

June - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Government has revived the long-pending Kirthai-II Hydroelectric Project, a 930 Megawatt (MW) run-of-river hydropower project on the Chenab River in Kishtwar district, Jammu and Kashmir.
 - The Chenab is a major tributary of the Indus River, formed by the confluence of the Chandra and Bhaga rivers in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ A new Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) was inaugurated in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, to strengthen weather forecasting and disaster preparedness in northern India.
- ❖ Union Govt launched the BHAVYA Portal to accelerate the development of 100 industrial parks across India.
 - It aims to create integrated industrial ecosystems with multimodal connectivity, reliable utilities, digital governance, worker-support facilities, and sustainable infrastructure.
- ❖ Saurabh Vijay, CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), has taken charge as CEO of the IndiaAI Mission.
- ❖ Kazakhstan's Bibisara Assaubayeva won the 3rd edition of the Norway Chess Women's Tournament 2026.
- ❖ Jean Drèze received the Global Inequality Research Award (GiRA) 2026 at the World Inequality Conference in Paris.
- ❖ International Archives Day is observed annually on 9 June to highlight the importance of archives and records in preserving history and ensuring transparency.

NATIONAL NEWS

11th NITI Aayog Governing Council Meeting

- ❖ The 11th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog was chaired by the Prime Minister.
- ❖ It focused on India's long-term development vision "Viksit Bharat @2047" with participation from all States and Union Territories.
- ❖ The meeting theme was "Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047", focusing on balanced and inclusive growth across India.
- ❖ It promoted cooperative federalism, where the Centre and States work together for policy and development planning.

- ❖ Key focus areas included women empowerment, agriculture reforms, AI and technology development, and strengthening manufacturing and exports.
- ❖ It also stressed rapid grievance redressal and attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) to boost economic growth.

HISTORIC NITI AAYOG MEETING
11TH GOVERNING COUNCIL

ALL CMs UNITE: A VISION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT

LOCALIZED GDP DATA: DRIVE GROWTH

AFFORDABLE & RELIABLE ENERGY FOCUS

VIKSIT BHARAT BY 2047 >>

Community Seed Banks Standard - IS 20201:2026

BIS INTRODUCES
IS 20201:2026

NEW STANDARD PROTOCOL FOR COMMUNITY SEED BANKS

Empowering Farmers. Preserving Biodiversity. Ensuring Food Security.

Conserves Indigenous Seed Varieties

Enhances Agricultural Resilience

Strengthens Food Security

Empowers Local Communities

IS 20201:2026 is a voluntary certifiable management system standard and is available free of cost on the BIS portal.

BUILDING A SELF-RELIANT ECOSYSTEM FOR INDIGENOUS SEED PRESERVATION

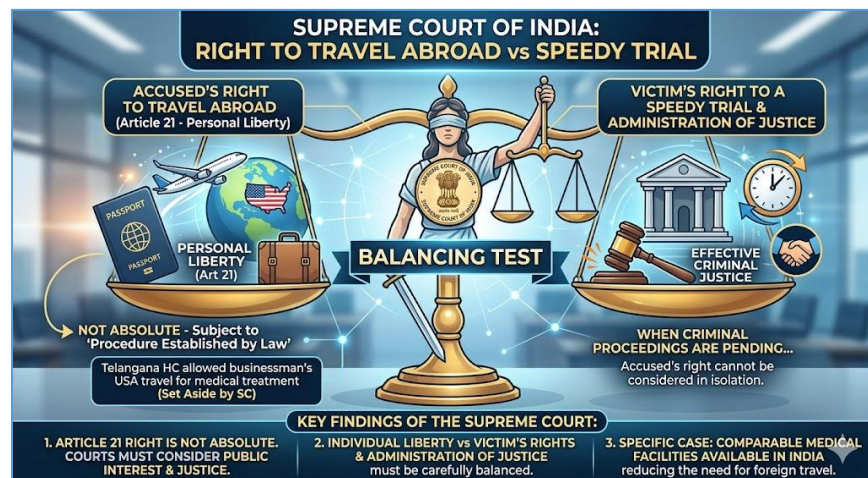
Save Seeds Secure Future

- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has released a new standard, IS 20201:2026, to improve the management of Community Seed Banks and protect indigenous crop varieties in India.
- ❖ Community Seed Banks help in collecting, storing, and exchanging traditional and local seed varieties.
- ❖ The standard aims to protect indigenous crop varieties that are important for food security and climate resilience.

- ❖ It promotes seeds with qualities like drought resistance, disease resistance, and better nutrition.
- ❖ The guidelines cover seed collection, storage, testing, documentation, and quality control processes.

SC on Right to Travel Abroad vs Speedy Trial

- ❖ The Supreme Court of India ruled that the fundamental right to travel abroad under Article 21 is not absolute and must be balanced with the victim's right to a speedy trial and the interests of criminal justice.
- ❖ The Court set aside an order of the Telangana High Court that had allowed an accused businessman to travel to the United States for medical treatment.
- ❖ It observed that the right to travel abroad is a part of personal liberty under Article 21, but is subject to the "procedure established by law."
- ❖ The Court said that when criminal proceedings are pending, the accused's right to travel abroad cannot be considered in isolation.
- ❖ Courts must balance individual liberty with the victim's right to a speedy trial and the effective administration of criminal justice.
- ❖ The Supreme Court also noted that comparable medical facilities were available in India, reducing the need for foreign travel in the case.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India-France Strategic Partnership

- ❖ France identified India as a top strategic priority ahead of the 2026 G7 Summit.

- ❖ India and France established a strategic partnership in 1998, covering defence, space, maritime security, civil nuclear energy, technology, and counter-terrorism.
- ❖ France holds the presidency of the G7 in 2026.
- ❖ Discussions are expected to include cooperation on the Rafale programme and the Make in India initiative.
- ❖ The leaders will inaugurate Bharat Innovates, a startup and innovation platform under the India–France Year of Innovation 2026.
- ❖ India is participating in all G7 outreach tracks as an invited partner and a leading voice of the Global South.

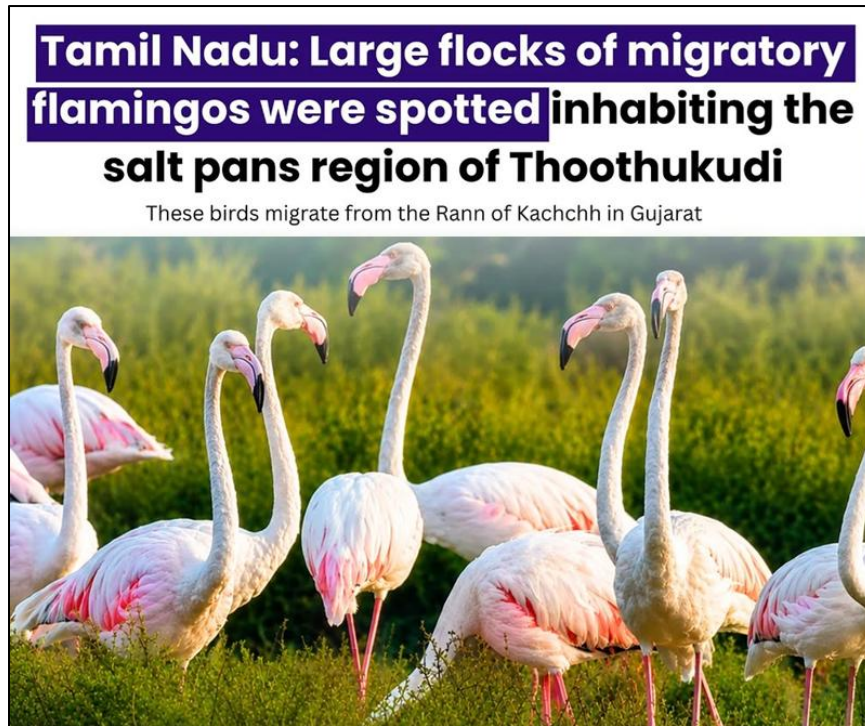


ENVIRONMENT NEWS

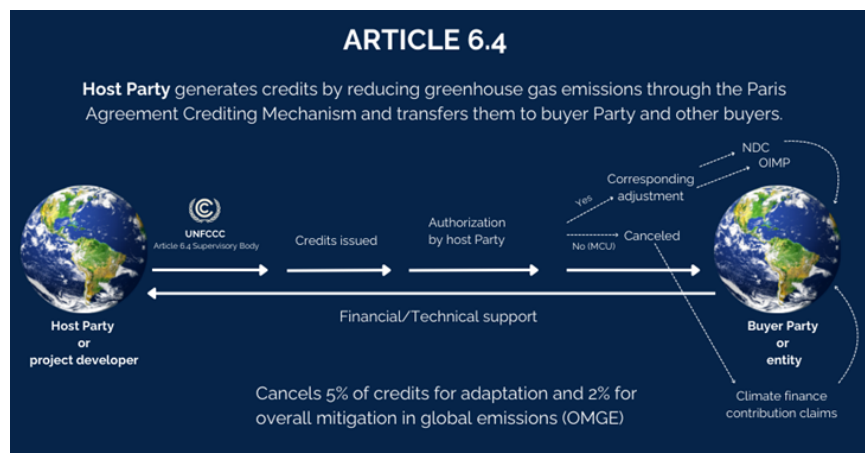
Migratory Flamingos – Tamil Nadu

- ❖ Large flocks of migratory flamingos have been spotted in the salt pans of Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, where they are using the area as a feeding and resting habitat during migration.
- ❖ Flamingos are tall, pink water birds that live in large groups and are known for their highly social behaviour in wetlands and coastal habitats.
- ❖ They are found in shallow saline lakes, salt pans, mudflats, mangroves, and coastal lagoons, and in India, they mainly migrate between Gujarat and southern wetlands.
- ❖ India is home to two species of flamingos: the Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) and the Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*).
- ❖ Greater Flamingo is listed as Least Concern (IUCN) and is abundant, while Lesser Flamingo is Near Threatened (IUCN) due to increasing environmental pressures.

- ❖ In India, both species mainly breed in the Great Rann of Kutch, Gujarat, and later migrate to wetlands in states like Tamil Nadu for feeding and wintering.
- ❖ They are protected under Schedule II of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.



First Carbon Credits Under the Paris Agreement

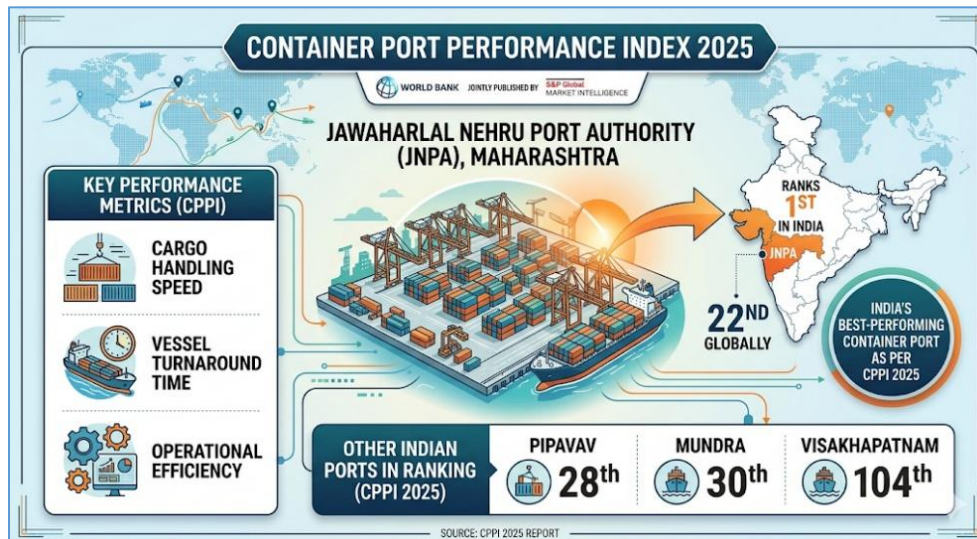


- ❖ The United Nations has issued the first-ever carbon credits under Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement for a clean-cooking project in Myanmar.
- ❖ A carbon credit is a tradable certificate representing the reduction, avoidance, or removal of one metric tonne of carbon dioxide (CO₂) or its equivalent greenhouse gases.

- ❖ The project in Myanmar distributes clean-cooking stoves that replace traditional wood-fired stoves, reducing emissions and deforestation.
- ❖ The project involves Myanmar (host country) and the Republic of Korea (South Korea), with oversight by the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body.
- ❖ A portion of the credits will be transferred to South Korea for its emissions trading obligations, while the remaining credits support Myanmar's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- ❖ The mechanism aims to promote high-integrity carbon markets, international climate finance, and sustainable development benefits such as improved health and environmental protection.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Container Port Performance Index 2025



- ❖ Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Maharashtra, has been ranked as India's top container port and placed 22nd globally in the Container Port Performance Index (CPPI) 2025.
- ❖ JNPA is India's best-performing container port as per the CPPI 2025 report.
- ❖ The CPPI is jointly published by the World Bank and S&P Global Market Intelligence.
- ❖ It measures port performance based on cargo handling speed, vessel turnaround time, and operational efficiency.
- ❖ Other Indian ports in ranking include Pipavav (28th), Mundra (30th), and Visakhapatnam (104th).

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2024-2025



- ❖ The Sangeet Natak Akademi announced the recipients of the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puraskar) for the years 2024 and 2025.
- ❖ A total of 108 artists from music, dance, theatre, folk and tribal arts, puppetry, and scholarship were selected for the honours.
- ❖ The awardees represent different States and Union Territories and cover a wide range of Indian performing art forms.
- ❖ The Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards have been conferred since 1952 and are among India's highest national honours in performing arts.
- ❖ The awards recognise sustained individual excellence and contribution in the field of performing arts.
- ❖ Each Akademi Puraskar carries a cash prize of ₹1 lakh, along with a Tamrapatra.
- ❖ The awardees include eminent artists such as Bombay Jayashri Ramnath, Neyveli R. Narayanan and Niladri Kumar from the fields of music, dance, theatre and folk arts.

