

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 15, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government - withdrew its general consent for an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on June 14.**
- ✓ The central probe agency will now have to obtain permission from the Tamil Nadu government before conducting any investigation in the state.
- ✓ The state government's decision comes hours after state minister V Senthil Balaji was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu became the tenth Indian state to withdraw its general consent for investigations by the CBI.
- ✓ The other nine states which had withdrawn their general consent to the CBI to probe cases include Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana and West Bengal
- ✓ Despite the withdrawal of general consent by the Tamil Nadu government, the CBI can continue to probe old cases until the consent is specifically taken back by the state government.
- ✓ The CBI is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (DPSEA).
- ✓ General consent is normally given by states to help CBI to conduct a seamless investigation of corruption cases against central government employees in their states.
- ✓ As per the DPSE Act, the central government can authorise CBI to probe a case in a state but only with the consent of the concerned state government.
- ✓ However, the Supreme Court and high courts can order a CBI probe in any state even without its consent.

- **Tamil Nadu electricity, prohibition and excise minister V Senthil Balaji - has been arrested by the Enforcement Directorate on June 14.**
- ✓ Balaji is the first sitting minister to be arrested from Tamil Nadu in the recent past by a central agency.

- ✓ The minister was arrested after a long session of questioning under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) into a cash-for-jobs scam.



- ✓ Later during the day, Chennai principal district judge S Alli remanded the minister in judicial custody till June 28, but allowed him to remain in the hospital for treatment until further orders
- ✓ The latest development against the Minister comes two weeks after the income-tax (I-T) department conducted an eight-day raid at over 40 places across Tamil Nadu linked to the minister and his supporters.
- ✓ The move came after the Supreme Court in May overruled a 2022 Madras high court order that dismissed the proceedings against the Minister and others in the alleged recruitment scam.
- ✓ The charges against the Minister date back to his tenure as the transport minister during the AIADMK regime led by the late J Jayalalithaa from 2011-16.
- ✓ Balaji quit AIADMK after former chief minister J Jayalalitha's death in 2016 and joined the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in December 2018.
- ✓ The DMK strongman from Karur began his political life as a local body member in 1997.
- ✓ Balaji won the April 2021 assembly elections and was appointed as the minister for electricity, prohibition, and excise in the MK Stalin-led DMK government

STATES

- **Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar - announced a monthly pension of Rs.10,000 for the Padma awardees of the state.**
- ✓ The chief minister also announced free travel facility for them in Volvo buses of the Haryana Roadways.
- ✓ The incentive shall be applicable for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardees from Haryana

NATIONAL

- **The Indian Railways - will start the operation of five Vande Bharat trains on June 26, the maximum ever flagged off on a single day.**

- ✓ This will also be the first public event after Odisha's train accident train that claimed 288 lives.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to flag off two of the semi-high-speed trains from Bhopal in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh and he will flag off the remaining three via video conferencing.
- ✓ These new Vande Bharat trains can run at a maximum speed of 130kmph.
- ✓ The routes on which the five trains will run are Mumbai-Goa, Bangalore-Hubli, Patna-Ranchi, Bhopal-Indore and Bhopal-Jabalpur.

INTERNATIONAL

- **The United States - will rejoin the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) from July this year, after a gap of over four years**
- ✓ The US had officially quit UNESCO from 1 January 2019 after President Donald Trump's government accused the agency for having an "anti-Israel" bias.
- ✓ Israel had followed the US and backed out of UNESCO at the same time.
- ✓ Both the US and Israel had stopped paying dues after Palestine was voted in as a member state in 2011.
- ✓ Before leaving, the US contributed 22% of UNESCO's overall funding.
- ✓ After rejoining in July, the US government plans to pay its 2023 dues of over \$600 million plus \$10 million in bonus contributions this year earmarked for Holocaust education, preserving cultural heritage in Ukraine, journalist safety, and science and technology education in Africa
- ✓ The US's decision to return will face a vote by UNESCO's member states in the coming weeks
- ✓ The United States previously pulled out of UNESCO under the Reagan administration in 1984 because it viewed the agency as mismanaged, corrupt and used to advance Soviet interests, but it later rejoined in 2003.

SPORTS

- **On June 13, Indian archer Aditi Gopichand - made history by breaking the under-18 world record in the women's compound qualification round during the ongoing Archery World Cup stage three in Medellin, Colombia.**



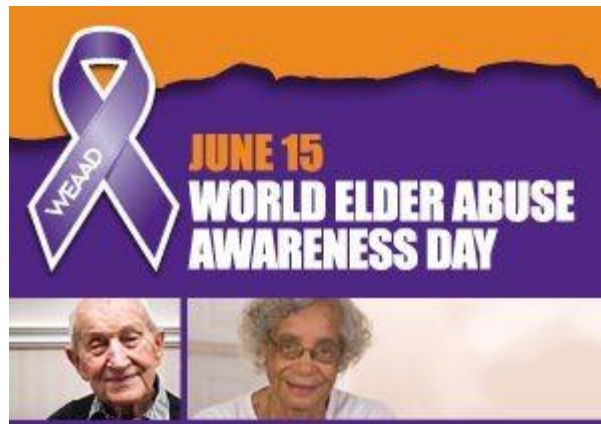
- ✓ The 16-year-old Aditi scored a total of 711 out of 720 points and topped the 72-arrow qualification
 - ✓ With this, Aditi has surpassed the previous world record set by USA's Liko Arreola in May of 705 points.
 - ✓ She also fell two points short of the senior record held by Sara Lopez of 713 points.
- **Tamil Nadu Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Udayanidhi Stalin - inaugurated and unveiled the Squash World Cup in Chennai after 12 years.**



- ✓ The 4th edition of the Squash World Cup will be held from June 13 to June 17, at Express Avenue Mall in Chennai.
- ✓ Eight countries including India, China, Japan, Malaysia and Australia, South Africa, Egypt are participating in the championship.
- ✓ The World Squash Federation (WSF) president Zena Wooldridge, Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) president Anil Wadhwa and championship committee chairman N Ramachandran were also present on the occasion.
- ✓ India are seeded second in the tournament, after the favorites Egypt.
- ✓ Indian team will be represented by the quartet of Joshna Chinappa, Tanvi Khanna, Saurav Ghosal and Abhay Singh
- ✓ For the first time in WSF history, matches will be played to a best of five games to seven points
- ✓ The top-two teams from each pool will qualify for the semi-finals that will take place on June 16.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) – June 15**



- ✓ The day aims to raise awareness about the abuse, discrimination and negligence faced by older persons
- ✓ The history of WEAAD dates back to the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the International Plan of Action on Aging in 1982 at the First World Assembly on Aging, held in Vienna
- ✓ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is an annual initiative launched on June 15, 2006, by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization.
- ✓ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was officially recognised and established by the United Nations General Assembly on June 15, 2011
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age Policy, Law and Evidence-based Responses".

