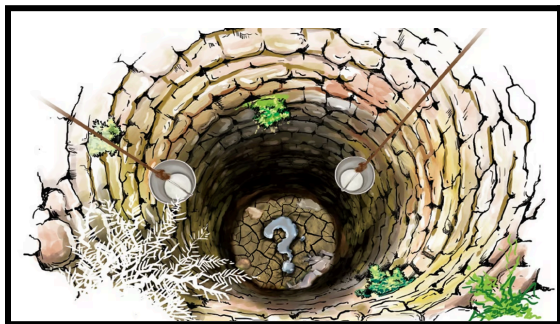




26 March 2024

## Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

Andhra Pradesh records drop in ground  
Water Level

## Context:

- This year, groundwater levels in the State have declined by **2.27 metres below ground level (MBGL)** compared to last year, **attributed to both deficit rainfall and over-exploitation of groundwater, as noted by experts.**

## About:

- Andhra Pradesh Water Resources Information and Management System (APWRIMS) reported a groundwater level of **9.56 MBGL this February, compared to 7.28 MBGL last year.**
- Groundwater depletion was more significant in **Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra Pradesh districts.**
- **Coastal Andhra Pradesh witnessed a variation of 3.74 MBGL, with levels dropping from 8.92 MBGL to 12.66 MBGL.**
- Rayalaseema experienced a drop of 4.25 MBGL, with levels falling from 6.79 MBGL to 11.04 MBGL.
- Prakasam district saw a significant decline of **8.24 MBGL, from 10.62 MBGL to 18.86 MBGL.**
- Sri Sathya Sai district recorded a drop of 7.24 MBGL, decreasing from 6.33 MBGL to 13.57 MBGL.
- Other districts like **Kurnool, Nandyal, and Annamayya reported drops of over 4 MBGL but less than 5 MBGL,** while Tirupati had the lowest decrease of 0.72 MBGL.
- Palnadu district in coastal areas experienced a drop of 4.78 MBGL, with other districts recording less than a 2 MBGL decline.

TTD to finalise Site for Lord Venkateswara  
Temple in Sri Lanka

## Context:

- Executive Officer AV Dharma Reddy of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) is **scheduled to embark on a visit to Sri Lanka for finalizing the site of a new temple dedicated to Lord Venkateswara Swamy.**

## Background:

- A Sri Lanka-based Trust approached the Union government, seeking assistance for constructing a Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Venkateswara.



- TTD Temple Trust approved the construction of the temple in Colombo.
- The initiative aims to **promote Hindu dharma**.

### Implementation Details:

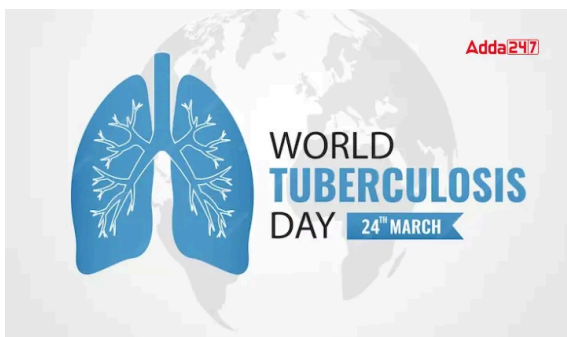
- Once the site is finalized and **designs are ready**, **TTD will provide the main idols and sub-temples' idols**, which will be sculpted at Sri Venkateswara College of Traditional Sculpture and Architecture in Tirupati.
- Additionally, the Trust will provide **temple motifs and necessary paraphernalia for the temple's structure, administration, and rituals**.
- The focus will be on establishing an administrative setup for the temple akin to the Srivari Temple Trust in Tirumala.

**Former CEC, Krishnamurthy Advocates for Transparency in Loksabha polls**

### Context:

- TS Krishnamurthy, former Chief Election Commissioner of India, **emphasises transparency in poll funding post-Supreme Court's Electoral Bond Scheme verdict**.
- He advocates for removal of donation restrictions, suggests **mandatory disclosure and audit of donations**.
- Proposes creation of National Election Fund with tax exemptions to mitigate influence of wealthy donors.
- **Suggestions include needonomics approach, establishment of independent regulatory authority**, and term limits for political officeholders.

**World Tuberculosis day**



### Context:

- Every year on March 24th, **World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is observed worldwide to raise awareness about the devastating health, social, and economic consequences of TB**, and to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic.
- This day **commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis**, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, a disease that still affects millions globally.

### It aims to:

- Raise Awareness:**
  - a. World TB Day serves as a platform to educate individuals, communities,



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policymakers, and healthcare professionals about the signs, symptoms, transmission, prevention, and treatment of tuberculosis.

☐ Mobilize Resources:

- a. World TB Day mobilises resources from governments, international organisations, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders to support TB research, innovation, and implementation of evidence-based interventions aimed at ending the TB epidemic.

☐ Empower Communities:

- a. Empowering communities and engaging affected individuals as advocates and agents of change are key components of TB control efforts. World TB Day encourages community involvement, active participation,

☐ Promote Partnerships:

- a. Collaboration and partnerships among governments, non-governmental organisations, academia, communities, and affected individuals are essential to achieve the ambitious targets set for ending TB.

Theme:

- The theme for World Tuberculosis (TB) Day 2024 is “Yes! We can end TB!”

India Book of Records 2024



Context:

- Dr. N.R. Swathi Sai, born on August 5, 1993, from Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh, set a record for uploading the highest number of videos on autoimmune diseases.
- Her efforts have garnered recognition from prestigious platforms like the India Book of Records and Asia Book of Records, highlighting her significant contribution to medical education and awareness.

Autoimmune diseases:

Autoimmune diseases are a group of disorders in which the immune system mistakenly attacks healthy cells and tissues in the body, leading to inflammation and damage to various organs and systems.

Some common features of autoimmune diseases include:



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- Loss of self-tolerance
- Chronic inflammation
- Systemic effects
- Flares and remissions
- Genetic predisposition

Some common examples of autoimmune diseases include: Rheumatoid arthritis, Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), Multiple sclerosis (MS), Type 1 diabetes, Hashimoto's thyroiditis



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