November - 08

TNPSC BITS

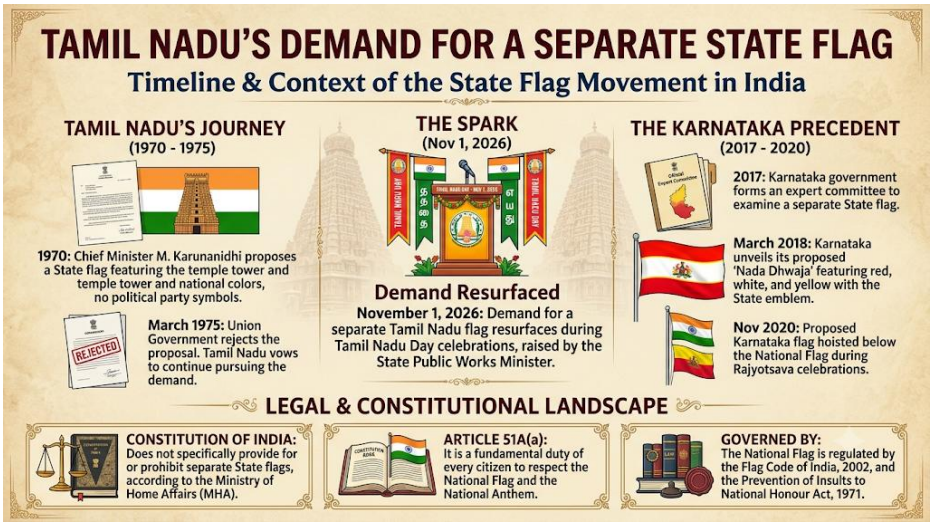
- U.S.-based cloud infrastructure company Vultr launched a 20-megawatt (MW) Artificial Intelligence (AI) supercluster in Chennai powered by AMD Instinct MI355X Graphics Processing Units (GPUs).
- Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia assumed charge as Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS) of the Indian Air Force, succeeding Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, who became the 29th Chief of the Air Staff.
- Technology educator Prashant Chaudhary from Dehradun won the fifth Rohini Nayyar Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Rural Development.
- Shri Dinesh Vitthalrao Ganvir assumed charge as the 55th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI).
- Chandigarh Police received the President's Colour on 1 November 2026 during its Diamond Jubilee celebrations, marking 60 years of service.
- World Tsunami Awareness Day is observed every year on 5 November to promote tsunami preparedness and risk reduction.
    - The theme for the year 2026 is "Be Tsunami Ready: Resilience Starts with You".

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Tamil Nadu Separate Flag Demand

- The demand for a separate flag for Tamil Nadu resurfaced on November 1, 2026, after State Public Works Minister raised the issue during Tamil Nadu Day celebrations.
- In 1970, former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi wrote to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi seeking a separate State flag featuring the temple tower and national flag colours, without any political party symbol.
- In March 1975, the Union Government rejected Tamil Nadu's proposal. Karunanidhi later told the State Assembly that he would continue pursuing the demand.
- In 2017, the Karnataka government under Siddaramaiah formed an expert committee to examine the possibility of a separate State flag.
- In March 2018, Karnataka unveiled its proposed Nada Dhwaja, featuring red, white and yellow colours with the State emblem at the centre.

- The proposed Karnataka flag was intended to be displayed below the National Flag; in November 2020, both flags were hoisted during Karnataka Rajyotsava celebrations.
- The Constitution of India does not specifically provide for or prohibit separate State flags, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- Article 51A(a) makes it a fundamental duty of every citizen to respect the National Flag and the National Anthem.
- The National Flag is governed by the Flag Code of India, 2002 and the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.



Regional Benches of Supreme Court

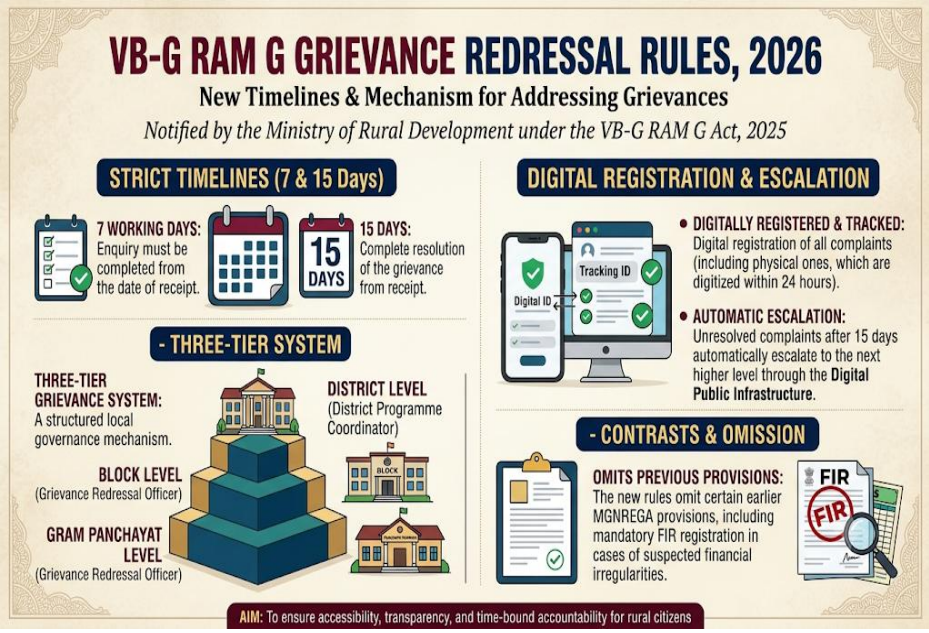


- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister wrote to Prime Minister, requesting the establishment of a Supreme Court Bench in Chennai.
- Tamil Nadu first proposed a Supreme Court Bench in Chennai in 1980, citing difficulties faced by litigants from southern States in travelling to New Delhi.

- Article 130 of the Indian Constitution states that the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or at other places decided by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) with the approval of the President of India.
- Article 32 provides the right to approach the Supreme Court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
- On August 7, 2007, the Supreme Court Full Court found no justification for changing its earlier decision on establishing regional Benches.
- On July 13, 2016, the issue was referred to a five-judge Constitution Bench in the V. Vasanthakumar vs. H.C. Bhatia case.
- The proposed Chennai Bench aims to improve access to justice and reduce travel costs for litigants from southern States.

NATIONAL NEWS

VB–G RAM G Grievance Redressal Rules 2026

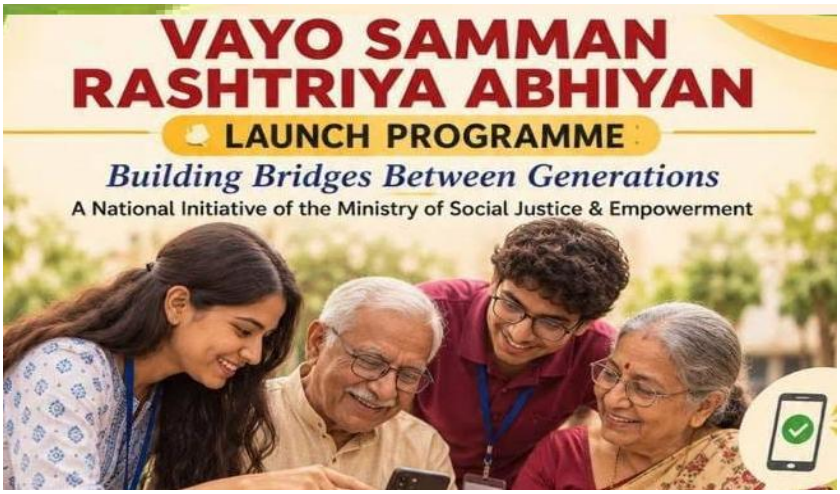


- The Ministry of Rural Development notified the VB–G RAM G (Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin)) Grievance Redressal Rules, 2026, under the VB–G RAM G Act, 2025.
- The rules require enquiries to be completed within 7 working days and grievances to be resolved within 15 days.
- A three-tier grievance system will operate at the Gram Panchayat, Block and District levels.

- Complaints must be digitally registered and tracked, with automatic escalation if they remain unresolved after 15 days.
- The new rules omit certain earlier MGNREGA provisions, including mandatory FIR registration in cases of suspected financial irregularities.

Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan 2026

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the Vayo Samman Rashtriya Abhiyan on 4 November 2026 to strengthen bonds between senior citizens and young people.
- The campaign is implemented under the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) to promote respect, companionship and shared responsibility across generations.
- It follows the 5C framework: Connect, Converse, Co-create, Contribute and Continue.
- The Vayo SAATHI volunteer drive is open to citizens aged 18 and above, who can register through the SCW SAMAVESH Portal or JEEVAN App.
- It covers 12 thematic areas, including digital literacy, health awareness, companionship and skill-sharing between generations.

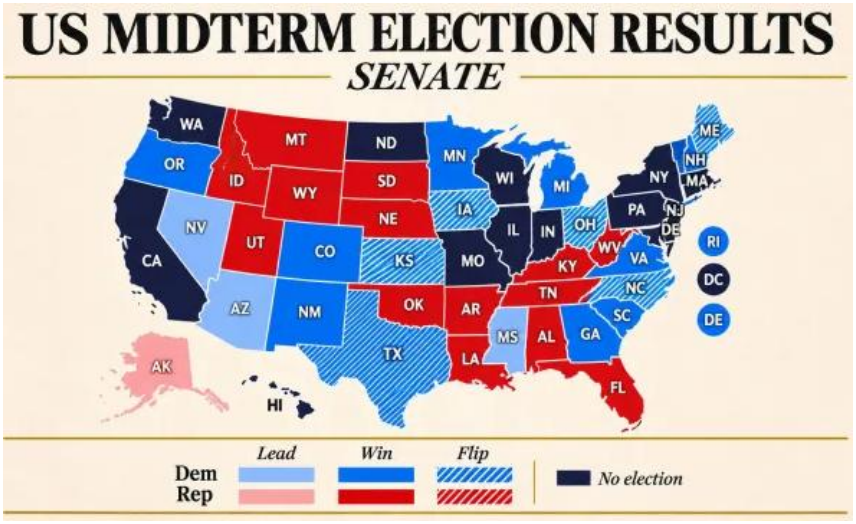


INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US Midterm Elections 2026

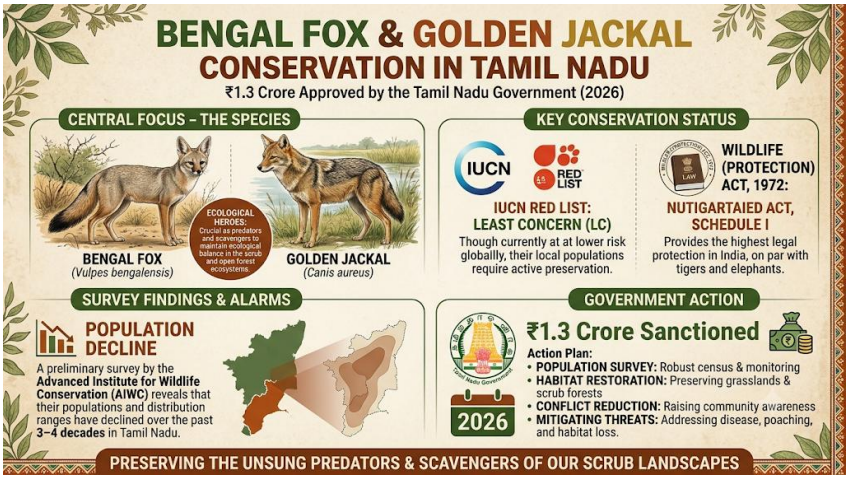
- The November 2026 US midterm elections saw several candidates make history in elections for the US Senate and state governorships.
- Democrat Keisha Lance Bottoms became the first Black woman and the first woman governor of Georgia.

- Democrat Abdul El-Sayed became the first Muslim elected to the US Senate.
- Democrat Chris Pappas became the first openly gay man elected to the US Senate.
- Peggy Flanagan became the first Native American woman elected to the US Senate.
- Deb Haaland became the first Native American woman elected as a US governor, in New Mexico.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Bengal Fox and Golden Jackal Conservation



- The Tamil Nadu government has sanctioned ₹1.3 crore in 2026 for the conservation of Bengal foxes and golden jackals.
- The Indian Bengal fox (Vulpes bengalensis) and Golden jackal (Canis aureus) help maintain ecological balance as predators and scavengers.

- Both species are classified as Least Concern (LC) under the IUCN Red List.
- Both are listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- A preliminary survey by the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC) found that their populations and distribution ranges had declined over the past 3–4 decades in Tamil Nadu.

STATE NEWS

Bihar Silt Management Policy 2026

- Bihar became the first Indian state to introduce a comprehensive Silt Management Policy in November 2026.
- The Bihar Water Source Restoration and Silt Management Policy 2026 was approved on 15 September 2026 to reduce floods and restore rivers.
- It focuses on rivers such as the Ganga, Kosi, Bagmati, Kamla-Balan and Gandak to improve water flow and river capacity.
- The policy aims to reuse recovered silt, sand and sediments in National Highway construction and other infrastructure projects.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways announced plans to work with Bihar to use recovered river materials in highway projects.
- The policy also supports waterbody restoration, while careful desilting is needed to protect aquatic habitats and river ecosystems.



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