Court suspects NEET irregularities nationwide

Unable to find out why the National Testing Agency had failed to put in place a system to prevent impersonation in the NEET, the Madras High Court on Friday suspected that the illegality of clearing the test through proxies would have happened across the country, not only in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu | PAGE 5

BJP to support AIADMK in byelections

Chennai The BJP will extend its support to the AIADMK during the campaign for the elections to Vikaravandi and Nanguneri, continuing the alliance formed for

FY20 GDP forecast

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) delivered another rate cut on Friday — the third in as many policy review meetings to boost a slowing economy. However, it failed to cheer the market, which was betting on a bigger rate reduction.

The six-member monetary policy committee (MPC) decided to cut interest rates by 25 basis points (bps) to 5.1%, with five members voting in favour of the quantum and R.H. Dhoolakia for a 40 bps cut (000 bps = 1 percentage point). “The MPC also decided to continue with an accommodative stance as long as it is necessary to support growth and inflation remains as it is and till the growth is revived, the RBI will continue to remain in an accommodative mode,” RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said in the post-policy interaction with the media.

The rate cut comes after GDP growth for the first quarter of the current financial year plunged to a 25-quarter low of 5%. Between February and now, the central bank has reduced the policy rate by 150 bps.

The central bank also revised its growth forecast for the current financial year, from 6.9% projected in the August policy to 5.4% to 5.7%.

Inflation forecast for the second half of FY20 has been retained at 3.5-3.7%.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Water, water everywhere... Social workers distributing water bottles at a bus stop on MGR Salai.

The Hindu has launched a personalised, ad-free version of its app for Android users as part of its subscription offerings. Readers can access the app and the website through a common login after signing up.

A metered paywall has been introduced on the website that allows free access to ten articles a month for those who have not signed up.

Subscribers have unlimited access to enhanced digital offerings and a ‘My Stories’ section tailored to individual preferences as also to the “Today’s Paper” compilation.

For subscription, log on to subscription@thehindu.com or download/upgrade The Hindu app on the Google Play Store.
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In search of the Wuhan spirit

At the Mamallapuram summit, India must ensure that it does not provoke China, leading it to indulge in adventurism.

The second informal summit between leaders of India and China involved a Palla king (Rajasimha, or Narasimha Varma II), from Mamallapuram, India.

First Informal Summit between India & China
- April, 2018
- Wuhan City, China

Second Informal Summit
- October, 2019
- Mamallapuram, India

Wuhan
- Capital of Hubei province of China
- Largest comprehensive transportation hub in Central China
- Scientific and educational institutions
- Rich in natural resources
- Strong industrial bases

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- India and its neighborhood- relations.
- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
Mamallapuram

- Symbolic of India’s soft power
- 8th Century AD - Security pact between India and China - earliest recorded security pact between 2 countries
  - Chinese side sought help from Pallava king (India) to counter Tibet
  - Pallava king - Narasimha Varma II (Rajasimhan)
- Renowned for its architecture
- Ruled by Pallava dynasty (275 - 897 AD)

Little Change / Not so much change in India-China relations; BUT many things have changed the circumstances surrounding India-China relations, after Wuhan Summit

1. Sharp deterioration of US-China Relations
2. Strengthening of India-Russia Relations
3. India’s influence in East Asia - as a result of triangular relationship with Russia & Japan
4. Increasing criticisms on Belt & Road Initiative of China
5. China’s domestic scene (not as sound as it was in 2018)
China's concerns:

- Indian interests in Russian Far East region
  - India - Economic Dimension - Line of Credit

- Strengthened relations with Japan and Quad grouping
  - Quad - revived in 2017
  - dialogue - at the level of Senior officers

- Conduct of an "all arms integrated" exercise - near Chushul, eastern Ladakh
  - Codenamed as Changthang Prahar

Reopening of Advance Landing Ground at Vijojnagar, Arunachal Pradesh

- Major combat exercise in Arunachal Pradesh
  - new Integrated Battle Groups to take part
Charging infra guidelines for electric vehicles get nod

One charging station in 3x3 km grid in all cities mandated

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
Under the new guidelines for the electric vehicle charging infrastructure approved by Power Minister R.K. Singh on Friday, there are more than four million as per the 2011 Census, and all expressways and highways connected to these megacities. The second phase (0-5 years) will cover other big cities such as State capitals.

News:
- Amendments in Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Guidelines and Specifications - approved
- India’s Target
  - to achieve 30% of EVs by 2030 in overall composition of the vehicles
  - to achieve 15% in next 5 years
Phase-wise installations

- Cities → One charging station in grid of 3 km x 3 km
- Highways → One charging station at every 25 km
- Phase I → expressways & important highways connected with Mega cities
  * Mega city → Population with 40 lakh plus as per 2011 Census
- Phase II → Big Cities (State Capitals, UT HQs)

Fast charging Station for long range and heavy duty EV → at every 100 kms

Private charging at residences or offices
- permitted
- will be facilitated by DISCOMs

Public Charging Station (PCS)
- type of Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)
- Charging outside home premises
- Setting up PCS → de-licensed activity
  * any individual / entity can setup

Nodal Agency
- Centre → Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power
- State → State government to nominate
**FAME India - II Scheme**

- Expanded version of FAME India-I Scheme
- Part of National Electric Mobility Mission Plan
- FAME → ‘Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India’
- Implemented by Dept. of Heavy Industries, Min. of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises
- To promote electric mobility in India

**Objectives:**

1. To support electric vehicle industries with incentives
   - Vehicles must use Lithium Ion batteries or any new technology batteries
2. To establish Charging Infrastructure in major cities
   - One charging station in a grid of 3 km x 3 km
3. To establish Charging Infrastructure on major highways for every 25 kms
Corporation school teacher gets environment award

He created awareness among students
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
Chennai
The C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre (CPREEC) presented the Best Teacher Award 2019 to G. Thangaraj for creating awareness among schoolchildren on

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks)
• Current events of national and international importance.
• General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-IV
• Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

⇒ World Animal Day / World Animal Welfare Day:
  ▶ Celebrated on October 4
  ▶ Mission → to raise the status of animals, to improve welfare standards

⇒ Wildlife Week → October 2nd to 8th every year
  ▶ to preserve fauna of India
  ▶ Started in 1952 → to save animal extinction of any species of India
  ▶ Indian Board of Wildlife → in 1952
    * improving awareness towards wildlife preservation
    * Replaced in 2003
      • By National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)
National Board for Wildlife

- Statutory Board
- Setup under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (WPA, 1972)
- 47 members + P.M. (Chairperson)

Minister- in-charge → Vice-chairperson of MoEF & CC

- responsible for promotion of conservation and development of wildlife & forests

C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre (CPREEC)

- Centre of Excellence of MoEF & CC
- established jointly by MoEF & CC and C.P. Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation

- Mission → increase awareness and knowledge of key target groups about environment (school children, women, etc.)
President commutes 20 death sentences in nine years

Separately, MHA decided to commute the sentence of Rajkumar, convicted in the then Punjab CM Beant Singh's killing

Life and death

The Ministry of Home Affairs has statutory powers to remit life sentences of prisoners under the Code of Criminal Procedure. The President can exercise his powers under Article 72 of the Constitution to commute the death sentence.

Since 2010, 20 death sentences have been commuted to life imprisonment in at least 20 cases over the past nine years, based on the recommendations received from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). These commutations were based on the President's exercise of powers under Article 72 of the Constitution after the convicts filed mercy petitions.

During this period, three persons were hanged: Yakub Memon (Mumbai attack of 1993), Afzal Guru (Parliament attack of 2001), and Ajmal Kasab (Mumbai terror attack of 2008).

In 2018, the Union Cabinet decided to grant special remission to prisoners to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and under the scheme, 2,016 prisoners were released in three phases.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

• Current events of national and international importance,
• Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

• Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions, and basic structure.

Article 72 of Indian Constitution

Power of President to grant pardons, etc. and to suspend, remit or commute sentences, in certain cases

President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or he can suspend, remit or commute the sentence of 'any' person convicted of 'any' offence

- by a court martial
- offence against any law - matter - executive power of the Union extends
- Sentence of death
Pardoning Power of the President

- part of the constitutional scheme
- Not a private act of grace on the part of the President
- Not supposed to act on his/her own judgement
- Article 74

President (Article 72) Vs Governor (Article 161)

- President - pardon, reprieve, respite, suspend, remit, commute - sentences given by court martials
  - Governor cannot
- President - pardon, reprieve, respite, suspend, commute - death sentence
  - Governor cannot
SC gives tax relief for food at incorporated clubs

The court said such supply of goods lacks the essential aspect of a sale — a seller and a buyer.

Justice Nariman, who wrote the 76-page judgment, pronounced on Thursday and published on October 4.

No sales tax on incorporated and unincorporated clubs - for supply of food and drinks to permanent members

No service tax on clubs incorporated from 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incorporated Entity</th>
<th>Unincorporated Entity</th>
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<td>A legal entity</td>
<td>A group of people with a purpose - not for profit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally separate from owners</td>
<td>Not legally separate from owners</td>
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</table>
* Supply of goods between club and members - Not a seller-buyer reaction
  - **Doctrine of Mutuality**
    - a person cannot make profit from himself

* An incorporated entity - a separate legal identity - an agent of its members

* 46th Constitutional Amendment → added Article 366 (29A) - tax on sale/purchase of goods
PRACTICE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. The objective of FAME India-II Scheme is to establish a charging infrastructure in the major cities of the country to ensure availability of at least one charging station in a grid of 3 km x 3 km.

2. The Central Nodal Agency that will act as the key facilitator in the installation of Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles throughout the country is the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Which among the above statement/s is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements, with reference to the National Board for Wildlife.

1. It is a statutory board set up under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. It functions under Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
3. Union minister for Environment is its ex officio Chairperson.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2
c) 1 and 3
d) 2 and 3
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre (CPREEC).

1. It is a Centre of Excellence of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
2. Its mission is to increase awareness and knowledge of key target groups such as school children, women, etc. about the various aspects of environment.

Which among the above statements is/are not correct?

a) 1 only  
b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2  
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Which of the following articles of Indian Constitution deal with the Power of the President to commute death sentences?

a) Article 74
b) Article 72
c) Article 123
d) Article 143
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. With reference to “incorporation”, consider the following statements.

1. Incorporation makes an association a legal entity.
2. Imposition of sales tax is not applicable if the transaction is between the incorporated entity and its permanent members.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Mains
GS - II

Q. “There is not much change in the relations between India and China since Wuhan Summit of 2018. But after the summit many things have changed, altering the circumstances surrounding India – China relations”. Explain with suitable examples.
Practice Question – Answers
05-10-2019

Q1. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q2. Option ‘b’ – 1 and 2
Q3. Option ‘d’ – Neither 1 nor 2
Q4. Option ‘b’ – Article 72
Q5. Option ‘c’ – Both 1 and 2
LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE

SUBSCRIBE