

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 27, 2023

### TAMIL NADU

- On June 26, Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin - distributed certificates to the 5,000 students who successfully completed the one-year SIRPI programme at a function in Chennai



- ✓ CM Stalin then went on to release the SIRPI anthem exclusively prepared for the students.
- ✓ The SIRPI (Students in Responsible Police Initiatives) scheme was launched by the chief minister on the floors of the state Assembly on September 13, 2021, with an initial funding of Rs.4. 25 crore.
- ✓ Under the scheme, at least 50 Class VIII students each from 100 government schools will be selected on a voluntary basis and will be given special training in moral education, sports and yoga.
- ✓ The students will be taken to eight tourist places across the state and would be given special training in history and general knowledge.
- ✓ The programme includes one hour of class every Wednesday for 10 months in an academic year.
- ✓ Two teachers from the same school are trained to teach students various topics including traffic rules, cybercrime, safety measures, the ills of junk food, moral

science, nature conservation, patriotism, drug awareness, disaster management, yoga, employment opportunities, good touch and bad touch, personal hygiene, self-defence, women's care and organic farming.

- ✓ These teachers are paid a remuneration of Rs.2,000 for teaching SIRPI students.
- ✓ State higher education minister K Ponmudi, Tamil welfare minister MP Saminathan, HR&CE minister PK Sekarbabu, state school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozi, Chennai corporation mayor R Priya, E Paranthaman, MLA, state home secretary P Amutha, school education secretary Kakarla Usha, Tamil Nadu DGP C Sylendra Babu, Chennai city police commissioner Shankar Jiwal and others participated in the event.

## STATES

- **North India's first Skin Bank - was inaugurated in Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital recently on June 20**



- ✓ Skin bank is a facility where the skin of deceased persons can be donated, which will be helpful in treating burns of patients.
- ✓ The skin can be donated within six hours of death and utilized for burns and trauma patients after processing.
- ✓ The country has 16 skin banks — with seven in Maharashtra, four in Chennai, three in Karnataka, and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

## NATIONAL

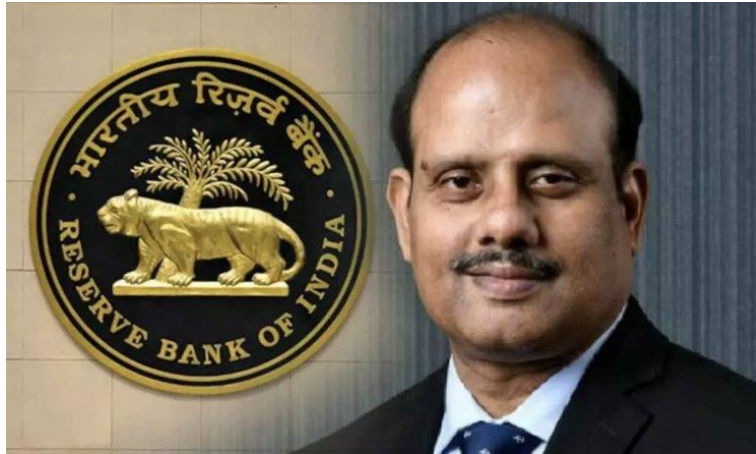
- **The World Bank - has approved a loan of \$255.5 million to enhance the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India**
- ✓ This funding will support approximately 275 selected government-run technical institutions over the course of the next five years, benefiting more than 350,000 students annually.
- ✓ The Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education Project of the World Bank will emphasise enhanced research capabilities, entrepreneurship, and innovation
- ✓ Under this initiative, students will gain access to upgraded curricula that include emerging technologies in communication and climate resilience.

## INTERNATIONAL

- **The United Nations - has recently adopted the first-ever treaty to protect marine life in the high seas**
- ✓ Delegates from the 193 member nations approved the treaty recently on June 19
- ✓ The treaty seeks to protect biodiversity in waters outside national boundaries, known as the high seas, covering nearly half of earth's surface
- ✓ The new treaty will be opened for signatures on September 20, during the annual meeting of world leaders at the General Assembly, and it will take effect once it is ratified by 60 countries.
- ✓ The new treaty is under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, which came into force in 1994
- ✓ The treaty will create a new body to manage conservation of ocean life and establish marine protected areas in the high seas.
- ✓ It also establishes ground rules for conducting environmental impact assessments for commercial activities in the oceans.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **Swaminathan Janakiraman - took over as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on June 26.**

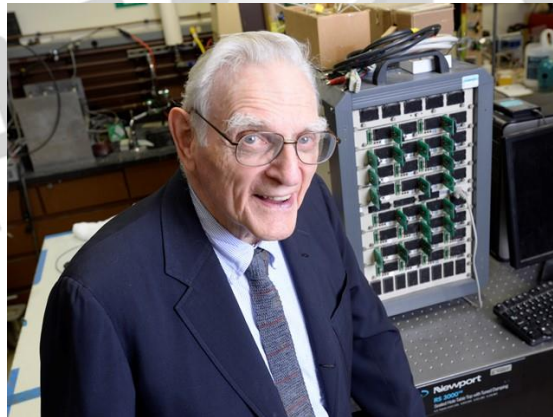


- ✓ He was appointed by the Government of India for a period of three years or until further orders.
- ✓ Prior to his appointment as Deputy Governor, Swaminathan was the State Bank of India's (SBI) Managing Director (Corporate Banking and Subsidiaries).
- ✓ Swaminathan replaced M.K. Jain whose term ended on June 21.
- ✓ He will be in charge of the Consumer Education and Protection Department, the Department of Supervision, the Financial Inclusion and Development Department, the Inspection Department, the Premises Department, and the Rajbhasha Department as Deputy Governor.
- ✓ He also served as the Chief General Manager (CGM) of SBI's Hyderabad Circle.

- ✓ Swaminathan served as SBI's nominee on the boards of Yes Bank, NPCI, NPCI International, Jio Payments Bank, and SBI's non-banking companies.
- ✓ During 2021–22, he also served as chair of the Reserve Bank of India's Regulations Review Authority (RRA 2.0).
- ✓ Swaminathan graduated from the National Institute of Business Management in Chennai with an Executive MBA.
- ✓ According to the RBI Act, 1934, the central bank should have four deputy governors — two from within the ranks, one commercial banker and an economist to head the monetary policy department.
  - ✓ The other three deputy governors are Michael Debabrata Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao and T Rabi Sankar.
  - ✓ The deputy governor appointments are made for an initial period of three years, and the person is eligible for reappointment.
  - ✓ One post of Deputy Governor is reserved for a commercial banker.

## OBITUARY

- **Prominent American physicist and materials scientist John B Goodenough - dies at the age of 100 years on June 25 in Austin, Texas**



- ✓ Goodenough is best known for his groundbreaking contributions to the development of lithium-ion batteries that are used in millions of electric vehicles all around the world
- ✓ In 2019, he received the \$900,000 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, jointly with Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino, for the development of lithium-ion batteries.
- ✓ At the time of his award, Goodenough was the oldest Nobel laureate ever, receiving the prize at the age of 97.
- ✓ Goodenough received the 2019 Nobel Prize for Chemistry- along with Britain's Stanley Whittingham and Japan's Akira Yoshino, for their respective research into lithium-ion batteries - making him the oldest recipient of a Nobel Prize.
- ✓ In 1980, he made a groundbreaking discovery at the University of Oxford, creating a battery that revolutionized the world of technology.
- ✓ Despite his groundbreaking work, Goodenough did not receive any royalties for his battery inventions.

- ✓ In addition to this, Goodenough was also an early developer of lithium iron phosphate (LFP) cathodes as an alternative to nickel- and cobalt-based cathodes.
  - ✓ This is currently being used in electric vehicle batteries overtaking more-expensive nickel cobalt manganese.
- ✓ He also played a significant role in the development of Random Access Memory (RAM) for computers.
- ✓ Goodenough served as a faculty member of the University of Texas at Austin for 37 years.
- ✓ He also served the US Army during the Second World War as a meteorologist.

## RANKINGS

- **India - has ranked 40th on the latest world competitiveness ranking released by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD).**
- ✓ The country has slipped three spots from last year, but is still positioned better than the 43rd rank in 2019-21.
- ✓ Out of the 64 economies ranked in the annual report, Denmark, Ireland and Switzerland claimed the top three spots, while the Netherlands, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Sweden, the US and the UAE completed the top 10.
- ✓ Overall the European region performed well in the ranking, with five economies securing positions in the top 10.
- ✓ The IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY), first published in 1989, is a comprehensive annual report that serves as a global reference point for a country's competitiveness.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **International MSME Day – June 27**



- ✓ The day is observed every year to raise awareness about the crucial role played by Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in driving economic growth, fostering innovation, and creating employment opportunities
- ✓ International MSME Day was first proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in April 2017 to recognize the importance of MSMEs in achieving sustainable development goals.

- ✓ The day was officially celebrated for the first time on June 27, 2018.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "Empowering MSMEs for a Sustainable Future."
- ✓ MSMEs account for up to 90% of businesses, 60% to 70% of jobs worldwide, and half of global GDP, according to the UN data
- ✓ On June 27, the Ministry of MSME will hold "Udyami Bharat-MSME Day" as part of World MSME Day at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
  - ✓ The event will be graced by the presence of Narayan Rane, Union Minister, who will serve as the chief guest.
  - ✓ Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Union Minister of State, will also be present as the guest of honour.
- ✓ On this day, the Champions 2.0 portal, a platform that will provide valuable support and resources to MSMEs, will be unveiled
- ✓ Additionally, a mobile app for geo-tagging of cluster projects and technology centres will be introduced, facilitating effective management and monitoring of these initiatives.
- ✓ Moreover, the event will mark the launch of the MSME Idea Hackathon 3.0, a platform that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship among women entrepreneurs.
- ✓ Furthermore, certificate distribution ceremonies will be held to honor Gold and Silver ZED-certified MSMEs.
- ✓ The MSME Sustainable (ZED) Certification, which promotes Zero Defect Zero Effect practices, aims to enhance the quality and efficiency of MSME operations.

