

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 13, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- **On June 12, Chief minister M K Stalin - released water from Stanley Reservoir in Mettur to benefit over 5 lakh acres of kuruvai crop cultivation in Cauvery delta districts.**



- ✓ The water resources department (WRD) released 3,000 cusecs of water from the dam during the event and increased it to 10,000 cusecs in the evening.
- ✓ For the third consecutive year, water has been released before the stipulated date, said the CM.
- ✓ This was the 90th time that water had been discharged from the Mettur dam for delta irrigation since 1934.
- ✓ This was also the 19th time that water was being discharged on the customary date of June 12.
- ✓ During the event, CM Stalin also announced a Rs.75.95-crore Kuruvai Nel Sagupadi Thoguppu Thittam (kuruvai crop cultivation scheme).
 - ✓ As per the scheme, farmers will be given fertilisers and farm materials at subsidised prices.

- ✓ As of June 12, the water level at the 120 ft deep reservoir stood at 103.35 ft, while the storage was 69.25 mc ft (million cubic feet)
 - ✓ The requirement for water from Mettur dam for delta irrigation purpose during the period from June 12 to January 28 (230 days) is 330tmc
 - ✓ The release of water for delta irrigation from Mettur would also facilitate the generation of 460 megawatts of hydroelectric power
 - ✓ About 17.32 lakh acres of land, including 5.26 lakh acres of kuruvai crops in 12 districts of the delta region, would benefit from the water release of the dam.
 - ✓ As per the schedule, about 125tmc of water will be released from the dam between June 12 and September 15 to carry out kuruvai crop cultivation in the delta districts, including Namakkal, Tiruchurippalli, Thanjavur and Nagapattinam.
 - ✓ Further, water will be released for the kuruvai, Samba and Thaladi crops from September to January in different quantum, and as per requirement
- **The forest department - is installing QR ticketing system in all forest sites starting with Arignar Anna Zoological Park in Vandalur and Guindy Children's Park.**
- ✓ Vandalur zoo will be the first to get QR payment and online payment modes, which will be extended later to all districts across Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ The government is planning to digitise the entire process by developing a portal which would integrate all wildlife sites, ecotourism sites and other forest department related activities under one umbrella
 - ✓ The digitisation process will ensure a person can book tickets for sites under different forest divisions at the same time.

NATIONAL

- **After a gap of 15 years, the Centre - imposed limits on stocks of wheat that retailers, wholesalers and processors can hold with them at any given time**
- ✓ The stock limit will be in effect till March 2024 when the next crop would arrive in the market.
 - ✓ The decision is aimed at protecting wheat prices from further rise, amid signs of slow progress of monsoon which may affect foodgrains production.
 - ✓ Earlier this month, stock limits were imposed on tur (pigeon-pea) and urad (black gram).
- **The home ministry - has suspended the foreign funding licence of CARE India for 180 days over alleged violations of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.**
- ✓ The NGO is part of CARE International Confederation and has been working in India for the past 70 years with declared objectives like ending poverty and social exclusion.

- ✓ The FCRA registration of CARE India was last renewed with effect from October 1, 2022, for a period of five years



- ✓ CARE India works with partners like Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, World Bank, Malala Fund and USAID
- ✓ The NGO added it has been “serving the country with unwavering commitment and has always complied with regulations to bring holistic and sustainable changes in the areas of health, education, livelihood and disaster response management”.
- ✓ As per the auditor’s certificate for CARE India for 2021-22, the NGO, received Rs.377. 5 crore during 2021-22 as foreign contributions

DEFENCE

- **The NATO - has launched a massive military exercise ‘Air Defender 2023’, its largest ever air force deployment exercise, on June 12**



- ✓ The exercise is led by the German government
- ✓ It brings together the largest number of aircraft from outside Germany for a training mission since the NATO military alliance was founded in 1949 and since the end of the Cold War.

- ✓ Germany has assumed the role of the logistical hub for the operation, facilitating the coordination and smooth execution of the exercise.
- ✓ Around 10,000 personnel and 250 aircrafts were stationed across six military bases as part of the two-week long exercise.
- ✓ Twenty-four NATO nations, including Finland, the newest member, are participating in the drills, and Japan has joined as an observer.
- ✓ The US flew about 100 National Guard and Navy aircraft to Germany for the drills.
- ✓ US forces are sending the F-35 stealth combat aircraft, the alliance's most modern fighter jet, to take part in the exercise, which will end on June 23.
- ✓ This exercise was apparently added to the schedule after the chaos at Kabul airport in 2021 when the US and its allies hastily ended their mission in Afghanistan.
- ✓ Other scenarios to be practiced during the exercise include supporting ground troops from the air, airborne battles against enemy jets and the interception of medium-range missiles by NATO fighter bombers.

AWARDS

- **The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting - announced the second edition of Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman on June 9 as part of the celebration of International Yoga Day in 2023.**
- ✓ Under the Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman 2023, thirty-three Sammans will be given out under three categories, Print, Television, and Radio (Eleven in each category) in 22 Indian languages and English.
- ✓ The Samman will comprise a special media or plaque or trophy and a citation.
- ✓ The Samman in various categories will be recommended by an independent Jury
- ✓ Earlier, the information and broadcasting ministry instituted the first “Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman” (AYDMS) in June 2019 to acknowledge the positive role and responsibility of media in disseminating the outreach of yoga both in India and abroad.
- ✓ The first edition of the awards was conferred by the erstwhile I&B minister Prakash Javadekar on January 7, 2020
- ✓ The International Day of Yoga is celebrated annually on June 21.
- ✓ The idea of the International Day of Yoga was first proposed by PM, during his address at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on September 27, 2014.

OBITUARY

- **Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi - passed away at the age of 86 on June 12.**
- ✓ He was suffering from leukemia and died at the San Raffaele hospital in Milan, where he had been admitted on June 9.



- ✓ Silvio Berlusconi served as Prime Minister of Italy in four governments, from 1994–1995, 2001–2006 and 2008–2011.
- ✓ Berlusconi began his career as a real estate magnate before investing in television channels to become a media tycoon.
- ✓ Silvio Berlusconi founded the media company Fininvest that has many other companies under its banner.
- ✓ His empire also included football — he reigned supreme at AC Milan from 1986 until 2017, during which time the club won 29 trophies.

SPORTS

- **Uruguay - beat Italy to win their first Under-20 World Cup title on June 11.**



- ✓ The victory ends a streak of four consecutive wins of European teams in the tournament.
- ✓ Luciano Rodriguez scored the winning goal in the 86th minute, giving Uruguay a much deserved victory.
- ✓ More than 40,000 people attended the match at the Diego Maradona Stadium, including FIFA President Gianni Infantino.