

Target

TNPSC

WEEKLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS
(ENGLISH)

For TNPSC Group I, II/IIA,
IV & VAO Exams

January week - 3, 2022



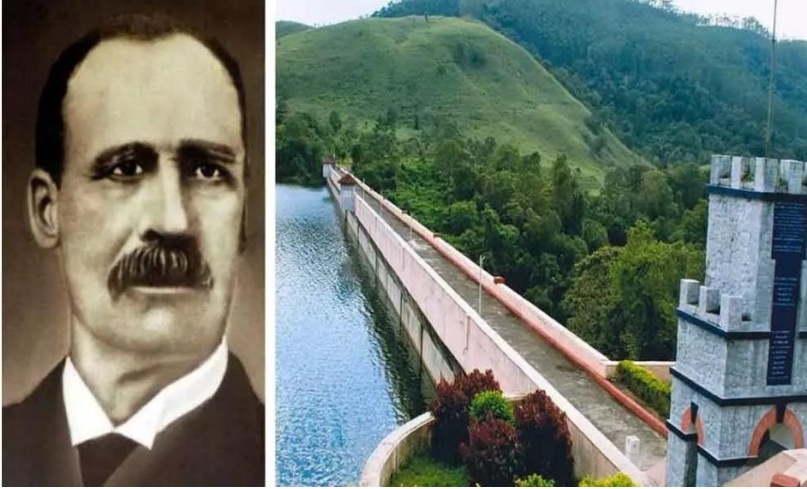
Table of Contents

Tamil Nadu	3
National.....	5
International	6
Awards.....	7
Sports.....	9
Appointments.....	10
Persons in News	13
Important Days.....	14
Science and Technology	15
Miscellaneous.....	16

Tamil Nadu

1. Colonel John Pennycuik

- Tamil Nadu government will install a statue of Colonel John Pennycuik, the British engineer who built the Mullaiperiyar dam, in his native town of Camberley in England.



- He constructed the Mullaiperiyar dam in 1895 to cater for the irrigation and drinking water requirements of the people in the districts of Theni, Dindigul, Madurai, Sivaganga, and Ramanathapuram.
- It is located in Iduki District but operated by the TN government.

2. Revamped pension scheme for temple priests and staff:

It has enhanced the pension for priests and temple staff by ₹1,000 for priests who retired after serving in various temples including those being managed by the State Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR & CE) department.

3. Delimitation of Wards or Divisions and Reservation

- Madras High Court quashed 2016 amendment to the Tamil Nadu Town Panchayats, Municipalities and Corporations (Delimitation of Wards or Divisions and Reservation) Rules, 1996
 - It said that reservation can only be based on the total number of seats in the Municipality and not on Zonal wise demarcation.
 - Greater Chennai Corporation - has reserved 100 wards for women after cancelling its previous order that had allotted more than 50% wards to women.
- The mayors of all three corporations under GCC — Chennai, Tambaram and Avadi — have been reserved for SCs.
- Chennai and Tambaram going to have their first women mayors.

4. Republic Day Tableau

Tamil Nadu's government announced that tableau will be part of the Republic Day celebrations of the state government and will be taken to major cities in the state for public display.

It features contributions of freedom fighters from the state in the Independence movement.

The theme will depict the sacrifices of Tamil freedom fighters including Veerathai Velunachiar, Pulithevan, Veerapandia Kattabomman, the Marudhu brothers, V O Chidambaranar and nationalist poet Subramania Bharathiar .

Tn Government also said that arrangements would be made to organise photo exhibitions titled "Tamil Nadu in Freedom Struggle," in important cities of the country.

5. The Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) - is planning to establish four classical Tamil chairs in the prominent universities in Southeast Asian countries during the next academic year (2022-23).

The Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT):

- It is an autonomous Institute of higher research functioning under the Ministry of education, Government of India.
- Founded in March, 2006.
- Location: Taramani, Chennai.

6. CM announced that Kalaignar M Karunanidhi Classical Tamil awards for the years between 2010 and 2019 will be presented on January 22, 2022.

The award is will be given to the scholars and researchers of eminence every year.

5. Bird census

- It is conducted by TN forest department, Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and the Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (Sacon)
- The objective of the exercise is on exploring species diversity, species richness, relative and absolute attendance and migratory pattern of birds
- It will be conducted in three phases for the first time.
- The data gathered as part of the exercise will also be used as inputs for the National Birds Action Plan, which is currently being prepared by WII.

6. Doppler weather radar

- Union Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences inaugurated a new doppler weather radar installed in the National Institute of Ocean Technology campus at Pallikaranai
- This new equipment is a dual polarised doppler weather radar capable of providing coverage in an area with a radius of 150km around Chennai
- It is the second radar in Chennai in addition to the existing one at the Chennai Port Trust Centenary Building.

7. Pongal Bird Count (PBC):

- It is the four-day bird counting exercise will be undertaken by the Tamil Birders' Network (TBN) and Bird Count India (BCI) in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.
- 356 species were reported out of 525 species recorded in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry region, during the Pongal bird count in 2021

8. International Thirukural Conference 2022

- It is conducted at Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Coimbatore.
- It is organized by The Sri Krishna Institutions and Kural Malai Sangam.

National

1. Mission Amanat

It is launched by Railway Protection Force (RPF) of the Western Railways zone of Indian Railways. It will provide the details of lost luggage and belongings along with photos are posted on the official website of the zonal railway.

2. Star Rating System:

It provides rating to the states on a scale of seven based on criteria for rating the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA).

It will then incentivize such states with better ratings based on the speedy environmental clearances. It is provided by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Bhupender Yadav – Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

3. 16th India Digital Summit 2022:

- It is organised by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)
- The aim is to accelerate India's digital transformation by defining an action plan for progress.
- The theme of the summit was "Supercharging Start-ups".

4. Draft guidelines professional standards of school teachers

- The Ministry of Education – releases draft guidelines to assess the professional standards of school teachers.
- This includes constitutional and professional values, commitment to students and profession etc.
- It is set by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has been restructured as a professional standard setting body and is developing the NPST.

International

1. Green Strategic Partnership – Action Plan 2020-2025:



It is signed between India and Denmark to initiate joint research and development on green fuels, including green hydrogen.

2. Omo Kibish:



It was first unearthed in Ethiopia in 1967.

As per a recent study, it is one of the oldest known Homo sapiens fossils.

3. World Economic Forum's (WEF's) Davos Agenda Summit 2022:

The theme of the event: The State of the World.

World Economic Forum (WEF):

It was established in 1971 as a not-for-profit foundation.

It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

It engages the foremost political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

It publishes reports such as Global Competitiveness Report; Global Gender Gap Report; Global Risks Report; Global Travel and Tourism Report among others.

Awards

1. Thanthai Periyar award - for social justice

- It is given by Tamil Nadu Government to honour those striving for social justice in the State.
- It is given for **K Thirunavukkarasu**(Mobile encyclopedia of the Dravidian movement)

K Thirunavukkarasu:

- Famous books- Dravida Iyakka Vergal, Dravida Iyakkath Thoongal.

2. Dr Ambedkar award

- It is given by TN government to recognizes the work of eminent persons towards the socio-economic and educational development of Adi Dravidar and Tribal welfare in the State.
- It is given to former High Court judge, Justice **K Chandru**.

Justice K Chandru

- **Famous works: My Judgments in the Light of Ambedkar and Listen to My Case.**

3. Perunthalaivar Kamarajar award

- It is given for veteran congress leader **Kumari Ananthan**
- He is a veteran Congress leader and former TNCC president.

4. Ayyan Thiruvalluvar award

- It is given TN government
- It is given for **M Meenakshi Sundaram**.
- He is the former president of Bengaluru Tamil Sangam, who was instrumental in erecting the statue of Tiruvalluvar in Bengaluru.

5. 2021 FIFA Awards

- Best Men's Player- **Robert Lewandowski**
- Best women's player - **Alexia Putellas**
- Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper - Édouard Mendy (Chelsea, Senegal)
- Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper- **Christiane Endler (Paris Saint-Germain and Lyon, Chile)**
- Best FIFA Men's Coach - **Thomas Tuchel (Chelsea, Germany)**
- Best FIFA Women's Coach - **Emma Hayes (Chelsea, England)**
- FIFA Fair Play Award - **Denmark national football team and medical staff**
- IFA Special Award for an Outstanding Career Achievement- **Christine Sinclair (Female) & Cristiano Ronaldo (Male)**

6. IBS Intelligence (IBSi) Global FinTech Innovation Awards 2021

- Axis Bank & CRMNEXT Solution won this award for the "Best CRM (Customer Relationship Management) System Implementation"
- It is one of the most prominent awards for global bankers and IT (Information Technology) consultants across the world.

7. National Startup Awards 2021:

- It is given by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- Karnataka won the highest number of awards
- The sectors included Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Drinking Water, Education & Skill Development, Energy, Enterprise Technology, Environment, Fintech, Food Processing, Health & Wellness, Industry 4.0, Security, Space and Transport and Travel.

8. Global Women's Health Tech Awards

- NIRAMAI Health Analytix Pvt Ltd, and InnAccel Technologies Pvt Ltd bagged this award.
- The award recognizes innovative startups that leverage tech to improve women's health and safety.
- It is selected for early-stage breast cancer medical device, Fetal Lite, AI-powered fetal heart rate (FHR) monitor.

9. 12th Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award 2022

- It is organised by the Government of Maharashtra in the memory of Dr Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar.
- It is given to Bajrangi Bhaijaan fame actress, Harshaali Malhotra

10. Global Private Banking Awards 2021

- It was organised by Professional Wealth Management (PWM)
- The award was given for contributing to accelerate key trends, including digitalisation, communication and investment in environmental, social and governance (ESG) strategies
- HDFC Bank is named as the 'Best Private Bank' in India

Sports

1. BWF World Tour Super 500 – New Delhi

- **Lakshya Sen** beat Singaporean world champion Loh Kean Yew to become the first Indian to win the men's singles.
- **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** and **Chirag Shetty** won the men's doubles title.

2. AFC Women's football Asian Cup

- India will host AFC Women's football Asian Cup India 2022 in Maharashtra.

3. Tasnim Mir

- She has become the first Indian to grab the No.1 spot in under-19 girls' singles badminton.

4. Bharath Subramaniam:

- Bharath Subramaniam from Tamil Nadu became India's 73rd chess Grandmaster.
- He secured the third and final Grandmaster norm at an event at Cattolica in Italy.

Appointments

1. **Lieutenant General Manoj Pande** has been approved the appointment of the next Vice Chief of Army Staff.
2. **Roberta Metsola** was elected president of the European Union's parliament.
3. **Narendra Kumar Goenka** was appointed as the new chairman of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, AEPC.
4. **Dr S Somanath** has been appointed as its new chairman and Space Secretary of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
5. TN government-appointed **U Mathivannan** as the chairman of the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing Development Corporation.
6. **K Deenabandhu** is appointed chairman of State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)
7. **SC 5 Member Panel**
 - Supreme court appoints 5-member panel headed by ex-judge Indu Malhotra to probe PM security breach.
 - The committee will look into who is responsible for the security breach and suggest what safeguards are necessary for the security of the PM and Constitutional functionaries.

Authors:

Book Name	Author
Bose: The Untold Story of An Inconvenient Nationalist	Chandrachur Ghose
Indomitable: A Working Woman's Notes on Life, Work and Leadership	Autobiography of Arundhati Bhattacharya

Reports and Indices:

1. World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2022

- It is released by The International Labour Organisation (ILO) headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Global unemployment will reach 207 million in 2022.

2. Digital Payment Index:

- It is released by the Reserve Bank of India.
- It shows the deepening of payments through digital modes in India, rose by 39.64 per cent to 304.06 in September 2021 against 217.74 in the year-ago month.

3. Oxfam India Report

- It is titled "Inequality Kills".
- It is found that as Covid continued to ravage India, the country's healthcare budget saw a 10% decline from RE (revised estimates) of 2020-21
- The collective wealth of India's 100 richest people hit a record high of Rs 57.3 lakh crore (USD 775 billion).
- The income of 84 per cent of households in the country declined in 2021, but at the same time, the number of Indian billionaires grew from 102 to 142.

4. India State of Forest Report 2021:

- It is prepared by the Forest Survey of India (FSI)
- The total forest and tree cover of the country stood at 80.9 million hectares, which is **24.62%** of the geographical area of the country.
- **Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra.**
- In terms of forest cover as a percentage of total geographical area, the top five
- States are **Mizoram (84.53%)**, Arunachal Pradesh (79.33%), Meghalaya (76.00%), Manipur (74.34%) and Nagaland (73.90%)
- **Pakke Tiger Reserve** in Arunachal Pradesh has the highest forest cover, at nearly 97%

- **Tamil Nadu expanded its forest cover by 55sqkm, but lost 406sqkm of tree cover**
- **TN ranked at 9th place** in terms of forest cover at **20%** of its total geographical area
- **Villupuram district** has lost maximum forest cover of 23sqkm in Tamil Nadu.

Forest Survey of India:

It is founded in 1981.

It is headquartered in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

It publishes India State of Forest Report (ISFR)- biennial publication.

The first survey was published in 1987.

5. World Employment and Social Outlook Report

- It is released by The International Labour Organisation (ILO) headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Global unemployment will reach 207 million in 2022. It is almost 21 million more than in 2019.

6. Climate of India during 2021:

- It is published by Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)
- As per the report, the year 2021 was the fifth warmest year in India since country-wide records started in India in 1901.
- Maharashtra was the most adversely affected state.

7. Investment Trends Monitor Report:

- It is released by UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows to India were 26 per cent lower as compared to 2020.

8. Global Cyber security Outlook 2022

- It is published by The World Economic Forum.
- In 2021, the ransomware attacks have increased by 151%. Each organization faced 270 cyber-attacks on an average
- 55% of the organizations in the world were affected by cyber-attacks in 2021.

9. World Bank - Global economic prospects report:

It reports that the Indian economy is expected to grow 8.3% in the fiscal year ending March 2022.

The World Bank Group is a unique global partnership of five institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for Settlement.

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA) form the World Bank

It is founded in 1944 under Bretton Woods Conference

It is headquartered in Washington, D.C., United States

10. Henley Passport Index 2022

- It is conducted by the London-based global citizenship and residence advisory firm
- India has improved its position by seven places to rank at 83rd place
- Japan and Singapore have retained the joint top position among 111 countries.
- Afghanistan has the world's least powerful passports, with a visa-free score of 26.

DEFENCE:

1. Tupolev Tu-160M:

- The Russian defence forces recently unveiled a new Tupolev Tu-160M. It is a missile bomber. It is also known as White Swan.



- It can fly at an altitude of 600 metres.
- It is one of the heaviest supersonic military aircraft.

2. Raksha Pension Shikayat Nivaran Portal

- It is designed to speedily redress pension, including family pension-related grievances of Ex-Servicemen and their dependents.
- Applicants can also provide feedback to improve the quality of redressal of grievances.

3. PASSEX Exercise:

- It is a Naval exercise conducted between India and Russia.
- INS Kochi, exercised with Russian Federation Navy's RFS Admiral Tributs in the Arabian Sea.

4. Philippines has approved a \$374.96 million contract for the purchase of a shore-based anti-ship variant of the BrahMos missile from India

5. Operation Sard Hawa:

- Operation Sard Hawa is conducted during winters.
- They are held to control the infiltration in the borders.

6. MPATGM:

- Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile(MPATGM) is developed by DRDO.
- It is an indigenously developed anti-tank missile, a low weight and a 'fire and forgets' missile.

Persons in News

1. Saturnino de la Fuente García:

- He is the World's oldest living man in Spain has passed away at the age of 112 years and 341 days.

2. Pandit Birju Maharaj:

- He was a Kathak legend belonging to the Lucknow Gharana and Padma Vibhushan recipient has recently passed away at the age of 83.



3. M K Prasad:

- He is a noted ecologist who recently passed away at the age of 89.
- He was a guiding force behind the national movement against the state government's move to set up a hydro-power project in Silent Valley in Palakkad district in the 1970s.

4. Maya Angelou:

- She was a poet and activist, becomes the first Black woman to appear on a US coin.

6. Prajakta Koli:

- She became India's first UN Development Programme (UNDP) Youth Climate Champion.
- It has been conferred to her because of her contribution towards mental health, girl child education and women's rights through various global social campaigns.

Important Days

Date	Significance	
January 14	Armed Forces Veterans Day	
January 15 or January 16	Thiruvalluvar Day	
January 15	Indian Army Day	A song titled 'Maati', sung by famed singer Hariharan, dedicated to the Army and the nation was released
January 16	National Start-up Day	Themes - sustainable development, the technology of the future, from local to global, building champions in manufacturing, nudging the DNA and growing from roots.

Economy:

1. Asia's 1st cryptocurrency exchange:



- It is an exchange-traded fund (ETF) that will be launched in India's GIFT City (International Financial Services Centre), Gujarat.

2. Saarthi App:

- It is launched by The Securities and Exchange Board of India, SEBI.
- The application explains mutual funds, their working, trading and settlement, KYC (Know Your Customer) processes, developments in the market,
- It also includes a grievance redressal mechanism.

Science and Technology

1. TOI-2180:

- The planet is the size of Jupiter.
- The new planet is 379 light-years away from the earth.
- It is 105 times denser than the earth.

2. Ultra Violet – C Disinfection Technology

- It was developed by the CSIR-Council of Scientific Instruments Organization



- It uses wavelength between 100 nm and 280 nm
- The UV – C radiation has been used in hospitals for decades to disinfect the air and it will destroy the outer protein coating of COVID – 19

3. Strange metals or non-Fermi liquids:

- These metals do not follow the traditional rules of metals in melting point, reaction nature, malleability, ductility.

Miscellaneous

1. Kerala's Kumbalangi gram panchayat - has become the first sanitary napkin free panchayat in India. It is also India's first model tourism village

All the women in this gram panchayat use menstrual cups instead of sanitary pads.

The panchayat is moving towards this eco-friendly change under the Prime Minister's Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) scheme

2. Pingle, India's first indigenously designed and manufactured car - was located in a scrapyard at Hyderabad.

The car was named after Hyderabad-based engineer Captain Pingle Madhusudan Reddy, who had designed and developed the vehicle in the early 1950s while serving as the general manager, HAL.

This car was made especially for the Indian roads, being powered by a two cylinder, two-stroke engine capable of producing 7hp of power.

3. The Tata Group has replaced Vivo as the title sponsor for the Indian Premier League 2022 and 2023 editions.

4. Indonesia's new capital is known as East Kalimantan or 'Nusantara'.

Earlier the capital of Indonesia is Jakarta on the island of Java.



5. Tonga volcano has been recently erupted and created tsunami waves in the Pacific Ocean.

6. **Sunions:**

They are tearless onions and become sweeter day by day is sold in the UK.