



March - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Maharashtra has decided to purchase 2.5 acres of land in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
 - Maharashtra is the first state to purchase land in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Mumbai cricket team has won the Ranji Trophy 2024 after beating Vidarbha in Mumbai.

TAMIL NADU

New Municipal Corporations 2024

தமிழ்நாட்டில் 4 புதிய மாநகராட்சிகள்

புதுக்கோட்டை, நாமக்கல், திருவண்ணாமலை, காரைக்குடி ஆகிய நகராட்சிகளை, மாநகராட்சிகளாக தரம் உயர்த்தி முதலமைச்சர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் அறிவிப்பு.

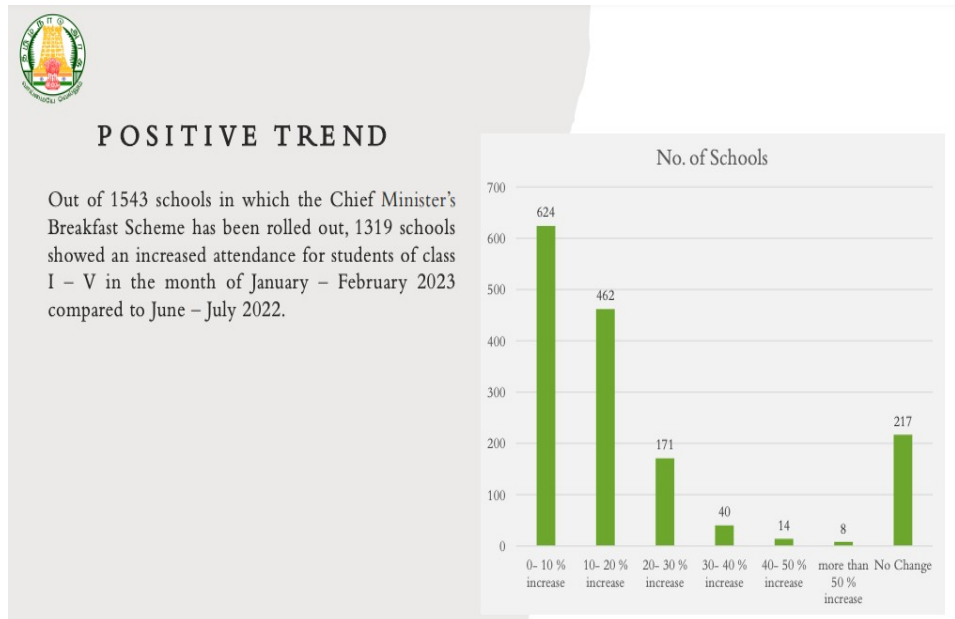
புதுக்கோட்டை நகராட்சியில், 11 ஊராட்சிகளை இணைத்து மாநகராட்சியாக தரம் உயர்த்தி அறிவிப்பு.

நாமக்கல் நகராட்சியில், 12 ஊராட்சிகளை ஒன்றிணைத்தும், திருவண்ணாமலை நகராட்சியில் 18 ஊராட்சிகளை இணைத்தும் மாநகராட்சியாக அறிவிப்பு.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has issued orders for upgrading Pudukkottai, Namakkal, Tiruvannamalai and Karaikudi into municipal corporations.
- ❖ With these four, the total number of municipal corporations in Tamil Nadu would increase to 25.
- ❖ Pudukkottai Municipality and 11 neighbouring village panchayats would form parts of the Pudukkottai Municipal Corporation.
- ❖ Tiruvannamalai Municipality and 18 village panchayats would constitute the new Tiruvannamalai Corporation.
- ❖ Namakkal Municipality and 12 village panchayats would jointly become the new Namakkal Municipal Corporation.
- ❖ Karaikudi Municipality, two town panchayats and five village panchayats would together become the Karaikudi Municipal Corporation.
- ❖ The new Municipal Corporations will be established by following the procedures laid down under the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Act, 1998.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu is one of the most urbanised states in the country and as per 2011 census, the urban population stood at 48.45%.
- ❖ It is now estimated that the urban population in the state has increased to 53%.

Impact of Breakfast scheme



- ❖ Of the 1,543 government schools in Tamil Nadu where the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme has been rolled out, 1,319 schools showed an increase in attendance of students of Classes I-V in January and February this year.
- ❖ In Tirupattur, Perambalur, Ariyalur and Tiruvarur, the attendance at all schools where the scheme is running is 100%.
- ❖ These districts are followed by Krishnagiri (98.5%), Karur (97.4%) and the Nilgiris (96.8%).
- ❖ At 1,086 schools, the increase in attendance is up to 20%, while 22 schools report more than 40% increase.

Impact of Makkalai thedi Maruthuvam scheme

- ❖ The Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam (MTM), a scheme to deliver medical care at the doorsteps of people, has reached out to the most vulnerable groups, such as women in rural areas and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe categories.
- ❖ While diabetes and hypertension were the most widely covered the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) under MTM, cancer screening coverage was extremely low, it found.



- ❖ Among the study participants, 4,155 (60%) were from rural areas and 2,701 (40%) from urban areas.
- ❖ Nearly 78.84% of the study participants were aware of MTM, and 73% had been visited by Women Health Volunteers (WHV).
- ❖ In screening for hypertension, 81.25% of the study population had been screened for hypertension, and among them 93.8% were screened in the last year.
- ❖ Among those screened in the last year, 73.6% were screened through MTM.
- ❖ It also found that a higher proportion of women (82.6%) were screened compared to men (79%), with the screening through MTM in the last year also being higher in women (75.1% versus 71.2%).
- ❖ Screening through MTM for hypertension was 61.5% in urban areas compared to 82.9% in rural areas.
- ❖ Only four per cent of survey participants had ever undergone screening for oral cancer.
- ❖ Mere 11.06% of women screened for cervical cancer and 14.24% of women for breast cancer.

மக்களை தேடி மருத்துவம் - 1.7 கோடி பேர் பயன்!


“மக்களை தேடி மருத்துவ திட்டத்தின் மூலம் இந்த ஆண்டு 1 கோடி 7 லட்சம் பேர் பயனடைந்துள்ளனர். மேலும் தீவிர சிகிச்சை பெரும் நோயாளிகளின் எண்ணிக்கை 50 சதவீதம் குறைத்துள்ளது. பழங்குடியினர் அதிகம் உள்ள உள்மாவட்டங்களில் பழங்குடியின மக்கள், பெண்கள் அதிகம் பயனடைந்துள்ளனர். மக்களிடம் அதிகமாக வரவேற்றவை மக்களை தேடி மருத்துவ திட்டம் பெற்றுள்ளது”

Illegal trade in shark body parts

- ❖ Tamil Nadu accounted for almost 65% of the illegal trade in shark body parts.

- ❖ About 16,000 kg of shark fins were seized from 2010 to 2022, constituting almost 80% of the shark-derived products.
- ❖ The confiscated products were destined for Singapore, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Sri Lanka, and mainland China.
- ❖ Shark's meat is consumed as food, skin as leather, liver oil (squalene) as a lubricant, in cosmetics and as a source of vitamin A.
- ❖ Of 160 shark species reported in India, only 26 sharks and rays have been given the highest protection status under the amended Wild Life (Protection) Act of 1972 by listing them in Schedules I and II.

SHARKS FACING RISK OF EXTINCTION

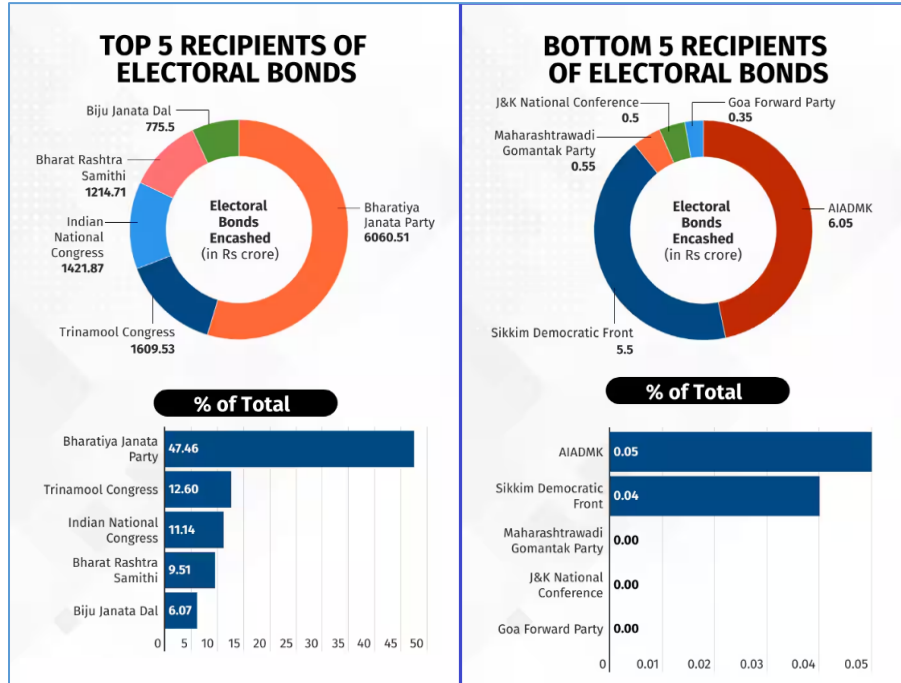
<p>➤ According to a recent report, 16,000kg of shark fins were seized in India in the last 12 years from January 2010 to December 2022</p>	<p>followed by Karnataka, Gujarat, Kerala and Maharashtra</p>
<p>➤ Tamil Nadu accounted for 65% of shark seizure incidents,</p>	<p>➤ Confiscated products were destined for Singapore, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka and China</p>
	<p>➤ Overfishing, coupled with low biological productivity, puts them at a higher risk of extinction</p>

NATIONAL

Electoral Bonds data

- ❖ The Bharatiya Janata Party was by far the biggest beneficiary of the electoral bonds scheme, receiving Rs 6,061 crore as political donations in the last five years.
- ❖ This amounts to 48 percent of all electoral bonds encashed by political parties since the start of 2019-20.
- ❖ At the second place is Trinamool Congress, which mopped up Rs 1,610 crore, followed by the Indian National Congress at Rs 1,422 crore.

- ❖ The 4th and 5th are Bharat Rashtra Samithi, formerly Telangana Rashtra Samithi, with Rs 1,215 crore and the Biju Janata Dal with Rs 776 crore respectively.



INTERNATIONAL

Legalize “Aid in Dying” – France



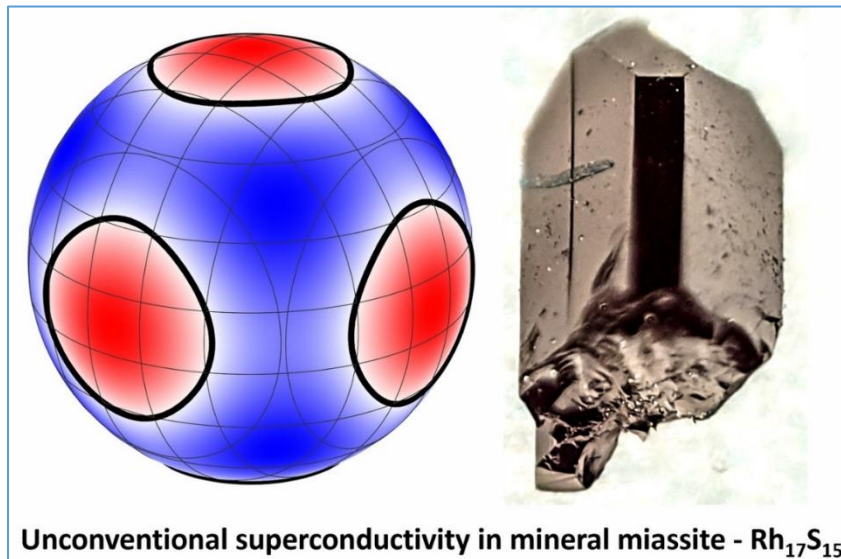
- ❖ French president Emmanuel Macron has announced a new legislation to legalize “aid in dying”.

- ❖ It will allow adults facing end-of-life illness to take lethal medication, a first in the country.
- ❖ Only people aged 18 or above who are capable of forming their own views will be allowed to get in the process.
- ❖ Those with severe psychiatric conditions and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease won't be eligible.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Миассит (Rh₁₇S₁₅)

- ❖ Scientists have discovered Миассит, the first unconventional superconductor found in nature.
- ❖ It's one of only four minerals that exhibit superconductivity when grown in the lab.
- ❖ Миассит shares properties with high-temperature superconductors.
- ❖ Superconductivity allows electricity transmission without energy loss.



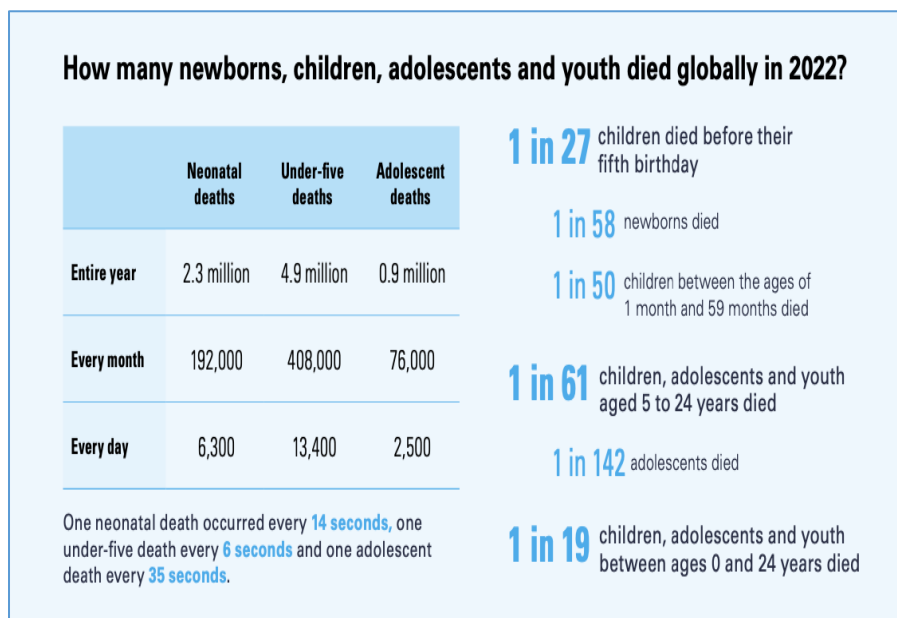
REPORTS AND INDICES

UN IG for Child Mortality Estimation

- ❖ The Global child deaths reached a historic low in 2022, according to the latest estimates by the United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation.



- ❖ The annual number of global under-five deaths in 2022 declined by more than half from the 2000 estimate — from 9.9 million to 4.9 million.
- ❖ Globally, the neonatal deaths, or the death of a baby within 28 days of birth, happened every 14 seconds.
- ❖ A child aged under five died every six seconds and an adolescent died every 35 seconds in 2022.
- ❖ The report noted a 62 per cent decline in child deaths from the 1990 estimates.
- ❖ Between 2000 and 2022, the world lost 221 million children, adolescents, and youth.
- ❖ Children younger than 5 comprised 162 million and neonatal deaths accounted for 72 million with most under-five deaths being increasingly concentrated in the neonatal period.
- ❖ The trend of under-five deaths has increased in the neonatal period from 41 per cent in 2000 to 47 per cent in 2022.



INFAAR 2019-22 Report

- ❖ FAO and ICAR published the surveillance data of the Indian Network for Fishery and Animal Antimicrobial Resistance (INFAAR) for 2019-22.
- ❖ This is the first report on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) surveillance trends in fisheries and livestock sector from India.
- ❖ Antibiotic use in food animal production is known to be a driver for AMR.

- ❖ In E coli isolates, the notable resistance was against cefotaxime (46 per cent) and ampicillin (41 per cent).
- ❖ Both S aureus and CONS isolates showed around 75 percent resistance to the penicillin.
- ❖ In addition, 41 of the total S aureus isolates (452) were found to be methicillin-resistant S aureus (MRSA), a drug-resistant variant of Staphylococcus.
- ❖ For both E coli and Staphylococci, isolates from poultry origin exhibited higher resistance rates for all the tested antibiotics as compared to all the other food animals.

