

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 21, 2024

TAMIL NADU

- **Rally taken out in City to Mark World Population Day**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu’s Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) stood at 13 per 1,000 live births, while the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) was 45.6 per one lakh live births, Health Minister Ma. Subramanian said on Saturday.
- ✓ At an event held to mark World Population Day, he said the country’s IMR was 28 per 1,000 live births and the MMR stood at 97 per one lakh live births.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu’s population growth rate, he said, was 7.7%, according to a press release. A rally was taken out and a pledge was administered, as part of the event.

- **T.N. Emerges as ‘Front Runner’ in 13 Sustainable Development Goals**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has been classified a ‘front runner’ in 13 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, according to the latest SDG India Index 2023-24, released by the Union government’s think-tank NITI Aayog.



- ✓ According to the report, Tamil Nadu took the third spot with a composite score of 78, surpassing the national average of 71.
 - ✓ Achiever in energy, the State has been placed as a front runner in 13 SDGs in the latest report.
 - ✓ It continues to be placed in the achiever category for fulfilling the target of affordable and clean energy.
 - ✓ According to the report, Tamil Nadu tops in the goal of eradicating poverty, compared with the other States and the Union Territories.
- **New India Literary Programme or Puthiya Bharatha Ezhutharivu Thittam**
- ✓ The School Education Department has identified over six lakh illiterate people, aged over 15, across Tamil Nadu and has begun classes to provide them with basic literacy this year under the New India Literary Programme or Puthiya Bharatha Ezhutharivu Thittam 2022-27.



- ✓ Krishnagiri district has recorded the maximum number of illiterate people (61,622).
 - ✓ The five-year programme is expected to benefit over 30 lakh people across the State.
 - ✓ “So far, 6,07,771 people have been identified with the help of volunteers of Illam Thedi Kalvi and other schemes.
- **TN-RISE Initiative**
- ✓ From August 2024, around 130 enterprises and startups led by women entrepreneurs across Tamil Nadu will get mentored under the Tamil Nadu Rural Incubator and Start-up Enabler (TN-RISE) initiative.



- ✓ “From January to June this year, we conducted 31 district boot camps, attracting approximately 2,500 enterprises.
- ✓ Providing guidance TN-RISE operates as a special purpose vehicle under the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP) and supports emerging enterprises with guidance and financial backing.

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India and Russia have Doubled Rupee-Rouble Payments in 2024**



- ✓ India and Russia have doubled their payments in national currencies (rupee-rouble) since last year despite sanctions by the U.S. and European Union, says Russia’s state-controlled and largest bank, Sberbank, that handles a majority of payments for Indian exports to Russia.
- ✓ Rupee deposits by Indian corporates have also increased multifold in 2024

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

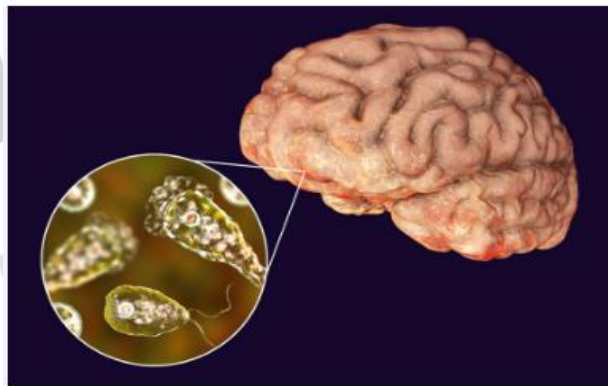
- **Nipah Cases**
- ✓ The Director of Public Health has instructed the deputy directors of health to deploy medical teams at border check-posts round the clock to screen all

symptomatic cases of the acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) with protective equipment.



- ✓ The zoonotic disease is spread by large fruit bats, which are natural reservoirs of the Nipah virus.
- ✓ Humans could contract the virus if they eat the contaminated fruit.

➤ **Amoebic Brain Infection**



- ✓ With five cases of amoebic meningoencephalitis, including three deaths, being reported in adolescents in Kerala in the past three months, the State's Health Department has come out with technical guidelines on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the infection, possibly the first set of guidelines in the country on this rare but fatal infection.
- ✓ In all but one case, the causative organism was the amoebic parasite, *Naegleria fowleri*.
- ✓ In one case, the organism was *Vermamoeba vermiformis*, another free-living amoeba found in human environment.

