



July - 19

TNPSC BITS

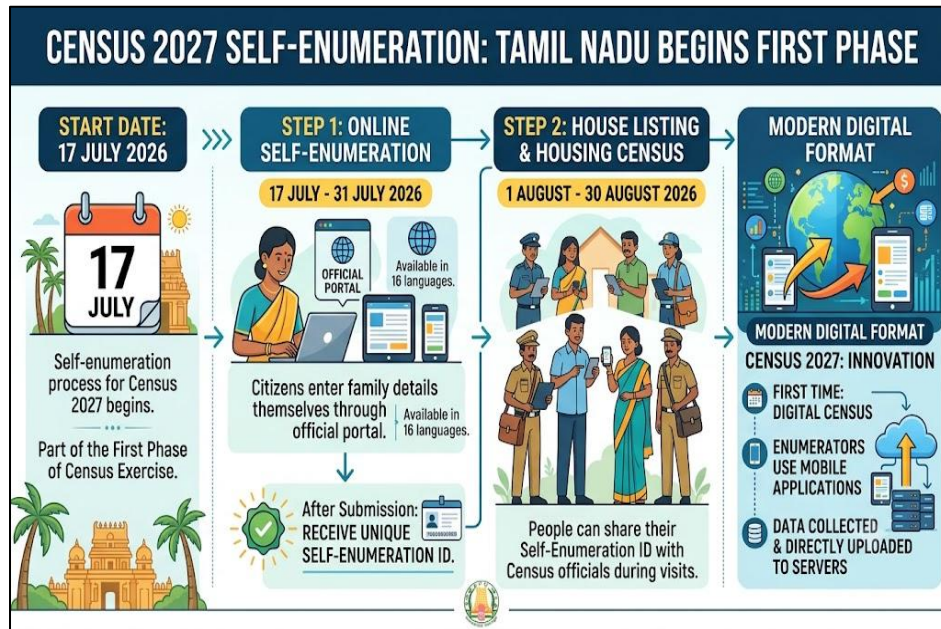
- ❖ India hosted the 12th BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting (LEMM) in Hyderabad under its BRICS Chairship 2026 to discuss social protection, workforce participation, skill development, and digital technologies for workers.
 - It was held under the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability (BRICS)".
- ❖ India Deaf Women's Cricket Team won its first-ever Women's T20I Deaf Cricket Series by defeating Sri Lanka 5-0 in the debut tournament held at Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
- ❖ National CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) launched Aastha Van Sanrakshan Yojana for the conservation and restoration of nearly 15,000 sacred groves across India.
 - The scheme has an outlay of ₹3,000 crore for 2026-27 to 2030-31 and promotes community-led protection, biodiversity conservation and climate resilience.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a traditional Māori Pōwhiri ceremonial welcome during his visit to New Zealand in July 2026.
 - Māori Pōwhiri is a traditional welcome ceremony of the Māori people, the indigenous Polynesian people of New Zealand.
- ❖ World Youth Skills Day is observed every year on 15 July to promote skill development and improve youth employment opportunities.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "Skills for a shared future".
- ❖ World Snake Day is observed every year on 16 July to raise awareness about snakes, their conservation, and their importance in ecosystems.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "Respect, Don't Fear: Protecting Nature's Silent Guardians".

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Census 2027 Self-Enumeration in Tamil Nadu

- ❖ The self-enumeration process for Census 2027 started in Tamil Nadu on 17 July 2026 as part of the first phase of the Census exercise.
- ❖ Citizens can enter their family details themselves through the official Census self-enumeration portal, which is available in 16 languages.

- ❖ The self-enumeration facility will continue from 17 July to 31 July 2026, and citizens will receive a unique Self-Enumeration ID after submission.
- ❖ During the House Listing and Housing Census, scheduled from 1 August to 30 August 2026, people can share their Self-Enumeration ID with Census officials.
- ❖ Census 2027 will be conducted in a digital format for the first time, with enumerators using mobile applications to collect and directly upload data to servers.



Maraimalai Adigal's 150th Birth Anniversary

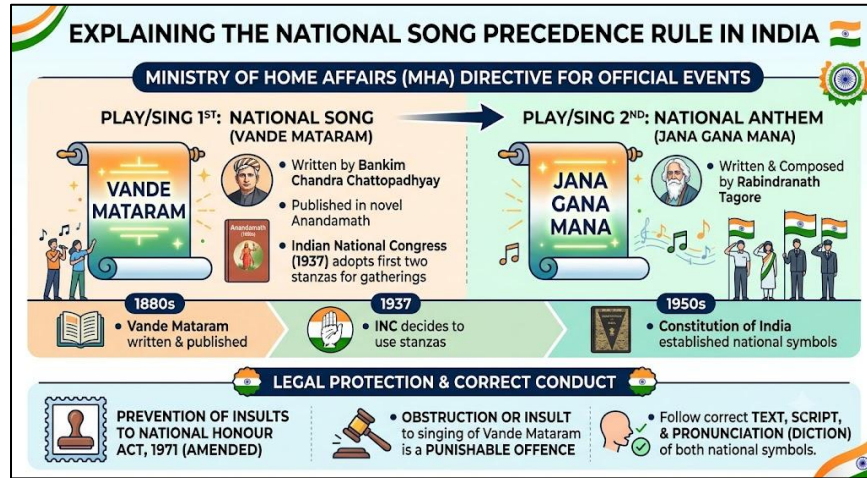
- ❖ The 150th birth anniversary of Maraimalai Adigal was celebrated in Tamil Nadu in July 2026, remembering his contribution to the Tamil language and literature.
- ❖ Maraimalai Adigal (1876–1950) was a Tamil scholar, writer, and the founder of the Thani Tamil Iyakkam (Pure Tamil Movement).
- ❖ He was born as Vedachalam in 1876 and later adopted the name Maraimalai Adigal in 1916 to promote pure Tamil usage.
- ❖ He worked as a Tamil teacher at Madras Christian College for 11 years and contributed to research in Sangam literature, Tamil grammar, and Saiva philosophy.
- ❖ The Thani Tamil Iyakkam aimed to promote Tamil vocabulary by reducing the use of Sanskrit-derived words and strengthening Tamil identity.
- ❖ He was also a scholar of English and Sanskrit and used these languages to demonstrate the richness and importance of Tamil.

- ❖ The Maraimalai Adigal Library, located inside the Connemara Public Library, Chennai, preserves his collection of books and research materials.



NATIONAL NEWS

National Song Precedence Rule

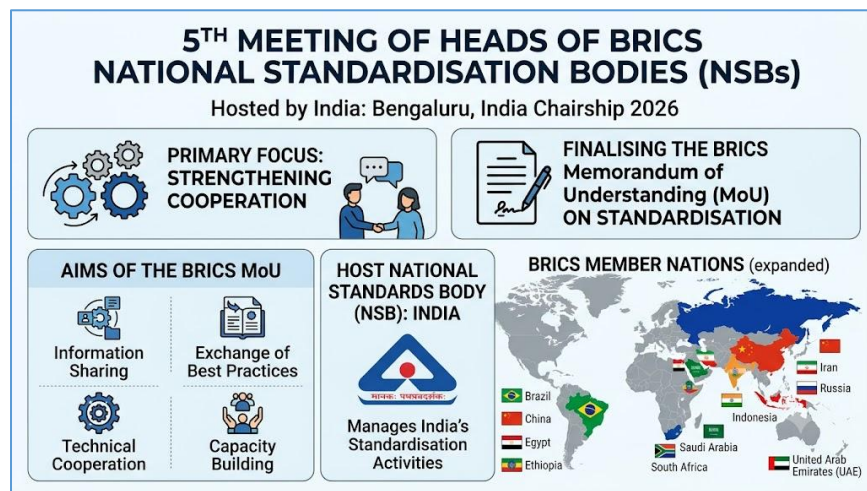


- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) directed States and Central Ministries to ensure that the National Song Vande Mataram is played or sung before the National Anthem Jana Gana Mana during official events.
- ❖ The directive stated that the correct text, script, and pronunciation (diction) of both national symbols must be followed.
- ❖ Vande Mataram was written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and was published with his novel Anandamath in the 1880s (1882).
- ❖ In 1937, the Indian National Congress decided to use the first two stanzas of Vande Mataram at its gatherings.

- ❖ The Constitution of India gave Vande Mataram the status of the National Song, while Jana Gana Mana, written and composed by Rabindranath Tagore, is the National Anthem.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved an amendment to the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, to make obstruction or insult to the singing of Vande Mataram a punishable offence.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BRICS Standardisation Meeting



- ❖ India hosted the 5th Meeting of Heads of BRICS National Standardisation Bodies (NSBs) in Bengaluru under its BRICS Chairship 2026.
- ❖ The meeting focused on strengthening cooperation in standardisation among BRICS countries and finalising the BRICS Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on standardisation.
- ❖ The MoU aims to promote information sharing, exchange of best practices, technical cooperation, and capacity building among member countries.
- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is India's National Standards Body and manages the country's standardisation activities.
- ❖ BRICS includes Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Assisted Dying Bill - France

- ❖ The French Parliament approved a bill creating a legal right to assisted dying for adults with incurable and life-threatening illnesses.

- ❖ It allows eligible patients to receive a lethal substance under strict conditions, either self-administered or given by a doctor or nurse if required.
- ❖ The law applies to adults who are French citizens or legal residents, suffering from serious incurable illnesses with severe physical or psychological suffering.
- ❖ The bill includes safeguards such as medical evaluation, confirmation of the request after a reflection period, and allowing healthcare workers to opt out.
- ❖ The legislation may be reviewed by the Constitutional Council of France before implementation.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Wildlife Conservation Projects - National CAMPA



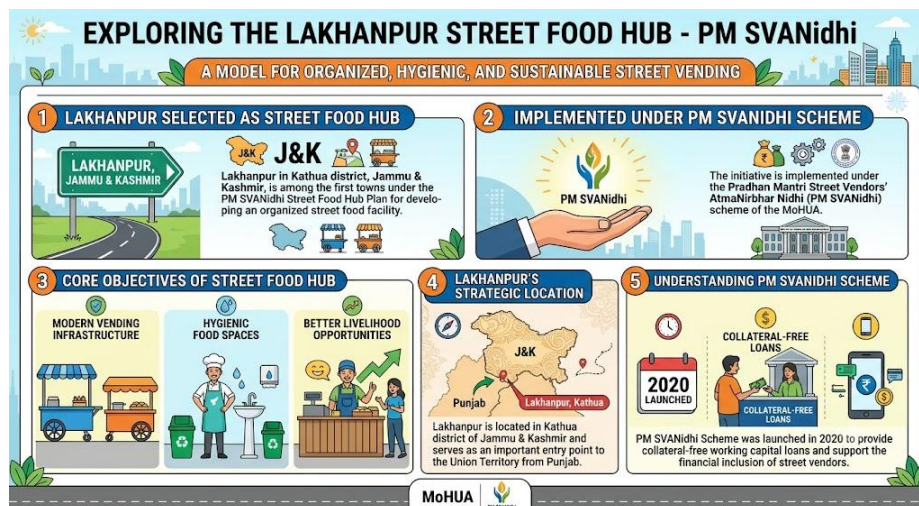
- ❖ National CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) approved four new conservation projects for river dolphins, snow

leopards, wild water buffalo and Indian rhinoceros during its 7th Governing Body meeting.

- ❖ South Asian River Dolphin IUCN Red List status: Endangered; conservation and recovery action plan approved for species protection.
- ❖ Snow Leopard IUCN Red List status is Vulnerable; Project Snow Leopard Phase-II was approved with the second cycle of population estimation.
- ❖ Wild Water Buffalo IUCN Red List status: Endangered; pan-India conservation strategy approved for long-term protection.
- ❖ Indian Rhinoceros (Greater One-horned Rhinoceros) IUCN Red List status: Vulnerable; conservation action plan approved for species recovery.

STATE NEWS

Lakhanpur Street Food Hub - PM SVANidhi



- ❖ Lakhanpur in Kathua district, Jammu & Kashmir, has been selected among the first towns under the PM SVANidhi Street Food Hub Plan for developing an organised street food facility.
- ❖ The initiative is implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors' Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- ❖ The Street Food Hub aims to provide modern vending infrastructure, hygienic food spaces, and better livelihood opportunities for street vendors.
- ❖ Lakhanpur is located in Kathua district of Jammu & Kashmir and serves as an important entry point to the Union Territory from Punjab.
- ❖ PM SVANidhi Scheme was launched in 2020 to provide collateral-free working capital loans and support the financial inclusion of street vendors.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Mannathu Padmanabhan Memorial



- ❖ Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan unveiled the statue of social reformer and freedom fighter Mannathu Padmanabhan and inaugurated the Mannam Smrithi Mandapam at Dwarka, New Delhi.
- ❖ The memorial was established by the Nair Service Society (NSS), Delhi, at the Mannam International Centre to honour his contributions.
- ❖ Mannathu Padmanabhan (1878–1970) was a prominent social reformer, freedom fighter and the founder of the Nair Service Society (NSS).
- ❖ He founded NSS in 1914 to promote education, social welfare and self-reliance among the Nair community in Kerala.
- ❖ He worked for social reform, removal of inequalities, education promotion and community development.
- ❖ He had participated in the Vaikom Satyagraha (1924–1925), a major movement against social discrimination and restrictions on temple road access.
- ❖ He served as the President of the Nair Service Society and played a key role in building educational and social institutions.
- ❖ He was popularly known as “Mannam” and is remembered as a leader of the community renaissance in Kerala.
- ❖ His autobiography “Ente Jeevitha Smaranakal” (My Life Memories) provides insights into his life and social work.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Education Development Day 2026 - July 15

- ❖ The day is celebrated every year in Tamil Nadu to honour the birth anniversary of K. Kamaraj.
- ❖ It aims to promote the importance of education, increase school enrolment, and honour K. Kamaraj's contribution to educational development.
- ❖ The day was first celebrated in 2006 after the Tamil Nadu Educational Development Day (Declaration and Celebration) Act, 2006, made its observance compulsory in all schools.
- ❖ K. Kamaraj introduced major education reforms such as opening thousands of schools, expanding free education, and strengthening the Midday Meal Scheme to reduce school dropouts.
- ❖ K. Kamaraj served as the Chief Minister of Madras State from 1954 to 1963 and is popularly known as the "Kalvi Thanthai" of Tamil Nadu for his education reforms.

