

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 05, 2024

TAMIL NADU

➤ **State's First Robotic Elephant**

- ✓ A robotic elephant was handed over to a Shiva temple at Devarshola in Gudalur by Voices for Asian Elephants, a nongovernmental organisation (NGO), on Sunday.



- ✓ These robotic elephants have been donated to temples across Kerala to end the oft-criticised practice of maintaining elephants in captivity at temples, often in unhealthy, inhumane conditions.
 - ✓ This is the first such “elephant” to be given to a temple in Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ It is to be used in an upcoming temple festival, it was said.
 - ✓ The 11ft. robotic elephant weighs around 800 kg.
-
- **T.N. Forms New Green Company to Aid in Energy Transition**
 - ✓ The State government, to give a push for green energy, has formed the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) by hiving off the Renewable Energy wing of the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) and merging it with Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA).



- ✓ The new company has been formed under the Companies Act, 2013.
- ✓ A Government Order issued by the Energy Department on Friday said, the company called TNGECL has been formed with the aim to fast track the State's energy transition plans and at the same time help in getting access for funds for green projects.
- ✓ The new company would also be involved in the ways and means of integrating the renewable energy in the existing power grid and explore the opportunities of energy storage solutions like batteries for stable and consistent power supply.

STATE

➤ **Mahatari Vandan Yojana**

- ✓ The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Chhattisgarh will roll out the Mahatari Vandan Yojana — a monthly cash assistance scheme for married women — from March 1, announced Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Saturday.
- ✓ Eligible beneficiaries will receive 12,000 per year, transferred to their bank accounts in monthly installments of 1,000 under the scheme.
- ✓ The Mahatari Vandan Yojana, a key BJP election promise, played a pivotal role in securing women's support, thus contributing to the party's return to power after a five-year gap.

AWARDS

➤ **Quaide Milleth Award**

- ✓ N. Ram and Abusaleh Shariff chosen for Quaide Milleth award.



- ✓ The Quaide Milleth Educational and Social Trust (QUEST) has chosen veteran journalist N. Ram, Director, The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited, and Abusaleh Shariff, founder, Centre for Research and Debates in Development Policy, who previously served as the Member-Secretary of Justice Rajindar Sachar Committee, for the Quaide Milleth Award for Probity in Political/Public Life 2023.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **India's Woman Robot Astronaut "Vyommitra"**
- ✓ In a pioneering leap for India's space endeavors, Vyommitra, the woman robot astronaut developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is set to embark on an uncrewed mission in the third quarter of this year.



- ✓ The mission, named after the Sanskrit words "Vyoma" (Space) and "Mitra" (Friend), signifies a significant stride towards the ambitious Gaganyaan mission, the country's maiden manned space flight, slated for 2025.
- ✓ Vyommitra, equipped with advanced capabilities, is designed to monitor module parameters, issue alerts, and execute life support operations.

