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Tamil Nadu: 28-06-2024

<p>Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN)</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Tamil Nadu government will introduce a special seed fund to support start-ups run by persons with disabilities and transgender persons.• The fund, amounting to ₹50 lakh, will be provided as a grant to promote inclusive growth in new-age entrepreneurship development.• The Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN) will identify the beneficiaries. <p>About StartupTN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Objective:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ To foster a robust startup ecosystem in Tamil Nadu.○ To support innovation and entrepreneurship across various sectors.• Support:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provides financial support, mentorship, and resources to startups.○ Facilitates access to venture capital and angel investors.
<p>Focus Blocks Development Programme</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Madras Institute of Development Studies has thanked the State government for making it the knowledge partner for the focus block development programme. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The State government had announced the launch of Focus Blocks Development Programme in its 2023-24 budget.• Under the scheme, ₹5-crore worth projects would be implemented in 50 most backward blocks in the State. <p>About Focus Blocks Development Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Objective: To accelerate development in the most backward blocks of Tamil Nadu through targeted



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	<p>interventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Target Areas: Selected backward blocks identified based on key socio-economic indicators.● Key Components:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Infrastructure Development: Improvement of basic infrastructure like roads, water supply, and sanitation.○ Education and Health: Enhancement of educational and healthcare facilities to improve the quality of life.○ Livelihood Support: Promotion of sustainable livelihood opportunities through skill development and financial support.
Pallikaranai Marshland	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Tamil Nadu government plans to construct a high-level bridge to protect the Pallikaranai marshland. <p>About Pallikaranai Marshland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Location: Freshwater marsh and partly saline wetland about 20 km south of Chennai, Tamil Nadu.● Significance: One of the last remaining natural wetlands in Chennai city.● Function: Acts as an aquatic buffer for the flood-prone Chennai and Chengalpattu districts.● Drainage Area: Covers 250 sq.km, includes 65 wetlands, drains through Okkiyam Madavu and Kovalam Creek into the Bay of Bengal.● Adjacent Feature: Flanked by the Buckingham Canal on its eastern periphery.● Ramsar Site: Recognized as one of the Ramsar sites in India.
Paadham Paadhukappom - An Integrated Foot Protection Programme	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Paadham Paadhukappom - An Integrated Foot Protection Programme is an initiative by the Tamil Nadu Health Department to address diabetic foot issues. <p>About Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Objective:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The program aims to detect diabetic foot problems early and prevent foot loss.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Chronic diabetes affects nerves and blood vessels in the feet, leading to numbness and ulceration.○ By identifying these issues promptly, the program aims to reduce the risk of leg amputation.● Implementation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The initial phase will be implemented in Thanjavur district.○ Diabetic Foot Surgery services will be provided in 15 Medical College Hospitals.
IT park	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Perungudi industrial estate in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, is set to witness the development of a new IT park/office space spanning approximately 3.60 acres. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● This initiative aims to cater to the increasing demand for office spaces by IT and ITeS firms in the region.● Additionally, the IT Minister revealed other significant measures:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ TANFINET, the Tamil Nadu FiberNet Corporation, will enhance network services by providing higher bandwidth to primary health centers, government colleges, and other state institutions during the current fiscal year.○ The network service initiative will facilitate seamless delivery of various government services to rural communities.○ Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation will offer IP TV services at an affordable cost to subscribers using the optic fiber cable technology of TANFINET.● The state government will soon release its Tamil Nadu Deep Tech Policy, aimed at promoting the utilization of discoveries in deep technology and supporting deep tech firms.