

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-JULY 8, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- **On July 7, the Tamil Nadu government - has announced the eligibility criteria for the ambitious 'Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam' (Kalaingar women's entitlement scheme)**
- ✓ The scheme offers Rs 1,000 assistance to women heads of households every month
- ✓ It was one of the major poll promises of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) during its 2021 Assembly election campaign.
- ✓ The scheme 'Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam' will be named after former Chief Minister and late DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi.
- ✓ It will be launched on September 15, on the birth anniversary of DMK founder CN Annadurai.
- ✓ To avail the benefit under the scheme, women heads should be aged above 21 years, have an annual family income less than Rs 2.5 lakh, the family not hold more than five acres of wetland or 10 acres of dryland, and have an annual household electricity consumption below 3,600 units.
- ✓ A family is eligible to apply if one of its members also avail maintenance allowance from the department of welfare of differently-abled under severely affected category.
- ✓ Each PDS card is counted as a family and only one member of the card is entitled to avail the aid.
- ✓ Unmarried, widow and transgender heading the families would be considered women heads.
- ✓ If there is more than one woman above the age of 21 in a family, only one of them can apply to be a beneficiary.
- ✓ Eight categories are ineligible for the scheme.
 - ✓ This includes families having an annual income of over Rs.2.5 lakh, income-tax payee, professional tax-payee, employee of state and central governments/public sector undertakings/banks, boards, local bodies,

cooperative institutions, and pensioner and elected representative in local body, assembly and Parliament.

- ✓ Also, if a family member owns a four-wheeler, owns business establishments with annual turnover of more than Rs.50 lakh and pays GST, and is a beneficiary of social security pension schemes of the state government.
- ✓ Eligible women have been asked to apply for the scheme at the ration shops where they are registered.
- ✓ A special team would be constituted for this scheme under the newly appointed Chief Secretary Shiv Das Meena
- ✓ The state government had earmarked Rs 7,000 crore in the Budget for 2023-24 to implement the scheme
- ✓ The 'Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai' scheme was announced by the Tamil Nadu government during its budget in March 2023.

➤ **Tamil Nadu - is ranked among the bottom 10 in learning outcomes in the latest performance grading index (PGI) 2021-22 released by the Union ministry of education on July 7.**

HIGHS AND LOWS	
TN'S SCORE IN PERFORMANCE GRADING INDEX FOR 2021-22 (within the bracket overall score)	
Learning Outcomes 41.2 (240)	➤ In learning outcomes, TN registered its worst performance as it was ranked among the bottom 10 states. In access, equity and teacher education, the state performed better
Access 66.2 (80)	
Infrastructure and facilities 93.5 (190)	➤ Overall score 590 out of 1000 and ranked in level 7. In level 6, only Punjab and Chandigarh found a place. In the first five levels no state has found a place as states have scored less than 700 in the restructured scoring system
Equity 229.5 (260)	
Governance process 77.6 (130)	
Teacher Education 82.7 (100)	➤ Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi and Puducherry have scored from 581 to 640 and featured in the level 7

- ✓ Overall, Tamil Nadu with 590 of 1,000 points featured in level VII (Grade: PRACHESTA-3) along with Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi and Puducherry.
 - ✓ In the previous index, the State was in level III in the 851-900 group out of 1,000 points.
- ✓ The State did well in certain categories, scoring 66.2 out of 80 under access, 229.5 of 260 under equity and 82.7 of 100 under teacher education.
- ✓ However, it scored a mere 41.2 of 240 in learning outcomes, one of the six parameters used for the grading index compiled with data sourced from National Achievement Survey 2021.
 - ✓ The state, during the previous index in 2020-21, scored 132 out of 180 in learning outcomes
- ✓ Further, the state's score in the infrastructure domain, which takes into consideration clean drinking water and functional toilets, also dropped from 131 in the previous index to 93.5.

- ✓ The Union ministry revised weightage for parameters and introduced teacher education and training this year.
 - ✓ The weightage for learning outcomes has increased from 180 to 240 and for infrastructure from 150 to 190 meanwhile it reduced the weightage for governance process from 360 to 130.
 - ✓ As per the report, data for learning outcomes and equity is drawn from NAS 2021, while that for access, infrastructure and facilities, governance processes and teachers training is drawn from UDISE Plus report 2021-22.
- **Tamil Nadu Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Residents Tamils Welfare, Gingee KS Masthan - inaugurated the 11th International Conference on Tamil Studies in the campus of Institute of Asian Studies in Semmencheri, Chennai on July 7**



- ✓ The International Association of Tamil Research (IATR) is organizing the three-day World Tamil Research Conference from July 7 to 9 in Chennai
- ✓ The objective of the conference is to promote multi-disciplinary research on modern scientific lines in all aspects of Dravidian studies in general, and of Tamil studies in particular, and in allied fields with active collaboration of international organisations and scholars interested in such studies
- ✓ Also called the '11th International Conference on Tamil Studies', the Conference returns to Chennai after 55 years
- ✓ The 2nd World Tamil Research Conference was held in Chennai from January 3 to 10 in 1968, when CN Annadurai was the Chief Minister of the state and during that conference, statues of Tamil scholars had been established at the Marina beach.
- ✓ The conference's theme is 'the New Historicist Study to rewrite the history of the Tamils, Tamil Language, Literature, Culture and Civilization based on Tamil Classics and revaluations of early and recent excavations and finding in Keezhadi and other scientific evidences of the Sangam period'.

- ✓ About 200 Tamil scholars from all over the world are presenting their research papers in the conference.
- ✓ More than 1,050 scholars from 19 countries including US, Russia, Germany, France, Japan have shown interest in submitting research articles for the Conference
- ✓ During the Conference, it was announced that the 11th World Tamil Research Conference will be held in Kuala Lumpur from July 21 to 23.
- ✓ On July 7, Scholars K Rajan and R Sivanatham presented their article titled 'Recent archaeological investigations and its impact on Tamil culture'
 - ✓ The article highlighted the fact that an iron age civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu parallel to the Indus Valley civilisation
 - ✓ According to the results of recent dating technique, objects excavated from Sivakalai in Tuticorin district are from 2,500 BCE to 3,000 BCE, whereas Indus Valley civilisation was found to have lasted from 3,300 BCE to 1,300 BCE.
 - ✓ A previous dating of samples from Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district showed them to be from 2,172 BCE.
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu state archaeology department is trying to find the ancient links with Indus Valley civilisation by studying graffiti marks found in Tamil Nadu and undeciphered Indus script.
- **Deputy Inspector General of Police (Coimbatore range), C Vijayakumar - shot himself dead with a service revolver at his camp office in Race Course, Coimbatore on July 7**



- ✓ Vijayakumar, a 2009 batch IPS officer, was posted in January this year as the DIG of Coimbatore Range which covers districts including Coimbatore, Tirupur, Nilgiris and Erode,.
- ✓ He succeeded MS Muthusamy, who was transferred and posted as the DIG, Vellore range.
- ✓ His last posting was as deputy commissioner of police, Anna Nagar, in Chennai.
- ✓ A preliminary inquiry revealed severe depression as the reason behind the IPS officer's death by suicide

- ✓ Vijayakumar hailed from the Putur village in Tamil Nadu's Theni district and his father was a Village Administrative Officer (VAO).
- ✓ He joined the Police force as a DSP in 2003, cleared the IPS exam in Tamil in 2009 and took up the post of ASP in Valliyur.
- ✓ Vijayakumar served as District Superintendent of Police in Kanchipuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur districts.
- ✓ He also served as CBCID SP and was in charge of the sensational Sathankulam double murder case.

NATIONAL

- On July 7, the Ministry of Education - released the report on performance grading index (PGI) 2.0 for states and union territories for the year 2021-22.

PUNJAB, RAJ, CHANDIGARH BEST IN LEARNING OUTCOMES

Grade	Overall grade Score	States/UTs attaining overall grade	Learning Outcomes	Access	Infra	Equity	Governance Processes	Teacher education & Training
Daksh	941-1000	NIL	NIL	Delhi	NIL	Delhi	NIL	NIL
Utkarsh	881-940	NIL	NIL	8	NIL	31	NIL	Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Delhi, Chandigarh
Atti-Uttam	821-880	NIL	NIL	10	NIL	4	Gujarat	10
Uttam	761-820	NIL	NIL	12	Chandigarh	NIL	Kerala	13
Prachesta -1	701-760	NIL	NIL	4	5	NIL	11	5
Prachesta -2	641-700	2 (Chandigarh, Punjab)	Punjab, Chandigarh & Rajasthan	1	10	NIL	15	2
Prachesta -3	581-640	6	4	NIL	14	NIL	7	1
Akanshi-1	521-580	13	19	NIL	6	NIL	1	NIL
Akanshi-2	461-520	12	10	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Akanshi-3	401-460	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Indian education system is one of the largest in the world with about 14.9 lakh schools, 95 lakh teachers, and nearly 26.5 crore students

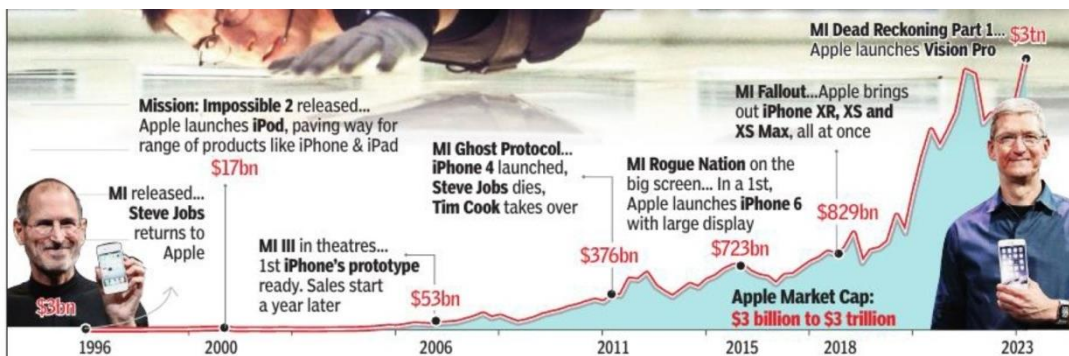
- ✓ According to the Index, none of the states/UTs has attained the highest grade, Daksh
- ✓ Only two states/UTs, namely Punjab and Chandigarh have attained Grade Prachesta -2 (score 641-700)
- ✓ Six states/UTs, namely Delhi, Kerala, Gujarat, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra have attained Grade Prachesta - 3 (score 581-640)
- ✓ 13 states/UTs, including Haryana and Rajasthan, joined Grade Akanshi -1 (score 521-580), while 12 states/UTs attained Grade Akanshi - 2 (score 461-520)
- ✓ The three poorest performing States/UTs getting Grade Akanshi – 3 in PGI 2.0 are Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Mizoram.
- ✓ In 2019-20, Punjab, Chandigarh, Tamil Nadu, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Kerala topped the index, while Kerala, Maharashtra and Punjab topped the 2020-21 index during the Covid-19 period.

- ✓ The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, devised PGI to assess the performance of the school education system at the state/UT level by creating an index for evidence-based comprehensive analysis.
- ✓ The PGI looks at the Indian education system as one of the largest in the world with about 14.9 lakh schools, 95 lakh teachers and nearly 26.5 crore students from varied socioeconomic backgrounds
- ✓ To align with new initiatives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and to replace existing indicators that have achieved optimal targets, the PGI – State structure for 2021-22 has been revised and renamed as PGI 2.0.
- ✓ The new PGI structure covers 73 indicators and it focuses more on qualitative assessment and even digital initiatives and teacher education
 - ✓ The PGI 2.0 structure comprises 1,000 points across 73 indicators grouped into two categories, namely outcomes, and governance management (GM).
 - ✓ These categories are further divided into six domains, namely learning outcomes (LO), access (A), infrastructure and facilities (IF), equity (E), governance process (GP), and teachers education and training (TE&T).
- ✓ The PGI 2.0 for 2021-22 classified states/UTs into ten grades, where the highest achievable grade is 'Daksh', which is for state/UT scoring more than 940 points out of a total of 1,000 points
 - ✓ The subsequent grades are Utkarsh (881-940), Atti-Uttam (821-880), Uttam (761-820), Prachesta 1 (701-760), Prachesta 2 (641-700), Prachesta 3 (581-640), Akanshi 1 (521-580), Akanshi 2 (461-520) and Akanshi 3 (401-460).
- ✓ The PGI for states/UTs was first released for the year 2017-18

BUSINESS/ECONOMY

- **On July 7, the IndianOil board - approved a rights issue for raising Rs 22,000 crore**
- ✓ IndianOil is the second state-run refiner-retailer to announce a rights issue.
- ✓ The Bharat Petroleum board had on June 28 approved a similar plan to raise Rs 18,000 crore for funding energy transition projects.
- ✓ During the meeting, the board also approved forming an equal joint venture (JV) with Singapore-based Sun Mobility with equity investment of Rs 1,800 crore till 2026-27 on electric mobility initiatives.
- ✓ The company board also approved investment of a little more than \$78 million in its Singapore subsidiary, 10CL Singapore, a wholly owned subsidiary of IndianOil, for acquiring preference shares and warrants
- ✓ The joint venture with Sun Mobility will focus on battery-swapping business and other initiatives such as retrofitting and developing an aggregator ecosystem to promote electric mobility.
- ✓ Sun Mobility is promoted by Chetan Maini and Uday Khaitan of Russia-based Sun Group.

- ✓ Swiss-based Dutch energy & commodity trading house Vitol and German engineering giant Bosch have been investors since two and three years, respectively.
- ✓ The Union Budget had made a provision of Rs 30,000 crore as capital support for energy transition projects of IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum.
- ✓ IndianOil had recently doubled its authorised capital to Rs 30,000 crore.
- **Apple Inc – created history recently by becoming the first company in the world to reach a market value of \$3 trillion**



- ✓ Apple first became the world's most valuable stock in 2011, when its market cap was under \$340 billion and it comprised about 3.3% of the S&P 500
- ✓ Since then, it first reached \$1 trillion in value in mid-2018, and later achieved a \$2 trillion valuation in August 2020

How Apple Reached \$3tn valuation...

\$1 trillion | August 2018 (4 decades after IPO)

\$2 trillion | August 2020 (doubling in just 2 years)

\$3 trillion | June 2023 (intraday in Jan 2022)

- > Since Steve Jobs' death on Oct 5, 2011, Apple's market cap has jumped **8x** from **\$376bn**
- > It has zoomed **100x** since **April 2005** when it was worth **\$30bn**

If Apple were a country and the \$3tn mcap its GDP, it would be world's 6th biggest economy

- > Valuation and GDP are not really comparable, but it underlines how important **large global corporations have become**
- > Apple's mcap beats the real GDP of most countries. Only **US, China, Japan, Germany, India & UK** are ahead

Company	Value
Apple	3
Microsoft	2.5
Aramco	2.1
Alphabet	1.5
Amazon	1.3
Nvidia	1.0

Top cos globally by mcap (in \$ tn) (Source: Counterpoint, Bloomberg)

Apple's value is nearly 80% of BSE's \$3.6tn mcap

- > Apple's valuation is nearly 14 times that of India's most valued co **Reliance (\$218bn)**
- > The iPhone-maker is **more valuable than Boeing, Coca-Cola, Disney, Exxon-Mobil, McDonald's, Netflix, and Walmart combined**

More Than Half Of Apple's Revenue From iPhones

Year	iPhone Sales As % of Apple's Revenue	iPhone Shipments (mn)
2008	13	5
2009	30	25
2010	39	48
2011	43	93
2012	50	136
2013	53	153
2014	56	193
2015	66	232
2016	64	215
2017	62	216
2018	63	206
2019	55	196
2020	50	201
2021	52	238
2022	52	225

Apple's Mixed Reality Under Tim Cook

- > In the last 12 years since Cook took over, Apple has made **iPhones bigger and more powerful** with its own chips. Apple has also scaled up its **software business**
- > While there have been product launches like the **Apple Watch** and **AirPods**, the paradigm-shifting product innovation seen in the Jobs era is missing
- > Cook, known more as an **operations mastermind** than a product visionary, is seeking to bet his legacy on mixed reality headset **Vision Pro**, say reports

- ✓ This makes it the first US company to surpass the \$2 trillion valuation, though Saudi Aramco was the first \$2 trillion company overall.
- ✓ Microsoft Corp is the only other US stock with a valuation above \$2 trillion

- ✓ Apple and Microsoft Corp led the list of top 20 global companies by market capitalization at the end of June.

AWARDS

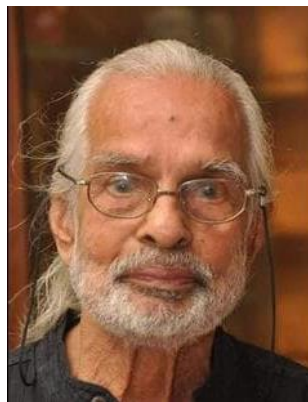
- **NLC India Limited - has bagged the 'Timely payments (CPSEs)' award for the year 2023 for its contribution in improving the reliability of e-market practices.**



- ✓ The Union government has been awarding companies that effectively utilise the dedicated e-market platform, 'Government e-Marketplace (GeM)', a national public procurement portal for selling and buying of different goods and services.
- ✓ The company commenced GeM procurement of Rs 2.21 crore in 2018-19
- ✓ It had registered an exponential growth of Rs 984.93 crore in 2022-23.
- ✓ NLC joined the GeM portal in the year 2017.

OBITUARY

- **Legendary illustrator Artist Namboothiri - passed away at the age of 97 in Kottakkal on July 7**
- ✓ Vasudevan Namboothiri's line drawings and sketches had breathed life into characters of some of the greatest novels and short stories in Malayalam literature



- ✓ A versatile artist, Namboothiri was a master in varied media like paint, sculpting and copper sheet relief works.

- ✓ Born on September 13, 1925, Namboothiri briefly studied Sanskrit and traditional medicine and get enrolled in the Government of Fine Arts, Madras, where he got trained under masters such as KCS Panikkar and Roy Choudhary.
- ✓ He joined Mathrubhumi in 1960 as illustrator and worked there for 21 years and later served in periodicals such as Kalakaumudi
- ✓ Namboothiri had also made a mark in art direction in films and won the best art director award for G Aravindan's movie 'Utharayanam' in 1975.
- ✓ He also served as the president of the Kerala Lalitakala Akademi and was honoured with the Raja Ravi Varma Award by the Akademi for his contributions to the field.

