



FIVE RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-august

TAMIL NADU


- **Chief Minister M K Stalin - called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on August 17 and discussed state-specific development issues with him**
- ✓ During the meeting, CM Stalin gifted the Prime Minister a box of 'Golden foodgrains' containing 44 traditional rice varieties and millets from Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ Some of the rice varieties in the gift hamper included Mapillai Samba (a variety of red rice), Karuppu Kowni (a variety of black rice), Kullakar (a variety of red rice) and Seeraga Samba (a variety of white rice).
- ✓ Millet varieties in the hamper included Kezhvaragu (ragi or finger millet), Kambu (pearl millet), Saamai (little millet), Thina (foxtail millet) and Varagu (kodo millet).
- ✓ Besides, the Chief Minister also presented a book, 'Home of Chess,' released during the 44th Chess Olympiad to the Prime Minister
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister also thanked the Prime Minister for inaugurating the recently-concluded Chess Olympiad that was held in Chennai.
- ✓ Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister met President Draupadi Murmu and congratulated her.
- ✓ He also met Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar during his two-day visit to the country's capital.

- ✓ The Chief Minister was accompanied by senior Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) leader TR Baalu
- **Tamil Nadu - has joined the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) programme**
- ✓ Under the initiative, bus commuters in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai can travel cashless soon

ONLINE MODE OF PAYMENT



AUTOMATED FARE COLLECTION SYSTEM IN TN

No. of buses | 9,000 in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai

Cost | ₹85 crore (for 5 years)

No. of electronic ticketing machines | 20,000

Charging infra | 199 bus depots

Expected usage | 4 million passengers per day

HOW DOES IT WORK?

TAP CARDS

- Passengers can buy National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC) from depots/CMRL stations
- Link it with bank to recharge
- Tap on electronic ticketing machines available with conductors

QR-CODE TICKETS

- Download app to enter trip details
- Payment can be made online using cards/netbanking or UPI
- The app will generate a ticket with QR code on it
- ETMs with conductors can scan them for approval during journey

- ✓ The transport department floated tenders for the introduction of an Automated Fare Collection (AFC) System in 9,000 government buses in these three cities.
- ✓ Following Delhi and Mumbai, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) announced earlier this year its plans to issue NCMC-compliant cards that can be recharged online or at stations.
- ✓ A similar fare collection system would also be introduced in government city buses in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai at an estimated cost of Rs.85 crore.
- ✓ The Institute of Road Transport, the state nodal agency to implement the project, will soon be procuring 20,000 Electronic Ticketing Machines (ETMs), necessary charging infrastructure and SIM cards.
- ✓ In March 2019, the Union government introduced the mobility card programme, which allows the public to pay for metro trains and buses across the country digitally.
- ✓ The National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) is an interoperable transportation card created by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- ✓ The user can use the single transit card to pay for travel, toll duties, retail purchases, and cash withdrawals.

- ✓ Accordingly, the customer can pay for anything with a single card, including metro, bus, suburban railways, tolls, parking, smart city, and retail purchases

NATIONAL

- On August 17, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) - reconstituted its parliamentary board, the party's highest decision-making body and central election committee (CEC).
- ✓ Two senior leaders— Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Union Minister and former party chief Nitin Gadkari - have been removed from both the panels.

ORAM, SHAHNAWAZ OUT OF ELECTION COMMITTEE

PARLIAMENTARY BOARD		CENTRAL ELECTION COMMITTEE (CEC)	
OUT Nitin Gadkari: Union minister and former party chief who was in board since 2009	minister, former Assam CM	Shahnawaz Hussain: Ex-Union minister, Bihar ex-minister and party's Muslim face	IN Bhupendra Yadav: Union minister and key poll strategist
Shivraj Singh Chouhan: MP CM, was in board for over a decade	K Laxman: Prominent face from Telangana, chief of OBC morcha	Vijaya Rahatkar: Former BJP Mahila Morcha chief	Devendra Fadnavis: Maha dy CM, Brahmin leader from state
IN B S Yediyurappa: K'taka ex-CM, prominent Lingayat leader	Sudha Yadav: OBC leader from Haryana, lost husband in Kargil		Om Mathur: Leader from Raj
Iqbal Singh Lalpura: Chairman of Minority Commission, first Sikh to be included in board	Satyanarayan Jatiya: Tribal leader, elected to LS 7 times from Ujjain, served one RS term		Vanathi Srinivasan: Women's wing chief, MLA from Coimbatore
Sarbananda Sonowal: Union			



- ✓ Six fresh inductions to the 11-member high-profile parliamentary board include Telangana BJP leader K. Laxman, Iqbal Singh Lalpura from Punjab, Sudha Yadav from Haryana, Satyanarayan Jatiya from Madhya Pradesh, veteran BJP leader B.S. Yediyurappa and Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.
- ✓ The new board has no general secretary, chief minister or young leader as a member.
- ✓ The rest of the parliamentary board comprises BJP national general secretary (organisation) B.L. Santhosh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and chaired by BJP chief J.P. Nadda.
- ✓ Amit Shah, then party president, had constituted the parliamentary board on August 26, 2014.

- ✓ The parliamentary board works in tandem with the Central Election Committee (CEC) and members of the parliamentary board automatically become part of the election committee.
 - ✓ In the Party's Central Election Committee, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, Rajya Sabha MP Om Mathur and BJP women's wing chief Vanathi Srinivasan have been included.
 - ✓ Former Union minister Jai Oram and ex-officio member Vijaya Rahatkar have been removed from the election committee
 - ✓ The only Muslim face in the election committee, Shahnawaz Hussain, has been dropped.
 - ✓ With this, the BJP does not have any Muslim as Minister, MP or in any important party post.
 - ✓ Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi had earlier quit as Union Minister after the end of his Rajya Sabha term.
- **The Mudhol hound – has become the first Indian breed to be inducted into the Prime Minister's Special Protection Group (SPG) squad for security purposes.**



- ✓ Mudhol hounds are already serving in the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, and other government departments
- ✓ In April, Canine Research and Information Centre (Mudhol hound), Timmapur, (CRIC), Bagalkot, handed over two two-month old Mudhol hound puppies to the PM's SPG
- ✓ The puppies are expected to complete the initial four months training in taking commands and then undergo rigorous training.
- ✓ The hounds are handed over to the Remount Veterinary Centre and College, Meerut, for a feasibility trial for induction into the military.
- ✓ Thereafter the IAF, forest and police departments too inducted them for rescue operations.
- ✓ The PM's security team did assess the Rajapalayam dog breed from Tamil Nadu and Rampur greyhound from Uttar Pradesh, but finally chose the Mudhol hounds.

- ✓ The physical strength and hunting skills of these hounds gave them an edge over the other two breeds.

HIGH COURT VERDICT

- **On August 17, the Madras High Court - ruled that the July 11 general council meeting of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) is invalid and ordered the AIADMK to maintain the status quo as it existed on June 23**



- ✓ A single bench of Justice G Jayachandran ordered to conduct a fresh general council meeting of the AIADMK, and asked O Panneerselvam and Edappadi Palaniswami be restored as the coordinator and the joint coordinator of the party, respectively.
- ✓ The court also suggested the nomination of an observer to conduct the meeting.
- ✓ The court observed that only the coordinator and the joint coordinator had the powers to convene the General Council, AIADMK's highest decision-making body.
- ✓ In the June 23 General Council meeting, the AIADMK had expelled O Panneerselvam from the party and had appointed Edappadi Palaniswami as the interim general secretary of the AIADMK.
- ✓ On July 11, the council members abolished the party's dual leadership model, and had appointed Edappadi Palaniswami as the "single supreme leader".
- ✓ O Panneerselvam had challenged the July 11 General Council meeting, and questioned the resolutions adopted leading to his expulsion from AIADMK's primary membership and the choice of Edappadi Palaniswami as the party's interim general secretary
- ✓ On September 12, 2017, the positions of coordinator and joint coordinator were created during the general council meeting, after former Chief Minister J Jayalithaa's death in 2016.
- ✓ Jayalithaa had been conferred with the honorary title of "eternal general secretary".