

July - 01

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Hemis Festival 2026 began at Hemis Monastery in Leh, Ladakh, where it is celebrated annually on the 10th day of the Tse-Chu month of the Tibetan lunar calendar to mark the birth anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava (Guru Rinpoche).
- ❖ The Ministry of Minority Affairs announced the Haj Policy 2027 on 22 June 2026, and applications have opened through the Haj Committee of India (HCoI) portal and the Haj Suvidha App.
  - Haj is the annual pilgrimage to Makkah, Saudi Arabia, and one of the Five Pillars of Islam.
- ❖ In Madhya Pradesh, Indori Malwi Potato (Indore), Garadu (a tuber) and Balam Kakdi (cucumber) from Ratlam, and Mandu's iconic Baobab tree fruit (Dhar) were granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- ❖ An 85-foot-tall statue of footballer Lionel Messi was unveiled in Cutral C6, Patagonia (Argentina), becoming the world's tallest Messi statue by surpassing the 70-foot statue earlier installed in Kolkata (West Bengal).
- ❖ India successfully tested 'Garudastra', India's heaviest indigenous 120-mm vehicle-mounted mortar system developed by Nibe Limited, during trials in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) facilitated the first commercial sea export of a 5-metric tonne consignment of Banganapalle mangoes from India to Singapore.
  - Banganapalle (Benishan) is a premium mango variety from Andhra Pradesh and received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2017.
- ❖ Thirty-five countries, including India, signed the Joint Statement on AI (Artificial Intelligence) Opportunity at the 2nd Pax Silica Summit held in Washington, D.C., USA.
  - The statement promotes pro-innovation AI governance, trusted supply chains, and stronger industrial capacity for AI-related technologies.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Tamil Nadu Textile Export Target 2030

- ❖ The Union Government has set a target of USD 21 billion in textile and apparel exports from Tamil Nadu by 2030.

- ❖ India aims to achieve USD 100 billion in textile and apparel exports by 2030, with Tamil Nadu contributing one-fifth of the total.
- ❖ The Tiruppur textile cluster alone is expected to contribute USD 11.5 billion in exports.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Government will construct "Thozhi Hostels" for women workers in industrial clusters under a ₹1,250 crore scheme.
- ❖ A Centre of Excellence for Athleisure (athletic wear) will also be established in Tiruppur.

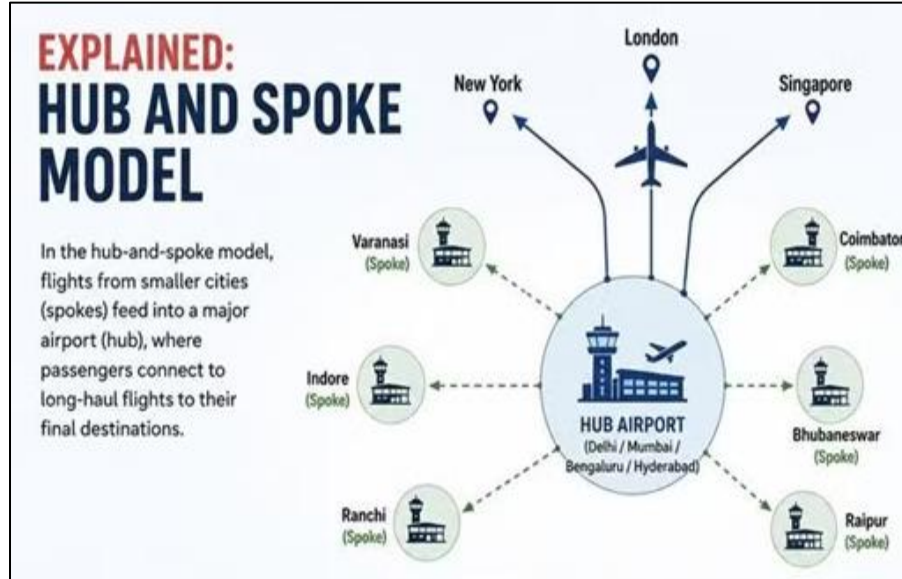


## NATIONAL NEWS

### Hub-and-Spoke Aviation Model

- ❖ India launched the Hub-and-Spoke Aviation Model to improve international air connectivity from Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.
- ❖ The first service started from Varanasi, connecting passengers to international destinations through New Delhi under Air India Easy Connect.
- ❖ Under this model, passengers complete immigration and baggage formalities at the origin airport before transiting through a major hub airport.

- ❖ The identified hub airports are Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad, with the network planned to expand to 30 airports, including Nagpur.
- ❖ The initiative aims to make India a global aviation hub by 2047 by improving international connectivity through domestic airports.



### **Nuclear Heat-Based Hydrogen Facility 2026**

**WORLD'S FIRST IS MADE IN  
INDIA: Hydrogen Produced  
Using Nuclear Reactor Heat  
Instead Of Electricity**

- ❖ The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) inaugurated the world's first hydrogen production facility using nuclear process heat at IGCAR, Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The facility uses the Copper-Chlorine (Cu-Cl) thermochemical cycle powered by heat from the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR).

- ❖ It is developed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) as a technology demonstrator for carbon-free hydrogen production.
- ❖ The project aims to validate nuclear-based hydrogen generation and support future commercial-scale clean energy applications.
- ❖ It is the first facility globally to integrate nuclear reactor heat with Cu–Cl hydrogen production technology.

## 16 drug combos



### INDIA BANS 16 FIXED-DOSE DRUG COMBINATIONS

**OVER SAFETY CONCERNS**

The Government of India has banned 16 Fixed-Dose Drug Combinations (FDCs) due to safety concerns and lack of therapeutic justification.



No.	BANNED FIXED-DOSE DRUG COMBINATION
1	Acetyl Salicylic Acid + Ethoheptazine
2	Amoxicillin + Serratiopeptidase + Lactobacillus Sporogenes
3	Dicyclomine + Paracetamol + Clidinium Bromide + Chlordiazepoxide
4	Amoxicillin + Serratiopeptidase
5	Aloe Extract + Allantoin + Alpha Tocopherol Acetate + D-Panthenol + Vitamin A
6	Aloe Vera + Jojoba Oil + Wheat Germ Oil + Tea Tree Oil
7	Aloe Extract + Vitamin E + Dimethicone + Glycerine
8	Aloe Vera + Jojoba Oil + Vitamin E
9	Aloe Vera + Orange Oil
10	Aloe Vera + Vitamin E + Herbal Preparation
11	Aloe Vera + Tea Tree Oil
12	Aloe Vera + Vitamin E + Tea Tree Oil
13	Aloe Vera + Wheat Germ Oil + Tea Tree Oil
14	Aloe Vera + Jojoba Oil + Olive Oil + Vitamin E
15	Aloe Vera + Vitamin E + Olive Oil
16	Aloe Vera + Olive Oil

- ❖ The Government of India banned 16 Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) under Section 26A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, due to lack of therapeutic justification and safety concerns.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued notifications prohibiting the manufacture, sale, and distribution of these medicines for human use with immediate effect.
- ❖ The decision was based on the recommendations of an expert committee after scientific assessment of risks and benefits.
- ❖ The banned combinations include drugs used in pain relief, antibiotics, dermatological treatments, and antispasmodic treatments.

- ❖ The move aims to ensure the availability of safe, effective, and scientifically validated medicines and promote rational drug use in India.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### BRICS Energy Ministers' Meeting 2026

- ❖ India hosted the 11th BRICS Energy Ministers' Meeting in Gurugram, Haryana.
- ❖ The meeting is being organised by the Ministry of Power to strengthen energy cooperation among BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Indonesia) members.
- ❖ India's Energy Track theme is "Sarvesham Urjam (Energy for All)", aligned with the BRICS theme of "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."
- ❖ India will showcase achievements such as expanded solar power capacity, over 60 million smart meters, Green Energy Corridors, and the One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative.
- ❖ The meeting aims to enhance collaboration on clean energy, energy security, and sustainable development among BRICS countries.

**India to Host**  
**11<sup>th</sup> BRICS Energy Ministers'**  
**Meeting**  
**in**  
**Gurugram**  
**on 25-26 June 2026**

## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

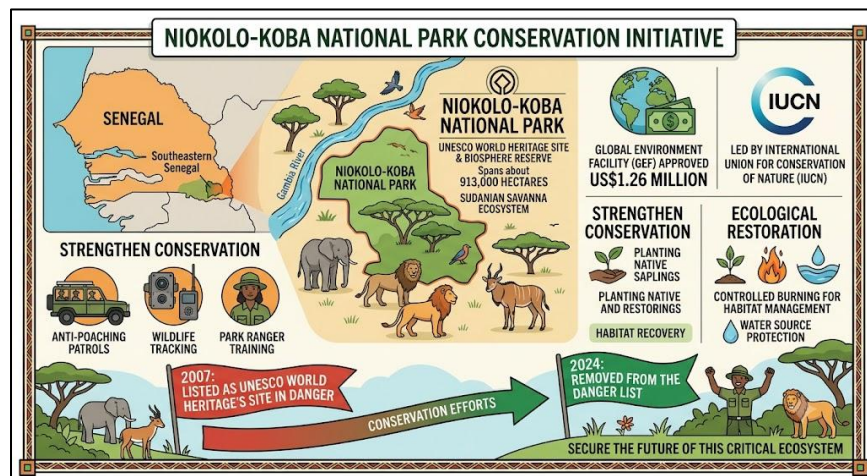
### SOP for Threatened Species

- ❖ The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for notification of threatened species under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

- ❖ The SOP provides a step-by-step process for scientific assessment, stakeholder consultation, validation, notification, and conservation planning.
- ❖ It requires States and Union Territories to use scientific evidence, field studies, and traditional knowledge for species identification.
- ❖ Biodiversity Management Committees, Botanical Survey of India, and Zoological Survey of India are involved in the process.
- ❖ It supports conservation, monitoring, and periodic review of threatened species across India.



### Niokolo-Koba National Park Conservation Initiative



- ❖ The Global Environment Facility (GEF) approved US\$1.26 million for a new conservation initiative led by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Niokolo-Koba National Park.
- ❖ The initiative aims to strengthen conservation and ecological restoration in Niokolo-Koba National Park in Senegal.

- ❖ Niokolo-Koba National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Biosphere Reserve located in southeastern Senegal.
- ❖ The park spans about 913,000 hectares and is part of the Sudanian savanna ecosystem.
- ❖ The park was previously listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Danger in 2007 but was removed from the danger list in 2024 after conservation efforts.

## STATE NEWS

### Uniform Civil Code Bill - West Bengal

- ❖ The West Bengal Government is set to table the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill in the State Assembly during the Budget Session.
- ❖ The Bill proposes uniform laws for marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption, irrespective of religion.
- ❖ The draft includes provisions such as a ban on polygamy, invalidation of child marriages, and mandatory registration of live-in relationships.
- ❖ Article 44 of the Constitution of India places the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) under the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).
- ❖ If enacted, West Bengal would become the fourth State, after Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and Assam, to implement a Uniform Civil Code (UCC).



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### World's Best School Prizes 2026

- ❖ Seven Indian schools have been shortlisted in the World's Best School Prizes 2026, the highest number from any country in a single year.

- ❖ The awards are organised by T4 Education across five categories: Innovation, Community Collaboration, Environmental Action, Overcoming Adversity, and Supporting Healthy Lives.
- ❖ Shortlisted Indian schools: PCMC Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj English Medium School (Pune), Army Goodwill School Wuzur (Anantnag), Healthy Planet TGA Early Years School (Noida), Inventure Academy (Bengaluru), Seth M.R. Jaipuria School (Lucknow), EuroSchool Bannerghatta (Bengaluru), and Seth Anandram Jaipuria School (Lucknow).
- ❖ The winners will be selected by an expert Judging Academy, while the Community Choice Award will be decided through a global public vote.
- ❖ The finalists and winners will be announced in November 2026, and shortlisted schools will participate in the World Schools Summit in London in January 2027.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### International Day of Deaf blindness 2026 – June 27

- ❖ The day is observed following a United Nations (UN) General Assembly resolution adopted in 2025.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about deafblindness as a distinct disability and promote inclusion, accessibility, equal rights, and independent living for persons with deafblindness.
- ❖ The day is observed on 27 June to mark the birth anniversary of Helen Keller (1880–1968), a renowned deafblind author and activist.
- ❖ Deafblindness is a combined vision and hearing impairment that requires specialized support, including professional deafblind interpreters and interpreter-guides.

- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is "Connected by Touch: Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges".



International Day of Deafblindness is observed on 27 June, the birth anniversary of Helen Keller, one of the world's most recognised deafblind advocates.

But this day is about more than one individual.

It is a global call to:

- ✓ RAISE AWARENESS
- ✓ PROMOTE ACCESSIBILITY
- ✓ ADVANCE INCLUSION
- ✓ UPHOLD THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WHO ARE DEAFBLIND

The poster features a profile of Helen Keller on the right side, set against a blue background with a vertical green and yellow stripe on the right edge.

### **International Asteroid Day 2026 - June 30**



- ❖ The day marks the anniversary of the 1908 Tunguska asteroid impact in Siberia, Russia, the largest recorded asteroid impact on Earth.
- ❖ It aims to increase public awareness about Near-Earth Objects (NEOs) and promote global efforts to detect and respond to asteroid threats.
- ❖ The day also highlights the asteroid impact hazards.

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed the day in 2016 through Resolution.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is "Planetary Defence and Asteroid Impact Hazards."

