

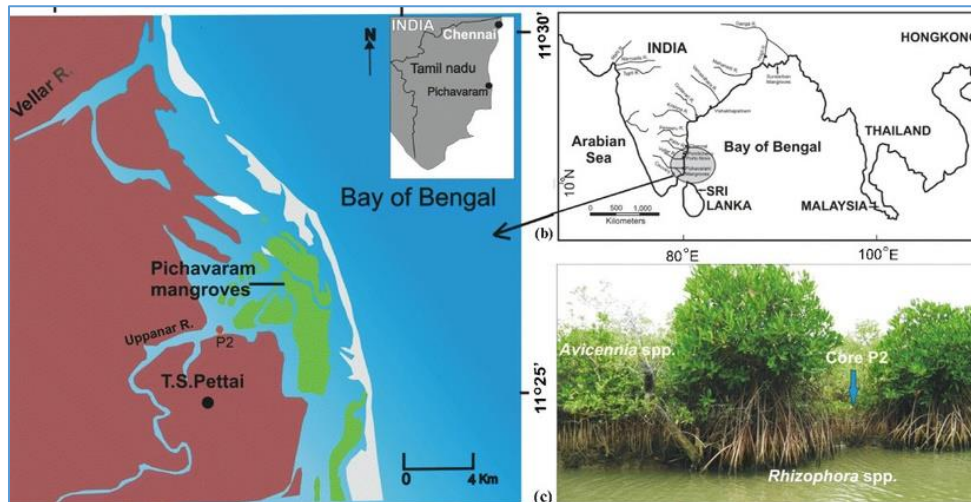
July - 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released Sustainable Development Goals National Indicator Framework (NIF) Progress Report 2023.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force (IAF) will hold its first-ever multi-national air exercise 'Tarang Shakti.'
- ❖ Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra obtained the top spot in Lausanne Diamond League 2023 with a best throw of 87.66 m.

TAMIL NADU

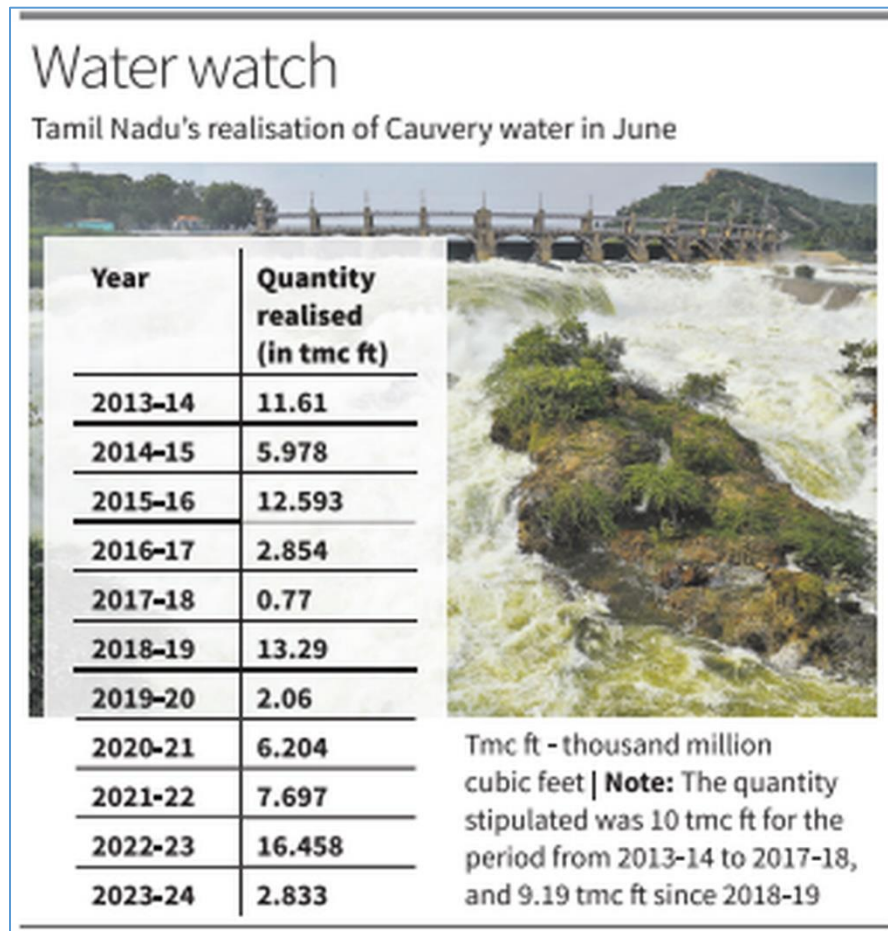
Mangrove cover restoration in Pichavaram



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has drawn up a comprehensive plan for the rehabilitation of coastal habitats by creating bio-shields, and restoring degraded mangroves in Cuddalore district.
- ❖ The Department will increase mangrove cover in the region by 100 hectares for the year 2023-24.
- ❖ The Pichavaram mangroves are among the most productive ecosystems in the State, and are a storehouse of biodiversity.
- ❖ It is supporting 840 species of flora and fauna.
- ❖ These includes 115 species of birds, 16 species of mammals, 11 amphibians, 177 species of finfish, 95 species of zooplanktons, 82 phytoplanktons, 35 species of butterflies, 17 snakes and 3 species of seagrass.

- ❖ The mangrove cover in Tamil Nadu is 44.94 square kilometres (sq km), out of which 7.73 sq km fall in Cuddalore.
- ❖ About 21% of Pichavaram is occupied by waterbodies, 27% by healthy mangrove vegetation, 38% by mudflats with sparsely grown mangroves.

Poor realization of Cauvery water



- ❖ The poor realisation of Cauvery water in June this year marked the seventh occasion in the last 10 years.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is having received less than the State's share for the month.
- ❖ The stipulated quantity is 9.19 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) for June.
- ❖ But the State got a mere 2.833 tmc ft, a shortfall of 6.357 tmc ft.
- ❖ The State realised the highest quantity of around 16.5 tmc ft in 2022 since 2013.
- ❖ The previous month's realisation was also the fourth instance in which the State received less than one-third of its share.

- ❖ The other three occasions were June 2016, 2017 and 2019 when it realised 2.854 tmc ft, 0.77 tmc ft and 2.06 tmc ft respectively.
- ❖ The realisation during June 2017- 0.77 tmc ft -was also the lowest for the month in the last 10 years.

NATIONAL

Differential Time-Based Electricity Tariffs

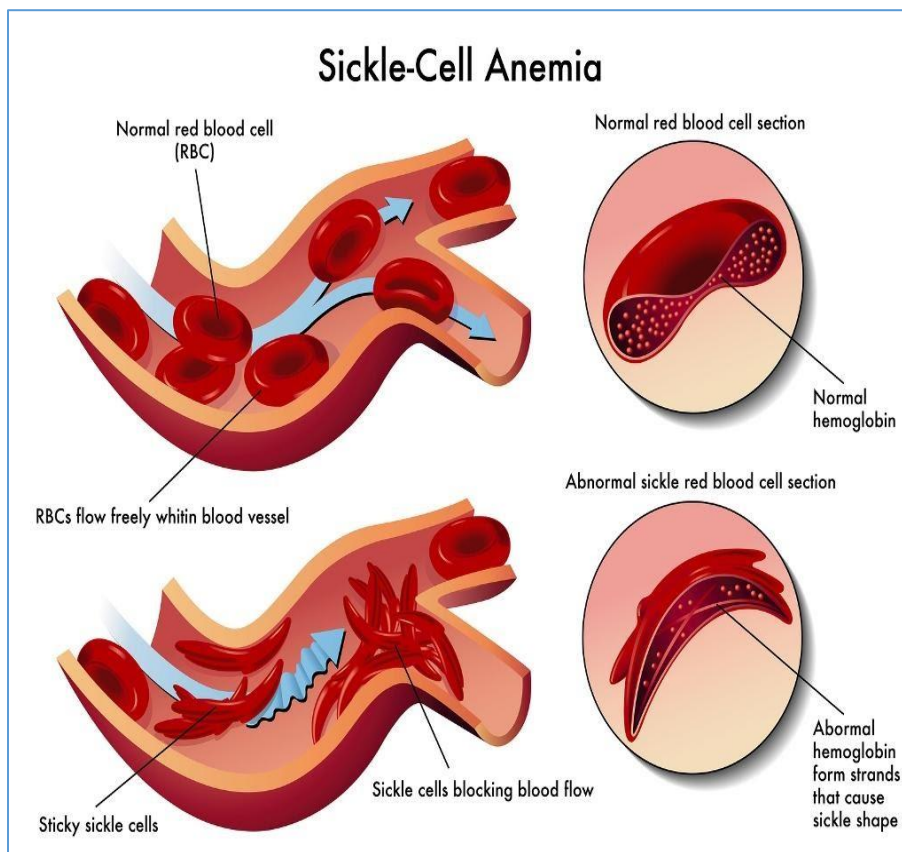


- ❖ The government amended the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules 2020 to make two changes.
- ❖ It will introduce Time-of-Day (ToD) and rationalization of smart meters.
- ❖ The day shall be at least 20 per cent lower than the normal tariff.
- ❖ On the other hand, tariffs during peak hours will be at least 20 per cent higher than the normal tariff for commercial and industrial consumers, and at least 10 per higher for other consumers.
- ❖ During the day time, the tariff could fall by as much as 20%, benefitting consumers.
- ❖ This will potentially help power companies to balance peak power demand.
- ❖ It also giving the ability for consumers to regulate and manage their consumption and control their bills.
- ❖ Around 20 countries, including at least 17 European nations and the United States, have time-based power tariff structures in one form or another.

National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission

- ❖ The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission was launched recently as announced in the union budget 2023.
- ❖ It aims to address the pressing health challenges posed by sickle cell disease, particularly among the tribal population.

- ❖ The mission aims to eliminate sickle cell disease as a public health problem by 2047.
- ❖ The mission will be implemented in 278 districts of 17 states in India including Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) is described as a collection of inherited red blood cell conditions that have an impact on haemoglobin, which transports oxygen throughout the body.
- ❖ India has the second-highest global prevalence of Sickle Cell Disease.
- ❖ As per a National Health Mission report, Madhya Pradesh has the highest burden of sickle cell anaemia.



CDRI Headquarters Agreement

- ❖ The Union Cabinet gave nod for ratification of the Headquarters Agreement (HQA) between India and Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).
- ❖ The CDRI was launched by Prime Minister during the United Nations Climate Action Summit 2019, at New York.
- ❖ It is seen as India's attempts to obtain a global leadership role in climate change and disaster resilience matters.

- ❖ This ratification will facilitate grant of exemptions, immunities and privileges as contemplated under Section- 3 of the United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947.



ECONOMY

HDFC Merger



- ❖ The merger of HDFC Bank Ltd. and Housing Development Finance Corp took place on July 1.
- ❖ The new HDFC Bank entity will have around 120 million customers.
- ❖ This is greater than the population of Germany.
- ❖ The new entity has a combined asset base of around Rs 18 lakh crore.

- ❖ This merger creates a lender that ranks fourth in equity market capitalization globally.
- ❖ It was only behind JPMorgan Chase & Co., Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd. and Bank of America Corp.

STATES

Meira Paibis



- ❖ The Meira Paibis is also known as Imas or Mothers of Manipur.
- ❖ They are Meitei women who come from all sections of society in the Imphal valley, are widely respected, and represent a powerful moral force.
- ❖ They are also known as “women torch bearers”, because of the flaming torches that they hold aloft while marching in the streets, often at night.
- ❖ The Meira Paibis is loosely organised.
- ❖ They usually led by groups of senior women, but have no rigid hierarchy or structure, or any overt political leanings.
- ❖ The Meira Paibi was formed in 1977.
- ❖ It is One of the largest grassroots movements in the world.
- ❖ Its initial focus of fighting alcoholism and drug abuse has now expanded to countering human rights violations and the development of society at large.
- ❖ The Meira Paibi women were the active support base of Irom Sharmila.



- ❖ She is the activist who remained on a hunger strike in the state from 2000 to 2016 to protest against the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA).

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

The Solicitor-General of India



- ❖ Tushar Mehta has been reappointed as the Solicitor General of India for three more years.
- ❖ Solicitor General is the second most senior law officer after Attorney General.
- ❖ Six additional solicitor generals also appointed in the Supreme Court.
- ❖ Mehta has been continuing as Solicitor General since October 2018.
- ❖ The Attorney General for India is the highest law officer of the country.
- ❖ Senior advocate R Venkataramani was appointed AG on October 1 last year and has a tenure of three years till 2025.

