

June - 21

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Bangladesh has approved the construction of the Padma Barrage Project on the Padma River in the Rajbari district.
  - The Padma River is the Bangladesh stretch of the Ganga River, and the project aims to reduce water scarcity in the drought-prone southwest region of the country.
- ❖ India's first drone-based mail and parcel transmission service has been launched by the Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh between Mandi Head Post Office and Rehardhar Branch Post Office to provide faster postal connectivity in remote hilly areas.
- ❖ The Regional Horticultural Research Station (RHRS), Lam Farm, Guntur of Andhra Pradesh released two new chilli varieties, LCA-625 and LCA-643.
- ❖ The Indian Navy's INAS 330 ("The Harpoons") was decommissioned after 55 years of service, retiring its Sea King Mk 42B helicopters to be replaced by MH-60R Seahawks.
- ❖ The International Day for Countering Hate Speech is observed every year on 18 June to raise awareness about the dangers of hate speech and promote actions to prevent and counter it worldwide.
  - The theme for the year 2026 is "The Power of Partnerships in Countering Hate Speech."
- ❖ International Picnic Day is observed every year on 18 June to celebrate outdoor dining and the enjoyment of food, nature, and social gatherings.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### **Mekedatu Dam Proposal**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on 19 June 2026 against the Karnataka government's Mekedatu dam proposal.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu sought the constitution of a new tribunal on the Mekedatu project, describing it as "inadmissible" and "impermissible."
- ❖ The resolution objected to Karnataka's unilateral proposal to construct a balancing reservoir across the Cauvery River at Mekedatu.
- ❖ It stated that the project violates the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (5 February 2007) and the Supreme Court of India judgment (16 February 2018).

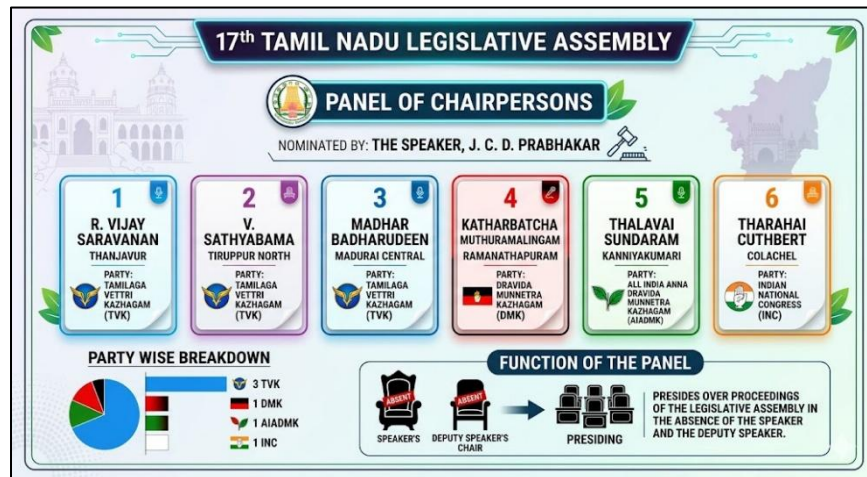
- ❖ The resolution urged the Union Government not to grant any technical or environmental clearance to the Mekedatu project.
- ❖ It noted that the Cauvery basin is a deficit basin and that its available water has already been apportioned among the basin States.
- ❖ The House requested the Centre to constitute a new Tribunal under Section 4 of the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, and urged the Central Water Commission not to process or approve Karnataka's Detailed Project Report (DPR).

**CM Vijay on Friday moved a resolution in the State Legislative Assembly opposing the Mekedatu dam project proposed by Karnataka, urging unanimous support from the House.**

**The resolution stated that the project violates the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal Award dated 5.2.2007 & the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 16.2.2018, noting that the Cauvery basin is already deficit & no new storage project can be undertaken without consent of basin states.**

**It further called on the Union Govt & the Central Water Commission to reject or withhold all approvals, including technical & environmental clearances, & to stop processing Karnataka's Detailed Project Report to protect TN's water & farmer interests.**

### 17<sup>th</sup> Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly - Panel of Chairpersons



- ❖ The Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, J. C. D. Prabhakar, nominated six MLAs to the Panel of Chairpersons.
- ❖ The nominees are R. Vijay Saravanan (Thanjavur), V. Sathyabama (Tiruppur North), Madhar Badharudeen (Madurai Central), Katharbatcha

Muthuramalingam (Ramanathapuram), Thalavai Sundaram (Kanniyakumari), and Tharagai Cuthbert (Colachel).

- ❖ The panel includes three MLAs from Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), one from Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), one from All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), and one from the Indian National Congress (INC).
- ❖ The Panel of Chairpersons presides over the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly in the absence of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### New Uniform Code - Indian Army



- ❖ The Indian Army released the 174-page Army Uniforms-2026 Pamphlet, marking the first comprehensive update of dress regulations in eight years.
- ❖ The new manual covers formal attire, ceremonial wear, winter working dress, grooming standards, and clothing options for women officers.
- ❖ The indigenous Bandi jacket has been introduced as formal civil attire for Indian Army officers.
- ❖ A new Battle Jacket has been introduced and will gradually replace the jersey-based winter uniform Dress 3A by June 2029.

- ❖ The manual removes several colonial-era terms, including “Royal”, from official usage.
- ❖ The new rules prohibit radical hairstyles, unauthorised beards, visible electronic gadgets, tattoos, and body piercings, with specific exemptions for Sikh soldiers.

### **NPCI - Drunix**

- ❖ The National Payments Corporation of India has rolled out Drunix, its second major open-source contribution in the blockchain and tokenisation ecosystem after Falcon.
- ❖ Drunix is an enterprise-grade Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) platform designed to build and scale tokenisation platforms, digital asset ecosystems, and multi-organisation networks.
- ❖ Hyperledger Fabric is an open-source enterprise blockchain framework developed under the Linux Foundation.
- ❖ Blockchain technology stores data in linked blocks and creates an immutable ledger that helps in secure and transparent record-keeping and prevents unauthorised changes.
- ❖ Tokenisation converts ownership rights of real-world assets such as real estate, commodities, and financial instruments into digital tokens secured on blockchain networks.



### **Wind Turbine Supply Chain Management Portal**

- ❖ The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched WT-MARUT (Wind Turbine–Materials, Resources and Technology), India's first dedicated wind turbine supply chain management portal, at the Global Wind Day Conference in Goa.

- ❖ WT-MARUT is an indigenous, centralised digital platform designed to manage, track, and optimise India's domestic wind turbine manufacturing supply chain.
- ❖ The portal aims to strengthen domestic wind manufacturing capabilities and promote inclusion across the wind energy supply chain.
- ❖ It provides end-to-end supply chain visibility, supplier discovery, Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) compliance, and a collaboration platform for stakeholders in the wind sector.
- ❖ India has installed 56.1 Gigawatt (GW) of wind power capacity against an estimated potential of 1,164 GW, and the portal supports the national target of 100 GW of wind capacity by 2030.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### U.S. Iran Preliminary Peace Accord 2026

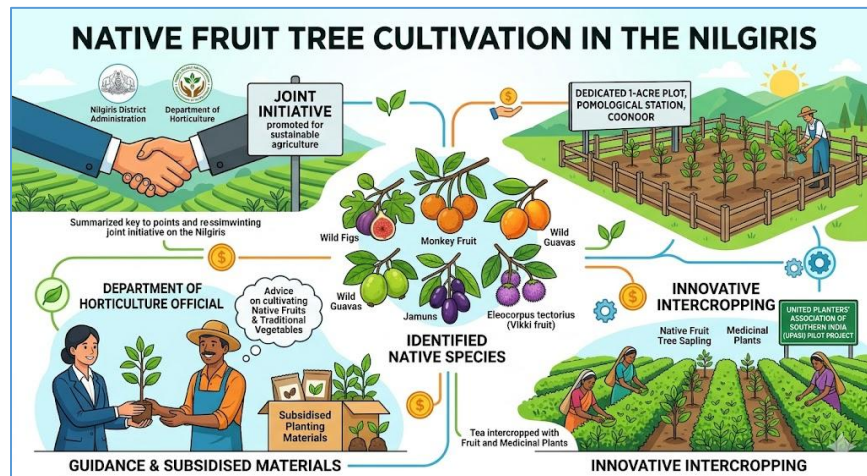
- ❖ The United States and Iran announced a preliminary peace accord to end their military conflict and lift the naval blockade on the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman.
- ❖ The accord is an emergency MoU that serves as a 60-day de-escalation mechanism and not a final peace treaty.
- ❖ It provides for an immediate ceasefire, toll-free international commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, and immediate mine-removal operations.
- ❖ The agreement provides for the phased release of 24 billion US dollars of frozen Iranian assets during the 60-day negotiation period.

- ❖ The accord is expected to improve global energy security, lower oil prices, and ensure safer passage through the Strait of Hormuz, a key route for India's oil and gas imports.



## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### Native Fruit Tree Cultivation – Nilgiris



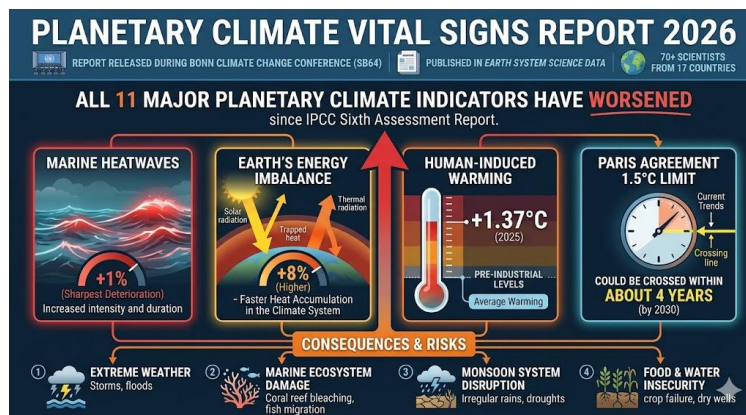
- ❖ Native fruit tree cultivation is being promoted in the Nilgiris district through a joint initiative of the district administration and the Department of Horticulture.
- ❖ A dedicated one-acre plot has been established at the Pomological Station, Coonoor, for cultivating native fruit trees.
- ❖ The identified native species include wild figs, monkey fruit, wild guavas, jamuns, and Eleocarpus tectorius (Vikki fruit).
- ❖ The Department of Horticulture is providing guidance and subsidised planting materials for native fruit and traditional vegetable cultivation.

- ❖ The United Planters' Association of Southern India is piloting intercropping of tea with fruit and medicinal plants in the Nilgiris.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Planetary Climate Vital Signs Report 2026

- ❖ The Planetary Climate Vital Signs Report 2026, released during the Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB64), warned that all 11 major planetary climate indicators have worsened since the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report.
- ❖ The report was published in Earth System Science Data by around 70 scientists from 17 countries and provides updated measurements of key global climate indicators.
- ❖ Marine heatwaves showed the sharpest deterioration, increasing by 1%, while Earth's Energy Imbalance rose by 8%, indicating faster heat accumulation in the climate system.
- ❖ Human-induced warming reached 1.37°C above pre-industrial levels in 2025, and current trends suggest that the 1.5°C limit of the Paris Agreement could be crossed within about four years.
- ❖ The report warned that rising temperatures and marine heatwaves could intensify extreme weather events, damage marine ecosystems, disrupt monsoon systems, and threaten food and water security.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Sustainable Gastronomy Day 2026 – June 18

- ❖ The day highlights the links between food, culture, health, and environmental sustainability.

- ❖ It aims to promote food systems that are environmentally friendly and support healthy diets and food security.
- ❖ Gastronomy refers to the art and culture of food and cooking, while sustainable gastronomy considers where food comes from, how it is produced, and how it reaches consumers.
- ❖ The day encourages people to eat locally grown and seasonal foods, support farmers, and preserve traditional cuisines and culinary practices.
- ❖ It also raises awareness about reducing food loss and food waste, as nearly one-third of all food produced globally is lost or wasted.



## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### World's Most Beautiful Airports 2026

- ❖ India's Navi Mumbai International Airport and Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport (LGBIA), Guwahati were included in the Prix Versailles World's Most Beautiful Airports List 2026.
- ❖ Prix Versailles is an international architecture and design award presented annually at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris since 2015.
- ❖ The Navi Mumbai International Airport was recognised for its lotus-inspired architecture.

- ❖ Guwahati Airport Terminal 2 was recognised for its Bamboo Orchid-inspired design, reflecting the biodiversity of Northeast India.
- ❖ The other airports on the Prix Versailles 2026 shortlist are Guangzhou, Frankfurt am Main, Kandal Stueng, Pittsburgh and San Diego.

