Drive under way to remove Seemai Karuvelam in Villupuram

The Villupuram district administration has intensified the removal of invasive Seemai Karuvelam trees following Madras High Court directions.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **Villupuram district administration** has intensified efforts to remove invasive **Seemai Karuvelam** trees (Prosopis juliflora).
- The eradication drive targets waterbodies and government poromboke lands to protect the environment and **groundwater**.
- The drive is being carried out following strict directions issued by the **Madras High Court**.
- District Collector **Sheik Abdul Rahman** inspected the removal of Seemai Karuvelam trees at **Melmalayanur**.
- Prior **enumeration** of the trees was completed by the administration before initiating the removal exercise.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Prosopis juliflora (Seemai Karuvelam) is an invasive exotic tree species introduced from South America that rapidly depletes groundwater reserves.

Madras High Court has repeatedly issued orders directing districts across Tamil Nadu to completely eradicate Seemai Karuvelam trees.

Article 48A of the Indian Constitution directs the State to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wildlife.

The Wild Life Protection Act was enacted in the year **1972** by the Parliament of India.

Tamil Nadu Forest Act was enacted in the year **1882** during the British colonial period.

Villupuram district was bifurcated in **2019** to carve out the newly formed **Kallakurichi** district.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Villupuram district intensified Seemai Karuvelam removal to protect groundwater following Madras High Court directions.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for TNPSC Unit 8 and Unit 9 regarding environmental management, judicial interventions, and district administration initiatives in Tamil Nadu.

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