

February - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government announced a Kalaignar sports kit scheme to provide free sports kits to students in all the 12,000 village panchayats.
- ❖ The President of India nominated India's leading educationists Satnam Singh Sandhu to Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ The mascot and logo for the 2024 Khelo India Winter Games (to be held at Ladakh and Gulmarg of Kashmir) were unveiled recently.
 - A snow leopard named 'Sheen-e She' or Shan has been declared the official mascot.
- ❖ Carter Dallas, A two-year-old from Scotland, has become the youngest to person to reach Mount Everest base camp by his father's back.

TAMIL NADU

'Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril' Scheme



The infographic is a dark blue rectangle with two white circular icons on the left. The top icon shows a hand holding a mail envelope. The bottom icon shows a house with a mail envelope. The text is in Tamil, describing the scheme's goals and implementation.

மக்களை நாடி, மக்கள் குறைகளைக் கேட்டு, உடனுக்குடன் தீர்வு காண அரசு இயந்திரம் களத்துக்கே வரும் **'உங்களைத் தேடி உங்கள் ஊரில்'** திட்டம் தமிழ்நாடு முழுவதும் **கின்று நடைமுறைக்கு வருகிறது.**

அரசு அலுவலகங்களை ஆய்வு செய்வதுடன், பொது மக்களின் குறைகளைக் கேட்டறிந்து அரசின் அனைத்து நலத் திட்டங்களும் **தங்கு தடையின்றி மக்களைச் சென்றடைவதை** இத்திட்டம் உறுதி செய்யும்.

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has released guidelines for the 'Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril' scheme.
- ❖ It aims to improve the delivery of various services and expedite implementation of schemes.
- ❖ Collectors and senior district-level officials will spend 24 hours (9 a.m. to 9 a.m.) in one taluk on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

- ❖ They will review the functioning of various projects, inspect infrastructure and receive representations from the public.
- ❖ The officials will spend the forenoon inspecting primary health centres, ration shops, cooperative societies, schools, and government offices, among others.
- ❖ A review meeting will be conducted between 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. to discuss feedback from the visit.
- ❖ The one-and-half hour window from 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. will be used for interactions with the public and receiving representations from them.
- ❖ They will spend the evening, from 6 p.m., visiting facilities run by the Social Welfare Department, bus stands and public toilets, among others.
- ❖ Next morning, officials will review basic civic amenities by inspecting different villages and review the implementation of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme.

Madras High Court on Temple entry



- ❖ The Madras High Court has directed the State government to install boards at the entrance of temples, near the Kodimaram, indicating that non-Hindus were not allowed beyond the Kodimaram of the temples.
- ❖ If a non-Hindu seeks to visit a particular deity in a temple, the authorities shall obtain an undertaking from the individual that he/she has faith in the deity, and would follow the customs and practices of Hinduism and of the temple.
- ❖ Whenever a non-Hindu is allowed entry based on such an undertaking, the same shall be recorded in a register maintained by the temple.

- ❖ It directed to authorities not to allow non-Hindus who do not believe in the religion beyond the Kodimaram.

NATIONAL

Best electoral practices award 2023



- ❖ A total 16 individuals and organisations were conferred the Election Commission's 'Best Electoral Practices Awards' for 2023.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh chief electoral officer Reena Babasaheb Kangale won the 'best-performing state award' for the overall conduct of free and fair polls in the state last year.
- ❖ Radio Mirchi, Bengaluru, was awarded in the media category for its voter awareness campaign during last year's Karnataka poll.
- ❖ Dantewada collector Vinit Nandanwar was honoured for the highest rise in turnout in the Naxal-hit district.
- ❖ SP of Tripura's Dhalai district Ramesh Chand for ensuring zero poll violence during state polls last year.
- ❖ Chitradurga DEO Divya Prabhu was conferred the award for electoral roll management in the 2023 Karnataka polls.
- ❖ Rajasthan's Sriganganagar collector Ansh Deep was awarded in the IT initiatives category for his 'election buddy' app.
- ❖ Nagpur DEO Vipin Itankar was honoured for enhancing poll participation.
- ❖ ASP of Champai of Mizoram, Vineet Kumar and SP of Dhalai of Tripura, Ramesh Chand were awarded for poll security management.

- ❖ Commissioner of commercial taxes, Karnataka Shikha C won the award for poll management (expenditure).

INTERNATIONAL

Malaysia's 17th king

- ❖ Billionaire Sultan Ibrahim Iskandar of the southern state of Johor was installed as Malaysia's 17th king.
- ❖ He took the reins from Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah of Pahang state.
- ❖ He replaces Al-Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah, who will return to lead his home state of Pahang at the end of his five-year tenure as king.
- ❖ The king of Malaysia plays a largely ceremonial role, as administrative power is left to the prime minister and parliament.
- ❖ The monarch is the nominal head of the government and the armed forces, and is held up as the protector of Islam and Malay tradition.



ENVIRONMENT

New Ramsar wetlands sites in India

- ❖ Five more Indian wetlands have been added to the global list of wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.
- ❖ It is taking the total number of such highly recognised waterlogged ecosystems in the country to 80.
- ❖ The five wetlands added to the Ramsar list are

- Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve - Karnataka
 - Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve - Karnataka
 - Aghanashini Estuary - Karnataka
 - Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary - Tamil Nadu.
 - Longwood Shola Reserve Forest - Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ With the 2 news sites, Tamil Nadu is solidifying its position with a total of 16 Ramsar sites, the highest in the country.
- ❖ The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
- ❖ It is named after the Iranian city of Ramsar, on the Caspian Sea, where the treaty was signed on February 2, 1971.



STATES

Sadak Surakhya Force

- ❖ Punjab flagged off 129 hi-tech vehicles of the country's first-of-its-kind 'Sadak Surakhya Force (SSF)'.
❖ With a 1,300-strong special force, it aims to streamline movement and check the loss to life and property due to accidents, often due to drunk driving.

- ❖ It would be covering 5,500 km of state and national highways, and was expected to save 3,000 lives every year.
- ❖ It will also provide medical help to passengers in case of accidents or vehicle breakdown.



SPORTS

Khelo India youth games 2024

Rank	State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total medals
1	Maharashtra	57	48	53	158
2	Tamil Nadu	38	21	39	98
3	Haryana	35	22	46	103
4	Delhi	13	18	25	56
5	Rajasthan	13	17	17	47
6	Telangana	13	4	7	24
7	Uttar Pradesh	11	13	18	42
8	Punjab	11	13	15	39
9	Kerala	11	9	15	35
10	Manipur	10	11	10	31

- ❖ The sixth edition of the flagship event under the Indian government's Khelo India initiative, concluded recently.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu hosted the KIYG 2024 in four cities - Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore.
- ❖ Maharashtra defended their Khelo India Youth Games title after topping the medals tally with 57 gold medals, 48 silver and 53 bronze.
- ❖ It was their fourth KIYG title.

- ❖ Host state Tamil Nadu finished second with 38 gold, 21 silver and 39 bronze for their best-ever finish.
- ❖ Haryana, who have won two KIYG titles, came third with 35 gold, 22 silver and 46 bronze medals.
- ❖ A total of 926 medals - 278 gold, 278 silver and 370 bronze - were on offer across 26 sports at KIYG 2024 Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Squash made its KIYG debut this year while Silambam, a form of indigenous martial arts, featured as a demonstration sport.
- ❖ Swimmer Vritti Agarwal of Telangana won five individual gold medals by claiming the top spots.

