November - 03

# TNPSC BITS

- French physicist Claude Cohen-Tannoudji, who shared the 1997 Nobel Prize in Physics for methods to cool and trap atoms using laser light, died at the age of 93.
- Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) launched INS Srishti, the fourth Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) in Goa.
- The India–Republic of Korea Navy (IN–RoKN) Bilateral Maritime Exercise 2026 was held at Busan Naval Harbour, South Korea.
- The Biological Agri Solutions Association of India (BASAI) is exploring international partnerships in biological agriculture, including cooperation with Kenya.
    - The proposed cooperation aims to promote knowledge exchange and collaboration in agricultural research, technology and biological solutions.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari stated that India has overtaken Japan to become the world's third-largest automobile industry, after the United States (first) and China (second), with a value of ₹22 lakh crore.
- India hosted the 61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) in New Delhi for the first time to promote global harmonisation of measurement standards, facilitate international trade and protect consumers.
- World Cities Day is observed on 31 October every year to raise awareness about sustainable urbanisation, promote international cooperation and encourage the development of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities.
    - The theme for the year 2026 is "Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All."

# TAMIL NADU NEWS

## Chola-Era Archaeological Discovery – Nagapattinam

- The Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology unearthed 12th-century bronze-alloy idols of Nataraja and Sivakami during excavations in Nagapattinam.
- The idols were found at a depth of one metre, along with their pedestals; the Nataraja idol measures 110 cm in height and the Sivakami idol measures 82 cm.
- Nataraja is depicted in the four-armed Ananda Tandava posture, while Sivakami is depicted in the two-armed Tribhanga posture.

- Their physical structure, iconography and ornamental designs indicate that they belong to the 12th century CE during the Chola period.
- Chola bronze sculptures were mainly produced between the 9th and 13th centuries using the Cire-perdue (lost-wax casting) technique.
- Nagapattinam was an important Chola-period port, manufacturing centre and religious centre; the idols may have been buried for safekeeping during invasions.




## Tamil Nadu BharatNet Agreement – Rural Broadband Expansion

- Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), Tamil Nadu Government and Tamil Nadu FibreNet Corporation (TANFINET) signed an agreement to expand rural broadband connectivity.
- The agreement was signed under the state-led Amended BharatNet Programme at Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Central financial support is expected to provide fibre broadband connections to over 5 lakh rural households and on-demand connectivity in 4,767 villages.
- TANFINET is the implementing agency in Tamil Nadu, while DBN supports telecommunications access in underserved areas.

- DBN was formerly known as the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) and functions under the Department of Telecommunications.
- The Union Cabinet approved the Amended BharatNet Programme on 4 August 2023 to upgrade and expand rural broadband infrastructure.
- BharatNet provides open-access broadband infrastructure to support e-governance, online education, telemedicine and digital payments.




## NATIONAL NEWS

### AI and Maritime Security Priorities

- India identified Artificial Intelligence (AI) and maritime security as key priorities for its candidature for a non-permanent United Nations Security Council (UNSC) seat for 2028–29, during a UN debate.
- AI-based analysis of satellite images, radar and vessel-tracking data can improve maritime awareness, detect suspicious activities and support search-and-rescue operations.
- India highlighted cyber threats to ports, ships, communication networks and undersea infrastructure and called for human oversight and safeguards for autonomous systems.

- India stressed freedom of navigation, lawful maritime trade and the safety of seafarers under international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- The Information Fusion Centre–Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) is hosted by the Indian Navy in Gurugram, Haryana.
- It was launched in December 2018 to promote maritime information-sharing and security.
- India's maritime cooperation approach follows SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region).
- India and Tajikistan are competing for the Asia-Pacific Group's single non-permanent UNSC seat, with elections scheduled for June 2027.




## High-Level Banking Reforms Committee




- The Union Government constituted a High-Level Committee on Banking for Viksit Bharat to recommend banking sector reforms in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

- The Committee will recommend structural, institutional, regulatory and legislative reforms to make India's banking sector globally competitive, financially inclusive and resilient.
- It will be chaired by Suresh N. Patel, former Central Vigilance Commissioner.
- Members include Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor Shirish Chandra Murmu, former Indian Bank Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) Padmaja Chunduru, and former RBI Deputy Governor N. S. Vishwanathan.
- It will review banking practices, prudential norms and global best practices, and examine reforms for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperative Banks.
- It will also prepare a roadmap for adopting Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital innovations in banks, with safeguards against cyber risks.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### EU–Canada Alliance for the Future




- The European Union (EU) and Canada launched the Alliance for the Future at the EU–Canada Summit held in Montreal, Quebec.
- The alliance will focus on critical minerals, resilient supply chains and defence, with the possibility of other countries joining.
- The EU's imports of Canadian critical raw materials, including lithium, cobalt, nickel and graphite, increased by 62% to €3.3 billion last year.
- Canada is the only non-European participant in the €150-billion Security Action for Europe (SAFE) defence procurement programme.

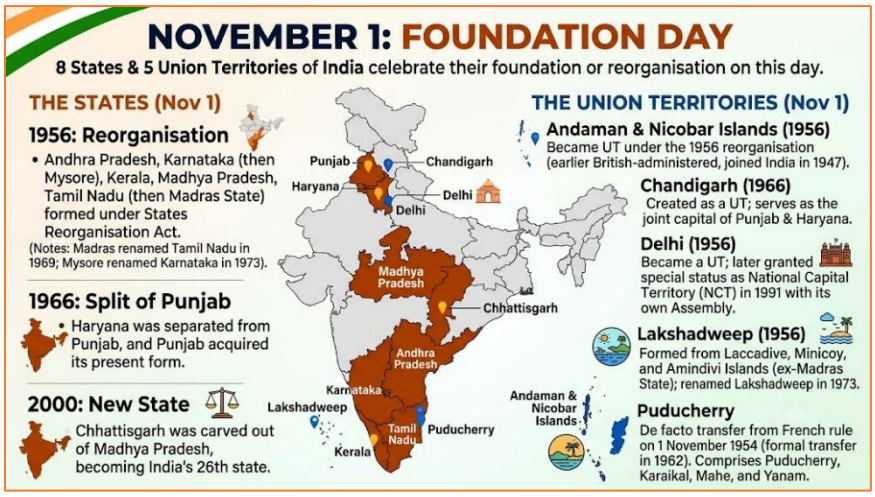
- Cooperation also covers digital trade, Artificial Intelligence (AI), quantum computing, cybersecurity, energy, space and youth exchanges through Erasmus+.
- The EU Critical Raw Materials Act identifies 34 critical raw materials, including 17 strategic raw materials. SAFE projects require at least 65% European components in weapons systems.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

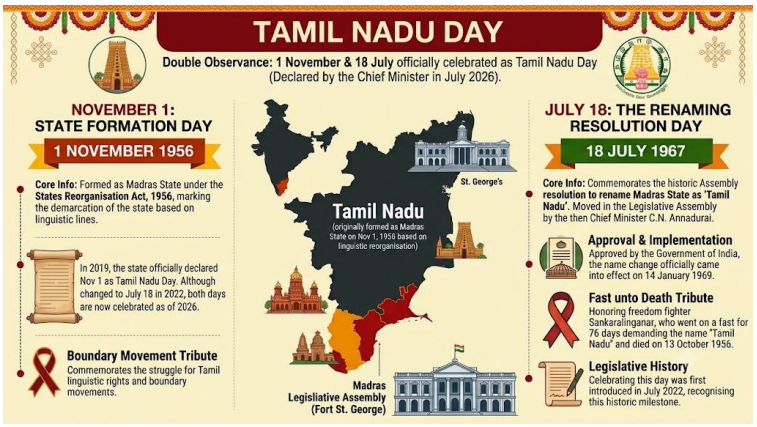
### Foundation Day of 8 States and 5 UTs 2026 – November 1

- Eight States and five Union Territories (UTs) of India observe their Foundation Day on 1 November every year.
- Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka (then Mysore State), Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Madras State (now Tamil Nadu) were formed or reorganised on 1 November 1956 under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
- Madras State was renamed Tamil Nadu in 1969, while Mysore State was renamed Karnataka in 1973.
- Haryana was separated from Punjab on 1 November 1966 under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, and Punjab acquired its present form.
- Chhattisgarh was carved out of Madhya Pradesh on 1 November 2000 under the Madhya Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000, becoming India's 26th State.
- The five Union Territories observing the day are Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry.
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands became a Union Territory on 1 November 1956 under the States Reorganisation process.
- The islands were earlier administered by the British and became part of independent India in 1947.
- Chandigarh became a Union Territory on 1 November 1966 under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.
- It serves as the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana and is directly administered by the Central Government.
- Delhi became a Union Territory on 1 November 1956.
- The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1991, granted it special status as the National Capital Territory (NCT) and provided for a Legislative Assembly.
- Lakshadweep was formed as a Union Territory on 1 November 1956 from the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands, which were earlier part of Madras State.

- It was renamed Lakshadweep in 1973, and Kavaratti became its administrative headquarters.
- Puducherry was under French rule until its de facto transfer to India on 1 November 1954.
- Its four regions are Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam.
- The formal transfer took place on 16 August 1962, and it became a Union Territory under the constitutional reorganisation of 1962–63.




## Tamil Nadu Day 2026 - November 01




- In July 2026, Chief Minister announced that the State would officially celebrate both November 1 and July 18 as Tamil Nadu Day.
- Tamil Nadu observes July 18 as Tamil Nadu Day to commemorate the historic Assembly resolution passed in 1967 to rename Madras State as Tamil Nadu.
- On 18 July 1967, former Chief Minister C. N. Annadurai (Arignar Anna) moved a resolution in the Madras State Legislative Assembly to rename the State as Tamil Nadu.

- The name change received approval from the Government of India and was officially implemented on 14 January 1969.
- Tamil Nadu was originally formed as Madras State on 1 November 1956 under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, based on linguistic reorganisation.
- The demand for renaming the State was associated with the struggle of freedom fighter Sankaralinganar, who died on 13 October 1956 after undertaking a fast demanding the name Tamil Nadu.
- In 2019, the then Tamil Nadu Government declared November 1 as Tamil Nadu Day; in 2022, the government changed the observance to July 18.

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