

June - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Government approved the ₹1,196.22 crore Fotu La Tunnel Project on National Highway-01 (NH-01), connecting Uri, Srinagar, and Leh in Ladakh.
- ❖ The second BRICS Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting was held in Varanasi to discuss cultural cooperation, the creative economy, and the ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- ❖ The first in-person technical meeting of the BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Working Group under India's BRICS Presidency began in Puri, Odisha.
 - The meeting focuses on disaster resilience and sustainable development in the Global South.
- ❖ Chandigarh University became the first private university in India to establish an IndiaAI Data Lab in collaboration with Intel India.
 - The IndiaAI Data Lab aims to provide industry-relevant skills in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Science, and emerging technologies.
- ❖ Hero MotoCorp launched its first flex-fuel motorcycle, while Maruti Suzuki launched India's first flex-fuel passenger vehicle.
 - Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) can run on petrol and ethanol blends, including fuels containing up to 85% ethanol (E85).
- ❖ Football legend Lionel Messi was awarded the 2026 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports, becoming the first individual footballer to receive the honour.
- ❖ World Brain Tumour Day is observed every year on 8 June to raise awareness about brain tumours, their early detection, and treatment.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "A Closer Look".

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Singappen Special Force

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched the Singappen Special Force on 9 June 2026 in Chennai.
- ❖ The special force was created to help prevent crimes against women and children.
- ❖ The State Government allocated ₹354 crore for the first phase of the initiative.
- ❖ The force will be headed by Inspector-General of Police (IGP) K. Bhavaneeswari.
- ❖ In the second phase, 2,500 new posts will be created, and the force will receive vehicles, drones, and modern technological equipment.

- ❖ The force is expected to support crime prevention, allowing all-women police stations to focus more on investigations and legal action against offenders.



NATIONAL NEWS

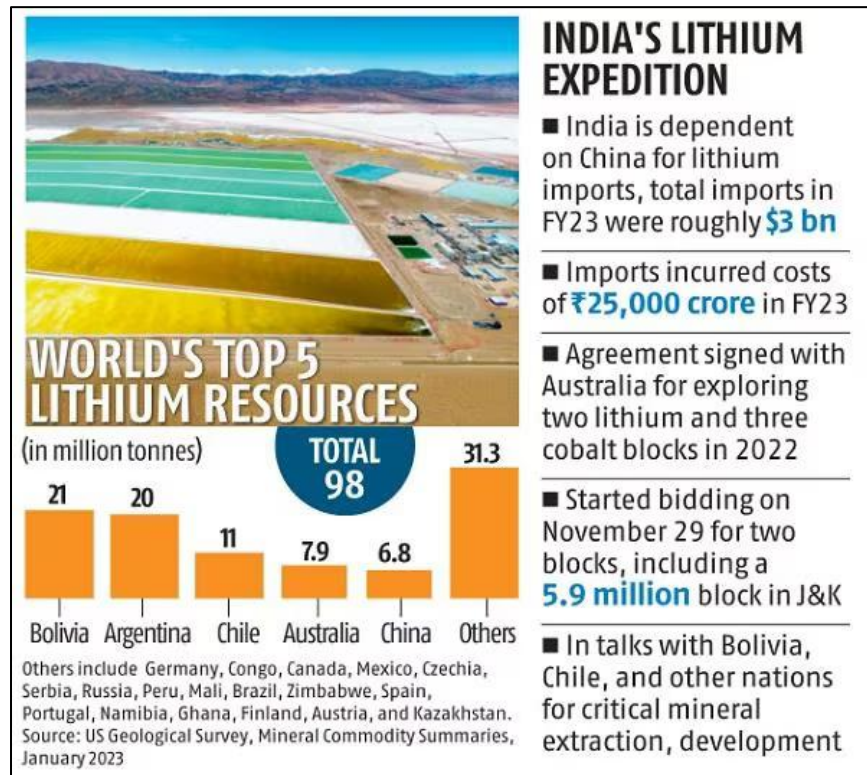
India's Market Rank 2026

INDIA SLIPS TO 7TH SPOT IN WORLD'S LARGEST MARKET		
1		US \$79.47 TRILLION
2		CHINA \$15.09 TRILLION
3		JAPAN \$8.63 TRILLION
4		HONG KONG \$7.24 TRILLION
5		TAIWAN \$5.15 TRILLION
6		SOUTH KOREA \$5.04 TRILLION
7		INDIA \$4.84 TRILLION
8		CANADA \$4.53 TRILLION
9		UNITED KINGDOM \$3.94 TRILLION
10		FRANCE \$3.45 TRILLION

- ❖ India slipped to the 7th position in global stock market capitalisation rankings after being overtaken by South Korea.

- ❖ The total market capitalisation of South Korean-listed companies reached \$5 trillion, compared to \$4.8 trillion for India.
- ❖ South Korea's rise was driven by a strong rally in artificial intelligence (AI)-related stocks.
- ❖ Earlier, Taiwan had also overtaken India in global market-cap rankings.
- ❖ India's stock market has declined by about 11% in 2026, while South Korea's KOSPI index has recorded strong gains.

KABIL Lithium Project



- ❖ Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) has secured five lithium blocks in Catamarca Province, Argentina, for deep exploration of lithium brine deposits.
- ❖ KABIL is a joint venture of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) and Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL) under the Ministry of Mines.
- ❖ The blocks cover about 15,703 hectares in the Lithium Triangle region of Argentina, Bolivia and Chile.
- ❖ KABIL received environmental clearance from Argentina in April 2026 for exploration activities, including drilling and surveys.

- ❖ This is India's first government-led overseas lithium exploration and mining project.
- ❖ Commercial production from the blocks is expected to begin around 2029.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Fourth Coral Bleaching update

- ❖ Scientists have reported that the fourth global coral bleaching event, the fastest and most widespread on record, likely ended in mid-2025.
- ❖ The event was confirmed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on 15 April 2024.
- ❖ It caused bleaching-level heat stress across 84% of the world's coral reef areas.
- ❖ Coral reefs in 83 countries and territories across the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans were affected.
- ❖ The event likely concluded after the Western Australia coral bleaching episode in early 2025.
- ❖ Scientists warn that rising ocean temperatures could lead to more frequent coral bleaching events in the future.



Bonn Climate Conference 2026

- ❖ The 64th Sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB64) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are being held in Bonn, Germany.

- ❖ It is the annual mid-year climate meeting that prepares technical discussions before the next Conference of the Parties (COP) summit.
- ❖ The conference focuses on climate adaptation, mitigation, climate finance, loss and damage, and just transition.
- ❖ Discussions included increasing adaptation finance, implementing the Belém Adaptation Indicators adopted at COP30, and strengthening climate-resilient agriculture.
- ❖ It also reviewed the implementation of the Just Transition Mechanism agreed at COP30.



STATE NEWS

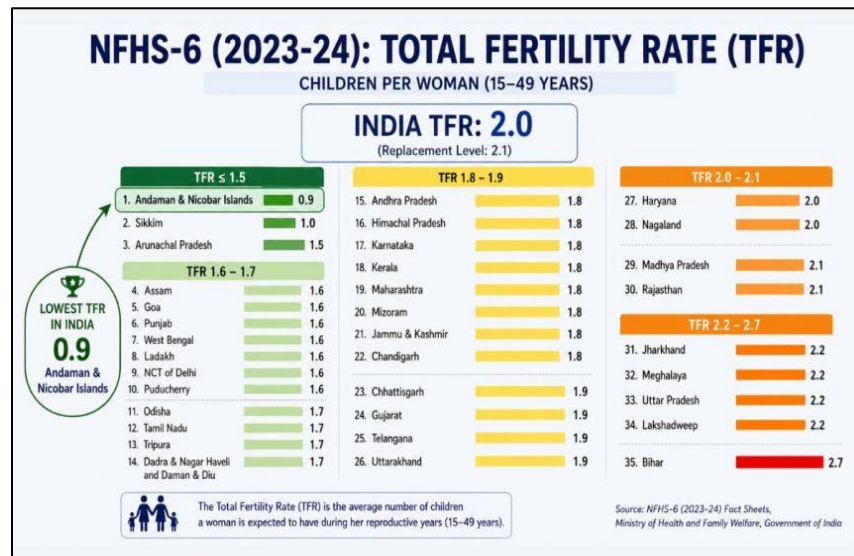
NeVA initiative - West Bengal

- ❖ The West Bengal Legislative Assembly signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to implement the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA).
- ❖ West Bengal became the 33rd legislature in India to join the NeVA initiative.
- ❖ NeVA is a Mission Mode Project of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to digitise legislative functioning.
- ❖ The platform supports paperless, transparent, and efficient governance under the Digital India programme.
- ❖ It provides digital access to bills, questions, notices, committee reports, legislative records, and House proceedings.

- ❖ So far, 21 legislatures have transitioned to fully digital functioning through the NeVA platform.



Fertility Rate - Andaman and Nicobar



- ❖ The Andaman and Nicobar Islands recorded India's lowest TFR (Total Fertility Rate) in NFHS-6 (National Family Health Survey-6).
- ❖ The Union Territory recorded a TFR of 0.9, the lowest in India.
- ❖ A replacement-level fertility rate is 2.1, the level needed to maintain a stable population.
- ❖ The TFR in Andaman and Nicobar declined from 1.4 in NFHS-4 to 0.9 in NFHS-6.
- ❖ The share of children below five years decreased from 5.3% to 3.7%, while the population aged 60 years and above increased to 12.6%.

- ❖ Preschool attendance among children aged 2–4 years declined from 88.5% to 66.2%.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

e-Governance Award 2026 – e Jagriti

- ❖ The e-Jagriti platform of the Department of Consumer Affairs won the Silver Award at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026.
- ❖ e-Jagriti is an AI (Artificial Intelligence)-enabled digital platform for consumer grievance redressal.
- ❖ It was launched on 1 January 2025 to create a unified and paperless consumer dispute resolution system.
- ❖ The platform integrates OCMS (Online Case Monitoring System), e-Daakhil, NCDRC (National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission) CMS (Case Management System), and CONFONET.
- ❖ More than 2.07 lakh consumer cases have been disposed of through the platform, with a 90.75% disposal rate.
- ❖ The award was given under the category “Government Process Re-engineering by Use of Technology for Digital Transformation.”

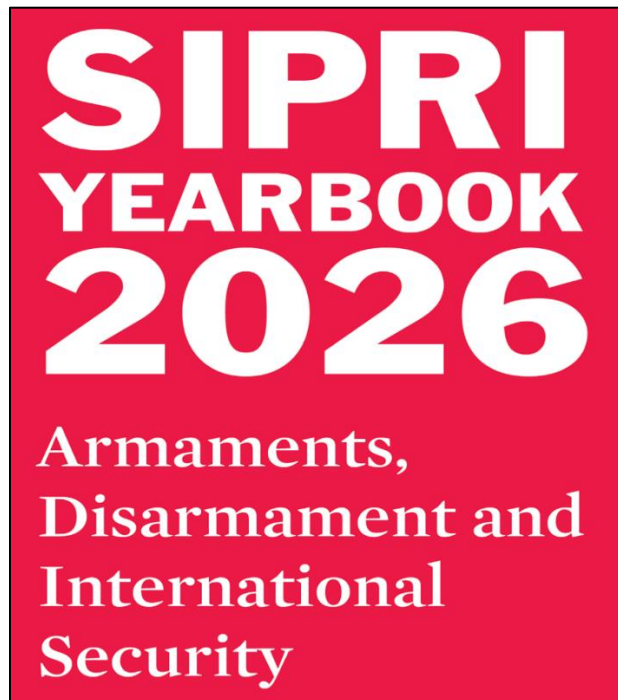


MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

SIPRI Yearbook 2026

- ❖ The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released its Yearbook 2026, highlighting global military spending, arms imports, and nuclear arsenals.

- ❖ SIPRI estimates that India's nuclear stockpile increased to about 190 warheads by early 2026.
- ❖ India remained the world's fifth-largest military spender, with defence expenditure of \$92.1 billion in 2025.
- ❖ India was the second-largest importer of major arms during 2021–25, accounting for 8.2% of global arms imports.
- ❖ Globally, the nine nuclear-armed countries possessed about 12,187 nuclear warheads at the beginning of 2026.



Ancient Footprints in Italy



- ❖ Scientists studied 14,000-year-old human footprints and handprints found in Grotta della Bàsura cave in northern Italy.

- ❖ The traces belonged to five Epigravettian hunter-gatherers, including two adults, one adolescent, and two children.
- ❖ Around 180 footprints and handprints were discovered on the cave floor.
- ❖ The findings provide the first fossil evidence of humans crawling through narrow cave passages.
- ❖ The group used Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) twig torches for lighting inside the cave.

