November - 10

TNPSC BITS

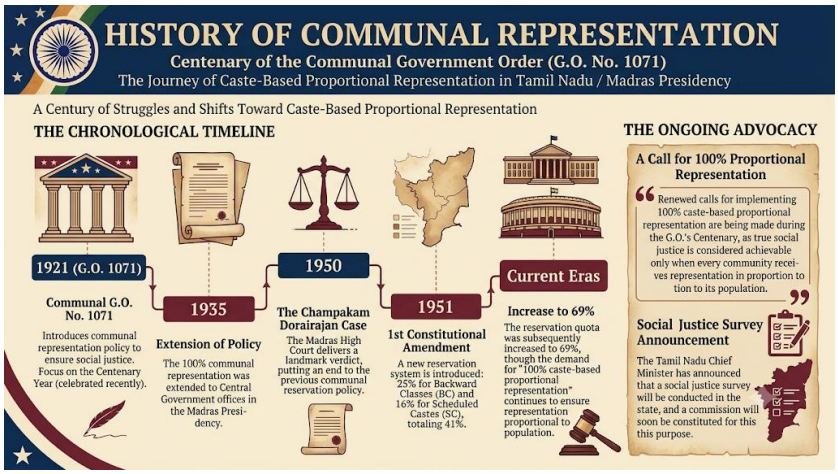
- Dubai launched the world's first city-led, invitation-only tourism loyalty programme, Dubai Access Club, for repeat visitors to strengthen Dubai's tourism sector.
- Dhinidhi Desinghu won bronze in the women's 100m freestyle at the Youth Olympic Games 2026 in Dakar, becoming India's first female swimming medallist.
- The Ministry of Defence signed contracts worth ₹53,866.50 crore with Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE - 5 corvettes) and Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL - 3 corvettes) to build eight next-generation corvettes for the Indian Navy.
- TRAI released the Telecommunication Interconnection (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026, which will come into effect on 1 January 2027.
  - The amendment allows telecom service providers to mutually decide network traffic exchange locations at the Licensed Service Area (LSA) level.
- The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is observed annually on 6 November to raise awareness about the environmental damage caused by wars and armed conflicts and promote the protection of natural resources.
- The International Day Against Violence and Bullying at School, Including Cyberbullying, was observed on the first Thursday of November (November 5, 2026), to raise awareness about school violence, bullying and cyberbullying and promote safe and inclusive learning environments.
  - The theme for the year 2026 is "Every Learner Safe and Well: From Promise to Practice."

TAMIL NADU NEWS

History of Communal Representation

- Renewed calls were made for implementing 100% caste-based proportional representation during the centenary year of the Communal Government Order (G.O. No. 1071).
- The 100% communal representation policy was introduced through the Communal G.O. and extended to Central Government offices in the Madras Presidency in 1935.

- It continued until 1950, when the Madras High Court delivered its verdict in the Champakam Dorairajan case.
- Following the First Constitutional Amendment in 1951, a new reservation system was introduced, providing 25% reservation for Backward Classes and 16% for Scheduled Castes, totalling 41%.
- The reservation quota was subsequently increased to 69%, but demands for 100% caste-based proportional representation continue, as true social justice is considered achievable only when every community receives representation in proportion to its population.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced that a social justice survey would be conducted in the state and a commission would soon be constituted for this purpose.



Committee on Federal Relations

- The Tamil Nadu Government has disbanded the High-Level Committee on Union–State Relations, constituted during the erstwhile DMK regime.
- Its responsibilities have been transferred to the Tamil Nadu State Law Commission through a Government Order (G.O.).
- The committee was chaired by retired Supreme Court Judge Justice Kurian Joseph.
- Retired IAS officer K. Ashok Vardhan Shetty and former State Planning Commission Vice-Chairman M. Naganathan served as its members.
- The Tamil Nadu State Law Commission was reconstituted on 7 August 2026.
- It was entrusted with examining Centre–State and inter-State relations, reviewing existing laws and recommending improvements to the state's legal and institutional framework, among other responsibilities.

- The High-Level Committee was a non-statutory body established to examine various issues relating to Union–State relations.
- The Government observed that its functions substantially overlapped with the mandate of the Tamil Nadu State Law Commission.
- Therefore, after careful consideration, the Government decided to discontinue the services of the High-Level Committee with immediate effect.
- Its responsibilities were transferred to the State Law Commission.
- Although the Government Order describes the High-Level Committee as a non-statutory body, the State Law Commission, which has taken over its responsibilities, is also a non-statutory body.
- It is an executive body established through a Government Order.

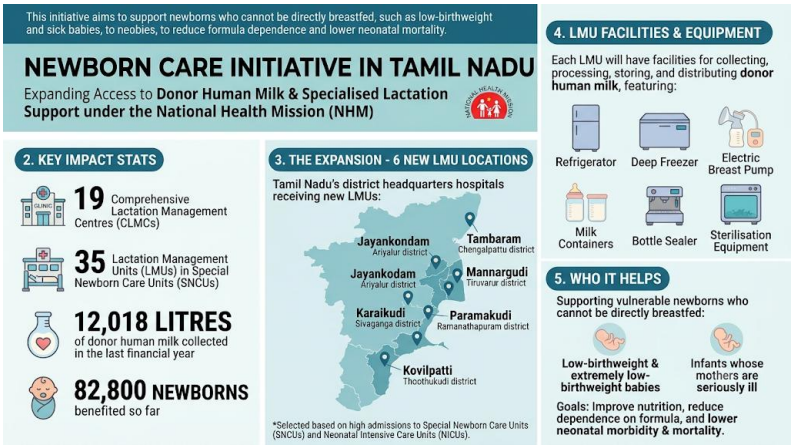


Newborn Care Initiative in Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu is set to expand access to donor human milk and specialised lactation support for vulnerable new borns.
- Lactation Management Units (LMUs) will be established under the National Health Mission.
- Tamil Nadu currently has 19 Comprehensive Lactation Management Centres and 35 LMUs in Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs).
- During the previous financial year, these facilities collected 12,018 litres of human milk and benefited 82,800 new borns.
- The new LMUs will be established at six Government District Headquarters Hospitals:
  - Jayankondam – Ariyalur district
  - Karaikudi – Sivaganga district
  - Paramakudi – Ramanathapuram district

- Kovilpatti – Thoothukudi district
- Tambaram – Chengalpattu district
- Mannargudi – Tiruvarur district

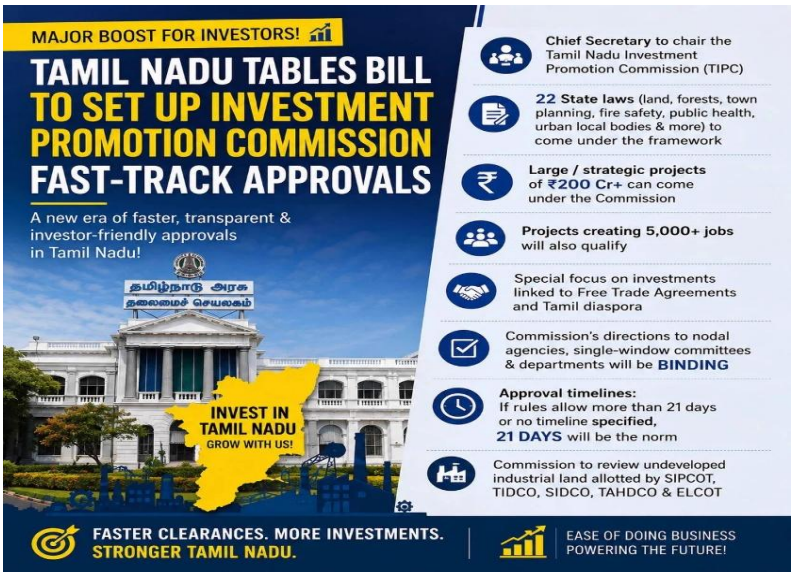
- These locations were selected based on the high number of admissions to their Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs) and Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs).
- Each LMU will have facilities for collecting, processing, storing and distributing donor human milk.
- The initiative aims to support new borns who cannot be directly breastfed by their mothers.
- These include low-birthweight and extremely low-birthweight babies, as well as infants whose mothers are seriously ill.
- It is expected to reduce dependence on formula feeding, improve nutrition among SNCU and NICU babies, and help lower neonatal morbidity and mortality.



Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Commission

- The Tamil Nadu Government constituted a 20-member Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Commission to promote and facilitate strategic investments in the State.
- The Chief Secretary will be its chairperson, and the Secretary of Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce will be its Member-Convenor, along with secretaries of various departments and other senior officials.
- The Commission will monitor investments of ₹200 crore or more, projects generating 5,000 or more jobs, Free Trade Agreement (FTA)-linked investments and investments by persons of Tamil origin living abroad.
- It will oversee projects until commercial operations begin and issue binding directions to departments and authorities for timely clearances, incentives and approvals.

- It will also review the utilisation of industrial land allotted by the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT), Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO), Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation (TANSIDCO), Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) and Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO).
- The Commission will also monitor projects undertaken by TIDCO, TIDEL and TICEL.
- The initiative supports Tamil Nadu's target of becoming a $1.5 trillion economy by 2036.
- The Commission was announced on 18 June 2026, and the amended Tamil Nadu Business Facilitation Act, 2018, reduced clearance timelines under 22 State Acts to 21 days, excluding public and local holidays.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US Midterm Elections 2026

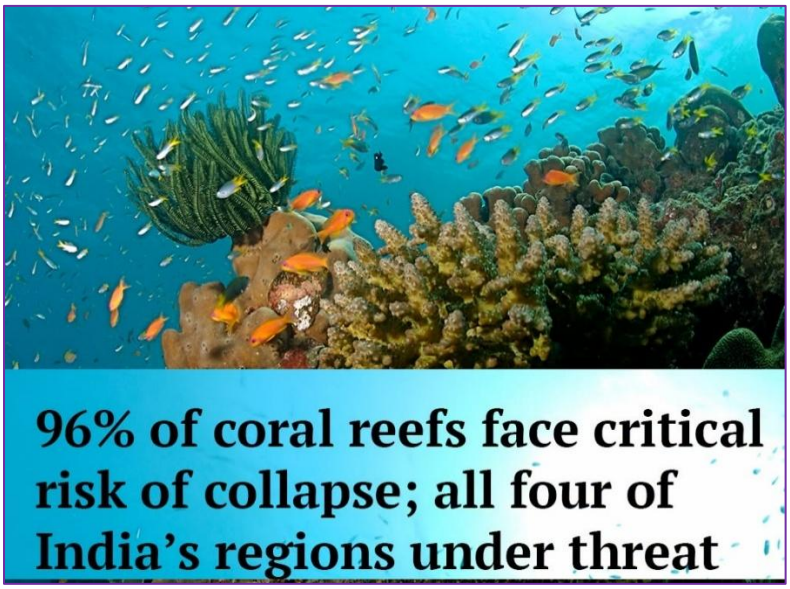
- The 2026 United States (US) midterm elections, brought historic leadership changes involving Indian-American and African-American politicians.
- Ranjeev Puri was elected Speaker-elect of the Michigan House of Representatives for the 2027–2028 term, becoming the first Indian-American to hold the post and the first Sikh-American elected to the Michigan legislature.
- Nithya Raman won the Los Angeles mayoral election, becoming the city's first South Asian and Indian-American mayor.
- In 2020, Nithya Raman became the first Asian-American woman elected to the Los Angeles City Council.

- Hakeem Jeffries is expected to become the first African-American Speaker of the US House of Representatives when the new Congress convenes on 3 January 2027; his election is still pending.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

IUCN Ecosystem Assessment 2026



- A study published under the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems classified all 13 South Asian coral reef ecoregions as Critically Endangered, considering future ocean warming and marine heat stress.
- The study, titled Red List of Ecosystems Assessment of South Asian Coral Reefs, was co-authored by scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).

- The 13 ecoregions cover approximately 8,282.6 sq. km across India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and the Chagos Archipelago, representing about 4% of the world's coral reef area.
- India has four coral reef ecoregions: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands, Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay, and Gulf of Kutch.
- Based only on the previous 50 years of data, seven ecoregions were classified as Vulnerable, four as Endangered and two as Critically Endangered.
- When projected marine heat stress over the next 50 years was included, all 13 ecoregions were classified as Critically Endangered.

STATE NEWS

State Symbols of Karnataka



- Karnataka became the first state in India to officially declare a State Amphibian, recognising the Malabar Tree Toad as its State Amphibian through a government order.
- Scientific name: Pedostibes tuberculosus; it is locally known as Malenadina Mara Gantikappe and popularly called Petu.
- It is endemic to the Western Ghats of India and mainly lives in evergreen forests, trees and shrubs.
- It acts as an indicator species to assess the ecological health of evergreen forests.
- Karnataka's other state symbols include the Asian Elephant (animal), Indian Roller (bird), Sandalwood (tree), Lotus (flower), Southern Birdwing (butterfly), Carnatic Carp (fish) and Mango (fruit).

- In May 2026, Karnataka also designated the Asiatic Honeybee (Apis cerana) as its State Honeybee for its role in pollination and agricultural productivity.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Cancer Awareness Day 2026 - November 07



- The day aims to promote cancer prevention, early detection and access to affordable treatment.
- The day marks the birth anniversary of Marie Curie, born on 7 November 1867.
- Marie Curie and Pierre Curie discovered the radioactive elements radium and polonium.
- Marie Curie received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903, jointly with Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel, for their research on radioactivity.
- In 1911, she received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for her discoveries of radium and polonium.
- She was the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize and the first person to win Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields.
- India recorded around 1.6 million new cancer cases and 900,000 cancer deaths in 2024.

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