

June - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The first Made-in-India C-295 military transport aircraft successfully completed its maiden test flight in Vadodara, Gujarat.
 - The C-295 is a medium tactical military transport aircraft used for transporting troops, cargo, and carrying out humanitarian and disaster-relief missions.
- ❖ India has granted full legal recognition to E100 (100% ethanol blend) fuel, paving the way for the launch of Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs).
 - Ethanol blending is the process of mixing ethanol with petrol to produce a cleaner and more sustainable fuel.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Slovakia, marking the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the country since its independence in 1993.
 - India and Slovakia established diplomatic relations in 1993 and held discussions on trade, investment, innovation, automobile manufacturing, railway development, and defence cooperation.
- ❖ INS Agray, the fifth Arnala-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), was delivered to the Indian Navy by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers, Kolkata.
- ❖ India's first 8-lane tunnel beneath the Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan, is set to open on 20 June 2026 as part of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway project.
 - It forms part of the Delhi-Vadodara section of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, launched in 2019.
- ❖ The UK government announced plans to ban social media access for children under 16 and introduce stricter online safety measures, with the rules expected to come into force in Spring 2027.
- ❖ The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) is observed every year on 16 June to recognise the contribution of migrant workers who send money to support their families.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "Remittances for Rural Resilience, Entrepreneurship and Employment."

TAMIL NADU NEWS

CM Breakfast Scheme Expansion

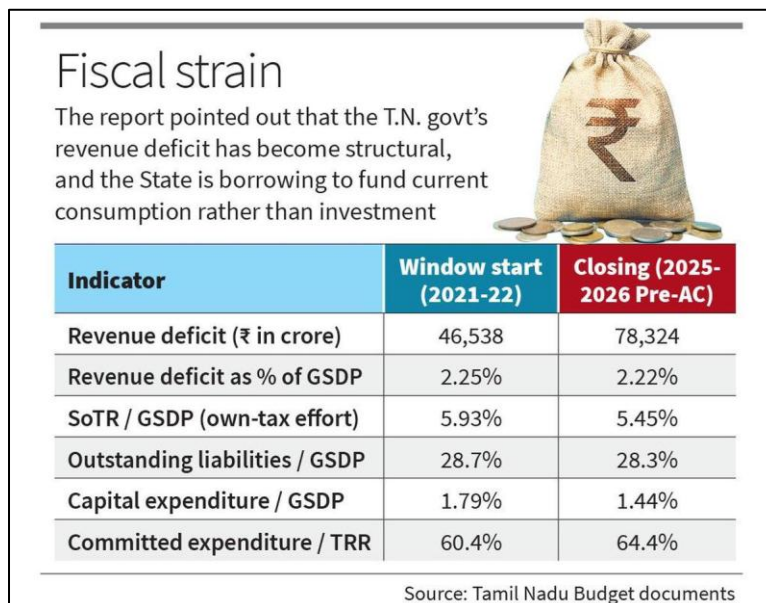
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has announced that the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme will be extended to students of Classes VI to VIII from 17 September 2026.

- ❖ The expansion will be implemented on the birth anniversary of social reformer E. V. Ramasamy, popularly known as Periyar.
- ❖ The scheme currently provides breakfast to students of Classes I to V in government and government-aided schools.
- ❖ The decision was taken after a review meeting of the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, chaired by the Chief Minister.
- ❖ The scheme aims to provide nutritious morning meals and improve the well-being of school children in Tamil Nadu.

CM Vijay Expands Breakfast Scheme Till Class 8

Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay has announced the expansion of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme, introduced by the previous DMK government, to students studying Classes 6 to 8. Following a review meeting of the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, he directed officials to roll out the first phase on September 17, marking Thanthai Periyar's birth anniversary, while stressing speedy delivery of welfare schemes.

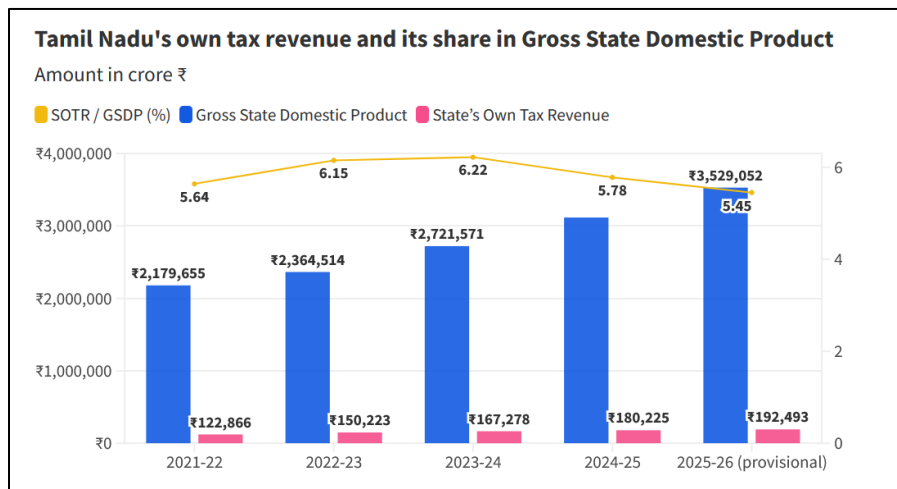
TN government's White Paper 2026



- ❖ The State Govt released the White Paper on the Fiscal Management of Tamil Nadu: An Examination of Public Finances 2021-22 to 2025-26.

- ❖ It puts Tamil Nadu's debt at ₹13.18 lakh crore, including the combined debt of public sector undertakings (PSUs).
- ❖ It says the headline debt figure of ₹10 lakh crore in 2025-26 captures only the State's direct borrowings through market loans, institutional debt, and public account liabilities; it does not capture the borrowings of the PSUs, statutory boards, and special purpose vehicles that the State guarantees or implicitly supports.
- ❖ The power sector remains the single largest source of debt among the PSUs, accounting for ₹2.47 lakh crore.
- ❖ The outstanding debt of eight government transport undertakings stands at ₹43,865 crore, while that of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation is ₹27,181 crore, the report said.
- ❖ Together, the outstanding debt of these PSUs stands at 3.18 lakh crore.
- ❖ The report said the State's outstanding debt had almost doubled in the five years since April 1, 2021, rising from ₹5.13 lakh crore to nearly ₹10 lakh crore as of March 31, 2026. The debt-to-GSDP ratio has remained elevated throughout the post-COVID period and stood at 28.3% in 2025-26.
- ❖ Interest payments consume approximately 23% of the total revenue receipts and nearly 35% of the State's Own Tax Revenue (SOTR).
- ❖ At ₹67,050 crore in 2025-26, the annual interest bill exceeds the annual capital expenditure by approximately one-third.
- ❖ The 2025-26 pre-actuals projects a revenue deficit of ₹78,324 crore, equivalent to 2.2% of the GSDP, the highest recorded in absolute terms and even exceeding the COVID year level.
- ❖ The State is borrowing to fund current consumption rather than investment.
- ❖ More than one-third of every rupee the State raises through its own taxation effort goes directly to servicing past debt.
- ❖ The White Paper said mining revenue was among the "most striking examples of stagnation" in the non-tax income of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The State had "substantial deposits" of granite, limestone, sand, quartz, vermiculite, and a range of other minor minerals.
- ❖ Royalties, rents, and seigniorage fees on minor minerals contributed to mining revenue.
- ❖ The SOTR-to-GSDP ratio has declined from 5.93% in 2021-22 to 5.45% in 2025-26. Committed expenditure, including salaries, pensions, and interest payments, is among the highest, compared with the peer States (Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Karnataka).

- ❖ It rose from ₹1.25 lakh crore to ₹1.89 lakh crore, increasing its share of revenue receipts from about 60% to 64%.
- ❖ At 11.8%, the capital expenditure-to-total expenditure ratio is the lowest among the peer States.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2003, has been amended eight times so far to defer achieving a zero-revenue deficit and limiting the fiscal deficit to 3%.
- ❖ The report also highlighted the growing elderly population, which is projected to account for 18.2% of the State's total population by 2031.
- ❖ According to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's population projections, Tamil Nadu will have the highest proportion of elderly people among the major States by 2031.
- ❖ It refers to Tamil Nadu having the second largest GSDP size (next to Maharashtra) with a diversified industrial and services economy, apart from a large formal-sector tax base.



- ❖ The State's Own Tax Revenue (SOTR) constitutes about two-thirds of the total revenue receipts (TRR).
- ❖ The State's "own-tax revenue is drawn from five principal sources".
- ❖ It pertained to commercial taxes (Goods and Services Tax), Value Added Tax (VAT) on petroleum, State Excise and VAT on liquor, Stamps & Registration, Motor Vehicle Tax, and other taxes.
- ❖ Within the broader commercial taxes, GST accounted for around 53%; VAT on liquor, 28%; and VAT on petroleum products, 19%.
- ❖ The trend of growth in Tamil Nadu's consumption of diesel and petrol is well below the real GSDP [Gross State Domestic Product] growth rate of around 7% per annum in the last 10 years.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's consumption of petrol and diesel was reaching a point of stagnation.

- ❖ The document attributed the development to improving fuel efficiency, the growing adoption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and electric vehicles, and the shift of freight traffic patterns.

NATIONAL NEWS

VB-G RAM-G Rural Initiative

- ❖ The Central Government announced a ₹1.25 lakh crore Viksit Bharat–GRAMG (VB-G RAM-G) rural development initiative, which will come into effect from 1 July 2026.
- ❖ The initiative aims to boost rural employment, workers' security, and village development across India.
- ❖ The Government released an interim allocation of ₹95,692.31 crore and had already allocated ₹30,000 crore under MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act).
- ❖ The funds will reach nearly 2.80 lakh Gram Panchayats to support employment generation and the creation of rural assets.
- ❖ States were directed to ensure 100% e-KYC (Electronic Know Your Customer), Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), face authentication, and timely wage payments.
- ❖ A National Rural Development Conference on the implementation of the initiative will be held.

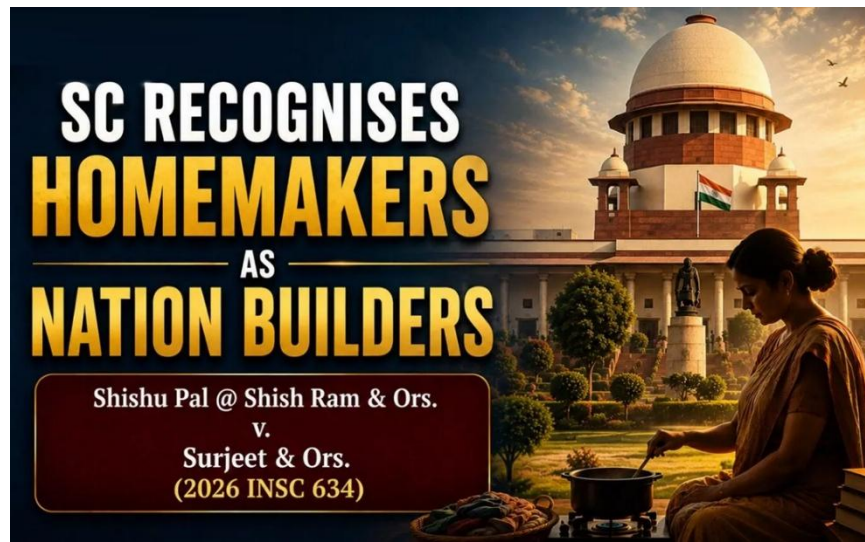


Shishupal Judgment 2026

- ❖ The Supreme Court, in *Shishupal @ Shish Ram vs Surjeet* (2026), recognised the independent economic value of unpaid domestic labour performed by homemakers in motor accident compensation cases.

- ❖ The Court held that household work performed by homemakers must not be treated as having no economic value merely because it does not generate formal monetary income.
- ❖ It fixed a minimum notional income of ₹30,000 per month for homemakers while determining compensation in motor accident death cases.
- ❖ The Court created a distinct head of compensation called “loss of domestic care” for cases involving the death of a homemaker.
- ❖ In such cases, tribunals and courts must award an additional amount of ₹30,000 per month under the head of “loss of domestic care”.
- ❖ The Court clarified that ₹30,000 is a minimum benchmark meant to offset the disadvantage faced by homemakers when compensation is based on conservatively determined notional income.
- ❖ It described the amount as a “stand-in” monthly income for homemakers who do not make a direct monetary contribution to the household.
- ❖ The Court directed that this amount should be enhanced by 10% on a cumulative basis every three years.
- ❖ If the homemaker was also employed and had proven earnings, compensation under “loss of domestic care” would be awarded in addition to the proven income.
- ❖ The judgment described homemakers as “nation builders” because they support families and contribute significantly to the development of the country's human capital.
- ❖ The Court observed that routine household activities such as cooking, cleaning, caregiving, and child-rearing support the paid workforce and enable economic productivity.
- ❖ It noted that these contributions are generally not reflected in conventional economic indicators such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- ❖ The Bench stated that homemakers are the architects of India’s “human capital”, laying the foundation for the success of professionals and future generations.
- ❖ The ruling acknowledged that strict arithmetic calculations cannot fully measure the economic, social, and nation-building contributions made by homemakers.
- ❖ The judgment did not provide any specific mathematical or empirical basis for arriving at the ₹30,000 figure.
- ❖ The Court observed that motor accident compensation claims often remain involved in litigation for many years, delaying relief to victims and their families.
- ❖ It noted that the average pendency of such cases is about six years before Motor Accident Claims Tribunals (MACTs) and eight years before High Courts.
- ❖ The Court held that compensation appeals should not remain pending in High Courts for more than four years.

- ❖ It emphasised that adjournments should be granted only for genuine reasons and unnecessary delays must be avoided.
- ❖ The Court observed that prolonged delays defeat the welfare-oriented objective of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.
- ❖ It directed the Chief Justices of all High Courts to give priority to older motor accident compensation appeals and assess the need for additional Benches to ensure faster disposal of cases.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

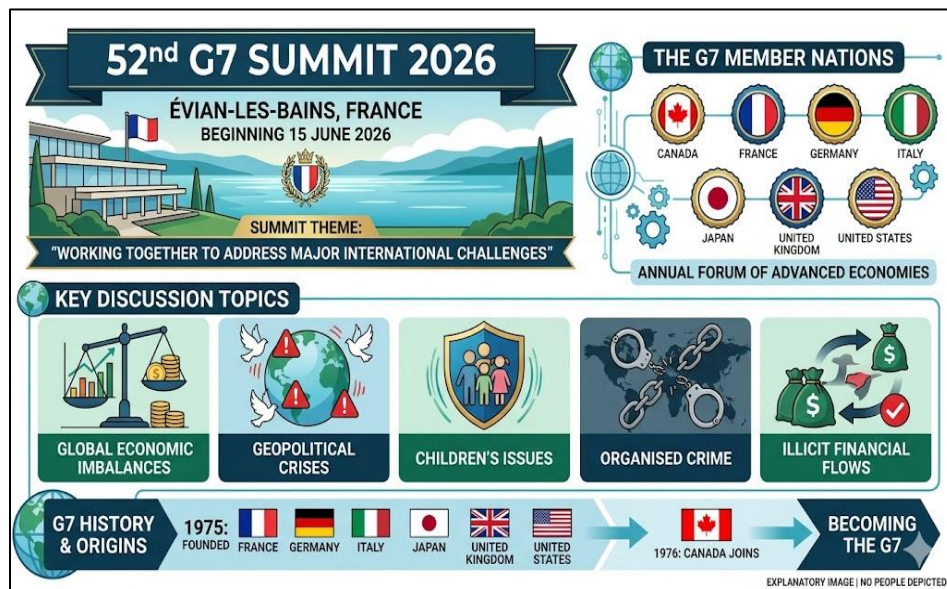
BRICS Agricultural Framework



- ❖ The 16th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting adopted the BRICS Indore Declaration during India's Presidency in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

- ❖ The meeting was held with the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability (BRICS)."
- ❖ The declaration focuses on food security, nutrition, agricultural trade, climate-resilient farming, and digital agriculture.
- ❖ It proposes the launch of the Global Forum on Farmers' Rights in Seed Systems to protect farmers' seed rights and indigenous knowledge.
- ❖ It supports the proposed BRICS Grain Exchange and the launch of BRICS AGRIN (Agro-Inputs, Genetic Resources and Information Network) for cooperation in seeds and agricultural inputs.
- ❖ It also calls for expanding Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in agriculture and establishing a BRICS Network on Digital Agriculture, initially coordinated by the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi.

52nd G7 Summit 2026



- ❖ The 52nd G7 Summit began in Évian-les-Bains, France, on 15 June 2026, hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron.
- ❖ The summit theme is "Working Together to Address Major International Challenges."
- ❖ The G7 is an annual forum of seven advanced economies: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- ❖ The summit will discuss global economic imbalances, geopolitical crises, children's issues, organised crime, and illicit financial flows.

- ❖ The G7 was originally formed in 1975 as the G6 (France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States), and Canada joined in 1976, creating the G7.

13th BRICS Urbanization Forum

- ❖ The 13th BRICS Urbanisation Forum concluded in New Delhi with the adoption of the Urban Ministerial Declaration, reaffirming commitment to inclusive, sustainable, resilient, and people-centred urban development.
- ❖ The forum was convened by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under India's BRICS Chairship.
- ❖ The theme of the forum was "Cities for People: BRICS Cooperation for Inclusive and Resilient Urban Futures."
- ❖ The declaration emphasised equitable access to urban services, particularly for marginalised groups.
- ❖ Participating countries included Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ Discussions covered affordable housing, slum upgrading, public transport, climate adaptation, water security, solid waste management, urban renewal, municipal reforms, and technology-driven urban governance.



STATE NEWS

Student Nutrition Programme - Telangana

- ❖ Telangana launched its Breakfast and Milk Scheme when schools reopened after the summer vacation.

- ❖ The scheme covers students from pre-primary to Class XII in government schools and junior colleges across the state.
- ❖ The State has allocated ₹720 crore annually, including ₹540 crore for breakfast and ₹180 crore for milk and ragi malt supply.
- ❖ The scheme aims to benefit about 29 lakh students in government educational institutions.
- ❖ The first phase covers 1,302 institutions (1,269 government schools and 33 junior colleges) and benefits around 1.44 lakh students in eight districts.

