



August - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tejaswin Shankar won India's first-ever Commonwealth Games medal in decathlon by securing bronze at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026.
- ❖ The Vizhinjam International Transshipment Seaport, Kerala, has been notified as a Customs Port by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), enabling Export-Import (EXIM) cargo operations.
 - The port, which started operations in July 2024, earlier functioned only as an international transshipment hub for transferring containers between ships.
- ❖ The Indian Navy launched the fifth Diving Support Craft (DSC A24) at Titagarh Rail Systems Limited (TRSL), Kolkata.
 - Diving Support Crafts (DSCs) are specialised vessels used for underwater diving operations, inspections, repairs, and salvage activities in coastal and harbour areas.
- ❖ The Prime Minister launched the 'Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan' from Kashi (Varanasi), Uttar Pradesh, as a 100-week nationwide anti-drug awareness campaign.
 - The campaign was first launched as a pilot in Kashi and later expanded across India under the Kashi Declaration (2025).
- ❖ World Fintech Day is observed every year on 1 August to highlight innovations and progress in financial technology (FinTech) worldwide.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Best State Award for Organ Donation - Tamil Nadu

- ❖ Tamil Nadu received the 'Best State' Award for organ donation at the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day event held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The award was presented by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in recognition of the State's outstanding performance in deceased organ donation.
- ❖ In 2025, Tamil Nadu recorded 266 deceased donors and 1,476 organs were successfully utilised for transplantation.
- ❖ The Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu (TRANSTAN) has been regulating and promoting organ transplantation in the State since 2008.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranks first in India in heart and lung transplants.

- ❖ And it has honoured 798 brain-dead donors with State honours from September 2023 to July 2026.
- ❖ From October 2008 to July 2026, Tamil Nadu facilitated organ donation from 2,490 deceased donors, resulting in the transplantation of 14,532 organs.



50-Year Low

The table shows the years when realisation of Cauvery water from Karnataka was poor* during July since 1974 (in thousand million cubic feet)

YEAR	QUANTITY	ALLOCATION
1976	4.285	Not applicable
1987	2.286	Not applicable
2002	7.234	42.76 (as per the interim order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal)
2003	1.508	42.76
2010	6.719	42.76
2012	1.033	42.76
2017	7.273	34 (as per the final order of the Tribunal)
2019	7.44	31.24 (after the SC's modification of the Tribunal's final order)
2026	0.698	31.24



*The reference point is Mettur up to 2012 and Biligundulu for subsequent years

- ❖ Tamil Nadu received its lowest July share of Cauvery water in the last 50 years during July 2026.
- ❖ The State received only 0.698 thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) of water at Biligundulu, against its allocated 31.24 tmcft for July.
- ❖ As of 2 August 2026, the total Cauvery water received at Biligundulu was 3.687 tmcft (June: 2.915 tmcft, July: 0.698 tmcft, August: 0.074 tmcft).

- ❖ Under the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal award (modified by the Supreme Court), Tamil Nadu should have received 40.43 tmcft during June and July.
- ❖ Biligundulu, located on the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border, has been the official Cauvery water measuring point since 2013.

NATIONAL NEWS

Release of Sub-Sectoral Trial Index of Services Production (ISP)



- ❖ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released the country's first trial Index of Services Production (ISP) for 19 sub-sectors.
- ❖ It will be the counterpart to the existing Index of Industrial Production (IIP)
- ❖ It provides, for the first time, a monthly measure of short-term activity in the formal services sector.
- ❖ The inaugural index, with 2024-25 as the base year, covers April 2026 and accounts for nearly 60 per cent of India's services sector.
- ❖ It aims to improve the measurement of India's services sector and strengthen the country's statistical system.
- ❖ It said the comprehensive overall Index of Services Production will be introduced after evaluating the stability of the trial series and expanding its coverage-the first set of data points to broad-based growth in the services sector.
- ❖ The coverage of the index would expand over time, with the addition of sectors such as health services and ownership of dwelling businesses.
- ❖ That will take the coverage to around 85 to 90 per cent of formal services sector contribution in the economy.



- ❖ Fourteen of the 19 sub-sectors recorded double-digit growth in April this year compared to the corresponding month last year, while almost all remaining sectors also registered positive growth.
- ❖ The fastest-growing sectors are accommodation and food services with 37.2 per cent and Retail Trade with 30.8 per cent.
- ❖ The index has been developed entirely using administrative data, including inputs from government ministries and GST records, without imposing any additional compliance burden on industries or businesses.
- ❖ If GST data is not available, a combination of administrative data and the Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises (ASISSE)
- ❖ The ISP is an output indicator and should not be equated with the Gross Value Added (GVA) used in GDP estimation.
- ❖ The ISP currently covers only formal sector enterprises because it is based on GST and administrative data.
- ❖ Accordingly, services which are not covered in ISP are those which are either related to core government activities or are dominated by non-market activities and the informal sector.
- ❖ Hence, it excludes non-market government activities, personal services, and the informal sector.
- ❖ The services sector contributes more than half of the country's gross value added (GVA).
- ❖ With the launch of the ISP, all three broad sectors of the economy, services, industry and agriculture, will now have regular monthly or quarterly production indicators.

Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026

- ❖ The Lok Sabha passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026 to increase the sanctioned strength of Supreme Court judges from 34 to 38.
- ❖ The Bill raises the number of judges to 37 judges excluding the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- ❖ The Bill was introduced by Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal on 20 July 2026 and replaces the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026.
- ❖ The increase aims to improve judicial capacity and address the growing number of pending cases in the Supreme Court.
- ❖ Parliament has the power to change the number of Supreme Court judges through legislation.

Lok Sabha Passes Bill To Increase Strength Of Supreme Court Judges, Including CJI, From 34 To 38

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Multinational Maritime Defence Alliance

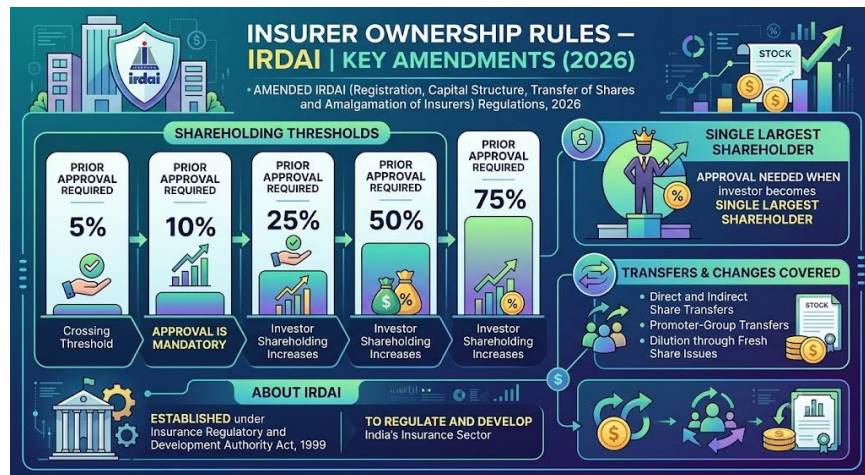


- ❖ Recently, Saudi Arabia and 13 other countries have established a maritime defence coalition.
- ❖ It was launched by Saudi Arabia + 13 nations forming an alliance in Riyadh.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia is the founding and leading state of the coalition and serves as its permanent headquarters.
- ❖ It aims to enhance maritime security, protecting freedom of navigation, securing international trade routes and energy supply lines.

- ❖ Its focus is to safeguard shared maritime interests in the Bab El-Mandeb Strait, Red Sea, and Gulf of Aden.
- ❖ Founding Members are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, Nigeria, Sudan, Djibouti, Somalia and others.
- ❖ Its nature will be purely defensive, compliant with international law and sovereignty.
- ❖ It does not target any state, alliance, or international organisation.

ECONOMY NEWS

Insurer Ownership Rules – IRDAI



- ❖ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) amended the IRDAI (Registration, Capital Structure, Transfer of Shares and Amalgamation of Insurers) Regulations, 2026.
- ❖ The new rules require prior approval from IRDAI for ownership changes when shareholding crosses 5%, 10%, 25%, 50% and 75% thresholds.
- ❖ Approval is also needed when an investor becomes the single largest shareholder of an insurance company.
- ❖ The amendments cover direct and indirect share transfers, promoter-group transfers, and dilution through fresh share issues.
- ❖ IRDAI was established under the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999, to regulate India's insurance sector.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

New Alloy in Hiroshima Debris

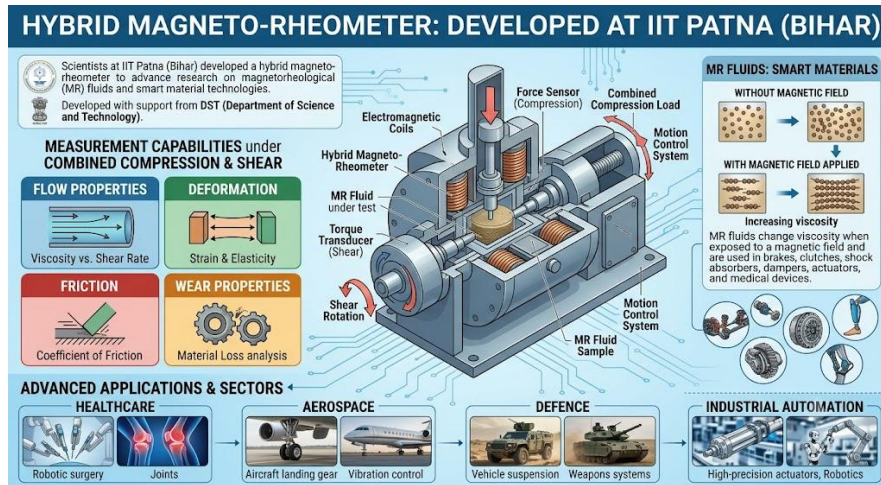
- ❖ Researchers discovered a previously unknown metal alloy inside glass-like hiros himaites recovered from Hiroshima Bay, Japan, formed after the 1945 atomic bomb blast.
- ❖ The alloy was found as a tiny metallic grain inside the beads and contains iron, chromium, nickel, manganese, molybdenum, silicon, and aluminium.
- ❖ Scientists believe it formed due to ultrafast quenching, where the nuclear blast's extreme heat and rapid cooling created a unique structure.
- ❖ The alloy shows features similar to High-Entropy Alloys (HEAs) and quasicrystals, which are studied for their strength and stability.
- ❖ The discovery shows that nuclear explosion debris can preserve information about extreme physical and chemical conditions.



Hybrid Magneto-Rheometer - IIT Patna

- ❖ Scientists at IIT Patna (Bihar) developed a hybrid magneto-rheometer to advance research on magnetorheological (MR) fluids and smart material technologies.
- ❖ The device was developed with support from the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- ❖ It can measure the flow, deformation, friction and wear properties of MR fluids under combined compression and shear conditions.

- ❖ MR fluids are smart materials that change viscosity when exposed to a magnetic field and are used in brakes, clutches, shock absorbers, dampers, actuators and medical devices.
- ❖ The technology helps design advanced applications in healthcare, aerospace, defence and industrial automation.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Pygmy Hog Conservation Initiative

PYGMY HOG
Porcula salvania

FOUND IN
Grasslands of
Assam's Manas
National Park and
Orang National Park

NUMBERS IN WILD
Less than
350
as per Pigmy Hog
Conservation
Programme

CONSERVATION STATUS
Endangered under
IUCN Red List

MAJOR THREATS
Grassland
degradation due to
uncontrolled grass
burning, illegal
cattle grazing, rapid
habitat succession

- ❖ The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) recommended adding the pygmy hog to the critically endangered species list under a central conservation scheme.
- ❖ The pygmy hog (*Porcula salvania*) is the world's smallest and rarest wild pig species, mainly found in the grasslands of Assam.

- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List officially classifies the pygmy hog as Endangered.
- ❖ The recommendation will bring the species under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH) scheme for recovery and conservation support.
- ❖ The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) suggested expanding conservation efforts from Assam to suitable habitats like Jaldapara (West Bengal) and parts of Uttar Pradesh.

India's Tiger Population in 2026

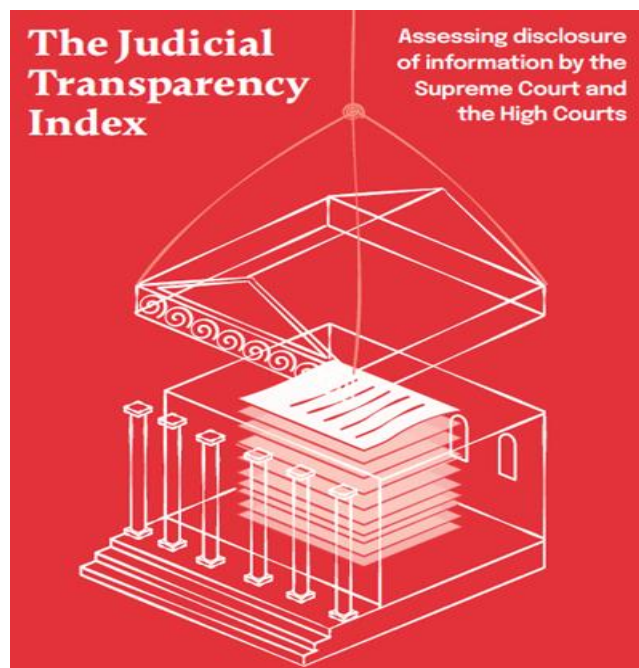


- ❖ India is home to the world's largest wild tiger population, accounting for nearly 70% of all wild tigers globally.
- ❖ Rajasthan's tiger population has increased to 149 across its five tiger reserves, with Ranthambore housing 72 of them.
- ❖ Ranthambore is among India's most successful tiger reserves in terms of breeding and cub survival.
- ❖ Ranthambore's tiger survival rate is around 80 per cent, among the highest recorded for major tiger reserves in the country.
- ❖ When Sariska lost all its tigers in 2008, the reserve was repopulated using descendants of Machli from Ranthambore.
- ❖ Sariska Tiger Reserve achieved a historic milestone as the world's first successful scientific relocation of tigers.
- ❖ Sariska, where tigers had once become completely extinct, is now home to 53 tigers.

- ❖ It is claimed as the world's first successful scientific reintroduction of tigers.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh, often called India's "Tiger State", has already reported 45 tiger deaths this year, about 40 per cent of the national total.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh recorded the highest number of tigers at 785 in 2022.
- ❖ The All-India Tiger Estimation (2022) covered 20 States and places India's tiger population at 3,682.
- ❖ Project Tiger has established a network of 58 tiger reserves across 18 tiger-range States.
- ❖ These reserves cover around 84,500 square kilometres, which is about 2.56% of India's geographical area.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Judicial Transparency Index Report 2026



- ❖ The Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy released the Judicial Transparency Index Report, assessing transparency of the Supreme Court and High Courts through their official websites.
- ❖ The index was developed by the JALDI (Justice, Access and Lowering Delays in India) Initiative in 2025.
- ❖ It evaluates transparency in three areas: judicial processes, institutional governance & administration, and judicial/administrative personnel.

- ❖ The report highlighted gaps such as non-disclosure of recusal criteria, lack of Supreme Court live-streaming guidelines, and limited budget and expenditure disclosures.
- ❖ No High Court has published complete asset disclosures of all judges; only a few judges in some High Courts publicly declare assets.
- ❖ The report aims to promote open, accessible and accountable judicial institutions.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Pingali Venkayya's 150th Birth Anniversary



- ❖ India observed the 150th birth anniversary of Pingali Venkayya on 2 August 2026, and the Prime Minister paid tribute to him.
- ❖ Pingali Venkayya (1876–1963) was an Indian freedom fighter, educationist, geologist, author, and the designer of the initial version of the Indian National Flag (Tiranga).
- ❖ He was born at Bhatlapenumarru village, Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ He presented his flag design to Mahatma Gandhi during the All-India Congress Committee (AICC) session at Vijayawada in 1921.
- ❖ On 13 April 1923, during a procession by local Congress volunteers in Nagpur commemorating the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, the Swaraj flag with the spinning wheel was hoisted.
- ❖ The present National Flag of India was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 22 July 1947, based on Venkayya's design with the Ashoka Chakra replacing the spinning wheel (Charkha).

- ❖ Then the spinning wheel was replaced with the navy blue 24-spoke Ashoka Chakra.

SPORTS NEWS

Commonwealth Games 2026

- ❖ India finished 4th at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2026 in Glasgow with 39 medals (13 Gold, 17 Silver, 9 Bronze).
- ❖ India recorded its lowest medal tally in 24 years since the 1998 Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth Games, but achieved a strong position despite a reduced event schedule.
- ❖ India performed strongly in boxing, judo, athletics, para-athletics, and weightlifting, with boxing contributing 10 medals, including 7 gold medals.
- ❖ Neeraj Chopra won silver in javelin throw, while Mirabai Chanu secured her third consecutive CWG gold medal in weightlifting.
- ❖ India finished behind Australia, England, and Canada, and secured 4th place ahead of host Scotland on a silver medal count tiebreaker.

CWG GLASGOW 2026

					
		Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	 AUSTRALIA	65	41	52	158
2	 ENGLAND	26	40	65	101
3	 CANADA	18	20	21	59
4	 INDIA	13	17	09	39

**As of 03:05 AM, August 2, 2026*

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