



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 2, 2022


TAMIL NADU

- In a first for any Indian state, Tamil Nadu - has launched its own Artificial Intelligence (AI)-generated NFT (non-fungible token) representing the state.



- ✓ Titled 'Netru, Indru, Nalai' (Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow), the NFT showcases the past, present and future of the state.
- ✓ It was launched by the state IT minister Mano Thangaraj on November 30 at the TechNext 2022 Web3 conference organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in Chennai.
- ✓ The NFT is set to be auctioned, and the proceeds will be used to set up a Web 3 Centre of Excellence (CoE) in the state.
- ✓ NFTs are digital assets on a blockchain with unique identification codes, and serve as digital collectibles that cannot be amended.

- ✓ During the event, the minister also released a CII report titled 'Metaverse and Web 3.0 opportunities in India Nurturing Tamil Nadu's growth ambitions through nextgen technologies' in association with KPMG.
- ✓ The report notes that Tamil Nadu and Chennai, in specific, is emerging as a technology hub with a broad spectrum of new age technologies including metaverse, web 3. 0, blockchain and others.
- **In an attempt to avoid bribes, the Tamil Nadu Transport Department - introduced a new provision to obtain online Temporary Permit (TP) instead of paying it by cash at all the 22 border check posts in the state.**
- ✓ With this reform, lakhs of tourist cabs, vans and other commercial vehicles will be able to enter or exit into the neighbouring states without multiple checks.
- ✓ In this regard, a pilot run was launched last month and now it has been formally expanded to all check posts.
- ✓ On applying after paying the fees, the receipt is automatically generated with a QR code so that enforcement authorities can check the genuineness.
- **Chennai's third botanical garden – to come up soon on a sprawling 137 hectare (338 acres) space on the city's outskirts.**
- ✓ The state environment department has finalised the location, Kadambur village along GST Road in Chengalpet district.
- ✓ The proposed site is located just 20 km from Arignar Anna Zoological park in Vandalur.

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE	
Cost ₹300 crore	
Area 137 hectares	
Location Kadambur, Chengalpet	Stage Detailed project report being prepared
Speciality The facility will have several types of plants including climate-resilient species and gardens	In pipeline MoU with Kew Gardens, a UK based non-departmental organisation and a botanical garden society
➤ Will have infra like glass house and greenhouse to support plants	➤ Will be the third in/near city after Semmozhi Poonga and Madhavaram botanical

- ✓ The garden will be home to climate resilient plants and will also have plants that will suit the weather conditions of Chennai
- ✓ It is being planned under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission as part of the effort to increase the state's green cover from the current 23.7% to 33%.
- ✓ The announcement on the project was made in the state budget in March this year.

- ✓ One the proposed garden becomes operational, it will be the third such facility in and around Chennai after Semmozhi Poongaon Cathedral Road and the one in Madhavaram.
 - ✓ These are, however, just spread across 20 acres while the proposed garden will be spread over more than 300 acres.
 - ✓ And it will cost Rs.300 crore against the Rs.40 lakh-80 lakh that these facilities cost.
 - ✓ The department has allocated the required sum for the project and is in the process of preparing a detailed project report.
 - ✓ Once that is completed, by March 2023, the work on the garden is expected to begin
 - ✓ In this regard, a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed with Kew Gardens, a non-departmental public society based in the United Kingdom and known for its expertise in setting up botanical gardens.
 - ✓ Kew Gardens will guide the state environment department including providing technical expertise on how to handle plants and what species to plant.
- **The personnel of the Tamil Nadu commando force - have secured the second rank in the national joint anti-terrorism training and competitions held at Haryana from November 14 to 26.**
- ✓ The special camp held at the National Security Guard (BSG) unit in Manesar, Haryana gave tips to the participants to handle hi-tech gadgets in case of terror strikes.



- ✓ The NSG officials also briefed them on how to handle the crisis and rescue victims held hostage by the terrorists after hijacking buses, trains, metro trains, and flights.
- ✓ The participants were given marks based on their active participation in firing practice in day and night and also to evade the hurdles quicker apart from diffusing the bombs swiftly.
- ✓ CISF came first and TNCF secured the second place, while ATS Uttarakhand ranked third.
- ✓ TNCF team comprising 18 commandos was led by commando officer K Velu.

NATIONAL

- **India - has reported more than 12,000 cases of measles so far this year, the highest in four years.**
- ✓ This has been confirmed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) which maintains a database of measles cases reported globally.
- ✓ According to the latest WHO data, India has reported 12,773 measles cases till November, which includes both laboratory-confirmed as well as suspected cases.
- ✓ The numbers are likely to go up further as states like Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Kerala among others are witnessing a surge in cases.
- ✓ Maharashtra has been advised by the Centre to undertake 'outbreak response immunisation' in high risk areas to prevent a public health crisis.
- ✓ The government also dispatched a team of experts to assist authorities in the other states where measles outbreak is being reported from small pockets.
- ✓ Measles, which is caused by a respiratory virus and affects children mostly, is one of the most contagious human viruses.
- ✓ There is no treatment available but the disease is almost entirely preventable through vaccination.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **India - will officially assume the presidency of the G-20 grouping on December 1, 2022 from the current chair Indonesia**



- ✓ As part of this, several events will be held across the country to mark the occasion
- ✓ This includes the lighting of 100 monuments including UNESCO world heritage sites with the G-20 logo for seven days from December 1 to 7
- ✓ This will be accompanied by a selfie competition encouraging people to take a picture with the monument in the background.

- ✓ The G20 logo, theme and website of G-20 presidency was earlier unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 8.
- ✓ During the course of its Presidency, India will be holding about 200 meetings in 32 different sectors in multiple locations across the country
 - ✓ The first meeting of G20 will be held in the first week of December in Udaipur when the G20 Sherpa meet will take place
- ✓ The theme of India's G20 Presidency is 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth One Family One Future'.
 - ✓ The theme affirms the value of all life - human, animal, plant, and microorganisms and their interconnectedness on the planet Earth and in the wider universe.
- ✓ Noted artist Sudarsan Pattnaik created the logo of India's G20 presidency on sand as the country officially took over the chair of the grouping.
 - ✓ Pattnaik displayed the logo and its theme at the International Sand Art Festival in Konark in Odisha.
- ✓ The website G20.org will be transferred to New Delhi from Indonesia along with the social media accounts.
- ✓ The G20 presidency will kick off with celebrations at the Hornbill Festival in Nagaland
- ✓ The G20 comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the US and the European Union
- ✓ India will host the G-20 leaders' summit in New Delhi on September 9 and 10 in 2023 under its Presidency
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was handed over the presidency of G20 by Indonesian President Joko Widodo at the end of the two-day G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia

DEFENCE

- **The 18th edition of the India-US joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' - is currently underway at Auli in Uttarakhand, about 100 km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC).**



- ✓ China has objected to the military exercise near the LAC saying it violates the spirit of bilateral agreements signed by China and India in 1993 and 1996 for border peace.
- ✓ Yudh Abhyas is a bilateral training exercise held annually since 2004
- ✓ It is aimed at improving the interoperability of the Indian and US armies to increase partner capacity for “conventional, complex and future contingencies throughout the Indo-Pacific region”.
- ✓ The nearly two-week exercise began on November 16
- ✓ The military exercise is conducted annually between India and the US with the aim of exchanging best practices, tactics, techniques and procedures between the armies of the two nations.
- ✓ US Army soldiers of 2nd Brigade of the 11th Airborne Division and Indian Army soldiers from the Assam Regiment will be participating in the exercise.
- ✓ The joint exercise will also focus on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) operations.
- ✓ The training schedule focuses on the employment of an integrated battle group under Chapter VII of the UN Mandate.
- ✓ The previous edition of the exercise was conducted at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska, the US in October 2021

AWARDS

- **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya - was conferred with the ‘Award of Excellence’ at the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation-2022 recently on November 26**

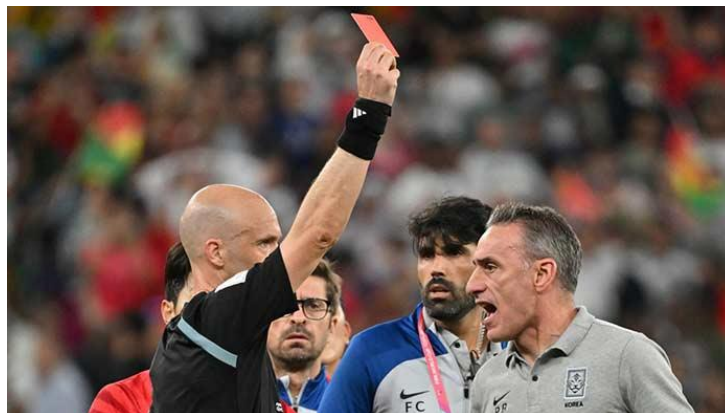


- ✓ The 100-year-old museum was part of the Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai's world heritage property
- ✓ The "heroic" restoration of the historic museum has won the top award from United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
 - ✓ The jury hailed the restoration as a project that "sets a standard" for the conservation of world heritage monuments.

- ✓ In late 2019, the museum initiated comprehensive repairs, restoration and refurbishment of the main and extension building, exterior and interiors and main dome in a phased manner
 - ✓ This was launched in the run-up to its centenary celebration on January 10, 2022
- ✓ The Rs.21 crore restoration project was funded by TCS Foundation
- ✓ After restoration work by conservation architect Abha Narain Lambah in 2009, the museum had received an 'honourable mention' at the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation in 2010.
- ✓ Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya was established as the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India in 1922
 - ✓ It was established to commemorate the visit of the Prince of Wales (George V) to India
 - ✓ The museum currently hosts some 50,000 exhibits from ancient India as well as foreign lands
- ✓ Of the 13 projects from six countries – Afghanistan, China, India, Iran, Nepal and Thailand – four from India were awarded
- ✓ Besides, the Domakonda Fort of Telangana, and Byculla Station of Mumbai, are among the winners in the Award of Merit category, while the stepwells of Golconda in Hyderabad has won an award in the Award of Distinction category
- ✓ Since 2000, the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation programme has been recognising the efforts of private individuals and organisations in restoring, conserving, and transforming structures and buildings of heritage value in the region.

SPORTS

- **South Korea head coach Paulo Bento - became the first coach to be shown a red card at a World Cup match**



- ✓ The coach was penalized for protesting after South Korea's 3-2 loss against Ghana in a Group H match of the FIFA World Cup 2022 on November 28

- ✓ Paulo Bento was sent off for protesting by referee Anthony Taylor and will now be suspended for the South Korea's last group game against his native Portugal on December 2
 - ✓ Bento was also shown a yellow card in South Korea's opening match against Uruguay.
 - ✓ Bento, a former defensive midfielder with Sporting CP and Portugal, was appointed South Korea manager in August 2018
 - ✓ In the 2005-06 season, he inspired the team Sporting CP to UEFA Champions League qualification, finishing second behind Porto.
- **Qatar - completed a miserable World Cup campaign and bowed out of their own tournament with the worst ever performance by a host nation**

PAST PERFORMANCES OF WORLD CUP HOST NATIONS	
2018	Russia quarterfinals
2014	Brazil finished fourth
2010	South Africa eliminated in group stage
2006	Germany finished third
2002	South Korea finished fourth; Japan lost in last 16
1998	France winners
1994	USA lost in last 16
1990	Italy finished third
1986	Mexico lost in quarterfinals
1982	Spain eliminated in second group stage
1978	Argentina winners
1974	West Germany winners
1970	Mexico lost in quarterfinals
1966	England winners
1962	Chile finished third
1958	Sweden runners-up
1954	Switzerland lost in quarterfinals
1950	Brazil runners-up
1938	France lost in quarterfinals
1934	Italy winners
1930	Uruguay winners

- ✓ On November 29, Coach Felix Sanchez's Qatar was defeated by Netherlands and ended the tournament without a point and just one goal scored.
- ✓ Qatar were the first team to be eliminated from the competition when they lost 3-1 to Senegal in their second match, following a 2-0 defeat to Ecuador in the tournament's opening game.

- ✓ They are only the second World Cup host nation to fail to make it out of the group stage, following South Africa in 2010.
- ✓ Yet South Africa took four points from three group games, drawing with Mexico and beating France but only failing to qualify for the last 16 on goal difference.
- ✓ The host nation has won the World Cup six times, most recently France in 1998, and been the runner-up twice.

