

**EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 16,2022**

**TAMIL NADU**

- On November 15, Chief Minister M K Stalin - launched a housing scheme for registered members of Tamil Nadu Construction Workers' Welfare Board.



- ✓ The announcement to construct houses for members of construction labourers board was made by the Chief Minister in the Assembly in 2021-22.
- ✓ According to the scheme, 10,000 houses will be constructed every year for the members of the welfare board.
- ✓ In the first phase of the scheme, over 100 beneficiaries will be covered at a total cost of Rs.400 crore
- ✓ According to the announcement, the state will provide Rs 4 lakh for construction workers if they own land or will be provided a house in the already constructed Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB) tenements.
- ✓ The welfare board was constituted to extend all possible assistance for education of children of the members, marriage and other welfare schemes, including construction of houses.
- ✓ The financial assistance to the tune of Rs.322 crore was provided to over 4 lakh beneficiaries between May 2021 and October 22

- ✓ Further, during this period, more than 7.71 lakh workers enrolled as members of the board.
- **The Tamil Nadu government - has sanctioned Rs.84 crore to repair 3,800 rural libraries which are in bad shape without proper maintenance.**
- ✓ Ten years ago, the rural development department under the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) started building 12,525 libraries in all villages.
- ✓ The AGAMT was considered as late chief minister M Karunanidhi's signature project
- ✓ These libraries were started to benefit students, women and senior citizens, who couldn't travel to the respective district headquarters to access public libraries.
- ✓ The then DMK government purchased books worth several lakhs for these libraries
- ✓ However, in the next two years, many libraries were locked as enough funds were not sanctioned.
- ✓ In 2015, barely 2,000 were functioning and for only three days a week.
- ✓ Almost after a decade, chief minister M K Stalin revived the AGAMT and sanctioned Rs.91 crore for repairing 4,116 rural libraries.
- ✓ Now, rural development secretary P Amudha has released another Rs.84 crore to renovate another 3,808 libraries this year.
- **A new private ride-hailing global app 'inDrive' – has been launched in Chennai**



- ✓ The set-your-own-price hailing app promises that fares will not depend on traffic or weather conditions.
- ✓ The app allows passengers to offer their price and get a reply offer directly from nearby drivers.
- ✓ In turn, drivers have the right to decide for themselves which ride requests suit them best and suggest their own prices.
- ✓ Unlike typical ride-hailing apps that have pre-established algorithms, inDrive aims to offer a unique service by allowing passengers and drivers to have freedom of choice.

- ✓ Passengers receiving multiple offers can take their pick based on the driver's Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA), the price, the vehicle model and the driver's rating.
- ✓ The driver can also choose a particular order based on the price and distance, the passenger's rating, the pick-up location, and the number of inDrive trips the customer has already taken
- ✓ The app provides other safety features like real-time location sharing, emergency button always at hand and 24/7 support for both passengers and drivers.
- ✓ inDrive is a California-based international IT and transportation platform with services in more than 700 cities in 47 countries including Australia, Russia and Pakistan.
- ✓ The company's app has been downloaded more than 150 million times across the world.
- ✓ In India, it is already available in Lucknow, Hyderabad and Chandigarh.

## NATIONAL

- **On November 15, Prime Minister Narendra Modi – paid tributes to tribal icon and anti-colonial warrior Birsa Munda on his birth anniversary**



- ✓ Birsa Munda (1875-1900) led a tribal movement against the British rulers in Bengal Presidency and died in jail.
- ✓ At a Union cabinet meeting held on November 10, 2021, Birsa Munda's birth anniversary was decided to be celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.
- ✓ The date of formation of the Jharkhand state coincides with the tribal leader, Birsa Munda's birth anniversary.
- ✓ On November 15, 2000, the Bihar Reorganisation Act was passed and Jharkhand was declared the 28th state of India

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - participated at the working session on Food and Energy Security of the ongoing 17<sup>th</sup> Group of 20 (G20) Summit at Bali in Indonesia on November 15**



- ✓ PM Modi chaired the meeting with US President Joe Biden and other world leaders.
- ✓ The Prime Minister addressed the session by emphasizing that there should be no restrictions on energy supplies and reiterated India is committed to clean energy and the environment
- ✓ He thanked President Indonesian President Joko Widodo and President Biden for their commitment to support G-20's work under India's Presidency.
- ✓ On the sidelines of the Summit, the PM also met UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, French President Emmanuel Macron, Netherlands Prime Minister Mark Rutte and others.
- ✓ The PM will participate in discussions on digital transformation and health as the event progresses
- ✓ During the Summit, G20 Leaders will deliberate upon key issues of global concern under the Summit theme of "Recover Together, Recover Stronger".
- ✓ Three working sessions on the topics of food and energy security, health, and digital transformation will be held as part of the G20 Summit Agenda.
- ✓ Significantly, a draft declaration by the G20 member states, which is yet to be adopted, mentioned PM Modi's remark earlier to Russian President Vladimir Putin that this isn't the era of war.
- ✓ Indonesia's President will hand over the G20 Presidency to India at the closing ceremony of the Bali summit
- ✓ Subsequently, India will officially assume the G20 Presidency on December 1, 2022.
- ✓ G20 is an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **Researchers from the Special Centre for Molecular Medicine at Jawaharlal Nehru University - have re-positioned an anti-hepatitis C drug, Alisporivir, to treat malaria caused by drug-resistant strains.**

- ✓ Malaria is a vector borne disease caused by Plasmodium species parasites which spreads through the bite of infected mosquitoes.
- ✓ The Plasmodium species responsible for causing malaria has developed drug resistance to all known anti-malarial therapeutics, leading to discontinuation of many first-line treatments.
- ✓ The first-line treatments include chloroquine, proguanil, pyrimethamine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, and mefloquine.

## RANKINGS

- **India - climbed two spots to rank eighth out of 63 in the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2023, due to low emissions and the increasing use of renewable energy.**
- ✓ The report was published on November 14 by three environmental non-governmental organisations that track climate performance of the European Union and other countries.
- ✓ The rankings are released every year by Germanwatch, NewClimate Institute and the Climate Action Network at the UN Climate Change Conference
- ✓ They focus on how well the countries are doing to halve their emissions by 2030 — an essential aspect to keep the 1.5-degree Celsius goal within reach and prevent dangerous climate change.
- ✓ In the overall standings, none of the countries made it to the first three ranks
- ✓ Denmark, with the score of 79.61, was ranked at fourth position, followed by Sweden with 73.28 points at the fifth place.
- ✓ The US rose by three ranks to the 52nd place, while Iran (63rd), Saudi Arabia (62nd) and Kazakhstan (61st) fared the worst.
- ✓ The index assesses climate protection performance of the countries using 14 indicators in four categories

