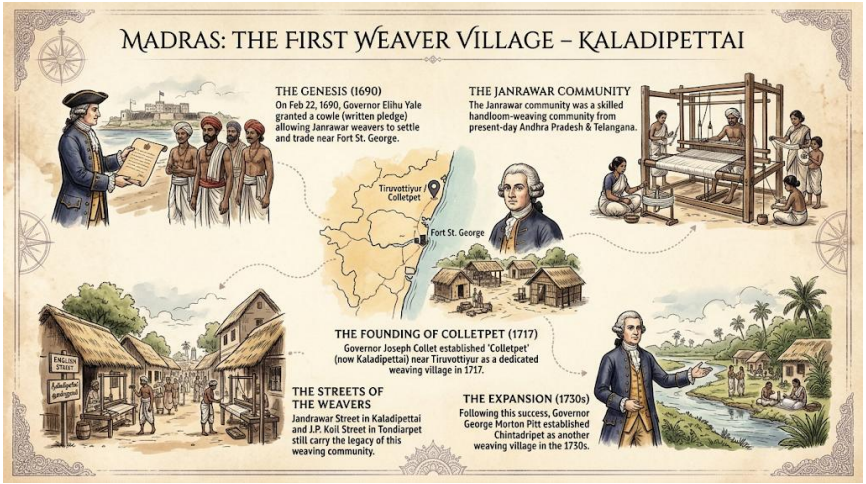
November - 14

TNPSC BITS

- Kazakhstan released its second Amur tiger, named Amur, into the wild in the Ile-Balkhash State Nature Reserve, following the release of the first female tiger, Umit, on July 31, 2026.
  - The programme aims to restore the population of the extinct Caspian (Turanian) tiger using Amur tigers, which are genetically closely related.
- The Tamil Nadu government appointed retired Madras High Court judge Justice M.V. Muralidharan as the chairperson of the Tamil Nadu State Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- M. Surenthiran, a 22-year-old Civil Engineering graduate from Erode, Tamil Nadu, won a Medal of Excellence in the Plastering and Drywall Systems category at the 48th WorldSkills Competition held in Shanghai, China.
- India plans a 489-km Bilaspur–Manali–Leh railway corridor connecting Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh, with a station near Tanglang La Pass at 17,244 feet (5,359 metres).
- World Immunization Day is observed annually on November 10 to highlight the importance of vaccines and timely immunisation.
  - It aims to raise awareness about vaccine-preventable diseases and promote vaccination across all age groups.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

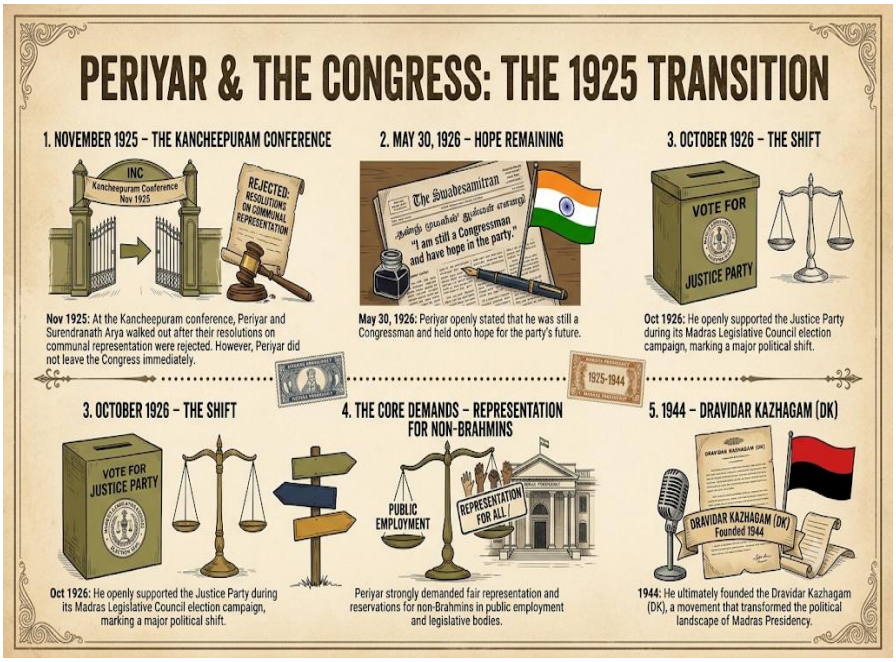
Madras First Weaver Village – Kaladipettai



- Colletpet, now known as Kaladipettai, is located near Tiruvottiyur in Chennai.

- Governor Joseph Collet established Colletpet as a weaving village in 1717.
- On February 22, 1690, Governor Elihu Yale granted a cowle (written pledge) allowing Janrawar weavers and their families to settle and trade near Fort St. George.
- The Janrawar community was a handloom-weaving community from present-day Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- Jandrawar Street in Kaladipettai and J.P. Koil Street in Tondiarpet indicate the presence of this weaving community.
- Governor George Morton Pitt established Chintadripet as a weaving village in the 1730s.

Periyar and Congress in 1925



- E.V. Ramasamy, popularly known as Periyar, did not leave the Indian National Congress immediately after the Kancheepuram conference in November 1925.
- At the conference, Periyar and Surendranath Arya walked out after their resolutions on communal representation were rejected.
- On May 30, 1926, Periyar stated that he was still a congressman and had hope in the party.
- In October 1926, he openly supported the Justice Party during its Legislative Council election campaign.
- Periyar demanded representation for non-Brahmins in public employment and legislative bodies.

- He founded the Dravidar Kazhagam (DK) in 1944.

NATIONAL NEWS

Grid-Scale Energy Storage Scheme

- The Union Cabinet approved a ₹14,500 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme to develop large-scale energy storage systems in India.
- The scheme will be implemented from 2026–27 to 2030–31.
- It aims to support the development of 92 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of new energy storage capacity across India.
- It will support Pumped Storage Projects (PSP), Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and other alternative energy storage technologies.
- The scheme aims to strengthen the electricity grid by improving energy storage capacity and supporting the integration of renewable energy.



Bay of Bengal Fisheries Network

- India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the Maldives launched BOB-NOR in Kochi.
- The network is coordinated by the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO).
- It was launched at the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).
- It uses satellite data, sea surveys and climate studies to understand changes in fish populations.
- It focuses on the effects of rising sea temperatures, monsoon changes, salinity and ocean currents on fisheries.

- Its objective is to support science-based and sustainable fisheries management in the Bay of Bengal.



VAJRA-SAT Exercise



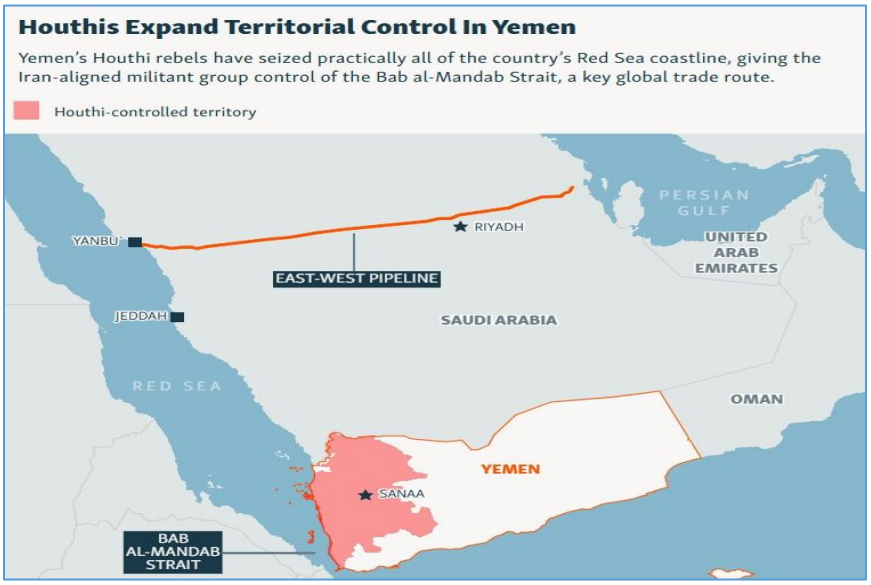
- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)–National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (NIVEDI), conducted the two-day VAJRA-SAT exercise in Bengaluru to prepare for the possible entry of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) serotype SAT-1 into India.
- Theme: "Detect Early, Confirm Fast, Contain Together".
- The exercise tested disease detection, laboratory diagnosis, epidemiological investigations, animal movement restrictions, emergency vaccination and risk communication.
- FMD is a highly contagious viral disease affecting cloven-hoofed animals, caused by the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Virus (FMDV).

- It has seven serotypes: O, A, C, SAT-1, SAT-2, SAT-3 and Asia-1.
- Only O, A and Asia-1 have been reported in India.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Houthi Attacks on Saudi Arabia

- Saudi Arabia issued security alerts for Yanbu, its Red Sea oil export hub, and Sharurah amid continuing attacks by Yemen's Houthi group.
- The Saudi-led coalition said it destroyed a missile launched by the Houthis towards Medina.
- The Houthis claimed an attack on Riyadh International Airport on November 4, 2026, but Saudi Arabia did not confirm it.
- Saudi Arabia is seeking military support from the United States, Egypt, Turkey, Pakistan and Britain.
- Turkey is preparing to ratify a mutual defence agreement with Saudi Arabia and Pakistan that includes a collective defence clause.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Blackbuck Population Recovery Programme

- Chhattisgarh plans to relocate 50 blackbucks from Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary to Gomarda Wildlife Sanctuary after the species remained absent from the area for over 50 years.

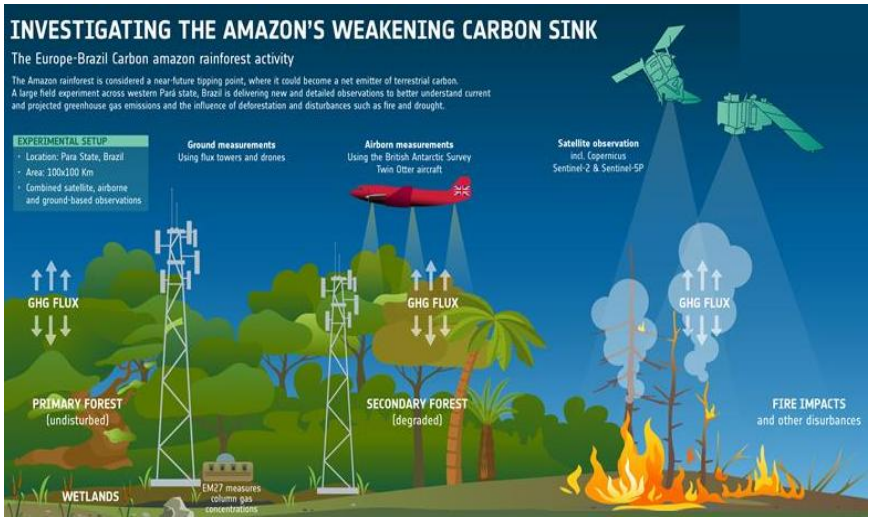
- The blackbuck (Antilope cervicapra) is native to the Indian subcontinent.
- In 2017–18, Chhattisgarh launched a blackbuck recovery programme in Barnawapara, bringing 77 blackbucks from two zoological parks; their population has now increased to over 150.
- Gomarda Wildlife Sanctuary, located in Chhattisgarh, was declared a sanctuary in 1975 and contains grasslands and dry deciduous forests.
- Blackbuck is listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Least Concern (LC) on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List and Appendix III of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) for Nepal's population.



Amazon and Carbon Sink

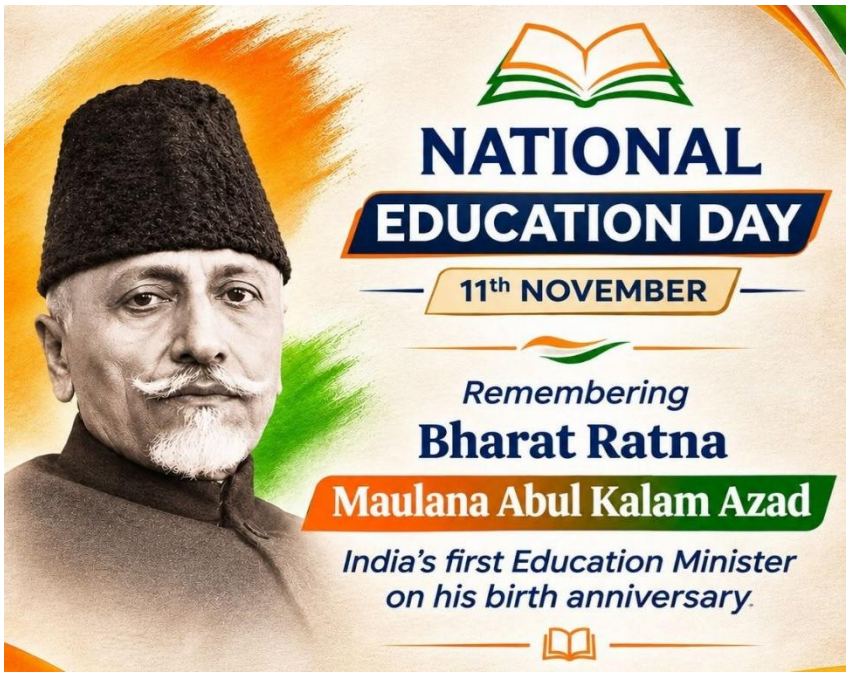
- A study published in the journal Nature found that the Amazon rainforest releases more carbon dioxide (CO_2) than it absorbs due to deforestation and forest fires.
- Scientists studied atmospheric CO_2 levels using research aircraft between 2010 and 2024 at four Amazonian locations and found that the forest had become a net carbon source.
- Wildfires caused the Amazon to emit 1.17 billion metric tonnes more carbon than it absorbed; in 2024, fires caused 38% of deforestation.
- Between 2010 and 2024, mining areas increased by 272%, pasture areas by 19% and soybean plantations by 193%.

- The Amazon rainforest spans nine countries, covers approximately five million sq. km. and stores around 100 billion tonnes of carbon in vegetation and soil.



IMPORTANT DAYS

National Education Day 2026 - November 11



- November 11 marks the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, India's first Education Minister.
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was born on November 11, 1888, and served as Education Minister from 1947 to 1958.

- The Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education) announced the observance in 2008, and the first National Education Day was celebrated on November 11, 2008.
- He contributed to the development of higher education, scientific research and institutions such as the University Grants Commission (UGC) and Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).
- He also supported cultural institutions such as the Sahitya Akademi, Sangeet Natak Akademi and Lalit Kala Akademi.
- He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1992 for his contributions to education and the freedom struggle.

World Pneumonia Day 2026 - November 12

- The day aims to raise awareness about pneumonia prevention, early diagnosis and treatment.
- The day was first observed in 2009 by the Global Coalition Against Child Pneumonia.
- Pneumonia is a lung infection that causes inflammation in the air sacs (alveoli), which may fill with fluid or pus.
- Major causes include bacteria, viruses and fungi, while risk factors include malnutrition, air pollution, smoking and weak immunity.
- The theme for the year 2026 is “A New Era of Pneumonia Control”.



Public Service Broadcasting Day 2026 - November 12

- Public Service Broadcasting Day, also known as Jan Prasaran Divas, is observed every year on 12 November to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's first and only live broadcast from an All-India Radio (AIR) studio in 1947.

- On 12 November 1947, Mahatma Gandhi addressed over 2 lakh Partition refugees at Kurukshetra, Haryana, through All India Radio (AIR) on the occasion of Deepavali.
- Freedom fighter Rajkumari Amrit Kaur accompanied Gandhi during the visit.
- In 2000, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Sushma Swaraj announced the observance, which was formally recognised in 2001.
- All India Radio (AIR), India's public service radio broadcaster, was established on 8 June 1936, when the Indian State Broadcasting Service was renamed All India Radio.
- It was given the name Akashvani in 1956.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Indian Manuscripts in UNESCO Register

- Three Indian literary works — Kalhana's Rajatarangini, the Mahabharata and Kautilya's Arthashastra — were inscribed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Regional Register for Asia and the Pacific at the 11th MOWCAP(Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific) session held in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- UNESCO launched the Memory of the World (MoW) Programme in 1992 to preserve and provide access to important documentary heritage.
- It maintains three registers: International, Regional and National.
- Rajatarangini, written in Sanskrit by Kalhana around 1148–1150 CE, records the history of Kashmir through eight books called Tarangas.
- Mahabharata, traditionally attributed to Sage Vyasa, narrates the Kurukshetra war and explores Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha. It contains the 700-verse Bhagavad Gita.

- Arthashastra, attributed to Kautilya (Chanakya), deals with statecraft, administration, taxation, economy and diplomacy in 15 books.
- Arthashastra explains the Saptanga Theory, which identifies seven elements of the state: Swami, Amatya, Janapada, Durga, Kosa, Danda and Mitra.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★