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## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian-origin physicist Jainendra K. Jain was awarded the Wolf Prize in Physics 2026, becoming the first Indian-origin scientist to receive this honour.
- ❖ Chennai-based 'The ePlane Company' has unveiled India's first full-scale electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft prototype, named e200X (PT-01).
  - The e200X is designed for multiple uses, including air taxi services, cargo transport, and air ambulance operations.
- ❖ Cristiano Ronaldo became the first football player in history to score in six FIFA World Cups, having scored in the 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018, 2022, and 2026 editions.
- ❖ China's LineShine supercomputer, ranked first in the TOP500 list (June 2026 edition), is a CPU-only system with a custom processor architecture and about 13.79 million cores.
- ❖ International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, also known as World Drug Day, is observed every year on 26 June to strengthen action and cooperation against drug abuse and illegal drug trafficking.
  - The theme for the year 2026 is "World drug problem: persisting issues, new challenges, innovative responses".
- ❖ International Day in Support of Victims of Torture is observed every year on 26 June to support victims of torture and promote the eradication of torture worldwide.
  - The theme for 2026 is "Torture: a crime against humanity."
- ❖ World Refrigeration Day is observed every year on 26 June to raise awareness about the importance of refrigeration, air conditioning, and heat pump technologies.
  - The theme for the year 2026 is "Cool Intelligence."

## NATIONAL NEWS

### **Sickle Cell Elimination Mission**

- ❖ The Prime Minister of India launched the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (NSCEM) in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh, to eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by 2047.
- ❖ The mission targets screening of around 7 crore people under 40 years across India within 3 years (2023–2026).

- ❖ It prioritises tribal health and aims to prevent the genetic transmission of sickle cell disease through early screening and awareness.
- ❖ Sickle Cell Genetic Status Cards were distributed to beneficiaries to help with health and marriage-related awareness.
- ❖ Around 3.57 crore Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY cards were also distributed during the launch event.
- ❖ The programme is implemented under the National Health Mission (NHM) in 17 high-focus states of India.



### **Three Naval Warships**



- ❖ The Indian Navy commissioned three indigenously built warships in Kolkata.

- ❖ The warships are INS Dunagiri, INS Agray and INS Sanshodhak.
- ❖ INS Dunagiri is a Project 17A stealth frigate built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- ❖ Project 17A frigates are guided-missile warships designed for surface, air and anti-submarine warfare.
- ❖ INS Agray is an Arnala-class anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft used in coastal operations.
- ❖ INS Sanshodhak is a Sandhayak-class hydrographic survey vessel used for seabed mapping and navigation support.

### **Right to Trauma Care – Supreme Court Judgment**

#### **Right to Trauma Care Part of Article 21: Supreme Court Issues Nationwide Directions**



- ❖ The Supreme Court in SaveLIFE Foundation & Anr. vs Union of India held that the right to trauma care is an integral part of the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.
- ❖ The Court ruled that the right to trauma care covers the entire emergency response chain from the site of injury to definitive hospital treatment.
- ❖ It issued nine binding directions to the Union Government, States, and Union Territories with implementation timelines of 3–6 months.
- ❖ All States must integrate emergency helplines such as 100, 101, 102, 108, and 1091 into a single national emergency number 112.

- ❖ All ambulances must comply with the National Ambulance Code, be equipped with GPS tracking, and be integrated with the 112 emergency response system.
- ❖ States must implement cashless treatment for road accident victims under the PM RAHAT (Prime Minister–Road Accident Victims’ Hospitalisation and Assured Treatment) scheme.
- ❖ The Court observed that trauma is the leading cause of death among Indians aged 18–45 years.
- ❖ In *Parmanand Katara vs Union of India* (1989), the Supreme Court held that doctors have a duty to provide immediate emergency medical aid.
- ❖ In *Paschim Banga Khet Mazdoor Samiti vs State of West Bengal* (1996), the Court expanded Article 21 to include access to emergency medical care.
- ❖ The present judgment further expands Article 21 to include the complete emergency care chain: bystander assistance, emergency call, ambulance services, paramedics, and hospital treatment.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### **Pax Silica AI Initiative - European Union**



- ❖ The European Union (EU) agreed to join the Pax Silica initiative, a United States-led framework on artificial intelligence supply chains and export controls.
- ❖ Pax Silica, launched by the United States in December 2025, focuses on securing the AI ecosystem supply chain, including semiconductors, critical minerals, energy, and digital infrastructure.
- ❖ The initiative promotes coordinated export controls for sensitive AI-related technologies among allied countries.

- ❖ The EU's accession includes a commercial commitment to purchase USD 40 billion worth of US AI chips under the broader trade framework.
- ❖ Several countries, including the United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia, and others, are already part of the initiative.

### UN Peacekeeper Accountability Resolution

- ❖ The United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 2823 (2026) to strengthen accountability for crimes against UN peacekeepers.
- ❖ The resolution was adopted unanimously and co-authored by Denmark and Pakistan during their 2025–26 tenure in the Council.
- ❖ It aims to improve the identification, investigation, and prosecution of perpetrators attacking UN peacekeeping personnel.
- ❖ The resolution reaffirms the responsibility of host countries to ensure legal action against offenders under national and international law.
- ❖ It calls for the UN Secretary-General to appoint a senior focal point on accountability and submit an annual report on investigations and prosecutions.
- ❖ The measure builds on earlier resolutions, including Resolution 2589 (2021) and Resolution 2518 (2020) on peacekeeper safety and protection.



## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### India's First 3D-Printed Artificial Reef Deployment

- ❖ India's first 3D-printed artificial reef modules are set to be deployed off the Ramanathapuram coast in Tamil Nadu under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

- ❖ The project is a marine habitat restoration initiative aimed at improving coastal biodiversity and fish population recovery.
- ❖ The reef modules have been developed by Tvasta Manufacturing Solutions (IIT Madras-incubated startup) in collaboration with the ICAR–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).
- ❖ The modules feature complex 3D structures with crevices and folds to enhance marine life attachment and habitat formation.
- ❖ The pilot project will assess durability, ecological performance, and suitability for large-scale deployment in Indian coastal waters.



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### World Future Skills Index



- ❖ India ranked 13th globally in AI-economy readiness in the QS World Future Skills Index 2027, released on 23 June 2026 by QS Quacquarelli Symonds.
- ❖ India scored 89.4 out of 100 in the index and ranked 5th in the Future of Work category with a score of 96.0.
- ❖ The index assesses countries based on readiness for future skills and AI-driven economic transformation.
- ❖ India showed strong performance in Economic Transformation and Academic Readiness.
- ❖ The report estimates that AI adoption could add nearly \$500 billion to India's economy by 2030.

## STATE NEWS

### Vijayanagara Inscriptions in Andhra Pradesh



### **Tirupati: Vijayanagara-era Inscriptions Found In Seshachalam Forests**

- ❖ Three rare 16th-century inscriptions were discovered by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in Sadasivakona, Seshachalam forest, Tirupati.
- ❖ The inscriptions belong to the reign of Vijayanagara king Sadasiva Raya and are dated around 31 July 1554 CE.
- ❖ They are written in Telugu, Tamil, and Kannada, showing the multilingual nature of the Vijayanagara administration.
- ❖ The texts record the construction of a Shiva temple and mutt at Papavinasa and land grants for temple worship.

- ❖ They also mention the allocation of Gudimallam temple lands (Parasurameswara Temple) for religious services and food offerings.

### **Article 371 Safeguards for Ladakh**

- ❖ Centre reaffirmed discussions on constitutional safeguards for Ladakh under Article 371 during a Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) meeting on 22 May 2026.
- ❖ Article 371 comes under Part XXI of the Constitution of India, which provides special provisions for certain States and regions.
- ❖ The meeting included representatives of the Ladakh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance.
- ❖ Article 371A (Nagaland), 371F (Sikkim), and 371G (Mizoram) provide region-specific protections on land, culture, and governance.
- ❖ Ladakh became a Union Territory on 31 October 2019 after the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Discussions include proposals for an elected body with legislative, executive, and financial powers for Ladakh.

#### **ART 371 PROTECTION**

- All **officers of the UT will report to the executive head** of the proposed elected body
- **Constitutional safeguards will be provided** to Ladakh, not under Sixth Schedule but under Article 371
- Autonomous councils in Ladakh will also give way to **elected bodies in all 7 districts**
- Setup '**will lead Ladakh towards full statehood** as and when it meets revenue criteria', claims note issued by Ladakh representatives

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

#### **World Vitiligo Day 2026 - June 25**

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about vitiligo and the challenges faced by people living with the condition.

- ❖ Vitiligo is a skin disorder in which melanocytes (cells that produce melanin pigment) are destroyed, causing white patches on the skin.
- ❖ The first World Vitiligo Day was organized in 2011 by the Vitiligo Research Foundation (VR Foundation) and Vitiligo Support and Awareness Foundation (VITSAF).
- ❖ The date 25 June was chosen to commemorate the death anniversary of Michael Jackson, who had vitiligo.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “From Stigma to Strength”.

