

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – APRIL 6, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu's prisons department - emerged as the number one in the country, according to the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022.

PRISONS RANKING

INDICATORS (in IJR* 3) | 29

States	IJR 2019 SCORE
Tamil Nadu	6.24
Karnataka	6.01
Telangana	5.35
Kerala	5.23
Andhra Pradesh	5.02

*IJR – India Justice Report

- ✓ For Tamil Nadu prisons department, this is a substantial jump as it was ranked 10th in IJR 2019 and sixth in IJR 2020.
- ✓ Fewer overcrowded prisons, an increased representation of women among prison staff and fewer vacancies have helped the state to top the IJR 2022 rankings
- ✓ The prison occupancy rate in Tamil Nadu as of December 2021 was 76.4%.
 - ✓ As per the report, Haryana had the highest share of overcrowded prisons.
- ✓ Except for Tamil Nadu and Chandigarh, no other state/UT meets the benchmark of at least one correctional officer for 200 inmates.
- ✓ The representation of women among the prison staff has also increased in Tamil Nadu over the past few years.
 - ✓ In Tamil Nadu it is 14.1% in 2021 as compared to 12.5% in 2020.
- ✓ However, Karnataka was the only state where women constituted 32% of total prison staff.
- ✓ The IJR 2022 states that of their overall sanctioned budgets, only five states/UTs - Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman

and Diu, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu - utilised the entire budget, while Telangana utilised 14% over and above the sum allotted to it.

- ✓ Out of the 18 large and medium-sized states having a population of over 1 crore each, Karnataka was ranked first in “justice delivery” followed by Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh, respectively.
 - ✓ Meanwhile, Uttar Pradesh ranked 18 among the states with a population of over 1 crore each.
 - ✓ The list of seven small states, having a population of less than one crore each, was headed by Sikkim, followed by Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura.
- ✓ Except for Delhi and Chandigarh, no state or union territory spends more than 1% of its total annual expenditure on judiciary
- ✓ The report noted that only Arunachal Pradesh reported having CCTV cameras in all 14 spots in all its 24 police stations
- ✓ First published in 2019, the current edition of the IJR has added an assessment of the capacity of State Human Rights Commissions.
 - ✓ The total number of pending cases across all 25 State Human Rights Commissions in March, 2021 stood at 33,312.
- ✓ The third edition of IJR 2022, released on April 4, compiles and categorises data of states and UTs, based on “four pillars” of justice delivery—the police, judiciary, prisons, and legal aid
- ✓ The IJR is an initiative undertaken by Tata Trusts in 2019, in partnership with the Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, DAKSH, TISS–Prayas, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, and How India Lives
- ✓ It is considered as first-of-its-kind national periodic reporting that ranked the capacity of states to deliver justice.

NATIONAL

- **President Droupadi Murmu - will fly in a Sukhoi-30MKI supersonic jet, among the most potent fighters in the IAF fleet, during her visit to Assam this week.**



- ✓ The President will fly the “air experience and familiarisation sortie” in a twin-seat Sukhoi, which will be flown by an experienced pilot, at the Tezpur Air Force Station on April 8.
- ✓ Former Presidents A P J Abdul Kalam and Pratibha Patil also flew in the fighter jet in 2006 and 2009, respectively.
- ✓ The IAF has around 260 Russian-origin Sukhois, which are the mainstay of the country’s combat fleet
- ✓ The 36 Rafale fighters acquired from France under the Rs.59,000 crore deal signed in 2016 are the latest jets inducted by the IAF

SUPREME COURT VERDICT

- **On April 5, the Supreme Court - set aside the Centre’s ban on Malayalam news channel MediaOne and observed that sealed cover proceedings go against the principles of natural justice and open justice.**
- ✓ The matter pertains to the Centre’s directive revoking the licence of the news channel and banning its telecast on security grounds on January 31
- ✓ The ban was upheld by the Kerala High Court, but was stayed by the top court on March 15 in an interim order.
- ✓ The central government had submitted the reasons for the ban on MediaOne to the Kerala High Court in a sealed cover, which the news channel was not aware of.
- ✓ The Bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justice Hima Kohli said sealed cover proceedings could not be adopted to avoid public immunity proceedings
- ✓ It added that the freedom of the press, protected under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, had been effectively trumped without providing MediaOne a reasonable avenue to challenge the decision.
- ✓ The SC bench also said that critical views on government policies cannot be termed ‘anti-establishment’.
- ✓ In its 134-page verdict, the bench has made significant observations on the issue of freedom of the press.

SPORTS

- **Former India player and Tamil Nadu skipper Syed Sabir Pasha joined the All India Football Federation (AIFF) as its new Technical Director (TD) on April 5.**
- ✓ Pasha, who has been given a one-year contract initially, became the first Indian to take full-time charge as TD.
- ✓ The post was vacant for some time as all the three previous full-time TDs -Rob Baan, Scott O'Donnell, Isac Doru — left their jobs last year.
- ✓ Savio Medeira was the last Indian to serve as AIFF’s technical director, but it wasn’t a full-time position.

- ✓ Pasha, who parted ways with Chennaiyin FC last month and served an eight-year stint as assistant coach, has vast experience both as a player and coach



- ✓ The former India international handled responsibilities of a manager at the AIFF Elite Academy in 2013.
- ✓ The Elite Academy, which was a joint initiative by the AIFF and FIFA, worked on the development of youth football in the country.

