

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 2, 2022

TAMIL NADU

- Chief Minister MK Stalin - inaugurated the new Avadi and Tambaram New Police Commissionerates in suburban Chennai through video conference from Secretariat on January 1, 2022



- ✓ The Tambaram commissionerate headed by M Ravi, ADGP, is located at Sholinganallur
- ✓ The Avadi commissionerate headed by Sandeep Rai Rathore, ADGP, is located at the Avadi Special Battalion building.
- ✓ For administrative convenience, the office of the Greater Chennai Police Commissionerate was trifurcated into City Commissionerate, Tambaram Police Commissionerate and Avadi Police Commissionerate.
- ✓ The trifurcated jurisdictions will come to immediate effect from January 1, 2022
- ✓ Under the control of the Commissioner of Police, Chennai, there are a total of 104 law and order police stations in the Chennai district
- ✓ Under the control of the Avadi Commissioner of Police, there are 20 police stations in Chennai district and 5 police stations in Tiruvallur district, taking the total to 25 police stations.

- ✓ Under the control of the Tambaram Commissioner, there are 13 police stations in Chennai district, 2 police stations in Kanchipuram district and 5 police stations in Chengalpattu district for a total of 20 police stations.

STATIONS UNDER TAMBARAM COMMISSIONERATE

Existing Jurisdictions

Tambaram, Chromepet, Pallavaram, Selaiyur, Chitlapakkam, Peerkankaranai, Kundrathur, Sankar Nagar, Perumbakkam, Pallikaranai, Kannagi Nagar, Semmencherry and Kanathur.

From Kancheepuram

Somangalam and Manimangalam

From Chengalpattu

Kelambakkam, Otteri (near Vandalur), Gunduvancherry, Maraimalar Nagar and Thalambur

STATIONS UNDER AVADI COMMISSIONERATE

Existing Jurisdictions

Milk Colony, Red Hills, Manali, Sathangadu, Manali New Town, Ennore, Mangadu, Poonamallee, Nazarathpet, Muthapudupet, Pattabiram, Ambattur, Ambattur Estate, Korattur, Thiruverkadu, SRMC, Avadi, Tank Factory, Thirumullaivoyal and Thirunidraoor

From Tiruvallur

Vellavedu, Sevvapettai, Sholavaram, Minjur and Kattur

- ✓ The new commissionerates were formed to ensure better prevention of crimes, enhanced management of traffic and expeditious redressal of people's grievances.
- ✓ On September 13, 2021, the Chief Minister had announced in the Assembly about the setting up of commissionerates at Tambaram and Avadi to overhaul Greater Chennai Police



- ✓ On October 1, the state government issued a separate order notifying M Ravi as the special officer for Tambaram and Sandeep Rai Rathore as the special officer for Avadi.
- ✓ A suburban police commissionerate, headquartered at St Thomas Mount, was formed during the 2006-2011 DMK regime
- ✓ It was later merged with Chennai city police when the AIADMK captured power in 2011

- **The two mofussil bus terminuses coming up at Kuthambakkam and Kilambakkam - are likely to be the first public buildings in Chennai to be near net zero, using renewable energy generated on campus**
- ✓ They will act as the hubs for generating solar power, which will also be used to recharge e-vehicles there.
- ✓ The two bus terminuses are to be completed by the year-end.
- ✓ Further, the 12KW solar panel at the Madhavaram mofussil bus terminus that generates just 40 units, will be upgraded to 300KW to generate about 1,000 units a day.
- ✓ The three bus terminuses will collectively have 10 MW of solar panels generating about 30,500 units every day.
- ✓ At Kilambakkam, the 60- acre terminus for buses to the southern districts can produce 19,200 units a day, while Kuthambakkam can produce nearly 10,400 units a day.
- ✓ Kilambakkam and Kuthambakkam are planned to produce 80 to 90% of the electricity they need from solar energy.
- ✓ There are also plans to set up recharge stations for e-buses and e-cars to use the excess power produced by the solar energy.
- ✓ If the entire renewable energy is used for charging e-vehicles, 40 buses or 800 cars can be recharged at Kilambakkam.
- ✓ Further, the constructing agency of the bus terminuses CMDA may tie-up with Tangedco to share the solar power generated by connecting with the grid.

STATES

- **Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray - has announced a complete waiver of property tax for all homes measuring less than 500 square feet in Mumbai**
- ✓ The waiver move is expected to benefit around 16 lakh families in the city
- ✓ In 2017, the Shiv Sena had made a similar promise, but the notification issued by the state government allowed a waiver of only the general tax, one of the eight components in property tax
 - ✓ The general tax constitutes around 10% to 30% of the total property tax amount paid by the residents
- ✓ The waiver will be effective from April 1, 2022, for the financial year 2022-23.
- ✓ Till December 31, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) had collected ₹3,450 crore in property tax when its target was only ₹800 crore.
- ✓ There are 16,14,000 residential properties below 500 sq ft in Mumbai and the BMC will incur an annual loss of revenue of Rs 462 crore due to the decision.
- ✓ The decision will also require the amendment of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, 1888, The Maharashtra Education and Employment Guarantee (Cess) Act, 1962, and The Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Preservation of Trees Act, 1975

- ✓ The proposal will now be placed before the state cabinet for taking the decision and making appropriate amendments to these laws

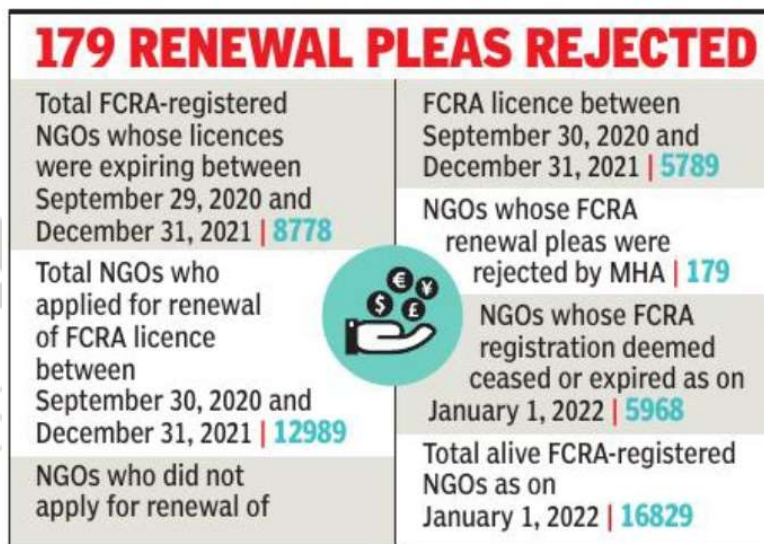
NATIONAL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - released the 10th installment of financial benefit under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme through video conferencing on January 1, 2022**



- ✓ During the programme, the Prime Minister also released an equity grant of more than Rs 14 crore to about 351 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), which will benefit more than 1.24 lakh farmers.
- ✓ Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar was also present on the occasion
- ✓ The virtual event was attended by as many as 9 chief ministers, several ministers from different states, and representatives of agricultural institutions.
- ✓ Under the scheme, an amount of over ₹20,000 crore was transferred to more than 10 crore beneficiary farmer families across the country.
- ✓ Under the Centre's flagship income support scheme PM-KISAN, a financial benefit of ₹6,000 per year is provided to the eligible farmer families, payable in three equal installments of ₹2,000.
- ✓ The first instalment is usually transferred by the government between April-July, the second instalment is between August-November and the third instalment is paid between December-March.
- ✓ The money is transferred directly to the bank account of the beneficiaries.
- ✓ The 9th installment of PM-KISAN was released in August 2021
- ✓ With the released latest tranche, the total amount provided under the scheme has touched about ₹1.8 lakh crore.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the PM Kisan scheme in February 2019.
- ✓ The scheme, funded entirely by the Government of India, aims to provide financial support to poor and marginalised farmers.

- **The Centre - has removed 5,968 NGOs and associations out of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) list**
- ✓ These include Oxfam India, IIT Delhi, Common Cause, Jamia Milia Islamia, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML), Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, Kolkata-based Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, and the India Islamic Cultural Centre (IICC).
- ✓ Others include Hamdard Education Society, Indian Institute of Technology (Hauz Khas), Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH), Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi College of Engineering, Goa Football Association, Press Institute of India, The Lepira India Trust and Indian Institute of Management (Calcutta), Medical Council of India, Emmanuel Hospital Association, Tuberculosis Association of India, Vishwa Dharamayatan, Maharishi Ayurveda Pratishthan, National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd, Bhartiya Sanskriti Parishad, DAV College Trust, and Management Society, Godrej Memorial Trust, Gere Foundation India Trust founded by Hollywood actor Richard Gere etc.



- ✓ Around 5,789 organizations were taken out of the FCRA because they didn't apply for renewal of licence, mandatory for receiving foreign funding
- ✓ Further, licences of 179 organizations were cancelled in violation of the act after scrutinizing their documents.
- ✓ As on December 31, there were 22,797 FCRA registered organizations in the country, which has now come down to 16,829 after the removal of 5,968 organizations
- ✓ These 16,829 organizations were "alive or active" as on date, which means they are eligible to receive funds from abroad and use them for specified purposes.
- ✓ The Centre amended the FCRA in 2020 allowing conducting an inquiry before renewal and giving organizations to surrender the license if an organization doesn't want it.

- ✓ As per the amended FCRA and Foreign Contribution Regulation Rules, 2011, all NGOs and associations are required to apply for renewal of their licence, which is valid for five years before its expiry.
- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan - launched a 100-day reading campaign 'Padhe Bharat' on January 1, 2022**

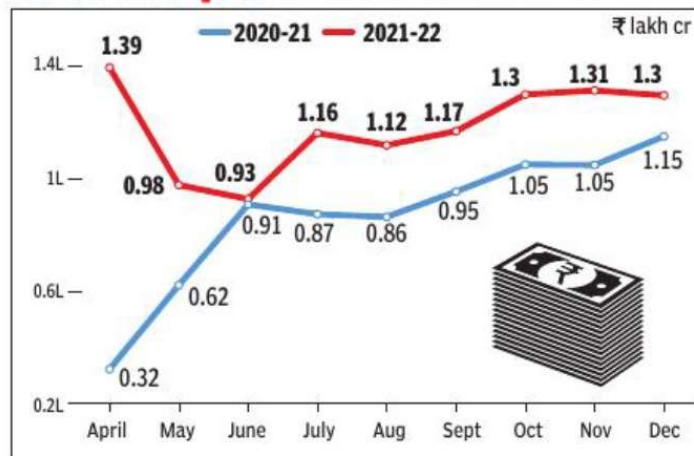


- ✓ The launch of the reading campaign is in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 which provides importance to the promotion of joyful reading culture for children
- ✓ Padhe Bharat campaign will focus on children studying in Balvatika to Grade 8.
- ✓ The reading campaign will be organized for 100 days (14 weeks) starting from January 1, 2022, to April 10, 2022.
- ✓ The reading campaign involves the participation of all stakeholders at the national and state level including children, teachers, parents, community, educational administrators etc.
- ✓ Under the campaign, one activity per week per group has been designed with the focus on making reading enjoyable and build a lifelong association with the joy of reading.
- ✓ This campaign has also been aligned with the vision and goals of the foundational Literacy and Numeracy mission
- ✓ The 100 days reading campaign will also focus on Indian languages including mother tongue/local/regional languages
- ✓ It is in this regard, February 21 which is celebrated as International Mother Tongue Day, has also been integrated with this campaign.
- ✓ This day will be celebrated with the activity of 'Kahani Padho Apni Bhasa Main' (Reading story in own language) across the country by encouraging children to read in their mother tongue/local language.

ECONOMY

- **The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions – hit a new record in December 2021, both in volume and value terms**
 - ✓ According to data released by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), UPI recorded 4.56 billion transactions worth Rs 8.27 trillion in December.
 - ✓ This is almost double the transaction value recorded in December, 2020, at ₹4.16 lakh crore.
 - ✓ Meanwhile, the volume of transactions registered at Rs.456 crore in December 2021, doubled from Rs. 223 crore in December, 2020.
 - ✓ For the year 2021, the UPI saw volume of transactions up 105% YoY at 3,874 crore and its value of transactions up 130% at ₹71.46 lakh crore.
 - ✓ Earlier, in October 2021, UPI transactions had reported record high transactions of 4.21 billion, worth Rs 7.71 trillion.
 - ✓ It was the first time that UPI transactions topped the \$100 billion-mark in a month.
 - ✓ NPCI is the umbrella organisation for retail digital payments in the country.
 - ✓ Launched in 2016, UPI transactions crossed 1 billion transactions for the first time in October 2019
 - ✓ In October 2020, UPI processed more than 2 billion transactions for the first time.
- **The gross GST revenue collections - stayed above the ₹1 lakh crore mark for the sixth consecutive month in December 2021**
 - ✓ The revenues for December are 13% higher than the same month last year and 26% higher than the GST revenues in December 2019

GST Receipts Remain Robust In Dec



- ✓ During the month, revenues from import of goods were 36% higher and revenues from domestic transactions are 5% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.
- ✓ The gross GST revenue collected in December totalled ₹1,29,780 crore

- ✓ Of this, CGST is ₹22,578 crore, SGST is ₹28,658 crore, IGST is ₹69,155 crore (including ₹37,527 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is ₹9,389 crore (including ₹614 crore collected on import of goods).

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **The 64th foundation day of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - was observed on January 1, 2022.**



- ✓ The DRDO was established on this day in 1958 with just 10 laboratories to carry out the research work in the Defence sector
- ✓ Today, DRDO is working in multiple cutting-edge military technology areas, which include aeronautics, armaments, combat vehicles, electronics, instrumentation, engineering systems, missiles, materials, naval systems, advanced computing, simulation, cyber, life sciences and other technologies for defence.
- ✓ In the recent times, DRDO played a significant role in fighting against Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ According to Chairman of DRDO Dr G. Satheesh Reddy, over 850 oxygen plants have been set by DRDO with the help from PM CARES Fund along with many Covid-centric hospitals, besides developing a medicine named '2DG'.
- ✓ Further, DRDO has undertaken the transfer of over 175 technologies in last one year in 2021
- ✓ At present, the organisation is working to develop hypersonic systems and also working on the fifth-generation advanced combat aircraft.
- ✓ It has also initiated significant steps in popularizing defence studies among students in the country.
- ✓ DRDO is the premier research and development agency for military, coming under the Department of Defence Research & Development in Ministry of Defence.
- ✓ It was established on January 1, 1958 after merging Directorate of Technical Development & Production of Indian Ordnance Factories and Technical Development Establishment, with Defence Science Organisation.

- ✓ In 1979, Defence Research & Development Service (DRDS) was set up as a service of Group 'A' Officers / Scientists.
- ✓ At present, DRDO has a network of 52 laboratories and comprises of about 5,000 scientists under DRDS

