



October - 08

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India demonstrated its first 5.56 km free-space Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) link between Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) and IIT Gandhinagar.
- ❖ The United States announced a new “Super Intelligence Force” task force to coordinate the federal government’s response to artificial intelligence (AI).
- ❖ The Adani Ahmedabad Marathon was included in the World Athletics Global Calendar on 5 October 2026.
 - The 10th edition of the marathon will be held on 29 November 2026 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ❖ A rare Japanese Sparrowhawk (*Tachyspiza gularis*) was sighted at Adyar Estuary, Chennai, marking the third recorded sighting in India.
 - The Japanese Sparrowhawk is classified as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List.
- ❖ Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve (VDTR) is set to become the third cheetah habitat in the state after Kuno National Park (Madhya Pradesh) and Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary (Madhya Pradesh).
 - VDTR, also known as Nauradehi Tiger Reserve, covers about 2,339 sq km across Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur districts of Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ World Teachers’ Day is observed annually on 5 October to recognise teachers’ contributions, raise awareness about their challenges and promote better support for them.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is “Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures”.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

TN Assembly Privilege vs Free Speech Case

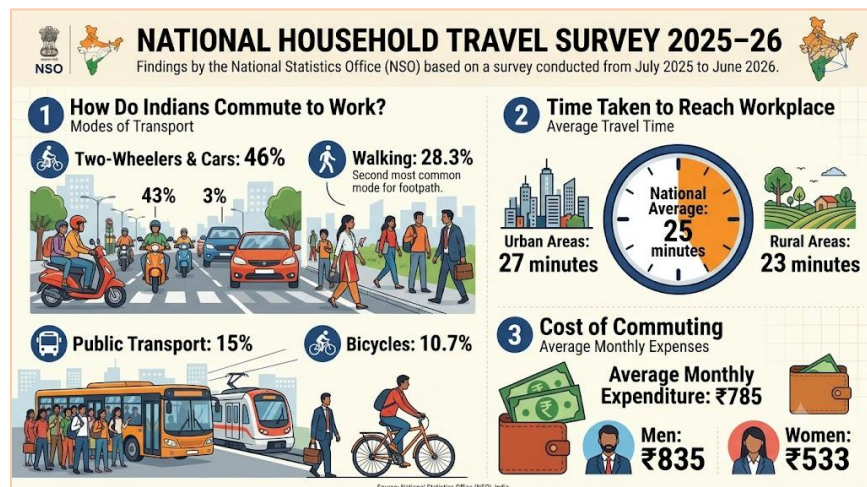
- ❖ The Supreme Court on 6 October 2026 disposed of a more than 20-year-old case after the Tamil Nadu Assembly withdrew the disputed resolution in 2004.
- ❖ A seven-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant disposed of the case.
- ❖ The case arose from a 2003 Tamil Nadu Assembly resolution seeking to arrest editors of The Hindu over an editorial criticising then Chief Minister Jayalalithaa.

- ❖ The resolution invoked Article 194 of the Constitution relating to legislative privileges of State legislatures, while the case involved its relationship with freedom of speech under Article 19(1)(a).
- ❖ The Supreme Court left the larger legal questions on legislative privilege and freedom of speech open for consideration in an appropriate future case.

Supreme Court May Close Reference On Legislative Privileges As Tamil Nadu Assembly Resolution Was Withdrawn In 2004

NATIONAL NEWS

National Household Travel Survey 2025-26'



- ❖ The National Statistics Office (NSO) released findings from India's first National Household Travel Survey (NHTS), conducted from July 2025 to June 2026.
- ❖ Only 15% of workers use public transport, while 46% use two-wheelers or cars; walking is the second most common mode at 28.3%.

- ❖ Two-wheelers account for 43% and cars 3% of workers' commutes nationally, while 10.7% use bicycles.
- ❖ A worker takes an average of 25 minutes to reach the workplace, with 27 minutes in urban areas and 23 minutes in rural areas.
- ❖ Workers spend an average of ₹785 per month on commuting, with men spending ₹835 and women ₹533.

Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) - 375 Permissible Works

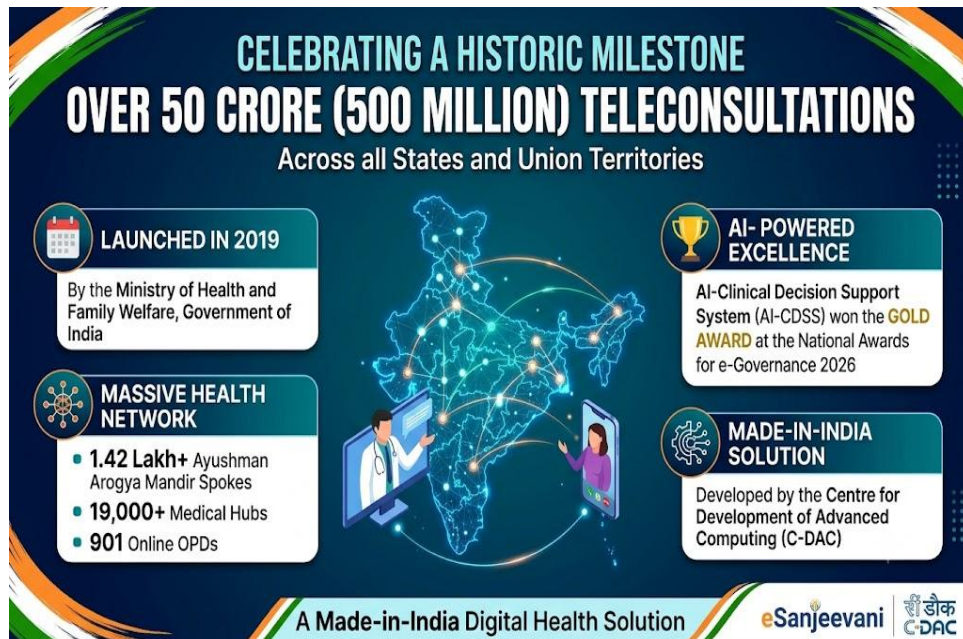
- ❖ The Government has notified 375 permissible works under the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G] Act, 2025.
- ❖ The new list represents a 41% increase from the previous 266 works.
- ❖ The works are organised under 4 pillars: Water Security, Core Rural Infrastructure, Livelihood-related Infrastructure, and Special Works for Extreme Weather Events and Disaster Preparedness.
- ❖ Water Security has the highest number with 128 works, including check dams, recharge shafts, injection wells and river rejuvenation.
- ❖ Works will be planned through the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan and approved by the Gram Sabha.
- ❖ The scheme aims to link rural employment with water security, infrastructure, livelihoods and climate resilience.



eSanjeevani Digital Health Milestone

- ❖ India's National Telemedicine Service, eSanjeevani, has crossed 50 crore teleconsultations across all States and Union Territories.

- ❖ eSanjeevani was launched in 2019 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as India's national telemedicine service.
- ❖ It supports over 1.42 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandir spokes, 19,000+ medical hubs and 901 online OPDs.
- ❖ Its Artificial Intelligence-powered Clinical Decision Support System (AI-CDSS) received the Gold Award under the National Awards for e-Governance 2026.
- ❖ eSanjeevani was developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) as a Made-in-India digital health solution.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

El Alamein Joint Declaration

El-Alamein Joint Declaration

The Quadrilateral Consultative Summit
between Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea and Somalia

El-Alamein - 4 October 2026

- ❖ Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea and Somalia issued the El Alamein Joint Declaration after a quadrilateral summit in New Alamein, Egypt.

- ❖ The four countries stressed state sovereignty, Red Sea governance and water rights and rejected interference in the internal affairs of regional states.
- ❖ They reaffirmed support for Sudan's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity and rejected the creation of parallel entities.
- ❖ They rejected the recognition or support for Somaliland and stated that Red Sea governance is the responsibility of its littoral states.
- ❖ They called for respect for international law on transboundary rivers, including the Nile, and opposed unilateral measures affecting the existing water uses of Egypt and Sudan.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

New Cheetah Lineage in India



- ❖ An Indian-born female cheetah, KJP21, gave birth to five cubs at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh, marking the beginning of the Botswana lineage in India.
- ❖ KJP21 is the third Indian-born female cheetah to reproduce, after Mukhi and KGP12.
- ❖ The cubs' father is a male cheetah brought from Botswana, making them the first Botswana-lineage cheetahs born in India.

- ❖ India's cheetah population has increased to 60, including 41 Indian-born cheetahs.
- ❖ Nine cheetahs from Botswana (6 females and 3 males) arrived at Kuno in February 2026 to strengthen the genetic base of Project Cheetah.
- ❖ Earlier, India brought 8 cheetahs from Namibia in 2022 and 12 from South Africa in 2023.

STATE NEWS

MICE Incentive Portal - Odisha



MICE INCENTIVE PORTAL - ODISHA

ODISHA LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST DEDICATED DIGITAL PORTAL FOR MICE INCENTIVES

MICE: Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Exhibitions

01 Applying Digitally
Enables event organisers & tourism operators to digitally apply for MICE financial incentives.

02 Policy Framework
Powered by the Odisha Tourism (Amendment) Policy, 2026.

03 Target Hub
Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Puri-Paradip region identified for development as a major MICE tourism hub.

04 What is MICE?
A key part of business tourism covering Corporate Meetings, Incentive trips, Conferences, and Exhibitions.

Inaugurated by
Deputy CM & Tourism Minister
Pravati Parida at
Odisha Travel Bazaar 2026

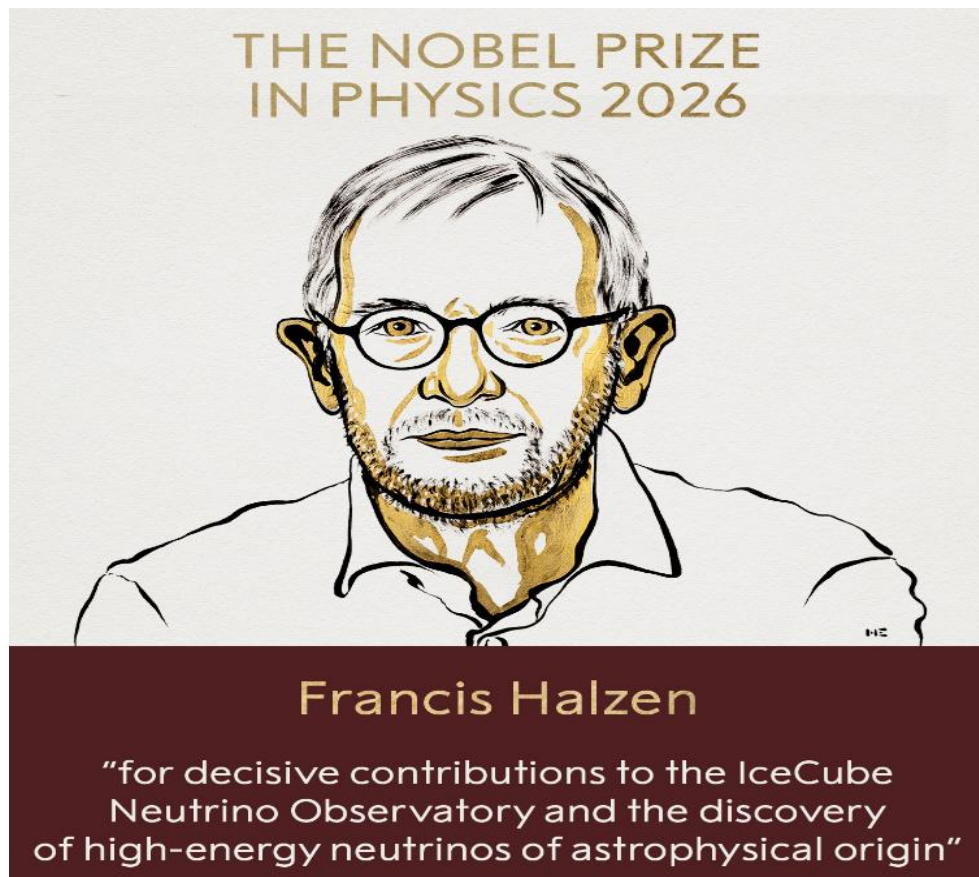
Odisha Tourism

- ❖ Odisha launched India's first dedicated digital portal for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) incentives.
- ❖ The portal was inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister and Tourism Minister Pravati Parida at the Odisha Travel Bazaar 2026.
- ❖ It allows event organisers and tourism operators to apply digitally for financial incentives for MICE events.
- ❖ The Odisha Tourism (Amendment) Policy, 2026 provides the policy framework for the portal.
- ❖ The Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Puri-Paradip region has been identified for development as a MICE tourism hub.

- ❖ MICE tourism is a part of business tourism covering corporate meetings, incentive trips, conferences and exhibitions.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Nobel Prize in Physics 2026



- ❖ Belgian-American physicist Francis Halzen won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics for his contributions to the IceCube neutrino observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin.
- ❖ IceCube, located at the South Pole, Antarctica, covers about 1 cubic kilometre of ice and uses 5,160 optical sensors to detect neutrinos.
- ❖ Halzen first proposed the idea of detecting neutrinos at the South Pole in 1988; IceCube was completed in 2010.
- ❖ Researchers reported the first high-energy cosmic neutrinos in 2013 and traced one to a distant blazar in 2018.
- ❖ In India, neutrino research began with experiments at the Kolar Gold Fields (Karnataka), while the proposed India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) was planned in Theni district, Tamil Nadu.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Cerebral Palsy Day 2026 - October 06

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about cerebral palsy and promote inclusion.
- ❖ Cerebral palsy is a group of conditions that affect movement, balance and posture due to abnormal development or injury to the developing brain.
- ❖ Spastic cerebral palsy is the most common type, while other types include dyskinetic, ataxic and mixed cerebral palsy.
- ❖ Cerebral palsy is a lifelong, non-progressive condition, but symptoms and support needs can change over time.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Unique and United”.

