



28-06-2024 NEWS

Panchami Lands

- In the latter part of the 19th century, the downtrodden people were called 'Badiyal'. They were forced to work like animals on the lands of upper caste landlords.
- Ayotheethasar said that if this disgrace is to be removed, the government should come forward to give the barren lands to the Dalit people. Dalit leaders like Rettamalai Srinivasan were making demands to the British rulers.

Conditions

- Meanwhile, James Henry Apperle Tremancro, the then Collector of Chengalpattu District, sent a report to the British Parliament in 1891 in support of this demand. After considering the report, the British Parliament passed on 30 September 1892 to provide free land to Dalits.
- Based on this resolution, around 12 lakh acres of government-owned barren land was distributed free of charge to the downtrodden people who lived in some districts of Tamil Nadu, especially Chengalpattu and North Arkadu districts (present-day Tiruvannamalai and Vellore districts).
- These lands were called 'Panjami lands' because they were given to the poor people who were suffering from famine.
- The British called it D.C.Land (Depressed Class Land).
- When the Panchami lands were given to the poor people, the poor people could not lease the land or donate it to anyone.
- No sale to anyone for 7 to 10 years. After 10 years, it can be sold only to another lower caste. Conditions were also imposed that sale to others would not be legal.

Train Bringing business opportunity from Russia

- For the first time, coal has been sent by train from Russia to India through the International North South Transport Corridor.
- As an alternative to the Suez Canal route, which has been used for world trade for a long time, in 2000, three countries namely Russia, Iran and India jointly started the INSTC, International North South Transport Corridor.

Boon

- From St. Petersburg, Russia to Port of Mumbai, the route is nearly 7,200 km long and includes rail, road and sea transport.

Advantages

- First, India is thinking of using this route as an alternative to China's 'Belt and Road Initiative' (BRI).

- Through this route Indian traders can access not only Central Asian countries but also Baltic and Nordic countries.
- Recently, India's agreement to handle Iran's Chabahar port for 10 years has further strengthened this.
- When using the Suez Canal, the transit time between India and Russia is 45 days.
- But the INSTC route significantly reduces this time to 25 days.
- Also, it reduces freight cost by almost 30 percent.
- The route provides an easy and cheap way to import crude oil from oil-rich Central Asian countries.
- Also, it enables rapid importation of coal needed for power generation and metallurgical production from Russia, which supplies it at cheaper prices.

Sectors that will be benefitted

- Trade will increase in sectors such as electricity, pharmaceuticals, information technology, healthcare, textiles, agriculture, and jewellery.

New criminal laws will be implemented from July 1

- Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure (CRP), Indian Evidence Act replaced by three new criminal laws namely Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, Bharatiya Saksya Adhinyam.

NCRB for technical assistance

- The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has introduced 23 functional updates to the existing Crime Tracking Systems (CCDNS) that register criminal cases at every police station.

BPR&D for Skill Development

- The Police Research and Development Organization (BP R&D) has developed and shared training modules with all stakeholders for capacity building.

Others

- The Ministry of Panchayat Raj has trained 40 lakh volunteers to inform the public about the positive impact of the implementation of new laws and reforms on all sections of the society especially in relation to women and children.
- National Informatics Center has developed 3 apps namely e-Sakshya, Nyayashruti and e-Summon to facilitate downloading of summon notices electronically under the new laws.
- Information is being uploaded continuously through MyGov platform too.

Britain's Pen Pinter Award for writer Arundhati Roy

- Renowned Booker Prize winning author Arundhati Roy has been announced as the winner of the Pen Pinter Award.
- The 'Pen Pinter' Award has been given since 2009 by the Pen Private Charity in memory of the late British author Harold Pinter.
- Arundhati Roy will be honored with the award at a function to be held at the British Library on October 10.
- Author Arundhati Roy, who won the Booker Prize for her debut novel 'The God of Small Things', is facing trial under the Prevention of Terrorism Act for her comments on Kashmir 14 years ago.