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Tamil Nadu: 02-07-2024

<p>State Education Policy (SEP) of Tamil Nadu</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The State Education Policy (SEP) wants a new regulatory body for deemed varsities in Tamil Nadu. <p>About SEP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Controlling Privatization and Commercialization:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Focus on controlling privatization and commercialization of higher education.○ Strict measures to streamline private higher educational institutions (HEIs).○ Opposition to entrance tests for higher education admissions; recommends using class 11 and 12 board exam marks for enrollment.• Regulatory Body for 'Deemed to be Universities':<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Establish a regulatory body to oversee admission procedures, fee structures, and staff emoluments.○ Enforce the state's reservation policy on deemed universities.• Government Participation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Increase government investment in higher education.○ Establish new comprehensive institutions throughout Tamil Nadu.• Institutional Autonomy: No complete autonomy for institutions on administrative and financial matters until they show integrity, attitude, maturity, and capacity.• Examination and Assessment Reforms:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Propose reforms to the examination and assessment process.○ Amend and strengthen the Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education Act.• Centre of Excellence: Upgrade Tamil Nadu Dr. M G R Medical University to a Centre of Excellence (CoE).• Democratize School Spaces:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Foster critical thinking in schools.○ Establish adult literacy centers in every panchayat with online and offline resources.• Gender Equality: Integrate gender equality into the curriculum and teacher education.
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Draft Tamil Nadu Space Industrial Policy 2024

Why in the news?

- Tamil Nadu releases **draft Tamil Nadu Space Industrial Policy 2024**, aims to create 10,000 jobs.

About TN space policy:

- **Objective:**
 - Establish '**Space Bays**' in **Madurai, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, and Virudhunagar** districts.
 - Modelled after the **Space Coast of Florida, USA**.
- **Investment and Timeline:** Aim to attract **₹10,000 crore** investments in five years.
- **Space Industrial Parks:**
 - **Two parks planned:** one for propellants, another for satellites and payload manufacturing.
 - **Propellant park land requirement:** 500 to 700 acres.
 - **Satellite and payload park:** demand-based land requirement.
- **Job Creation:**
 - Generate direct and indirect **jobs** for 10,000 people in 10 years.
 - Focus on a **knowledge-based economy**.
- **Sectoral Impact:**
 - **Adoption of space-based technologies** in transportation, agriculture, disaster management, and urban planning.

Kalaigñar Kanavu Illam (KKI) scheme

Why in the news?

- Members of the **Tamil Nadu Rural Development Officers' Association (TNRDOA)** recently staged demonstrations demanding additional **time to identify beneficiaries for the Kalaigñar Kanavu Illam (KKI) scheme**.
- The **KKI scheme** involves **constructing new houses and repairing old ones**.

About KKI scheme:

- **Objective:** The scheme aims to provide housing facilities to citizens in rural areas of Tamil Nadu.
- **Budget:** The government has allocated **₹3,500 crore** for the construction of 8 lakh concrete houses under this scheme.
- **Timeline:** The goal is to make Tamil Nadu a slum-free state by 2030.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eligibility: The scheme targets rural residents in need of housing.• Financial Aid: Each home built receives ₹3.10 lakh in financial assistance.• Implementation: In the first phase, one lakh new houses will be constructed, with each unit costing ₹3.5 lakh.
Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai scheme	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai' scheme, Over 1.48 lakh women file appeals, now eligible for Rs 1,000 monthly aid. <p>About scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beneficiaries: Women heads of families.• Monthly Assistance: Rs 1000 per month.• Rollout Date: September 15, 2023.• Eligibility Criteria:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Annual family income less than Rs 2.5 lakh.○ Family land holding not exceeding 5 acres (wetland) or 10 acres (dryland).○ Annual electricity consumption below 3600 units.• Eligible women can enroll through the e-Seva portal.
District green committees	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TN Forest department to launch helpline number for green committees. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helpline Number for Tree Removal:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Individuals and authorities can use this number to obtain permission for tree removal.○ Residents can also alert the department about unauthorized tree felling.• Process:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Currently, anyone seeking to remove, shift, or prune trees on public or private lands must obtain consent from district green committees.○ The district green committees will inspect the site based on requests received through the helpline.○ Applicants should propose compensatory afforestation by translocating trees or planting new saplings.



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