

March - 24

TAMIL NADU

TN Ethanol blending policy



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Ethanol Blending Policy (EBP) 2023 was released by the Industries Department.
- ❖ Under the EBP programme, the State will encourage sugar industries to set up molasses-based ethanol plants and improve capacity utilisation.
- ❖ The policy also will present an opportunity for reviving the sugar industry in the State by improving the capacity utilisation of existing plants.
- ❖ Oil marketing companies (OMCs) presently source ethanol from other States, including Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- ❖ In the present OMCs, the State currently has installed plant capacity of 664 kilolitres per day (KLPD).
- ❖ They are specifically used to produce fuel grade ethanol under the EBP were blending up to 12% of ethanol with petrol in the State.

Tamil Nadu City Gas Distribution Policy 2023

- ❖ The City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy aims to promote the adoption of natural gas by the state as a green and clean fuel.
- ❖ To speed up supply of piped natural gas to homes across Tamil Nadu, the state government has come up with a detailed policy.

- ❖ The Govt also appointed the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (TIDCO) as the nodal agency.
- ❖ The target is 2.28 lakh domestic connections and 2,785 compressed natural gas (CNG) stations covering all 38 districts within eight years.
- ❖ The Centre had given the first contracts to build city gas distribution (CGD) infrastructure in 2018.
- ❖ It includes for Chennai and neighbouring districts.
- ❖ The CGD network is being built in 15 districts and the contracts for the remaining 23 districts have also been authorised.



TAMIL NADU CITY GAS DISTRIBUTION POLICY 2023



**Industries, Investment Promotion
and Commerce Department**

Government of Tamil Nadu

TN Logistics policy and integrated logistics plan

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Logistics Policy and Integrated Logistics Plan 2023 was released by the Chief Minister.

- ❖ The vision of the Policy is “to promote an integrated, reliable, cost-efficient and sustainable logistics system in the State for enhanced competitiveness and fast-tracked economic development of the State.”
- ❖ Adopting new age technologies, enabling skill development, and building resilience and sustainability in logistics eco-system form part of key objectives.
- ❖ This is a strategic plan for the next 10 years.
- ❖ It is outlining identified interventions, their envisaged outcomes, timelines as well as key stakeholders’ responsible for their implementation.



- ❖ The policy aims at
 - Reduction of cost of logistics (for export-import as well as domestic freight) in the State;
 - Leveraging private participation for development of logistics infrastructure;

- Formulating an effective coordination mechanism between State and Central agencies towards facilitation and execution of initiatives concerning the logistics sector.
- ❖ The Govt will also explore providing medical and health insurance to heavy vehicle drivers registered in the State at a nominal price.

INTERNATIONAL

NZIA and CRMA

Comparing the CRMA and NZIA of the EU to the IRA of the United States					
EU			US		
NZIA: Manufacturing Capacity Targets			IRA: Domestic Content and Manufacturing Requirements		
CRMA: Strategic Raw Materials Value Chain					
Total net-zero manufacturing capacity	40% of EU annual deployment needs to meet REPowerEU and Green Deal objectives	Extraction capacity	Sufficient to extract ores, minerals, concentrates needed to meet 10% EU annual consumption	Energy projects (including wind facilities, solar energy facilities, landfill gas facilities, fuel cell properties, energy storage technology)	Iron and steel
Solar photovoltaics (PV)*	40% of annual deployment needs				100% of any iron and steel used in project construction made in the United States
Wind turbines*	85% of annual deployment needs	Processing capacity incl. all intermediate steps	Sufficient to produce 40% of annual EU consumption	Electric vehicles	Manufactured products
Heat pumps*	60% of annual deployment needs				40% of total cost of all manufactured products in the facility must be produced in the United States, rising to 55% after 2026
Batteries*	85% of annual EU battery demand	EU recycling capacity	15% of EU annual consumption of each raw material		Assembly
Electrolysers*	50% of renewable and fossil-free hydrogen annual deployment needs				Final assembly of the vehicle in North America
Diversification	Increase in manufacturing capacity for net-zero technologies for which ≥65% of supply	Diversification	No dependence on any third country ≥65% for any strategic raw material		Battery manufacture and assembly
					Percentage of the value of the battery's components manufactured or assembled in North America be ≥ 50% (2023) rising annually to 100% as of 2029
					Critical mineral content
					Threshold of critical minerals in the EV battery that were extracted or processed in the United States, countries with which the United States has an FTA, or recycled in North America must be ≥40% by end of 2023 rising annually to 80% as of 2027

*Asterisks indicate targets only cited in the leaked version of the NZIA and not included in the final proposal. | Source: Authors' own reading of the CRMA, NZIA, and provisions in the IRA (https://www.whitehouse.gov/lean-energy/lean-energy-tax-provisions/)

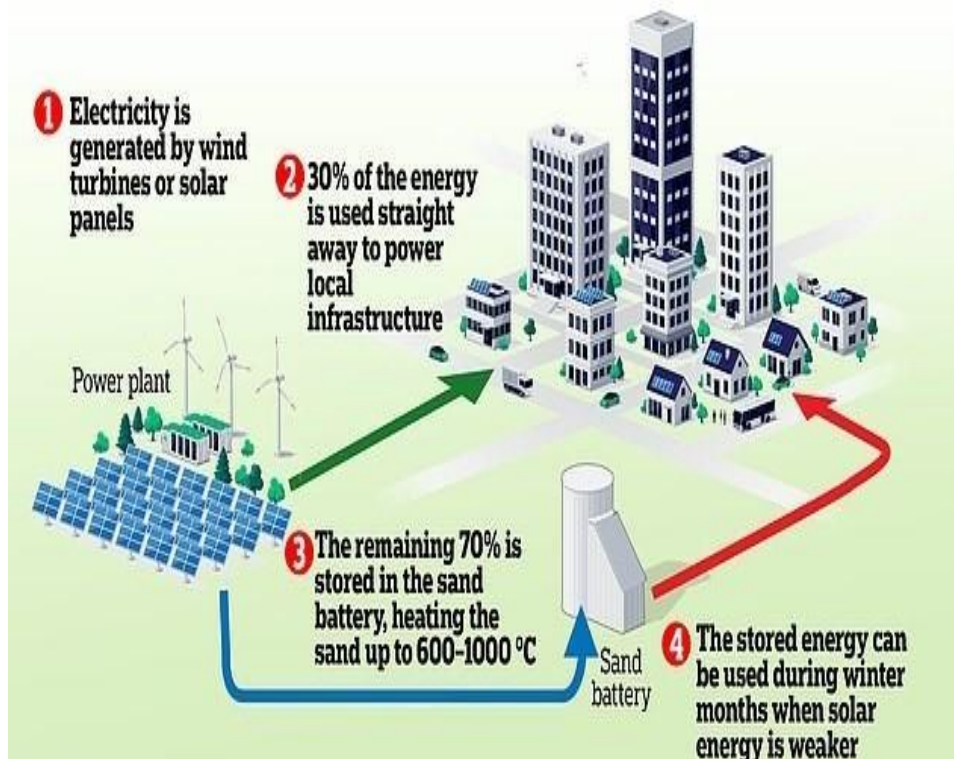
- ❖ The European Union (EU) has recently announced two major legislations.
- ❖ They are the Net Zero Industry Act (NZIA) and the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA).
- ❖ The NZIA aims to meet at least 40 per cent of the EU's green technology needs through domestic manufacturing by 2030.
- ❖ Eight technologies are identified as "strategic net zero technologies".

- ❖ The CRMA aims reduce the EU's reliance on imports of critical raw materials by setting goals for their extraction, processing, and recycling within the EU.
- ❖ The expected reduction level is, at least 10 per cent of the EU's annual consumption for extraction, 40 per cent for processing, and 15 per cent for recycling by 2030.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

World's 1st Sand battery

HOW THE SAND BATTERY WORKS



- ❖ Finland has installed the world's first sand battery that can store heat from renewable energy sources for months.
- ❖ It is connected to the town's centralised heating network that keeps buildings and public water systems warm.
- ❖ The storage has 100 kW of heating power and 8 MWh of capacity.
- ❖ Sand or sand-like materials are used as the store medium in a high-temperature thermal energy storage system known as a "sand battery."
- ❖ Sand acts as a heat reservoir for energy.

- ❖ Its primary function is to serve as a high-power and high-capacity energy storage system for extra wind and solar energy.
- ❖ The energy is converted into heat, which can be utilised to heat buildings and other uses.

ENVIRONMENT

Ganeshaiah's Dwarf Gecko

- ❖ A new species of gecko has been discovered in the Male Mahadeshwara Hills in Chamarajanagar, Karnataka.
- ❖ Researchers named the new species 'Cnemaspis ganeshaiahi' or Ganeshaiah's dwarf gecko.
- ❖ KN Ganeshaiah is an agricultural scientist from University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS) Bengaluru and noted Kannada writer.
- ❖ Previously, a grass species (*Centotheca ganeshaiahiana*) at the Saddle Peak National Park, North Andaman, a small cryptic ant species (*Parasyscia ganeshaiahi*) and a cycas species (*Cycas uma-ganeshaiahi*) were named after him.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Report on Sodium Intake Reduction

- ❖ World Health Organization released a report named Global Report on Sodium Intake Reduction.
- ❖ The report says the estimated global average salt intake is 10.8 grams per day.

- ❖ It is more than double the WHO recommendation of less than 5 grams per day in adults.
- ❖ The report allocated a sodium country score from 1 (the lowest level) to 4 (the highest level) to each member state.
- ❖ This score is based on the level of implementation of sodium reduction policies and other measures.
- ❖ The sodium country score is used to estimate the impact of policy progress on population dietary sodium intake and cardiovascular disease.
- ❖ Although all 194 WHO member countries committed to the target set in 2013, only 5% have implemented comprehensive sodium-reduction policies,
- ❖ Of the 194 WHO member states, 56 remain in score 1 in the sodium country score card.
- ❖ Ninety-eight implemented either voluntary, or mandatory policies and other measures, and scored higher.
- ❖ Such policies could save an estimated 7 million lives globally by 2030.



IMPORTANT DAYS

Global Recycling Day - March 18

- ❖ This day aims to spread awareness about the rapid pace at which our natural resources are depleting and the need for recycling to slow it down.
- ❖ The day promotes the concept and practice of recycling and encourages the limited use of natural resources to save the planet.

- ❖ Theme of the 2023 observation is “Creative Innovation”.



India's Ordnance Factories Day - march 18

- ❖ This day commemorates the founding of the first ordnance factory in colonial India near Kolkata, in 1801.
- ❖ The Ordnance Factories Board was founded in 1775.
- ❖ Now it has 41 ordnance factories, nine training institutes, three regional marketing centres and five regional controllerates of safety.
- ❖ East India Company established a Gun Carriage Agency in 1801 in Kolkata.

