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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Tamil Nadu: 25-04-2024

### Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009

#### Why in news?

- The **State Platform for Common School System - Tamil Nadu (SPCSS-TN)** has urged the State government to **provide education under the Right to Education Act**, through **government or government-aided schools in Tamil Nadu**.
- The forum urged the government to take appropriate **measures to ensure equitable access to quality education for all children**, by admitting them in government or government-aided institutions.

#### About RTE:

- **Education** is recognized as a **fundamental right under Article 21A** of the Indian Constitution, which **mandates free and compulsory education for all children aged 6 to 14 years**.
- **Right to Education Act 2009**: This act legally entitles every child between the ages of 6 to 14 years to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education.
- **Private schools** are **required to admit at least 25% of their class strength from 'weaker sections and disadvantaged groups'**, free of charge.





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Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve

Why in news?

- There's growing concern in the Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve, because the coral reefs are showing early signs of extensive damage, known as mass bleaching.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issuing a red alert for Gulf of Mannar as "above normal" sea surface temperature (SST) is likely to trigger mass bleaching and coral mortality.

About Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve:

- The Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve is situated along the southeastern coast of India, between Tamil Nadu and the west coast of Sri Lanka.
- It was established in 1989 and declared a biosphere reserve by UNESCO under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme in 2001.





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### Issue of waqf property

#### Why in news?

- The **Madras High Court** has declared a **2010 amendment unconstitutional**.
- This amendment had brought waqf properties under the **Tamil Nadu Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act of 1976**.

#### Key points:

- This amendment had empowered the **Tamil Nadu Waqf Board Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** to order the eviction of encroachers.
- The **2010 amendment** made by the State legislature to be **repugnant to the Waqf Act of 1995, a Central legislation**.
- The **2010 amendment** had been brought in by exercising the power under **List III (Concurrent list)** and not **List II (State list)** of seventh schedule to the Constitution.
- Therefore, a **Presidential assent** ought to have been obtained for it, in view of its repugnancy with the Central law.

### PM's Surya Ghar scheme

#### Why in news?

- The **Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco)** has issued directives to complete the inspection with regard to **PM's Surya Ghar (rooftop solar) scheme**.

#### About PM's Surya Ghar scheme:

- The **PM's Surya Ghar scheme**, also known as **Muft Bijli Yojana**, is a government initiative in India.
- It was **launched by Prime Minister** on **February 15, 2024**.
- The scheme **aims to provide free electricity to households in India**.
- Households are provided with a **subsidy to install solar panels on their roofs**.
- The **objective** of this scheme is to **reduce the electricity costs** of the house by installing rooftop solar panels and **using solar energy**.





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Tamil Nadu State Information Commission

Why in news?

- The Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) answer keys for the Combined Civil Services (Group I) Mains examination **are not considered public documents**.
- They cannot be accessed under the Right To Information (RTI) Act.
- This ruling was made by the Tamil Nadu State Information Commission.

About Tamil Nadu State Information Commission:

- The Tamil Nadu State Information Commission was **established under the Right to Information Act, 2005**.
- The Commission consists of one **State Chief Information Commissioner (SCIC)** and several **State Information Commissioners**.
- These commissioners are **appointed by the Governor of Tamil Nadu** based on **recommendations from a committee** that includes the **Chief Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, and a state cabinet minister** nominated by the Chief Minister.

