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TN CA 26 March 2024

Tamil Nadu's Proposal to Denotify Land Raises Concerns for Pulicat Bird Sanctuary.



Context:

- **Tamil Nadu plans to redefine Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ), moving away from default 10 km boundary.**
- This denotification may exclude Patta land in 13 **revenue villages from the sanctuary.**
- The process involves completing the claim process under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972.**
- **The sanctuary was brought under the Wildlife (Protection) Act in 1980, but the boundary was never demarcated.**
- The reduction of the eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) could directly benefit the **Adani-Kattupalli port expansion.**
- Local fishermen and environmentalists are urging the government to protect the sanctuary and its surrounding areas.

Pulicat Lake:

- **Pulicat Lake, located at the border of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh in India, is the second largest brackish water lake in the country.**
- Spanning an area of approximately **720 square kilometres**, it serves as a vital habitat for various species of flora and fauna, including migratory birds.
- **The lake plays a crucial role in the ecological balance of the region, providing breeding grounds for fish and supporting the livelihoods of local communities engaged in fishing and aquaculture.**

TN's peak power demand touches new record of 19,409 MW

Context:

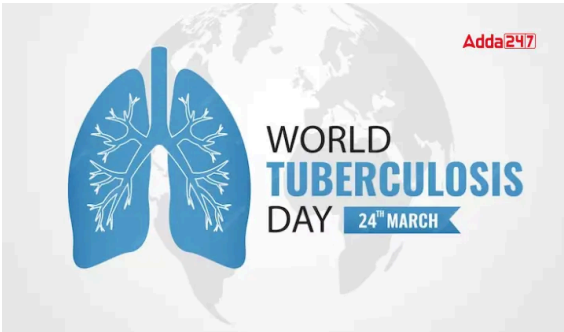
- Tamil Nadu records **all-time high power demand of 19,405 MW amid hot and sultry weather.**
- Peak demand **usually occurs in April and May but surpassed in March, indicating significant increase.**
- **TANGEDCO ensures uninterrupted power supply despite high demand, reaching 19,409 MW.**
- Hot weather drives increased energy consumption, particularly with heightened usage of air conditioners and fans.



தமிழ்



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extension of agricultural power supply to 1.5 lakh consumers leads to daytime peak demand.• Power supply to farmers now aligned with solar hours for cost efficiency.• Availability of solar power contributes to meeting high demand.• North Chennai Stage 3 thermal power plant currently using oil; expected to switch to domestic-imported blended coal after arrival of imported coal around March 26.
<p>World Tuberculosis day</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every year on March 24th, World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is observed worldwide to raise awareness about the devastating health, social, and economic consequences of TB, and to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic.• This day commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, a disease that still affects millions globally. <p>It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Raise Awareness:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. World TB Day serves as a platform to educate individuals, communities, policymakers, and healthcare professionals about the signs, symptoms, transmission, prevention, and treatment of tuberculosis.<input type="checkbox"/> Mobilize Resources:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. World TB Day mobilises resources from governments, international organisations, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders to support TB research, innovation, and implementation of evidence-based interventions aimed at ending the TB epidemic.<input type="checkbox"/> Empower Communities:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Empowering communities and engaging affected individuals as advocates and agents of change are key components of TB control efforts. World TB Day encourages community involvement, active participation,<input type="checkbox"/> Promote Partnerships:



தமிழ்



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	<p>a. Collaboration and partnerships among governments, non-governmental organisations, academia, communities, and affected individuals are essential to achieve the ambitious targets set for ending TB.</p> <p>Theme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The theme for World Tuberculosis (TB) Day 2024 is “Yes! We can end TB!”
<p>eOffice to be implemented in all State govt depts.</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tamil Nadu government initiates eOffice implementation across all departments, PSUs, boards, and state-owned agencies.• Allocation of Rs 7 crore aimed at enhancing speed, efficiency, and paperless operations.• Previous AIADMK government's Rs 19 crore eOffice implementation order disrupted by COVID-19 pandemic.• New government approves Rs 7.06 crore financial sanction for phase-1 implementation under Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA).• Procurement includes 4,571 computers and 283 ADF scanners, totaling Rs 18 crore.• TNeGA to upgrade online tool 'eOffice' to facilitate remote access to office information for all employees.