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TNPSC BITS

- India won both the men's and women's titles at the inaugural Commonwealth Kabaddi Championship 2026 in Ahmedabad, defeating Sri Lanka (54–20) in the men's final and Uganda (35–15) in the women's final.
- Resource group for Education and Advocacy for Community Health (REACH), an Indian non-profit organisation, received the Kochon Prize 2026 for its contribution to the fight against tuberculosis (TB).
- VO Chidambaranar (VOC) Port in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, is nearing the commercial launch of India's first dedicated green methanol bunkering hub in November 2026.
- Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan conferred the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Award for Academic Excellence 2026 on Professor K. Chockalingam.
- The Tamil Nadu government doubled compensation for human deaths caused by wildlife attacks from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Revised Cooperative Loan Scheme

Tamil Nadu extends crop loan waiver to Rs 75,000 for all eligible farmers

The Tamil Nadu government has extended the crop loan waiver of up to Rs 75,000 to every eligible farmer who borrowed from cooperative societies between May 1, 2025, and March 31, 2026, irrespective of the loan amount. The revised scheme is expected to benefit around 13.25 lakh farmers. Under the revised scheme, farmers with outstanding crop loans of up to Rs 75,000 will receive a complete waiver covering both principal and interest.

- The Tamil Nadu government revised its cooperative crop loan waiver scheme and extended the eligibility period up to March 31, 2026.
- Farmers who borrowed up to ₹75,000 from cooperative institutions will receive a full loan waiver.
- Farmers who borrowed more than ₹75,000 will receive a flat waiver of ₹75,000.
- The scheme covers loans obtained between May 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026.

- The revised scheme benefits 13,24,881 farmers, including 5,90,621 farmers eligible for full waiver and 7,34,260 eligible for partial waiver.
- An additional ₹2,842.77 crore has been sanctioned, taking the total estimated expenditure to ₹9,062.83 crore.
- The benefit has also been extended to 10,810 farmers who had fully repaid their loans before the waiver announcement.

Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Corporation

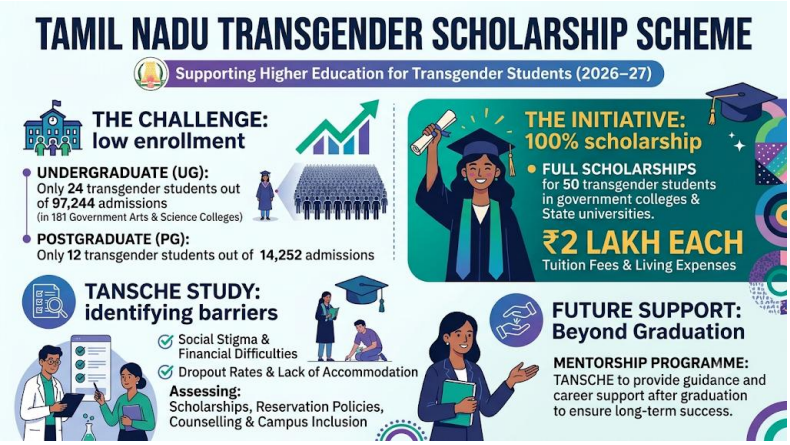
- The Tamil Nadu Government has established the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure and Construction Corporation (TNICC) as a wholly owned State Public Sector Undertaking (PSU).
- TNCC will execute State Government construction projects worth more than ₹200 crore.
- It will develop unused government land to generate revenue and establish townships, industrial hubs, tech parks, IT cities and business parks.
- It will provide architectural design and quality-control services.
- Modelled broadly on NBCC (India) Limited, it will operate under a commercial Project Management Consultant (PMC) model.
- Projects will be allotted through open competitive bidding on the State e-procurement portal.
- TNCC has an authorised share capital of ₹15 lakh and an initial paid-up capital of ₹10 lakh.



TN Transgender Scholarship Scheme

- Only 24 transgender students enrolled in undergraduate courses in Tamil Nadu's 181 government arts and science colleges in 2026–27.

- Of 97,244 undergraduate admissions, only 24 were transgender students; at the postgraduate level, 12 of 14,252 students were transgender.
- The Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education (TANSCHE) will study barriers such as social stigma, financial difficulties, dropouts and lack of accommodation.
- The study will assess scholarships, reservation policies, counselling and campus inclusion practices.
- The State Government announced full scholarships for 50 transgender students in government colleges and State universities, providing ₹2 lakh each for tuition fees and living expenses.
- TANSCHE also plans to introduce a mentorship programme to support transgender students after graduation.



NATIONAL NEWS

India's Lead - International Solar Alliance

- India was elected President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) for the third consecutive term at its ninth session during the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit 2026 held in New Delhi.
- India and France jointly launched the ISA in 2015; France was re-elected as Co-President, and the alliance has 130 signatory and member countries.
- ISA promotes international solar energy cooperation, guided by the vision of One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG).
- The USD 200 million Africa Solar Facility aims to attract investment in Africa's distributed renewable energy sector; India committed around ₹225 crore (USD 25 million).

- The USD 300 million Nigeria Distributed Renewable Energy Fund supports the expansion of distributed renewable energy.



Fast Track Special Courts Scheme



- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for five more years, from 2026–27 to 2030–31.

- The scheme aims to ensure speedy trials of rape cases and offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
- It has a total financial outlay of ₹3,788 crore, with the Central share funded through the Nirbhaya Fund.
- The scheme provides for 850 FTSCs, including exclusive POCSO Courts, across participating States and Union Territories.
- Each court will have a dedicated judicial officer, a Special Public Prosecutor and six support staff.
- It aims to reduce pending cases and ensure timely justice for victims of sexual offences.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

New Mammal Records in Sikkim



- A study reported new high-altitude mammal records in eastern Sikkim.
- The study recorded Gaur (Bos gaurus) at 3,542 metres in Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary and Tiger (Panthera tigris) at 3,966 metres in the Kyongnosla region, both in Sikkim.

- The camera-trap survey (2023–2026) covered 64 stations across three protected areas in Sikkim: Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary, Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary and Fambonglho Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Other notable sightings included Red Panda and Golden Jackal at 4,100 metres, Sambar at 3,050 metres and Clouded Leopard at 3,189 metres.
- IUCN Red List status: Gaur – Vulnerable (VU); Tiger – Endangered (EN); Red Panda – Endangered (EN); Golden Jackal – Least Concern (LC); Clouded Leopard – Vulnerable (VU).
- Researchers identified suitable habitats, improved monitoring and possible climate change impacts as factors; further long-term studies are needed to confirm changes in wildlife distribution.

Sustainable Aquaculture – Sikkim



- India's first organic fisheries cluster was launched in Soreng district, Sikkim, under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- The initiative was launched by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying to produce fish free from antibiotics, chemicals and pesticides.
- It promotes sustainable aquaculture and protects aquatic ecosystems from pollution.

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) will support infrastructure, capacity building and Fisheries-based Farmer Producer Organisations (FFPOs).
- PMMSY was launched in 2020 with an investment of ₹20,050 crore to improve fish production, infrastructure, marketing and the welfare of fishers and fish farmers.

STATE NEWS

Siri Cattle Conservation in Sikkim



- Sikkim announced a Centre of Excellence for Siri cattle conservation and launched the North District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union under White Revolution 2.0.
- Siri cattle is an indigenous dual-purpose breed found mainly in Sikkim and Darjeeling (West Bengal); it is also historically associated with Bhutan, where it is known as Nublang.
- Adapted to mountainous regions, it is used for milk production and agricultural work/
- A Siri Bull Mother Farm will be established at Chuchachen in Pakyong district, supported by a ₹27.64 crore conservation project to improve the breed's genetic quality.

- The North District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union was launched at Mangan to strengthen dairy cooperatives; the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) will plan dairy modernisation and an integrated Sikkim Milk brand.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

250th Birth Anniversary of Dikshitar

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman released a ₹250 commemorative coin on November 3, 2026, to mark the 250th birth anniversary of Muthuswami Dikshitar.
- Muthuswami Dikshitar (1775–1835) was born in Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu, and was one of the three members of the Carnatic Music Trinity, along with Tyagaraja and Syama Sastri.
- He was a composer, singer and veena player who received his early musical training from his father, Ramaswami Dikshitar.
- He composed around 500 known compositions, mostly in Sanskrit, and used "Guruguha" as his musical signature (mudra).
- His compositions are known for their intricate treatment of ragas and include the famous Navagraha Kritis, dedicated to the nine planetary deities.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Freedom Day 2026 - November 09

- It is observed every year on November 9 to mark the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

- The day was declared in 2001 by former US President George W. Bush.
- The Berlin Wall was built by East Germany on August 13, 1961, to prevent people from moving to West Germany.
- On November 9, 1989, East German authorities opened the border crossings following public protests and political changes.
- The fall of the wall became a symbol of the end of the Cold War and the demand for freedom and democracy.
- Germany was officially reunified on October 3, 1990.



Uttarakhand Foundation Day 2026 - November 09



- Uttarakhand was formed on November 9, 2000, after its separation from Uttar Pradesh under the Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000.

- It was initially named Uttaranchal and officially renamed Uttarakhand on January 1, 2007.
- The Rampur Tiraha incident occurred on October 2, 1994, when police fired on protesters demanding separate statehood.
- The statehood movement was supported by women, students and community groups.
- Garhwali and Kumaoni are major regional languages, while Aipan is a traditional decorative art of Kumaon.

National Entrepreneurship Day 2026 - November 09

- The day aims to highlight the role of entrepreneurship in achieving Viksit Bharat @ 2047.
- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship was established on November 9, 2014, and the day is observed as National Entrepreneurship Day.
- India has the world's third-largest startup ecosystem, with over 2.62 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups as of November 2026.
- The Startup India Initiative was launched in 2016 to promote innovation, funding and mentorship for startups.
- Around 52% of recognised startups originate from non-metro cities, promoting entrepreneurship beyond major cities.



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