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Tamil Nadu CA 8th May 2024

College Dream' Programme Launches in Tamil Nadu to Guide Students



Context:

- Tamil Nadu's 'College Dream' programme, initiated by Chief Minister MK Stalin under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme, commenced today across multiple districts including Chennai, Trichy, and Coimbatore.

Aims:

- This initiative, aimed at helping students navigate their higher education options, follows the release of the Class 12 examination results.
- Designed to provide comprehensive guidance on choosing the right degree and diploma courses, the programme also offers insights into potential job opportunities post-graduation.
- Counsellors assigned to various schools across the state will assist students in their higher education applications.

Goal:

- The programme is set to expand to other districts such as Chengalpattu, Tiruppur, and Erode over the coming days, ensuring that students across Tamil Nadu receive the support they need to fulfill their educational aspirations.

Severe Water Crisis Hits South India



Context:

- South India, particularly Tamil Nadu, is grappling with an acute water shortage this summer, with live water storage levels plummeting to a critical 16% of the total capacity.
- According to a May 2 report by the Central Water Commission (CWC), this figure stands starkly below the national average of 28%. The report highlights the dire situation across 42 reservoirs in the southern states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Kerala, collectively holding only 8.353 billion cubic meters out of a potential 53.334 billion.
- This year's storage levels not only fall short compared to last year's 28% but also dip below the ten-year average of 22%.
- The CWC monitors a network of 150 major reservoirs nationwide, which collectively showed a significant drop from 69.35% capacity in January to 28% currently, influenced by factors such as



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Fish processing units affecting quality of life



irrigation demands, drinking water provision, and evaporation.

- The situation in **Tamil Nadu** is particularly severe, with a staggering **43%** decrease in normal water storage levels early this month.

Context:

- Residents of **Pottaloorani village** in **Ellainayakkanpatti panchayat, Thoothukudi**, have filed a petition with the **State Human Rights Commission (SHRC)**, demanding the revocation of licenses for three fish processing units accused of polluting the environment.
- This complaint arises from concerns over compromised hygiene, fresh air, and clean water. The village recently made headlines when locals boycotted the Lok Sabha elections on April 19, leading to a confrontation that **blocked Fisheries Minister Anitha R Radhakrishnan from entering the village.**

World Red Cross Day: A Global Tribute to Humanitarian Efforts



Significance of World Red Cross Day

- World Red Cross Day, celebrated annually on May 8, marks the birth of Henry Dunant, founder of the Red Cross and first Nobel Peace Prize winner.
- This day honors the organization's pivotal role in global humanitarian efforts.

Historical Background

- Originating from the 1859 Battle of Solferino, the Red Cross was formalized in 1863 by Dunant.
- It focuses on non-partisan aid to the wounded in wars and conflicts and upholds the Geneva Conventions—principles ratified globally for the treatment of wartime individuals.

2024 Celebrations and Theme

- The 2024 theme, "**I give with joy, and the joy I give is a reward,**" highlights the joy of giving through service.
- Activities include blood drives, first aid sessions, and public awareness campaigns, emphasizing community and volunteerism.

Global Impact

- Today, the Red Cross operates worldwide, advocating for peace and supporting those in crisis zones, symbolizing a beacon of hope and humanity.



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