

## **EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 9, 2023**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- **The school education department - has reconstituted the state library committee and the Chennai municipal library commission after 19 years.**
- ✓ The 15-member State Library Committee includes the School Education Minister, Minister for Rural Development and three legislators
- ✓ As per the GO issued by the government, G Gopanna and G Rathina Sabapathy of Tamil Nadu library association, K Nithyanandam of Chennai library association, and Roja Muthiah Research Library director G Sundar are among the other members of the state library committee.
- ✓ The library authority for Chennai city has been reconstituted with 11 members, including writers Manushya Puthiran alias A. Abdul Hameed and Tamildasan.
  
- **The first jallikattu of this season – was held at Thatchankurichi village in Pudukottai district on January 8, 2023**



- ✓ The event, inaugurated by ministers S Regupathy and Siva V Meyyanathan, was organised by Don Bosco Youth Centre of St Mary's church at the village located near Gandarvakkottai.

- ✓ A total of 481 bulls charged into the arena one by one and 210 tamers were in action in batches in front of a cheering crowd of about 5,000 people
  - ✓ All bull tamers, bull owners and organisers were permitted only after ensuring they were vaccinated twice and had a negative RT-PCR report generated within the last two days
  - ✓ The best bull tamer prize was bagged by Yogeshwaran of Thennagudi in Pudukottai district, while the best bull prize was received by Rajkumar of Maruthankudi in Thanjavur district.
  - ✓ Former health minister and Viralimalai MLA C Vijayabaskar's bulls Vellai Komban and Karuppu Komban bagged prizes too.
- **Tangedco - to replace all the existing electricity meters in all low-tension (LT) categories with smart meters under the Revamped Reforms-Linked Results-Based Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).**
- ✓ As the first step, the state-owned discom has invited bids for consultancy services for assisting and supporting the execution of smart metering implementation works
  - ✓ The tender for installation of smart meters will be in the operational expenditure (opex) model.
  - ✓ The winning bidder will procure, install and maintain the smart meters.
  - ✓ The exercise is likely to begin simultaneously across the state covering all cities, towns, villages.
  - ✓ Currently, only buildings in T Nagar and sections of Kodambakkam have got smart meters (1. 14 lakh) under the smart city programme.
  - ✓ Smart meters will reduce the burden on Tangedco to make physical reading of the meters through assessors and the bills will be automatically generated after the due cycle.
  - ✓ The automatic disconnection and reconnection is said to be the other highlighted feature of the smart meters.
  - ✓ Also, with smart meters, the monthly reading, which is DMK's one of the poll promises, is also said to be possible.

## STATES

- **Varanasi Cantonment Railway Station - has been awarded a 5-Star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.**
- ✓ The certification is granted by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to railway stations adhering to standard food storage and hygiene practices.
  - ✓ The station is awarded a certificate upon a conclusion of an FSSAI-empanelled third-party audit agency with ratings from one to five



- ✓ India has so far 34 'Eat Right' certified stations, including Bhopal and Varanasi Cantt.
- ✓ FSSAI is an autonomous statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- ✓ Eat Right India adopts a judicious mix of regulatory, capacity-building, collaborative, and empowerment approaches to ensure safe, healthy and sustainable foods for everyone.

## NATIONAL

- **The Union Cabinet - has approved continuation of Schemes of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) , with an outlay of Rs.12882.2 crore, for the balance period of the 15th Finance Commission (2022-23 to 2025-26).**
- ✓ Of the Rs 12,882 crore outlay, Rs 8139.5 crore will be earmarked for the 'North East Special Infrastructure Scheme (NESIDS)', and Rs 3,202.7 crore for 'Schemes of North Eastern Council', including committed liabilities of ongoing projects.
- ✓ The North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS), a scheme with 100% funding by the Centre, has been restructured with two components – NESIDS (Roads) and NESIDS (other than road infrastructure).
- ✓ The outlay for special packages for Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC), Karbi Anglong Autonomous Territorial Council (KAATC) and Dima Hasao Autonomous Territorial Council in Assam (DHATC) is Rs 1,540 crore
- ✓ The Ministry's new scheme "Prime Minister's Development initiative for the north eastern region - PM-Devine" (with an outlay of Rs.6, 600 crore), has been approved earlier in october-2022 separately
- ✓ Under this scheme, larger and high impact proposals under infrastructure, social development and livelihood sectors are taken.

## ECONOMY

- **Amazon – has signed a contract with Quikjet Airlines to expand its cargo freighter operations in India**



- ✓ Quikjet Airlines is a Bengaluru-based freighter operator, and it received its air operator certificate (AOC) few months ago
- ✓ The firm runs daily freighter operations, and the AOC is valid till 2027.
- ✓ The cargo airline will provide a dedicated 737 freighter, with a payload of 23 tons, for Amazon's India deliveries under Amazon's Prime Air brand.
- ✓ Quikjet, founded in 2007 as a neutral cargo airline, is part of Irish airline and leasing group ASL Aviation and is also backed by a few strategic Indian investors, including Tata Capital
- ✓ Quikjet's freighter network in India covers Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad.
- ✓ The airline has cargo aircraft Boeing 737-800 BCF based in Delhi and Hyderabad
- ✓ Globally, Amazon Air has an aircraft fleet of more than 100 and, in October, said it would add ten more A330-300s leased from aircraft lessor Altavair

## SPORTS

- **On January 8, India's fast-rising squash player Anahat Singh - won the girls under-15 title at the prestigious British Junior open in Birmingham.**



- ✓ The 14-year-old was India's youngest athlete at the Commonwealth Games last year
- ✓ Anahat defeated Sohaila Hazem of Egypt in the final.
- ✓ The British Junior open is held in January every year.
- ✓ This year, it was held after a gap of two years due to COVID-19.