November - 06

TNPSC BITS

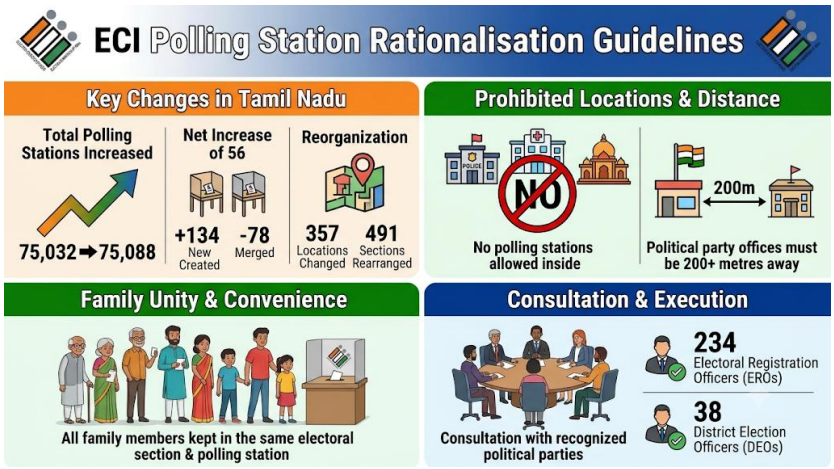
- A French-origin Rafale Marine fighter jet made its first landing and take-off from India's indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant.
- Researchers discovered a new microscopic land snail species, Dicharax tilariensis, in the Tilari region of Kolhapur district, Maharashtra.
  - It is the second known species of the genus Dicharax endemic to the northern Western Ghats, after the first endemic species, Dicharax devraivasi.
- Indian wrestler Manisha Bhanwala won gold in the women's 59 kg freestyle category at the 2026 World Wrestling Championships held in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- Google's Project Suncatcher successfully tested the Gemma 4 AI model on a prototype satellite using an onboard Tensor Processing Unit (TPU) and returned an AI-generated response to Earth, demonstrating the possibility of space-based AI computing.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the proposed high-speed rail corridor connecting Delhi and Guwahati.
  - The proposed route is Delhi–Agra–Kanpur–Lucknow–Ayodhya–Varanasi–Prayagraj–Patna–Siliguri–Guwahati, covering Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

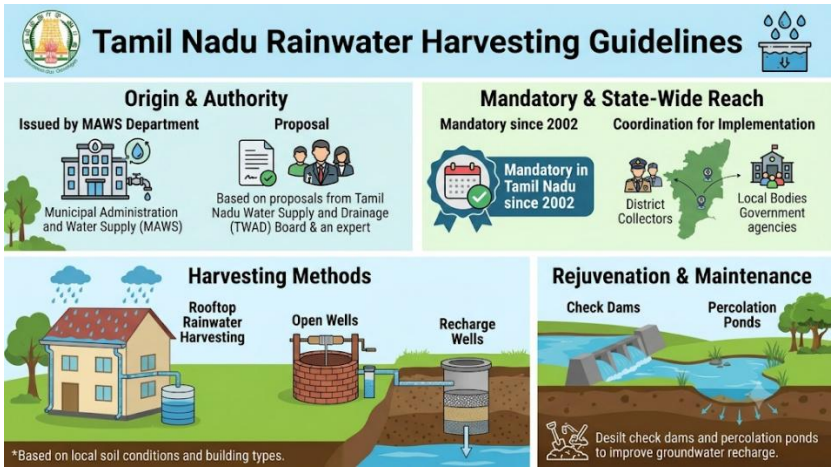
ECI Polling Station Rationalisation Guidelines

- The number of polling stations in Tamil Nadu increased from 75,032 to 75,088 following rationalisation by the Election Commission of India (ECI) as part of the Special Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls.
- A total of 134 new polling stations were created and 78 were merged, resulting in a net increase of 56; the locations of 357 polling stations were changed, and sections were rearranged in 491 polling stations.
- Polling stations cannot be located inside police stations, hospitals, temples or other religious places; political party offices must be at least 200 metres away.
- All members of a family have been kept in the same electoral section and polling station.

- The rationalisation was carried out after consultations with recognised political parties involving 234 Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and 38 District Election Officers (DEOs).



Rainwater Harvesting Guidelines



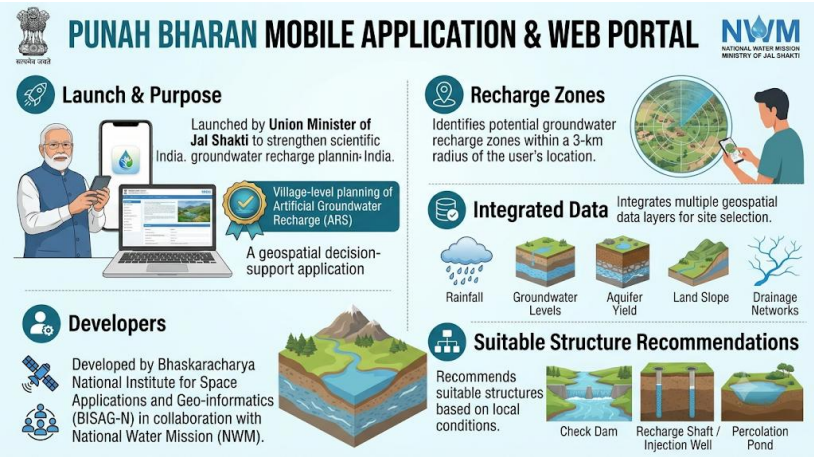
- The Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MAWS) Department issued guidelines for the construction, maintenance and rejuvenation of Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) structures across Tamil Nadu.
- The guidelines were prepared based on proposals from the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board and an expert committee.
- District Collectors and local bodies must coordinate with government agencies to implement the measures across the State.
- Rainwater harvesting has been mandatory in Tamil Nadu since 2002.
- The guidelines specify rooftop rainwater harvesting, open wells and recharge wells based on local soil conditions and building types.

- Check dams and percolation ponds must be desilted to improve groundwater recharge.

NATIONAL NEWS

Punah Bharan Mobile Application

- The Union Minister of Jal Shakti launched the Punah Bharan Mobile Application and its companion web portal to strengthen scientific groundwater recharge planning across India.
- It is a geospatial decision-support application designed for village-level planning of artificial groundwater recharge (ARS).
- It was developed by the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) in collaboration with the National Water Mission (NWM).
- It identifies potential groundwater recharge zones within a 3-km radius of the user's location.
- It recommends suitable structures such as check dams, recharge shafts, percolation ponds and injection wells based on local conditions.
- It integrates rainfall, groundwater levels, aquifer yield, land slope and drainage networks for site selection.



International Maize Conference 2026

- The 1st International Maize Conference (IMC) 2026 commenced in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The theme for the conference is “Maize Revolution for Food, Feed, Fodder, Fuel and Sustainability in the Changing World” (M4FS).

- It introduced the 5F framework by adding Farmers to the existing Food, Feed, Fodder and Fuel (4F) framework.
- It aimed to increase India's maize production from 55 million tonnes to 75 million tonnes by 2036 through improved hybrids and scientific crop management.
- It promoted climate-resilient and biofortified hybrids, strategic crop zoning across Kharif, Rabi and Spring seasons, and expansion of public hybrid seed availability.
- India ranked fourth globally in maize cultivation area and contributed approximately 3.3%–4% of global maize production.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

End of UN Peacebuilding Mission – Somalia



- The United Nations (UN) ended its political mission in Somalia, concluding over three decades of peacebuilding operations.

- The mission began as the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) in 1995.
- The United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) was established by the UN Security Council in 2013 to support democracy and the rule of law.
- In 2024, UNSOM was renamed the United Nations Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS) for a two-year transition period.
- The mission's responsibilities were transferred to Somali institutions and the UN country team.
- The closure took place amid continuing security challenges from the Al-Qaeda-linked Al-Shabaab militant group.

STATE NEWS

Karnataka State Flag Recognition



- Karnataka Chief Minister announced that the state government intended to grant official state-flag status to the yellow-and-red Kannada flag.
- The yellow-and-red flag symbolises Kannada language, culture, heritage and the identity of Kannadigas.
- The government proposed developing a legal framework covering the flag's design, display and protection, while ensuring compliance with national flag rules.
- In 2018, the Siddaramaiah-led government approved a different state flag design featuring yellow, white and red stripes with the Gandabherunda emblem, but it did not receive recognition from the Union Government.

- Article 51A(a) establishes the fundamental duty to respect the Constitution, the National Flag and the National Anthem; arrangements for displaying a state flag alongside the National Flag must comply with the National Flag Code.

SPORTS NEWS

National Organ Transplant Games 2026

- Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the National Organ Transplant Games 2026 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi.
- The Games celebrate the courage, determination and resilience of organ transplant recipients.
- The event was organised by the Renal Care Foundation, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO).
- A total of 570 transplant recipients and donors performed Tadasana together, setting a world record for the largest such congregation.
- The Vice-President released the 'Zindagi Dobara' Calendar and felicitated medal winners of the World Transplant Games 2025 held in Dresden, Germany.



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