

# Current Affairs



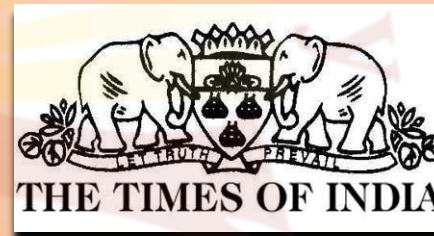
# of The Day

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# Current Affairs Of The Day

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• Cases rack up in Tamil Nadu, the state reports 10,978 fresh cases and 64 new omicron cases in 24 hours, the total number of omicron cases in the states are up to 185 now, with 40,260 active cases nearly half of which are contributed by Chennai with 5,098 cases followed by Chengalpet 1,332, Tamil Nadu has witnessed a sudden surge in the number of infections and with this sharp incline in the number of covid cases the state is deciding on new measures to be taken to help curb the rising number. Chief Minister MK Stalin will formally launch a program to administer booster doses to frontline workers and eligible senior citizens on January 10.

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- **“Sainik schools will provide more opportunities for girls to join armed forces”** Rajnath Singh, while chairing a webinar the Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced that 100 new Sainik schools will be set up in the country that will provide girls with the opportunity to join armed forces and contribute to national security. The minister during the webinar also stated that the government believes in increasing the role of women in the Armed Forces and a series of steps will be taken in that direction, with the expansion of Sainik schools across the country the Minister stated that this is one of the many important decisions taken by the government in the last six–seven years that will help improve the quality of education in the country and ensure holistic development of the country.

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- With the arrival of the possible third wave, many educational institutions in Karnataka have resorted back to online classes, several colleges in Karnataka have decided to move back to online classes and hold online classroom sessions. The rising number of covid cases has raised a lot of chatter around the educational system and colleges, with this step the state aims to keep the flow of education linear and cause no hindrance to the quality of education provided to the students of the state. With this step many coaching institutes followed suit and have announced their online classes commencement dates, students will now be able to attend classes from their home in a much safer environment and this will also help eliminate the possibility of travel.

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• Public Sector banks seek easier norms for MSME loan recast, state-run banks including those who came out of RBI's prompt corrective action framework told Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman that the banks were well-capitalized but urges the center to seek easier norms for relaxation on loan-restructuring guidelines for MSMEs. The bankers have suggested that RBI might need to extend the deadline for covid-hit companies to meet the ratios prescribed by the K V Kamath committee. In the RBI's circular dated August 6, 2020, the RBI allows banks to restructure loans to companies in 26 sectors without classifying them as NPAs, one of the conditions was that the companies would need to meet certain financial parameters by March 2022.

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• TCS selected for the second phase of the Passport Seva program implementation for the ministry of external affairs, the company bagged the project at \$1 billion, the contract is estimated to spread over nine and a half years and there is an extension for another two years, the company bagged the first phase in 2008 and was worth Rs. 1,000 crores. In the second phase, the company will refresh existing facilities and systems and will develop innovative solutions to enable the issuance of e-passports, the company aims to further enhance the citizen experience using new technologies such as biometric, artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics, etc. Mr. Taj Bhatla the business unit head of the public sector in TCS stated that the company's partnership with MEA over the last decade has helped set a benchmark in the public-private partnership for citizen services.

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## Frequently Asked Question

**Q1. Who is the defense minister of the country?**

**Ans.**

- A. Rajnath Singh (ANS)**
- B. Sanjeevanee Kutty
- C. Sanjiv Mittal
- D. Amarendra Tiwari

**Q2. How will sainik schools benefit the country?**

**Ans.** Rajnath Singh, while chairing a webinar the Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced that 100 new Sainik schools will be set up in the country that will provide girls with the opportunity to join armed forces and contribute to national security. The minister during the webinar also stated that the government believes in increasing the role of women in the Armed Forces and a series of steps will be taken in that direction, with the expansion of Sainik schools across the country the Minister stated that this is one of the many important decisions taken by the government in the last six-seven years that will help improve the quality of education in the country and ensure holistic development of the country.

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**Q3. How Karnataka is handling challenges in the education sector caused by the sudden surge in the number of covid cases?**

**Ans.** With the arrival of the possible third wave, many educational institutions in Karnataka have resorted back to online classes, several colleges in Karnataka have decided to move back to online classes and hold online classroom sessions. The rising number of covid cases has raised a lot of chatter around the educational system and colleges, with this step the state aims to keep the flow of education linear and cause no hindrance to the quality of education provided to the students of the state. With this step many coaching institutes followed suit and have announced their online classes commencement dates, students will now be able to attend classes from their home in a much safer environment and this will also help eliminate the possibility of travel.

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