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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.

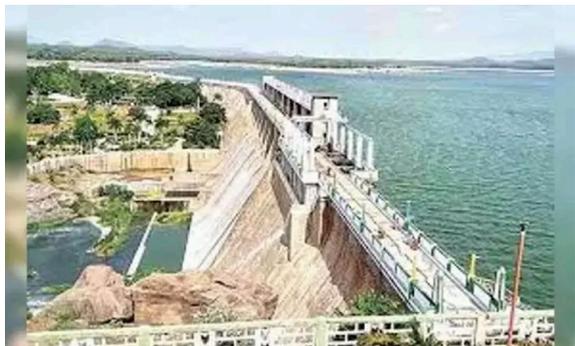
Aims:

- 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



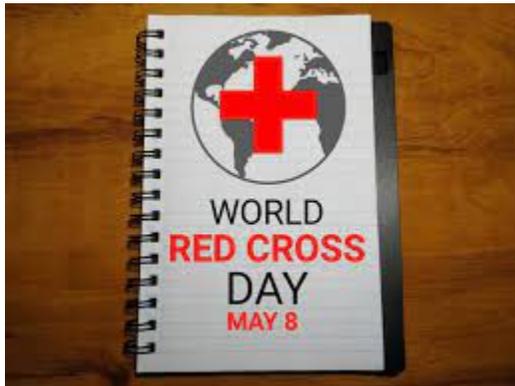
irrigation demands, drinking water provision, and evaporation.

- 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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Tamil Nadu: 09-05-2024

<p>Athikadavu-Avinashi Project (AAP)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Thousands of deer have benefited from the Athikadavu-Avinashi Project (AAP), which aims to improve groundwater recharge and enhance drinking water supply. <p>About Athikadavu-Avinashi Project (AAP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The AAP was proposed in the 1960s and implemented in 2019.The project aims to tap surplus water from the Bhavani river and divert it to water bodies in drought-prone regions in Tiruppur, Coimbatore, and Erode districts.This project has also indirectly benefited wildlife, particularly deer, by providing them with much-needed water sources.
<p>Naan Mudhalvan scheme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The higher education guidance programme, 'Kalloori Kanavu', was inaugurated at Lady Doak College.This programme is an initiative under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme.The purpose of the programme is to guide Class XII students in choosing their preferred subject for higher education. <p>About Naan Mudhalvan scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Naan Mudhalvan Scheme is a flagship initiative by the government of Tamil Nadu.It is a massive industry-relevant skill enhancement initiative for the youth of Tamil Nadu.The scheme aims to provide equal opportunities to all aspirants.The Naan Mudhalvan platform provides dynamic information for college students on courses and relevant information about industry-specific skill offerings.
<p>Stamp duty</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The State Registration department has amended the Indian Stamp Act, 2023, and increased the stamp duty.



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	<p>About Stamp duty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stamp Duty is a tax that is levied on legal documents, usually in the transfer of assets or property.• It is imposed by the government on the transactions performed by way of documents or instruments.• The amount of stamp duty varies from one region to another and depends on the value of the property or asset.• In India, the stamp duty is regulated by the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.
<p>Kalyana Mahal Chathiram</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A renovation project in Tamil Nadu to restore ancient buildings.• The Public Works Department in Tamil Nadu has submitted a project to renovate ancient buildings across the state. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some of the buildings that await renovation include the Kalyana Mahal Chathiram in Thiruvaiyaru, the Sivaji Rajah Bhonsle building in Thanjavur palace, the Muthammal Chathiram in Orathanadu, a portion of the Directorate of Boilers office in the Chepauk complex in Chennai, the Clock tower dome at Anna University, Chennai, and the Kodumudi travellers' bungalow in Erode. <p>About Kalyana Mahal Chathiram:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Kalyana Mahal Chathiram is a historic structure located in Thiruvaiyaru, near Thanjavur, in the state of Tamil Nadu.• It was built by King Serfoji II in the name of queen Muthammal.• It was initially built as a queen's chamber by the Marathas of Thanjavur between 1798 and 1832.
<p>Discovery of Chola-era granite idols in Thanjavur</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The discovery of Chola-era granite idols of Nandhi and Vishnu in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The discovery includes granite idols of Nandhi and Vishnu, as well as inscriptions of the Pallava dynasty.• There was an inscription below the Nandi idol, which probably belonged to the 8th century.



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- The team also unearthed an inscription from the Nayakar era.
- The findings suggest that Chithirakudi should have been a major spot not only during the Chola period but also the Pallava and Nayaka dynasties.