

Tharman Shanmugaratnam Wins Singapore Presidential Election

Why In The News?

- Former Singapore Deputy Prime Minister **Tharman Shanmugaratnam** Was Elected President Friday. The Elections Department Declared The **66-year-old** Economist As The Winner Over Two Rival Candidates After **Securing 70.4 Percent Of Ballots Cast.**

NDTV

Singapore's Former Indian-Origin Minister Wins Presidential Election

Who Is Tharman Shanmugaratnam?

- **Born In Singapore** On 25 February 1957 He Is An **Economist By Profession**, Tharman Has Spent His Entire Working Life In The **Public Service**, In Roles Principally Related To **Economic And Social Policies.**
- He Previously Served As **Senior Minister Of Singapore** Between 2019 And 2023 And **Coordinating Minister For Social Policies** Between 2015 And 2023, And **Chairman Of The Monetary Authority Of Singapore** Between 2011 And 2023.



- He Also Served As **Deputy Prime Minister** Between 2011 And 2019, **Minister For Finance** Between 2007 And 2015, **Minister For Education** Between 2003 And 2008.
- Tharman Is Also A **Member Of The Board Of Trustees Of The World Economic Forum (WEF)**. Also, A Member Of The **UN Secretary-general's High-level Advisory Board On Effective Multilateralism**, For The UN Summit Of The Future In 2024.

Significance Of His Election

- Elected As The **9th President Of Singapore** Mr Shanmugaratnam Replaces Incumbent **Halimah Yacob** Who Ran Unopposed For Her Six-year Term In 2017.
- Mostly A **Ceremonial Position** Yet There Are Stringent Requirements For The Position, Which Formally Oversees The **City's Accumulated Financial Reserves** And Holds The Power To Veto Certain Measures And Approve Anti-graft Probes.
- Observers Said Tharman Shanmugaratnam's Win Is A Boost For The Ruling **People's Action Party (PAP)**, Which Is Widely Perceived To Favour His Candidacy.
- The Party That Has Ruled Singapore Continuously **Since 1959** Has Been Hurt By A Rare Spate Of Political Scandals Ahead Of The Presidential Vote. Mr Shanmugaratnam, Was A Long-time PAP Stalwart Before He Resigned To Run For The **Non-partisan Position Of President**.

