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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Tamil Nadu: 20-06-2024

<p>Conservation of endangered and rare flora</p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Tamil Nadu Government's mission to conserve endangered and rare flora</b> is progressing, with experts shortlisting <b>eight species of rare plants classified as vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered.</b></li><li>• This initiative is <b>part of the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project for Climate Change Resilience (TBGPCCR)</b>, in collaboration with the <b>Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding (IFGTB)</b> in Coimbatore.</li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Some prioritized species include:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Vernonia shevaroyensis:</b> A <b>critically endangered tree</b> found in the Shevaroy hills of Salem district.</li><li>○ <b>Ceropegia pusilla:</b> Discovered in the Anamalai hills and some locations of the Valparai plateau in Coimbatore district.</li><li>○ <b>Ceropegia thwaitesii:</b> Found in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve.</li><li>○ <b>Ceropegia oculata:</b> Located in the Vattakanal shola forests of Palani hills in Kodaikanal.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Think:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Know about Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project for Climate Change Resilience (TBGPCCR).</li></ul>
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<b>Operation Sagar Kavach</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'Operation Sagar Kavach' drill was conducted on Wednesday in the <b>coastal districts</b> of Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Kanniyakumari, and Ramanathapuram.</li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is to <b>assess the operational preparedness of the police and armed forces at sea and coastal areas</b>, and their <b>coordination in neutralizing sea-based threats</b>.</li><li>• The drill aims to <b>enhance coordination among security forces and ensure their preparedness in neutralizing infiltration by anti-social elements and terrorists</b> via the sea route.</li><li>• <b>Initiated after the 2008 Mumbai attacks</b>, where terrorists exploited Maharashtra's porous coastline.</li><li>• This <b>annual drill reviews the readiness and coordination of</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The police,</li><li>○ Marine police,</li><li>○ Coastal security group,</li><li>○ Q Branch police,</li><li>○ Central Industrial Security Force,</li><li>○ Indian Coast Guard, and</li><li>○ The Indian Navy to counter sea-based threats.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Seed Cube Making Machine</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) has received a design patent for its Seed Cube Making Machine.</b></li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is awarded by the <b>Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks</b>, under the <b>Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry</b>.</li><li>• The <b>Seed Cube technology</b> is designed to <b>optimize seed germination and establishment</b>.</li><li>• The seed cube machine is likely to <b>enhance seed germination and improve crop productivity</b>.</li></ul>



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Integrated Social Registry  
Platform

Why in the news?

- The **Tamil Nadu government** is taking a significant **step toward enhancing transparency and effective implementation of welfare schemes for differently abled individuals.**
- The government is developing an **Integrated Social Registry Platform** and a **Management Information System (MIS)** specifically for this purpose.

Key points:

- **Tamil Nadu** currently implements the **TN RIGHTS project** under the **Directorate for Welfare of the Differently Abled (DWDA)** with assistance from the **World Bank.**
- The **project aims to promote inclusion, accessibility, and opportunities** for people with disabilities.
- However, existing systems rely on paper-based lists and lack interoperability, resulting in inefficiencies and reduced oversight capabilities.
- **The New Integrated Platform will serve two main functions:**
  - **Identification and Registration:** It streamlines the process by using a single or integrated registration form for differently abled individuals across multiple programs.
  - **Service Delivery and Monitoring:** An integrated MIS will help manage citizen applications and monitor the impact of interventions.
- The project is expected to be completed by the end of this year, with collaboration from the **Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA)** and an **IT company.**



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Parandur Greenfield Airport

Why in the news?

- The **Ministry of Defence** has **granted No Objection for the grant of site clearance** to set up a **Greenfield Airport at Parandur** near **Chennai** in **Tamil Nadu**.

Key points:

- The proposed airport will be situated in **Parandur**, approximately 14 km from the **Parandur lake**, a **man-made wetland**.
- The **Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited (TIDCO)** is the **project proponent agency**.
- **Environmental Clearance (EC)**:
  - The **Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC)** of the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** will discuss **issuing environmental clearance for the project**.