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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

16 November 2023 – Daily Current Affairs

<p><b>Theni Kumbakkarai Falls</b></p>	<p><b>In News:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The catchment areas of Kumbakkarai Falls are receiving continuous rains and are now causing floods.</li></ul> <p><b>About Kumbakkarai Falls:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kumbakkarai Falls is a <b>lesser known waterfall</b> located in the <b>foothills of the Kodaikanal Hills</b> in the Theni district of Tamil Nadu, India.</li><li>The falls are located along the <b>Kodai-Vellagavi-Periyakulam footpath</b>.</li><li>The falls have <b>two stages</b>.</li><li>At the first stage, the water collects in huge rock recesses which are each named after wild animals such as tiger, elephant, snake, etc.</li><li>The Pambar river then flows 0.5 km to the second stage before falling as the main waterfall.</li><li><b>Water supply to this waterfall comes from Western Ghats, Vattakanal and Vellakevi.</b></li></ul>
<p><b>Northeast Monsoon Reverberation</b></p> <p><b>Effects of NMR:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Increased rainfall:</b> The NMR leads to an increase in rainfall over the Bay of Bengal and the Indian subcontinent. This rainfall is essential for agriculture and water supply in the region.</li><li><b>Formation of cyclones:</b> The NMR also leads to the formation</li></ul>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>According to the survey of the Water Resources Department, the groundwater level has risen in most districts of Tamil Nadu as a result of the northeast monsoon.</li></ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Northeast Monsoon Reverberation (NMR) is a weather phenomenon that occurs in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean during the northeast monsoon season (October to December).</li><li>It is characterized by the <b>reversal of wind direction over the Bay of Bengal</b>, from northwesterly to northeasterly, and the intensification of rainfall over the region.</li></ul> <p><b>Causes of NMR:</b></p> <p><b>The withdrawal of the southwest monsoon:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As the southwest monsoon withdraws from the Arabian Sea, it creates a low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal.</li><li>This low-pressure area attracts northeasterly winds from the Indian Ocean.</li></ul> <p><b>The presence of the Himalayas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Himalayas act as a barrier to the northeasterly winds, forcing them to turn southwards and blow over</li></ul>



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<p>of cyclones over the Bay of Bengal. These cyclones can cause widespread damage to property and loss of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Floods:</b> The heavy rainfall associated with the NMR can lead to floods in some parts of India.</li></ul>	<p>the Bay of Bengal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This further intensifies the low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal and leads to the formation of cyclonic storms.</li></ul> <p><b>The presence of warm sea surface temperatures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The warm sea surface temperatures in the Bay of Bengal provide the necessary moisture for the formation of cyclones.</li></ul>
<p><b>Savings Account for Children in TN</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A special camp has been organized on behalf of the postal department to start savings accounts for children.</li><li>• <b>Selvamagal Semippu Thittam for girls</b> and <b>Ponmagan Podhuvaippu Nidhi Scheme</b> are being implemented for boys.</li><li>• A maximum amount of Rs.1.50 lakh per year can be saved in these schemes.</li></ul> <p><b>About Selva Semippu Thittam Scheme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scheme can be opened for a Girl child from <b>New born baby to 10 years.</b></li><li>• Limit of Deposit <b>Rs.500 to 1,50,000/-</b></li><li>• The above may be paid with in the year at any time</li><li>• Account can be opened in the name of female child upto <b>age of 10 years.</b></li><li>• 50% of the deposit amount can be withdrawn if the female child reaches the age of 18 years for the purpose of Higher education or marriage.</li><li>• IT benefit under Sec. 80C</li><li>• <b>Rate of interest : 8.3 %</b></li><li>• Maturity period is 21 years.</li></ul> <p><b>Ponmagan Podhuvaippu Nidhi Scheme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This savings scheme encourages parents or guardians of <b>economically weaker sections in Tamil Nadu state to save money for their boys' education.</b></li><li>• The minimum amount required to open the Ponmagan Podhuvaippu Nidhi Scheme (PPNS) account is <b>Rs.100.</b></li><li>• The parents or guardians must deposit a minimum of <b>Rs.500</b> per year under the Ponmagan Scheme.</li><li>• The maximum annual amount under the PPNS account is Rs.1.5 lakh.</li><li>• Currently, the interest rate of the Ponmagan Scheme is <b>9.7% p.a.</b> The interest is compounded annually.</li></ul>
<p><b>TN to cut Industrial pollution</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The state government is on a mission to create 'green'</li></ul>



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	<p>Tamil Nadu by reducing industrial pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Efforts have been taken to <b>establish a common effluent treatment plant (CETP)</b> at a cost of Rs 40 crore with a capacity to process 20 lakh litres of effluents in SIPCOT.</li><li>• Also, 63,000 tonnes of sludge generated by industries would be taken to a recycling plant in Ramanathapuram within a stipulated time.</li></ul>
<b>TN schools to get more computers</b>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The government is currently taking steps to improve the number of <b>computer labs in over 6,000 high and higher secondary schools</b> across the State as the <b>Free Laptop Scheme</b> has hit a pause button since the outbreak of COVID-19.</li></ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launched in 2011 as a pet project of former Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa, 51.67 lakh laptops worth Rs 7,257.61 crore were distributed free of cost between 2011-2012 and 2019-2020 (till February) under the Free Laptop Scheme.</li></ul>



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