



Cauvery Delta Declared as a Protected Special Agriculture Zone

Why in News

The Tamil Nadu government has declared the **Cauvery delta region** as a **Protected Special Agriculture Zone**.

- The protected zone **includes eight districts** namely **Thanjavur (Rice Bowl of Tamil Nadu)**, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Karur and Tiruchirapalli.
- Such a declaration **will prevent non-agrarian projects** in the region.
 - The Government has emphasised that **central projects on hydrocarbon exploration** in the delta region **cannot be implemented without No Objection Certificate (NOC)** from the State government.
- The Cauvery delta region is an **important agricultural region in Tamil Nadu**.
 - It has been seen that in the last four decades, Tamil Nadu's **food dependence on the delta has fallen from 65% to 40%**. **Hydrocarbon wells are one of the major reasons** behind the same.

Source: IE

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/cauvery-delta-declared-as-a-protected-special-agriculture-zone>