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TN CA 29 May 2024

<p><b>International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers</b> is observed annually on <b>May 29th</b></li><li>• This day honors the establishment of the first <b>UN peacekeeping mission in 1948</b></li><li>• It recognizes the <b>service and sacrifice of peacekeepers globally</b>.</li><li>• This day commemorates the bravery of those currently serving and pays tribute to peacekeepers who lost their lives working for peace.</li></ul> <p><b>Theme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theme for 2024 International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is <b>"Fit for the Future: Building Better Together"</b></li><li>• It emphasizes adapting to evolving challenges and collaboration for effective peacekeeping..</li></ul>
<p><b>6,208 rural roads have been developed in the last three years</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Tamil Nadu government</b> has made <b>significant strides</b> in improving rural connectivity by developing over <b>6,208 rural roads</b> in the last three years.</li><li>• According to the <b>release</b> issued by the state government, <b>6,208 roads</b> in rural areas (under <b>Rural Development and Panchayat Raj</b> department) of Tamil Nadu have been developed at the cost of <b>Rs 1,484 crore</b>.</li><li>• Also the construction of <b>2,97,414 houses</b> have been completed under the <b>Rural Development and Panchayat Raj</b> department.</li><li>• <b>Concrete roof structures</b> were developed at <b>Rs 4,035.65 crore</b> and bank loans of <b>Rs 71,960.43 crore</b> were given to the <b>2,56,508 women self-help-groups</b>.</li><li>• Also <b>employment opportunities</b> for <b>92,003 youths</b> were created through <b>511 private employment camps</b>.</li></ul>
<p><b>NSS in schools, colleges of Tamil Nadu are top source for environment info among students: Study</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A recent study by the <b>Citizen Consumer and Civic Action Group</b> revealed that <b>activities</b> conducted by the <b>National Service Scheme (NSS)</b> in Tamil Nadu schools and colleges are the <b>primary source</b> of environmental information for students.</li></ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The survey findings show that <b>NSS programs contribute 15.4%</b> of the learning materials on environmental protection, <b>surpassing other sources like social media (12.8%)</b> and <b>even mandatory environmental studies courses (11.4%)</b>.</li> <li>• This <b>highlights the effectiveness of the NSS in engaging students in practical environmental activities beyond the classroom</b>.</li> <li>• These activities, likely conducted in adopted villages or communities, provide firsthand experience and raise awareness about environmental issues.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Global conference on Lord Murugan to be held on August 24, 25 in Palani</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A <b>two-day global conference on Lord Murugan, titled "Muthamizh Murugan Manadu 2024"</b>, will be held on August 24th and 25th in Palani, Tamil Nadu.</li> <li>• This holy town is one of the six sacred abodes of Murugan.</li> <li>• It is organized by the Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&amp;CE) department.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lord Murugan, also known as Kartikeya, Skanda, and Subrahmanya</b>, is a prominent Hindu deity in South India, particularly among the Tamils.</li> <li>• He is considered the:</li> <li>• <b>God of War:</b> A powerful warrior, depicted riding a peacock and wielding a spear (Vel) symbolizing his divine power.</li> <li>• <b>Son of Shiva and Parvati: The elder brother of Ganesha.</b></li> <li>• <b>Symbol of Youth and Victory:</b> Often worshipped for his youthful energy and ability to overcome challenges.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thanjavur forest officials laud fishermen for rescuing dugongs</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fishermen in Thanjavur, India, were recognized by forest officials for their efforts in rescuing dugongs, an endangered marine mammal.</b></li> <li>• The <b>felicitation ceremony took place on World Dugong Day.</b></li> <li>• <b>Fishermen rescued three dugongs and over ten sea turtles this year, returning them safely to the sea.</b></li> </ul>



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### Key Points:

- The government plans to establish a Dugong Conservation Centre along a 50-kilometer stretch of coastline to further protect these vital marine creatures.

### About:

- Dugongs, also called sea cows, are gentle marine mammals that munch on seagrass in shallow coastal waters.
- They are related to manatees, but unlike manatees, dugongs are strictly saltwater dwellers.
- Found in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, dugongs are unfortunately listed as vulnerable due to habitat loss and entanglement in fishing gear.