



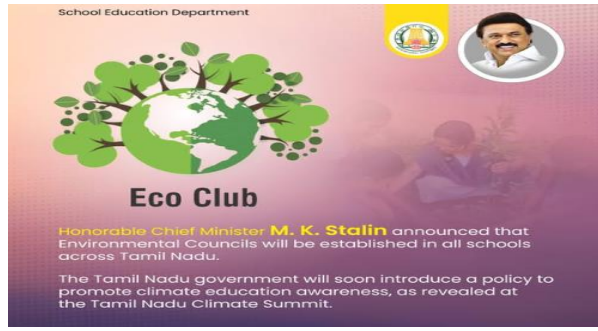
EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 21, 2025

TAMIL NADU

- **Five major dams in the State to be rehabilitated soon**
- ✓ Five major dams in the State, which are over five decades old, are proposed to be rehabilitated soon under Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)–II with World Bank assistance.



- ✓ The projects, which aim to ensure dam safety and improve the operation of the structures, are in various stages of implementation.
- ✓ The Water Resources Department (WRD) would soon start work to rehabilitate Vaigai dam and carry out catchment area treatment works at a cost of nearly ₹20 crore.
- **Tamil Nadu to set up Eco Clubs in all Schools to advance Climate Education**
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday announced that eco clubs would be established in all schools in Tamil Nadu, as part of the government's plan to teach students about climate change and its impact from a young age.



- ✓ Participating in the inaugural of the Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 3.0, he said the government would soon introduce a policy on climate education, aimed at raising climate awareness among all sections of society through students.

➤ **Now, 108 ambulances can be tracked with mobile phones**



- ✓ After a pilot run, the 108 ambulance network has rolled out its app — ‘Avasaram 108 Tamilnadu’ — that will now enable persons seeking ambulances for medical emergencies to track the vehicles on their mobile phones, not only through the app but also by SMS.
- ✓ Those who call the 108 Emergency Response Centre on their mobile phones will receive an SMS with a link for real-time tracking of the ambulances.

SCHEMES

➤ **Pink Auto Scheme: State Government to Amend Rules**

- ✓ In line with the announcement made by Minister for Social Welfare P. Geetha Jeevan for introducing “pink autos” in Chennai to ensure the safety of women, the State government has proposed to amend the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.



- ✓ According to the draft amendment, the initiative would pave the way for autorickshaws owned and driven by women drivers, under the “pink auto scheme” of the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department.
- ✓ He said that the autorickshaws would help women passengers commute safely.

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India, U.S. to double bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030**
- ✓ India and the U.S. agreed to negotiate the first segment of a trade agreement by the autumn of 2025, with India looking to increase energy purchases from the U.S. to address U.S.



- ✓ President Donald Trump’s concerns about the U.S.’s trade deficit with India, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Mr. Trump for bilateral discussions in Washington.

RANKING

- **Tamil Nadu bags Third Spot in Panchayat Devolution Index**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has been ranked third at the all-India level under the Panchayat Devolution Index (PDI).



- ✓ The State has received a score of 68.38 next to Karnataka (72.23) and Kerala (70.59), according to a study commissioned by the Union Panchayati Raj Ministry.
- ✓ Apart from the overall PDI, Tamil Nadu has the highest score at the national level with 60.24 with regard to the dimension of "functions," one of the six dimensions scrutinised to assess the performance of 28 States and seven Union Territories.

