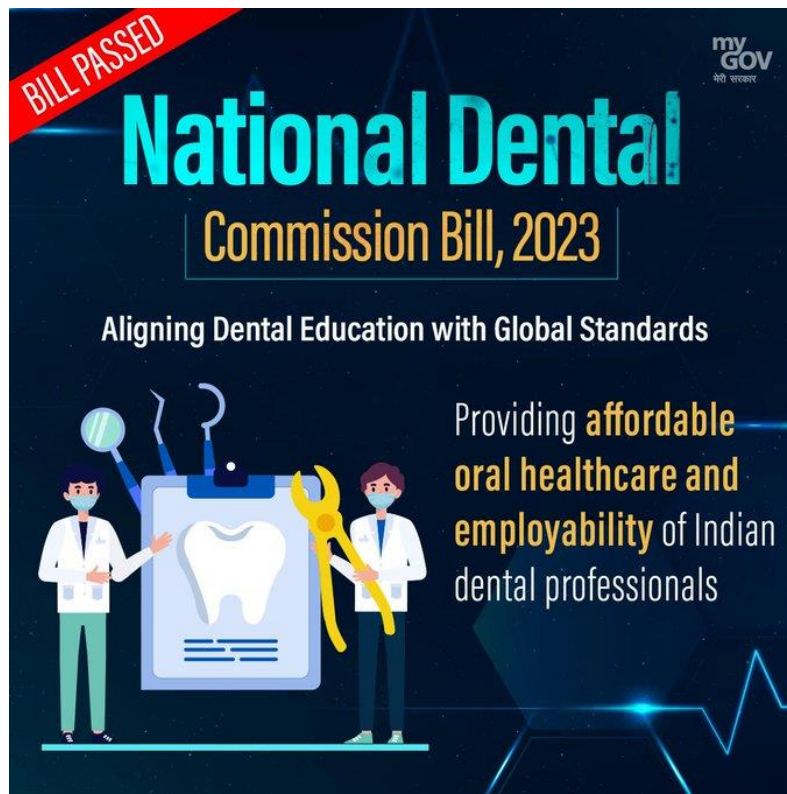


-  Amendment Bill is bringing a major policy reform to provide representation for all 13 coastal States and Union Territories in the Authority

- ❖ The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023 was recently passed by the Parliament.
- ❖ The bill seeks to address ambiguities, streamline administrative processes, and integrate emerging aquaculture practices.
- ❖ The amendments aim to bring all coastal aquaculture activities under the purview of the Act.
- ❖ It is removing the ambiguities between different aspects of coastal aquaculture.
- ❖ It acknowledges the evolution of environmentally friendly aquaculture practices beyond shrimp farming.

- ❖ It upholds the 'Polluter Pays Principle,' mandating aquaculture unit owners to bear the cost of any environment-related damage or demolition assessed by the Authority.
- ❖ Establishments like hatcheries, Broodstock multiplication centers (BMC), and Nucleus Breeding Centres (NBC) are now permitted to operate within 200 meters from the High Tide Line (HTL).

National Dental Commission Bill – 2023



- ❖ It will replace the Dentists Act, 1948.
- ❖ The Act envisions a complete overhaul of the dental education and profession landscape to bring it on par with international benchmarks.
- ❖ Key features include:
 - The constitution of a national dental commission and state dental councils,
 - Three autonomous boards for under- and postgraduate studies,
 - The ethics and dental registration board (EDRB),
 - Fixed tenure and professional development,
 - Industry collaboration and technological innovation,
 - An online national register, and



- A dental advisory council.
- ❖ It empowers the commission to frame guidelines for fee determination for 50% of seats in private dental colleges and deemed universities.
- ❖ All State governments will be directed to establish dental councils or joint dental councils.

National Nursing and Midwifery Commission (NNMC) Bill, 2023

The National Nursing And Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023

- Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya today introduced the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha.
- The Bill seeks to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by nursing and midwifery professionals.
- National Nursing and Midwifery Commission shall be setup with a Chairperson, 16 ex officio Members and 12 Members.

Functions of the Commission:

To frame policies and regulate standards for the governance of nursing and midwifery education and training

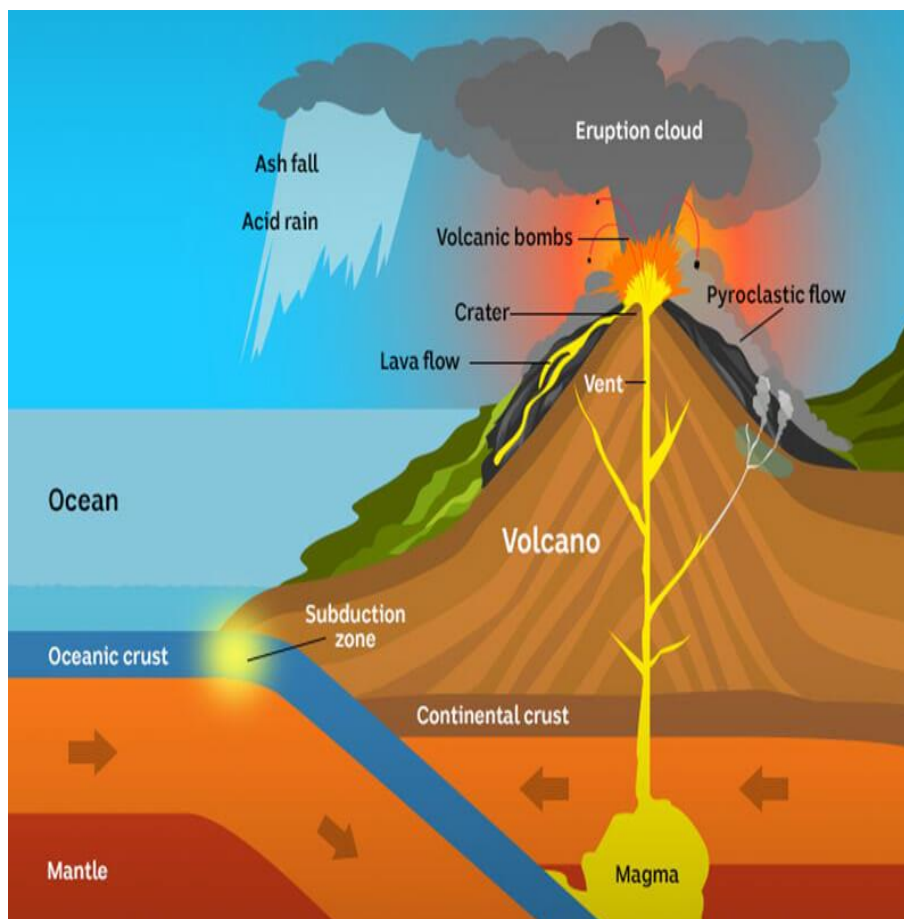
To regulate nursing and midwifery institutions, researches, professionals and associates

- ❖ It repeals the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.
- ❖ The Bill provides for the regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services for nursing and midwifery professionals.
- ❖ It provides for the constitution of the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission.
- ❖ The Bill also provides for the constitution of three autonomous boards under the supervision of the National Commission.

- ❖ Every state government must constitute a State Nursing and Midwifery Commission where no such Commission exists under state law.
- ❖ The Ethics and Registration Board will maintain an online Indian Nurses and Midwives' Register.
- ❖ The central government will also establish the Nursing and Midwifery Advisory Council.

ENVIRONMENT

Carbon Dioxide Drives Volcanic Eruption



- ❖ A new study brings a shift in the understanding of the causes behind the eruption of volcanoes.
- ❖ The researchers have claimed that it is not water vapor, rather it is carbon dioxide (CO₂) that propels the eruption of basaltic volcanoes.
- ❖ They studied the magma at Pico do Fogo, one of the world's most active ocean island volcanoes.

- ❖ They found unusual levels of carbon dioxide that generally originate at a depth of 12 to 19 miles below the crust.
- ❖ Higher levels of ferrous and ferric oxides have been found in the mantle.
- ❖ This depth is much below and is within the mantle.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Swedish rights prize



- ❖ Exiled Belarusian opposition leader Svetlana Tikhanovskaya won a rights prize.
- ❖ This prize is given in memory of Sweden's assassinated foreign minister Anna Lindh for her "tireless" fight for democracy.
- ❖ It is given "to encourage primarily women and youth who, show the courage to work against indifference, prejudice, oppression and injustice."

