DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

DAILY
CURRENT
AFFAIRS

10.04.2025

Highlights of the Day

TamilNadu Highlights

Supreme Court on Tamil Nadu Governor's Actions

- **Issue:** Governor **R. N. Ravi** had **reserved 10 re-adopted bills** (previously passed again by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly) for **Presidential assent**, prompting a legal challenge by the **Government of Tamil Nadu**.

Supreme Court Ruling:

- The Governor's action was declared **"illegal and erroneous."**
- **Key Judgements:**
  - **No Discretionary Power:**
    The **Governor cannot use discretion** to reserve **re-presented bills** (bills passed again by the State Assembly) **for the President**, unless there is a **substantive difference** from the original bill.
  - **Article 163 – Aid and Advice:**
    The Governor is **bound to act** on the **aid and advice of the Council of Ministers**, led by the Chief Minister.
  - **Article 200 – Assent to Bills:**
    The Governor does **not have discretionary power** under Article 200 to **withhold assent** arbitrarily. The article requires the Governor to act as per the **Council of Ministers' advice**.

Governor's Constitutional Role:

- **Appointed by:** President of India
- **Position:** Constitutional Head of the State
- **Tenure:** Holds office during the **pleasure of the President**
- **Powers:** All **executive powers** of the State are vested in the Governor.

List of **10 Bills approved by the Supreme Court** regarding Tamil Nadu universities:

1. **Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill**
   – Grants the Chief Minister the power to appoint Vice-Chancellors.
2. **University of Madras (Amendment) Bill**
   – Changes in the authority for appointing the Vice-Chancellor.
3. **Periyar University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Administrative restructuring and transfer of powers.
4. **Anna University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Chief Minister to appoint the Vice-Chancellor.
5. **Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Changes in administrative setup of the university.

6. **Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Modifications in Vice-Chancellor appointment powers.
7. **Tamil Nadu Open University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Changes in administrative authority.
8. **Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Empowers the Chief Minister to appoint the Vice-Chancellor.
9. **Tamil Nadu Technological University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Transfer of administrative powers.
10. **Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (Amendment) Bill**
   – Empowers the Chief Minister to appoint the Vice-Chancellor.

These Bills were **re-adopted by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly** after the Governor withheld assent and reserved them for the President. The Supreme Court ruled that the Governor's actions were **illegal**, affirming that **he must act on the advice of the Council of Ministers** and **cannot withhold or reserve such Bills without valid justification**.

National Highlights

'Antar Drishti' Dark Room Inaugurated at NIEPVD, Dehradun

- Developed with the National Association for the Blind, it offers a sensory experience to simulate challenges faced by visually impaired persons.
- The dark room immerses visitors in complete darkness to promote awareness and empathy.
- During the event, NIEPVD also signed an MoU with Amar Seva Sangam.
- This partnership aims to implement the 'Enable Inclusion' app, developed by Amar Seva Sangam.
- The app aids in early identification, intervention, and tracking of children with developmental disabilities.
- It has proven effective in supporting intellectual and developmental needs in various communities.

What is 'Antar Drishti'?

- A **specially designed sensory experience dark room**
- Purpose:
  - **Raise awareness** and **sensitize** society to the challenges of persons with visual impairment
  - Allows visitors to experience **complete darkness** and participate in activities that simulate real-life experiences of the visually impaired

About the 'Enable Inclusion' App:

- **Developed by Amar Seva Sangam**
- **Focuses on:**
  - Early identification
  - Early intervention
  - Tracking of children with developmental disabilities

Topic: Reports and Indices

India's First Digital Threat Report 2024 (BFSI Sector)

Collaborating Organizations:

- **CERT-In** (Indian Computer Emergency Response Team, MeitY)
- **CSIRT-FIN** (Computer Security Incident Response Team – Financial Sector)
- **SISA** (Cybersecurity company focused on digital payments)

Objectives of the Report:

- Strengthen **cybersecurity** in **Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance (BFSI)** institutions
- Help organizations:
  - **Identify security gaps**
  - Understand **emerging cyber risks**
  - Improve **defensive mechanisms** against advanced cyber-attacks

Key Features:

- **Strategic roadmap** for BFSI entities
- **Real-time intelligence** & **defense recommendations**
- Insights from:
  - **SISA's forensic investigations**
  - **CERT-In's monitoring systems**
  - **CSIRT-FIN's incident response expertise**
- Provides a **multi-dimensional perspective** on cyber threats

Context and Urgency:

- Digital payments projected to reach **$3.1 trillion by 2028**
  - Making up **35% of total banking revenues**
- BFSI is **central to global digital transformation**
- Rising threats from:
  - **AI-driven cyberattacks**
  - Sophisticated **fraud techniques**
  - Increasing **regulatory and compliance** challenges

Call to Action:

- Encourages **proactive** cybersecurity strategies
- Targets **financial institutions, regulators**, and **security professionals**
- Aims to enhance **cyber resilience** across India's financial ecosystem

Topic: Environment

First Himalayan High-Altitude Atmospheric & Climate Centre Inaugurated in Udhampur, J&K

- **Inauguration:** Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the **first-ever Himalayan High-Altitude Atmospheric & Climate Centre** on **8 April 2025** at **Nathatop, Chenani** in **Udhampur district, Jammu & Kashmir**.
- **Altitude & Location:** Situated at **2,250 metres above sea level**, the location was strategically selected for its **clean air and low pollution**, ideal for studying **free tropospheric atmospheric conditions**.
- **Purpose:**

    - To provide **accurate weather and climate forecasts** for the region.
    - To support **high-altitude atmospheric and climate research** in the Himalayas.
    - To enhance **climate monitoring capabilities** under the **Ministry of Earth Sciences**.
- **Collaborative Effort:**
  A joint initiative of the:
    - **Ministry of Earth Sciences**
    - **J&K Forest Department**
    - **Central University of Jammu**

- **International Collaboration:**
  The Indo-Swiss joint research project **"ICE-CRUNCH"** was also launched.
    - Partners: **Indian scientists** & **ETH Zurich (Switzerland)**
    - Objective: Study **ice nucleating particles (INPs)** and **cloud condensation nuclei (CCNs)** in the **North-Western Himalayas**.

Topic: Summit/Conferences/Meeting

Aadhaar Samvaad: AI and Digital Public Infrastructure Highlighted

- **Event:** Third edition of **'Aadhaar Samvaad'**
- **Location:** New Delhi
- **Theme:** *Innovation, Inclusion, and Integration*
- **Chief Guest: Electronics & IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw**

- ○ Described **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** as the **new era of industrial revolution**.
  - ○ Urged stakeholders to contribute ideas on integrating AI with **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)**.
  - ○ Highlighted **Aadhaar's role as the backbone** of several government initiatives and DPI.
- **Organizer: UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India)**
- **Participation:** ~750 attendees including policymakers, tech experts, and industry leaders.
- **Major Launch:**

  UIDAI launched a **new Aadhaar app** with features such as:
  - ○ **QR-based data sharing**
  - ○ **Secure digital verification**
  - ○ **Enhanced privacy** and reduced need for **physical documents**

About Aadhaar Samvaad Series:

- **1st Edition:** November 2024, **Bengaluru** – Focused on **digital identity technologies**.
- **2nd Edition:** January 2025, **Mumbai** – Focused on the **FinTech sector**.
- **3rd Edition:** April 2025, **Delhi** – Focused on **AI integration and digital inclusion**.

Topic: Science and Technology

Bangladesh Joins Artemis Accords

- **Event:** Bangladesh became the **54th country** to sign the **Artemis Accords** with **NASA** (U.S. Space Agency).

- **Benefits for Bangladesh:**
  - ○ **Technology transfer**
  - ○ **Economic cooperation**
  - ○ **Scientific collaboration**
  - ○ Enhanced capabilities for **Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organisation (SPARRSO)** through cooperation with NASA.

About the Artemis Accords:

- **Established:** October 2020 by **NASA**
- **Nature:** Set of **non-binding agreements**
- **Aim:**
  - ○ Promote **peaceful**, **transparent**, and **cooperative** civil space exploration.
  - ○ Ensure sustainable and responsible use of **outer space**.
  - ○ Provide a **common framework** for governance of civil space activities.

Key Facts:

- **Total Signatories (as of April 2025):** 54 countries
  - Includes **USA, UK, India (joined in 2023), Japan, Canada, South Korea, UAE, Australia**, and several **European & Latin American nations**.

- **Bangladesh's Space Agency: SPARRSO**
  - Will benefit from collaboration with **NASA** under the accords.

Artemis Program Milestones:

- **First Mission:** Launch of **Orion spacecraft** aboard the **Space Launch System (SLS)** in **2022**.

Topic: Schmes and initiatives

7th Edition of Poshan Pakhwada 2025:

- **Launched on April 8, 2025** by Union Minister **Savitri Thakur** in **New Delhi**.
- The campaign will run till **April 22, 2025**.
- Aims to combat **malnutrition** and improve **nutrition outcomes**.
- Targets **children**, **pregnant women**, **lactating mothers**, and **adolescent girls**.
- Focuses on **healthy lifestyles**, **malnutrition management**, and **Poshan Tracker awareness**.
- **Ministry of Women and Child Development** is the nodal agency.
- Supported by ministries of **Health, Education**, **Rural Development**, **Jal Shakti**, and **State/UT governments**.

₹22,919 Crore Electronics Component Scheme Notified to Boost Atmanirbhar Bharat

- The Government of India has notified the ₹22,919 crore Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme.
- It aims to strengthen the domestic electronics supply chain and promote self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat).
- The scheme focuses on attracting global and domestic investments in component manufacturing.
- It targets an investment of ₹59,350 crore and production worth ₹4,56,500 crore.
- The initiative is expected to generate 91,600 direct jobs and many more indirect ones.
- It will boost domestic value addition and integrate Indian firms into global value chains. A portal will be launched soon to invite applications from interested companies.
- Consultations with industry stakeholders will help shape the implementation guidelines.
- In the past decade, electronics manufacturing in India has grown fivefold.
- Mobile phone exports crossed ₹2 lakh crore in FY 2024-25, creating 25 lakh jobs overall.

Topic: Economy

RBI's latest monetary policy announcement (April 2025):

- **RBI cuts the repo rate** by 0.25% to **6%**, marking the **second consecutive cut** to support economic growth amidst global trade tensions.

- **GDP growth forecast** for FY 2025-26 is revised down from **6.7% to 6.5%**, with quarterly estimates ranging from 6.3% to 6.7%.

- **Policy stance shifted** from neutral to **accommodative**, indicating the RBI may **implement further rate cuts** if needed.

- **Loans (home, auto, etc.) are expected to get cheaper**, benefiting borrowers, but **interest income for depositors may fall**.

- The decision comes amid the **global trade war**, triggered by U.S. tariffs, impacting **exports, investment, and business confidence**.

- **Inflation is projected** at **4%** for FY 2025-26; while upside risks like currency pressure exist, slowing global growth may **soften inflation**.

- RBI Governor **Sanjay Malhotra** emphasized a focus on **non-inflationary growth**, staying agile and decisive amid **global economic uncertainties**.

Topic: Important Days

World Homeopathy Day: April 10

- **World Homeopathy Day** is celebrated every year on **April 10**.
- It commemorates the birth of **Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann**, the founder of homeopathy.
- The day promotes awareness of homeopathy's role in **holistic healthcare**.
- Based on the principle of **"like cures like"**, using diluted natural substances for healing.
- Homeopathy is practiced globally by over **200 million people**, especially popular in **India**.
- Encourages **research**, **education**, and **integration** with conventional medicine.
- Highlights homeopathy's **effectiveness**, **safety**, and role in **natural healing**.
- **Theme 2025**: This year's theme, 'Adhyayan, Adhyaapan, Anusandhaan' (Education, Practice, and Research),

International Highlights

India-Israel Sign Agreements to Boost Bilateral Agricultural Cooperation

- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Israeli Agriculture Minister Avi Dichter signed key agreements in New Delhi.

- The aim is to modernize agriculture and strengthen food security through bilateral cooperation.

- Focus areas include soil and water management, horticulture, mechanization, and R&D. The agreement also covers post-harvest tech, animal husbandry, and processing systems.

- Both countries committed to increasing agricultural productivity and sustainability. Chouhan praised the 43 Centers of Excellence across India for supporting joint initiatives.

- A Joint Working Group will be formed to ensure consistent progress and clear timelines.

- India and Israel have shared close ties since formalizing diplomatic relations in 1992.

- Their cooperation spans agriculture, defence, water management, and innovation.

- This pact reinforces the growing strategic partnership and shared vision for food security.