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Deepwater ports



Context:

- Tamil Nadu Maritime Board has identified 17 sites for development as direct berthing and deepwater ports.

Key Points:

- It was decided after taking into account the availability of draft, general marine conditions, minimum burden on existing infrastructure, proximity to hinterland cargo and promotion of regional development, according to **Tamil Nadu State Ports Development Policy**.
- The 17 locations include Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Rameswaram, Pamban, Kanyakumari, Colachel, Kattupuli, Ennore minor port, Panaiyur, PY-03 Oil Field, Thiruchopuram, Silambimangalam, Parangipettai, Thirukaddaiyur, Thirkkuvai, Udangudi and Kudankulam.
- Government agencies can invest up to **11% of equity in the port company**.
- Private initiatives for developing deepwater ports will be allowed, with a long-term lease period of **30 years**.
- After 10 years, the board will review performance, and upon the operator's request, the lease can be extended to 99 years.

**Tamil Nadu State Ports Development Policy, 2023**

- The Tamil Nadu State Ports Development Policy, 2023 aims to attract investments for port-based development. The policy includes:
  - **Encouraging ship building**
  - **Utilizing port infrastructure**
  - **Promoting green harbors**
  - **Developing about 17 small ports across the state**
- Awarding ports directly to companies entering into joint venture with government agencies
- Tamil Nadu has three major ports, in **Chennai, Ennore and Tuticorin**.
- There is also an intermediate port in between these major ports at **Nagapattinam**.
- Apart from these, there are 15 minor ports, which are managed by the Tamil Nadu Maritime Board.



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Rs 60L given away to TN sportspersons



Context:

- Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Udhayanidhi Stalin distributed Rs 60.18 lakh financial assistance and incentives from TN Champions Foundation fund to sportspersons who achieved excellence in international arena and those who are going to participate in international events.
- He presented cheques totalling Rs 38.4 lakh to 24 physically disabled sportspersons who will participate in the upcoming International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation Games (IWAS) in Thailand
- Individual cheques amounting to Rs 1.89 lakh were presented to sportspersons with cerebral palsy Pandiyarajan and Joshua Andrews, for their participation in Asia Oceania Championship 2023 held recently in Melbourne, Australia.

TN fertility rate

Context:

Tamil Nadu fertility rate has declined to 1.4 percent from 2.1 percent, and the state population is under control.

Key points:

- India's fertility rate in 2023 is 2.139 births per woman. This is a 0.93% decline from 2022.
- India's birth rate in 2023 is 16.949 births per 1,000 people, which is a 1.25% decline from 2022.
- Five states in India are above the replacement level of fertility of 2.1. **These states are: Bihar, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur.**

Fertility Rate:

- Fertility rate is the average number of children born to women during their reproductive years.
- It is calculated by dividing the total number of live births in a population by the number of females aged 15-44.
- The ratio is then multiplied by 1,000.

2.5L trees planted so far in TN's Ramanathapuram

Context: 2.5L trees planted so far in TN's Ramanathapuram to improve green cover

- In order to increase the district's green cover and bioshield in coastal regions, the forest department has **planted more than 2.5 lakh trees** under the **Green Tamil Nadu Mission** in the past two weeks.



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### Key Points:

- According to the National Forest Policy of India, the **ideal amount of forest cover should be at least 33%** for ecological stability.
- However, owing to issues, the percentage of green cover in **Ramanathapuram is at 6.25%**.
- As a result, several measures including planting lakhs of trees are being undertaken.
- The forest department plans to plant more than 5.5 lakh tree saplings for the year 2023-24.

### Think:

- Read about Green Tamil Nadu Mission

Construction of hi-tech dairy in Namakkal

### Context:

- The Tamil Nadu government has **permitted the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), a statutory body** under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying to **execute the construction of 2 LLPD hi-tech Dairy at Namakkal.**
- The main objective of the scheme is to ensure livelihood and economic upliftment of milk producers in Namakkal district



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