



July - 22

TNPSC BITS

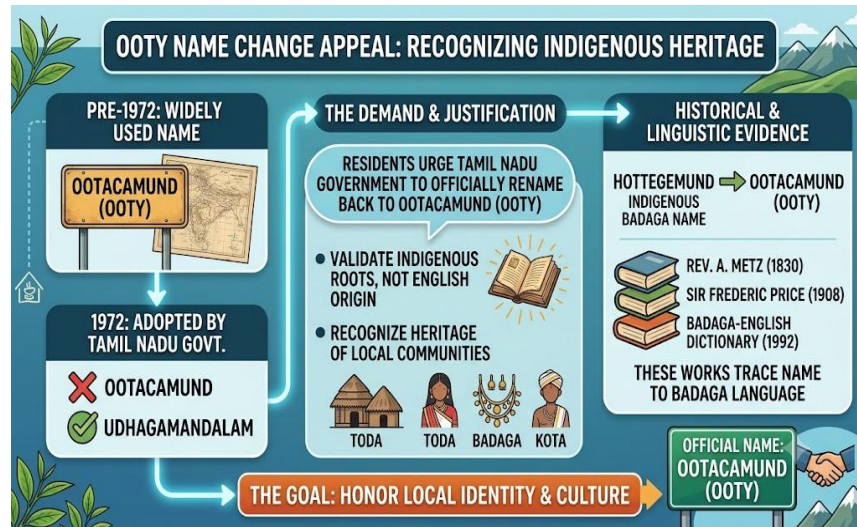
- ❖ The Union Minister Pralhad Joshi has inaugurated the White Rabbit Technology-based Indian Standard Time (IST) Distribution Demonstration Network at Jakkur, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
 - White Rabbit Technology enables highly precise time synchronisation for sectors like banking, stock exchanges, digital payments, telecommunications, defence and power grids.
- ❖ Andy Burnham became the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK) after Keir Starmer resigned, becoming the seventh UK Prime Minister since 2016; he previously served as the Mayor of Greater Manchester.
- ❖ P. V. Sindhu became the first Indian badminton player to win the Japan Open Super 750 women's singles title in July 2026 after defeating Japan's Akane Yamaguchi, a former world champion, in the final.
- ❖ Union Home Minister inaugurated India's first immersive language museum "Shabdlok (Museum of Word)" at the National Library campus, Kolkata.
- ❖ The Ministry of Coal announced that the National Coal Gasification Mission aims to achieve 100 million Tonnes (MT) of coal gasification capacity by 2030.
 - The scheme aims to utilise around 75 million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) of coal and provide financial incentives up to 20% of eligible plant and machinery cost.
- ❖ International Chess Day is observed every year on 20 July to commemorate the founding of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) on 20 July 1924.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "Celebrate, create and make a difference".
- ❖ International Moon Day was observed on 20 July 2026 to mark the 57th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission (20 July 1969), when Neil Armstrong and Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin became the first humans to walk on the Moon.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "One Moon, One Vision, One Future".

TAMIL NADU NEWS

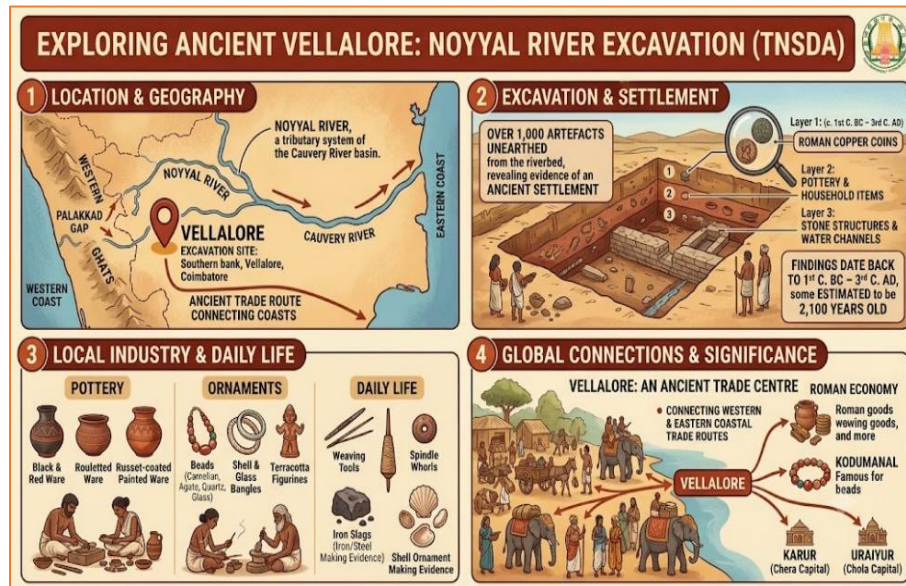
Ooty Name Change Appeal

- ❖ Residents of the Nilgiris have urged the Tamil Nadu Government to officially rename Udhagamandalam as Ootacamund (Ooty).
- ❖ The current official name, Udhagamandalam, was adopted in 1972, replacing the widely used name Ootacamund (Ooty).

- ❖ Historical records state that Ootacamund is derived from the indigenous Badaga name "Hottegemund" and not from English.
- ❖ The demand aims to recognise the region's indigenous heritage, including the Toda, Badaga, and Kota communities.
- ❖ Historical works by Rev. A. Metz (1830), Sir Frederic Price (1908), and the Badaga-English Dictionary (1992) trace the origin of the name to the indigenous Badaga language.



Noyyal River Excavation



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) unearthed over 1,000 artefacts from the Noyyal riverbed at Vellalore, Coimbatore, revealing evidence of an ancient settlement.

- ❖ The excavation site is located on the southern bank of the Noyyal River, a tributary system of the Cauvery River basin in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Findings include Roman copper coins, pottery, ornaments, household items, stone structures, water channels, weaving tools, and evidence of bead, iron, steel and shell ornament making.
- ❖ Some artefacts date back to the 1st century BC–3rd century AD, with certain objects estimated to be around 2,100 years old.
- ❖ The excavation indicates that Vellalore was an ancient trade centre connecting western and eastern coastal trade routes.

Keeladi Heritage Site Preservation

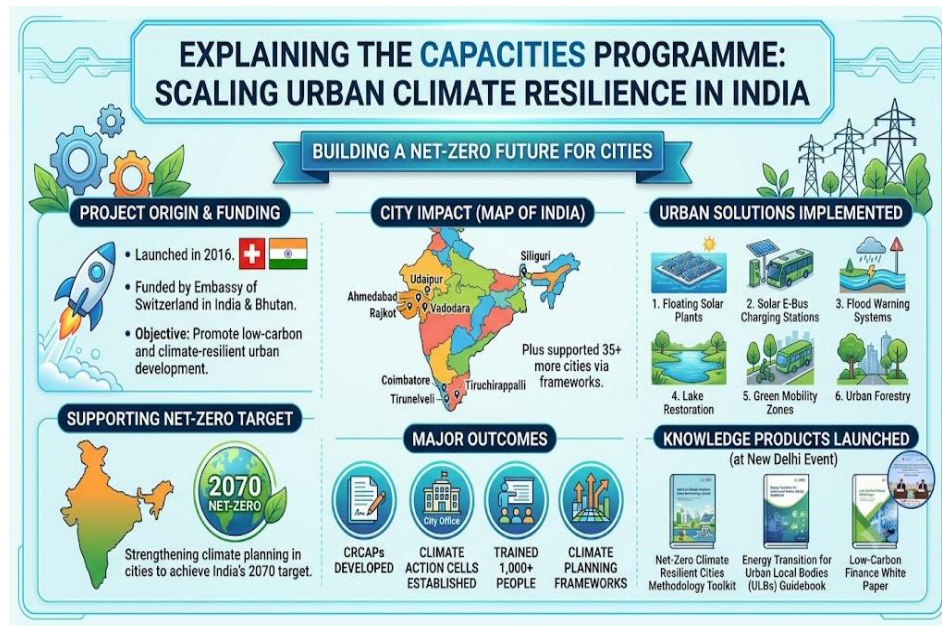


- ❖ Tamil Nadu Tamil Development Minister Rajmohan visited the Keeladi excavation site and museum in Sivagangai district and highlighted the need to preserve and promote its historical importance.
- ❖ Keeladi is an important archaeological site that provides evidence of the Sangam Age urban settlement and Tamil civilisation.
- ❖ The site is associated with findings such as ancient artefacts, pottery, inscriptions and evidence of an organised settlement.
- ❖ The Minister also visited Mangulam hillock, known for 3rd century BC Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions and ancient Jain monastic beds.

- ❖ Inscriptions of Pandya King Nedunchezhan found at Mangulam provide evidence of Pandya rule during the Sangam period.

NATIONAL NEWS

CapaCITIES Programme



- ❖ The 'Scaling Urban Climate Resilience: The CapaCITIES Legacy and Way Forward' event was held in New Delhi, where three CapaCITIES Knowledge Products were launched.
- ❖ Capacity Building Project on Low Carbon and Climate Resilient City Development in India (CapaCITIES) was launched in 2016.
- ❖ It was funded by the Embassy of Switzerland in India and Bhutan to promote climate-resilient urban development.
- ❖ The programme supports India's 2070 Net-Zero Emission target by strengthening climate planning in cities.
- ❖ It has supported 8 cities, including Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Vadodara, Udaipur and Siliguri.
- ❖ It developed Net-Zero Climate Resilient City Action Plans (CRCAPs), established climate action cells in cities, trained 1,000+ people, and supported 35+ cities through climate planning frameworks.
- ❖ The programme implemented urban solutions such as floating solar plants, solar e-bus charging stations, flood warning systems, lake restoration, green mobility zones and urban forestry projects.

- ❖ Three knowledge products launched were the Net-Zero Climate Resilient Cities Methodology Toolkit, Energy Transition for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) Guidebook, and a Low-Carbon Finance White Paper to support sustainable urban development.

Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026 to increase the Supreme Court of India's judge strength from 33 to 37 (excluding the Chief Justice of India).
- ❖ The bill proposes adding four more judges by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 to improve judicial efficiency and ensure faster justice delivery.
- ❖ Article 124(1) of the Constitution of India provides for the establishment of the Supreme Court and allows Parliament to increase the number of judges through legislation.
- ❖ The strength of the Supreme Court judges was increased from 25 to 30 in 2008 and from 30 to 33 in 2019 through amendments to the 1956 Act.
- ❖ The additional expenditure on judges' salaries, supporting staff and facilities will be provided from the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).



E-Commerce Council of India

- ❖ The Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) launched the E-Commerce Council of India (ECCI) in Bengaluru.
- ❖ ECCI is India's first of its kind national industry council dedicated to representing and strengthening the digital commerce ecosystem.

- ❖ It acts as an umbrella body connecting e-commerce platforms, logistics providers, payment companies and government regulators.
- ❖ The council aims to support policy advocacy, cross-border e-commerce, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) digital adoption and Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based commerce.
- ❖ ECCI will also organise the annual Indian E-Commerce Summit (IECS) to discuss developments in India's digital trade sector.



National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Act, 2025

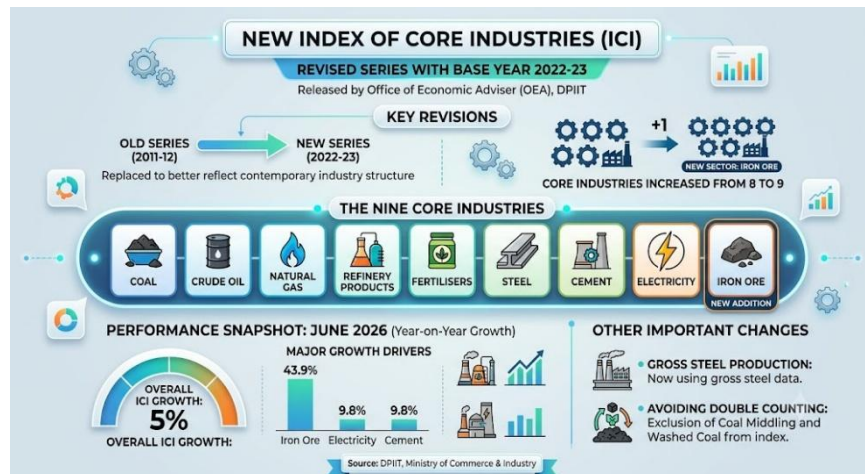


- ❖ The Government of India notified the enforcement of the National Anti-Doping Act, 2022 and the National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Act, 2025 to strengthen the country's anti-doping framework.
- ❖ The Acts provide a legal framework for preventing doping, protecting athletes' rights and ensuring fair competition in sports.

- ❖ India's anti-doping system is aligned with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA) and the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport.
- ❖ The legislation strengthens procedures related to testing, results management, education, intelligence and investigations.
- ❖ The 2025 Amendment Act enhances institutional independence, transparency and dispute resolution mechanisms in anti-doping administration.

New Index of Core Industries

- ❖ The Office of Economic Adviser (OEA), DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) released the revised Index of Core Industries (ICI) series with base year 2022-23, replacing the 2011-12 series.
- ❖ The number of core industries increased from 8 to 9 with the inclusion of Iron Ore as a new sector.
- ❖ The nine core industries are Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilisers, Steel, Cement, Electricity and Iron Ore.
- ❖ The ICI recorded 5% year-on-year growth in June 2026, with major growth from Iron Ore (43.9%), Electricity (9.8%) and Cement (9.8%).
- ❖ The new series introduced changes including gross steel production data and exclusion of Coal Middling and Washed Coal to avoid double counting.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

FIFA World Cup 2026 Awards

- ❖ Spain won the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup, defeating Argentina 1-0 in the final.

- ❖ Rodri (Spain) won the Golden Ball as the tournament's Best Player.
- ❖ Kylian Mbappé (France) won the Golden Boot as the tournament's top goalscorer with 10 goals.
- ❖ Kylian Mbappé (France) also became the all-time leading goalscorer in men's Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup history after the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- ❖ Unai Simón (Spain) won the Golden Glove as the tournament's Best Goalkeeper, while Pau Cubarsí (Spain) won the Best Young Player award.
- ❖ Japan received the FIFA Fair Play Award for its exemplary sporting conduct.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS			
FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 AWARDS			
TOURNAMENT WINNER		WINNER: SPAIN	
		DEFENDED ARGENTINA 1-0 IN THE FINAL	
	GOLDEN BALL (Best Player)		RODRI (SPAIN) 
	GOLDEN BOOT (Top Goalscorer)		KYLIAN MBAPPÉ (FRANCE)  10 GOALS
» MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT: KYLIAN MBAPPÉ (FRANCE) BECAME THE ALL-TIME LEADING GOALSCORER IN THIS MEN'S FIFA WORLD CUP HISTORY AFTER 2026 			
	GOLDEN GLOVE (Best Goalkeeper)		UNAI SIMÓN ((SPAIN) 
	BEST YOUNG PLAYER		PAU CUBARSÍ (SPAIN) 
	FIFA FAIR PLAY AWARD		JAPAN  EXEMPLARY SPORTING CONDUCT

SPORTS NEWS

FIFA World Cup Record - Lionel Messi





- ❖ Lionel Messi (Argentina) became the first player to start three Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup finals during the 2026 FIFA World Cup final.
- ❖ He started the 2014, 2022 and 2026 FIFA World Cup finals, achieving a unique milestone in men's football.
- ❖ He surpassed Cafu (Brazil), who reached three World Cup finals but started only two of them.
- ❖ At 39 years, Messi also became the oldest outfield player to appear in a FIFA World Cup final.

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