

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS—JULY 5, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated Poomalai Vaniga Valagam (PVV) at Rs.5.16 crore for the development of women enterprises in 26 districts under the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women (TNCDW) recently.



- ✓ He also launched Nano Enterprise Financing Fund (NEFF) under the Vazhndhu Kattuvom Project (VKP) at Rs.50 crore.
- ✓ The CM also distributed loans amounting to Rs.5.6 lakh to 10 beneficiaries.
- ✓ Under the project, every district capital should have principal sale centres and additional sale centres to facilitate bank loans, and jobs and enable the sales of products of rural self-help groups at premium prices in urban areas.
- ✓ The VKP is operating in 31 districts, across 120 blocks in 3,994 villages.
- ✓ The project also supports existing and new nano enterprises operated by rural women SHGs.
- ✓ For 2023-24, Youth Welfare and Sports Development minister Udhayanidhi Stalin launched NEFF in 1,000 villages, Village Poverty Reduction Centres and Panchayat Level Federations totalling Rs.50 crores.
- ✓ The loans given under the fund range between Rs.30,000 and Rs.70,000.

- ✓ Mathi Sirugugal Thozhil Mayyam (one-stop business facilitation centres) present in each district would provide all relevant business-related support.

HIGH COURT VERDICT

- **On July 4, the Madras High Court - delivered a split verdict in Minister Senthil Balaji's arrest case.**
- ✓ The habeas corpus plea that was filed by the minister's wife, Megala, will now be placed before a third judge for adjudication.
- ✓ The minister's wife in her plea claimed that the minister's arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) was illegal.
- ✓ She alleged violations of procedures and laws in the arrest, remand, and subsequent detention of the minister by the ED
- ✓ The two-judge bench, Justice Nisha Banu and Justice D Bharatha Chakravarthy differed on the DMK leader's release.
- ✓ Justice Nisha Banu ordered the release of the DMK Minister, while the other judge disagreed with that.
- ✓ Balaji was arrested on June 14 by the ED in connection with a cash-for-jobs-scam when he was the Transport Minister in the earlier AIADMK regime.
- ✓ On June 15, the court allowed Balaji to be shifted to the Kauvery Hospital, where he later underwent bypass surgery

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **The 23rd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State - was chaired by Prime Minister Modi on July 4**



- ✓ During his speech, PM Modi stressed the need for the member nations to work together to eliminate the menace of terrorism.
- ✓ The PM also highlighted the need for reform within the SCO and welcomed Iran as the new permanent member.
- ✓ He said India has made five new pillars for cooperation in the SCO and they are Startups and Innovation, Traditional Medicine, Youth Empowerment, Digital Inclusion and Shared Buddhist Heritage.

- ✓ The Prime Minister said, several new platforms including Young Scientist Conclave, Authors Conclave, Startup Forum, and Youth Council have been organized to harness the talent of the youth from SCO countries.
- ✓ The meeting was also attended by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin.
- ✓ The theme of the SCO summit 2023 is 'SECURE' which stands for security, economic development, connectivity, unity, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and environmental protection.
- ✓ All the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Member States China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan have been invited to attend the Summit.
- ✓ Representatives from all member countries as well as two SCO bodies, the secretariat and Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) joined the meeting along with Iran, Belarus, and Mongolia, who were invited as Observer States.
- ✓ As per SCO tradition, Turkmenistan has also been invited as the guest of the Chair.
- ✓ India assumed the rotating Chairmanship of SCO at the Samarkand Summit on September 16 last year.
- ✓ The theme of India's Chairmanship of SCO in 2023 is 'SECURE-SCO'.
- ✓ The SCO was formed by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Tajikistan in 2001.
- ✓ It is a Eurasia political, economic, international security and defence organisation that counters western influence in Eurasia.

SPORTS

- **Former India pacer Ajit Agarkar - was named as the chief selector of Men's Indian cricket team.**



- ✓ The 45-year-old Mumbaier has replaced another former India pacer Chetan Sharma
- ✓ Sharma had to step down in February due to his loose comments in a sting operation conducted by a TV news reporter.

- ✓ Interestingly, it is perhaps for the first time that the BCCI has not followed the 'zonal formula' while appointing a national selector
- ✓ As Agarkar's former Mumbai and India teammate Salil Ankola is already a part of the committee.
- ✓ Shiv Sunder Das, Subroto Banerjee and S Sharath are the other members of the panel.
- ✓ Agarkar played 26 Test, 191 ODIs and four T20Is in a decade-long career (1997-2007), in which he took 349 international wickets
- ✓ Agarkar, who still holds the record for the fastest half-century by an Indian in ODIs — against Zimbabwe in 2000 — and also scored a Test century at Lord's Cricket Ground in 2002
- ✓ He is the senior-most member of the panel and as per the BCCI rules became its chairman.
- ✓ Early in his career, he held the record of being the fastest to 50 ODI wickets (23 matches).
- ✓ Agarkar was Mumbai's chief selector from 2017-19, and for the last two years, was the bowling coach with the Delhi Capitals.

