



October - 14

TNPSC BITS

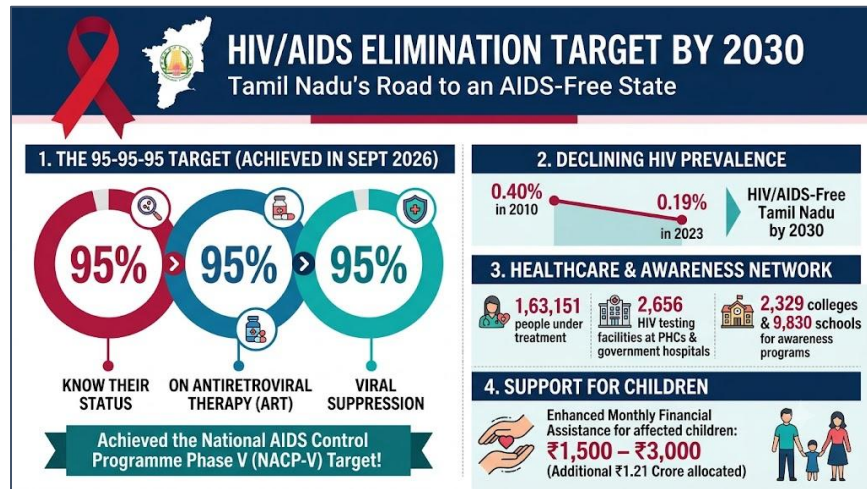
- ❖ Union Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the 8th edition of Windergy India 2026 in Chennai, as India aims to achieve 100 GW of installed wind energy capacity by 2030.
 - India's installed wind energy capacity reached 59.20 GW as of 30 September 2026, with a record annual installation of 6.05 GW in 2025-26.
- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu announced gubernatorial appointments in six States on 12 October 2026: Rajendra Arlekar (Tamil Nadu), Sudha Yadav (Karnataka), Om Prakash Mathur (Keralam), Braj Mohan Ram (Odisha), Dhal Singh Bisen (Uttarakhand) and Dushyant Gautam (Sikkim).
 - Sudha Yadav replaced Thawarchand Gehlot as Karnataka Governor and became the State's second woman Governor; Arlekar became Tamil Nadu's full-time Governor after holding additional charge of Keralam.
- ❖ Renowned mridangam artiste Guruvayur Dorai passed away at the age of 92.
 - He received the Padma Shri, Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and Kalaimamani Award.
- ❖ American economists Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford won the 2026 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences on for their work on the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation.
- ❖ World Egg Day 2026 was observed on the second Friday of October (October 9, 2026), to promote awareness of the nutritional benefits of eggs and their role in ensuring nutritional security.
- ❖ The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed annually on 13 October to raise awareness about disaster-safe housing and investment in resilient homes.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "Resilience Starts at Home."

TAMIL NADU NEWS

HIV/AIDS Elimination Target by 2030

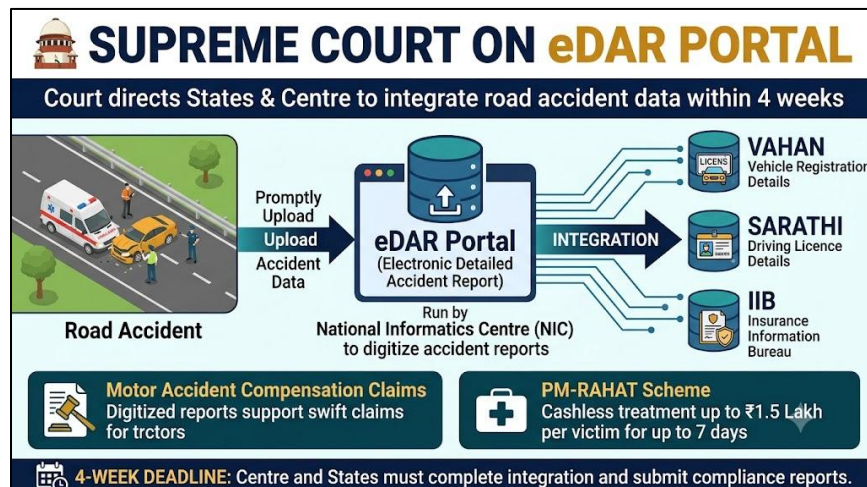
- ❖ Tamil Nadu achieved the National AIDS Control Programme Phase V (NACP-V) target of 95-95-95 in September 2026.
- ❖ The 95-95-95 target means 95% of people living with HIV know their status, 95% of diagnosed people receive antiretroviral therapy (ART), and 95% of those treated achieve viral suppression.

- ❖ HIV prevalence in Tamil Nadu fell from 0.40% in 2010 to 0.19% in 2023; the State aims to achieve an HIV/AIDS-free Tamil Nadu by 2030.
- ❖ The State has 1,63,151 people under treatment, 2,656 HIV testing facilities at primary health centres and government hospitals, and awareness programmes in 2,329 colleges and 9,830 schools.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu enhanced monthly financial assistance for children affected by HIV/AIDS to ₹1,500–₹3,000, allocating an additional ₹1.21 crore.



NATIONAL NEWS

Supreme Court on eDAR Portal



- ❖ The Supreme Court directed States to promptly upload road accident data to the Electronic Detailed Accident Report (eDAR) portal and integrate it with VAHAN, SARATHI and the Insurance Information Bureau (IIB).

- ❖ The National Informatics Centre (NIC) operates the eDAR portal to digitise accident reports and support motor accident compensation claims.
- ❖ VAHAN stores vehicle registration details, SARATHI stores driving licence details, and IIB maintains insurance-related data.
- ❖ The PM-RAHAT scheme provides cashless treatment of up to ₹1.5 lakh per victim for up to seven days after a road accident.
- ❖ The Court gave the Centre and States four weeks to complete integration and submit compliance reports

Additive Manufacturing in India - NSAM 2.0

ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING GAINS MOMENTUM IN INDIA AS GOVERNMENT PREPARES NSAM 2.0

- Under NSAM, India has trained 1.54 lakh+ people, supported 56 start-ups and developed 65 indigenous technologies in Additive Manufacturing.
- The technology is transforming space, defence, healthcare, electronics and construction, while NSAM 2.0 aims to accelerate commercialisation, innovation and self-reliance.

- ❖ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) initiated the rollout of the National Strategy for Additive Manufacturing (NSAM) 2.0 in October 2026, building on the strategy launched in 2022.
- ❖ Additive Manufacturing (3D printing) creates physical objects layer by layer from digital 3D models, reducing material waste compared with many traditional manufacturing methods.
- ❖ The 2022 strategy targeted a 5% share of the global market, a US\$1 billion contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), 50 technologies, 100 startups and 500 products.
- ❖ Progress reported includes over 1.54 lakh people trained, 56 startups funded and 65 indigenous technologies developed across seven national centres.

- ❖ NSAM 2.0 focuses on domestic patents, indigenous materials and machines, affordable shared facilities for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and 3D-printed electronics.

Global Agricultural AI Initiative - GI-AI4FS

- ❖ India hosted the second meeting of the United Nations Global Initiative on Artificial Intelligence for Agri-Food Systems (GI-AI4FS) in New Delhi, alongside India Mobile Congress 2026.
- ❖ The meeting was jointly hosted by the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- ❖ The initiative is coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and World Food Programme (WFP).
- ❖ The initiative aims to promote responsible, trustworthy and farmer-centric artificial intelligence (AI) solutions for agriculture.
- ❖ The meeting discussed governance, working groups and priority areas, following the initiative's first meeting in Rome, Italy, in June 2026.



GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON AI FOR AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS (GI-AI4FS)
India hosts the 2nd meeting in New Delhi (alongside India Mobile Congress 2026)

ABOUT THE 2ND MEETING

- ✓ Hosted in **New Delhi, India**
- ✓ Alongside **India Mobile Congress 2026**
- ✓ Coordinated by the **ITU**, with **FAO, IFAD, and WFP**

CO-HOSTS (INDIA)

- ✓ Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC)
- ✓ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

AIM & MISSION

Promote responsible, trustworthy, and farmer-centric AI solutions for agriculture

KEY DISCUSSIONS & FUTURE

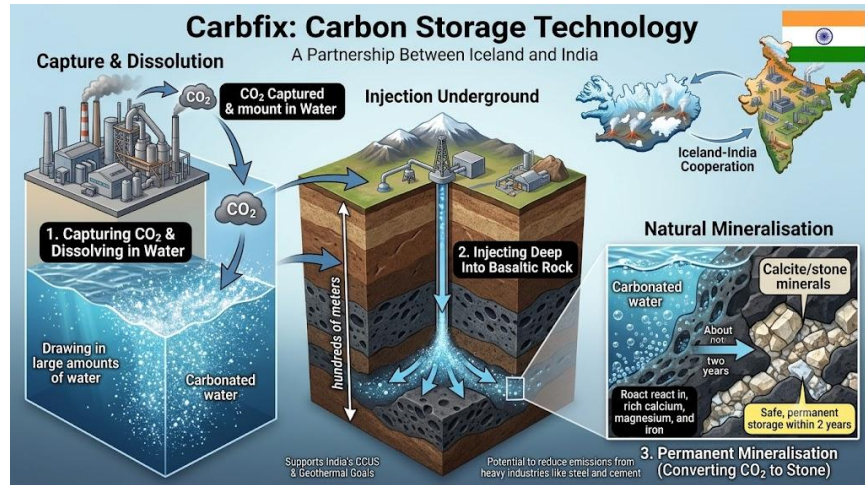
- Focus on governance, working groups, and priority areas.
- Following the 1st meeting in Rome, Italy (June 2026)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Carbfix Carbon Storage Technology

- ❖ Iceland is exploring cooperation with India in geothermal energy and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS), including its Carbfix technology.
- ❖ India has an estimated geothermal energy potential of 10.6 gigawatts (GW) and promotes its development through the National Policy on Geothermal Energy.

- ❖ Iceland generates around 70% of its electricity from hydropower and 30% from geothermal energy and offers India technical and regulatory expertise.
- ❖ Iceland's Carbfix technology converts captured carbon dioxide (CO₂) into stone through permanent mineralisation, helping store carbon underground.
- ❖ Carbfix could help reduce carbon emissions from India's steel and cement industries; Iceland is seeking collaboration with India to expand the technology.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Wētāpunga Conservation Programme

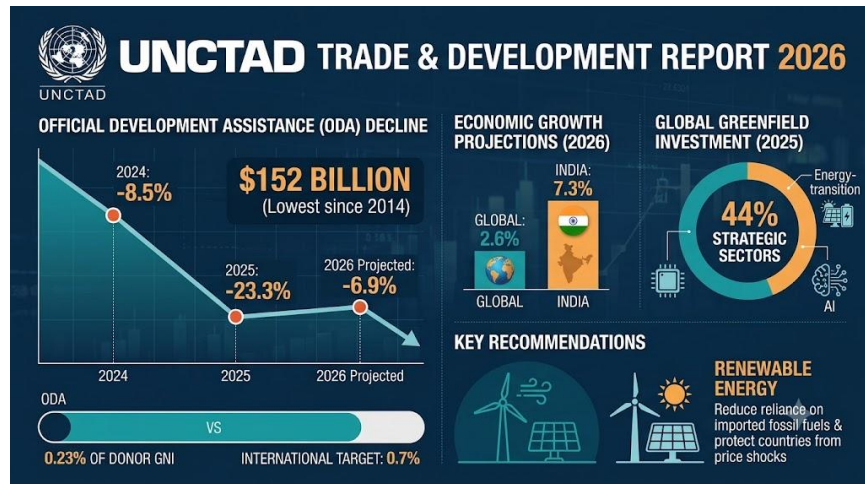


- ❖ A 15-year conservation breeding programme has released approximately 11,000 wētāpunga into the wild in New Zealand.

- ❖ Wētāpunga (*Deinacrida heteracantha*) is New Zealand's heaviest insect and one of the heaviest insect species in the world.
- ❖ Butterfly Creek and Auckland Zoo led the programme with support from New Zealand's Department of Conservation.
- ❖ The programme carried out 45 translocations to 10 sites, including eight predator-free islands and two mainland reserves.
- ❖ Self-sustaining wild populations have been established on Motuora and Tiritiri Matangi islands, where at least four to five generations have been born in the wild.
- ❖ Its conservation classification improved from "Threatened Nationally Endangered" in 2004 to "Threatened Nationally Increasing" in 2022.

REPORTS AND INDICES

UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2026



- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) projected that Official Development Assistance (ODA) would fall by 6.9% in 2026 to US\$152 billion, its lowest level since 2014.
- ❖ ODA is expected to decline for the third consecutive year, following falls of 8.5% in 2024 and 23.3% in 2025.
- ❖ ODA is projected to reach 0.23% of donor countries' combined Gross National Income (GNI), against the international target of 0.7%.
- ❖ The report projected global economic growth at 2.6% in 2026, while India's growth was estimated at 7.3%.

- ❖ Strategic sectors accounted for 44% of global greenfield investment in 2025; these include semiconductors, energy-transition technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) infrastructure.
- ❖ UNCTAD highlighted renewable energy as a way to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels and protect countries from energy-price shocks.

SPORTS NEWS

Vithya Ramraj's record

- ❖ 28-year-old athlete Vithya Ramraj of Meenakshipuram in Coimbatore won bronze in the women's 400m hurdles at the 2026 Asian Games in Japan.
- ❖ She was clocking a personal best of 54.75 seconds to become the first Indian woman to breach the 55-second barrier.
- ❖ And better P.T. Usha's 55.42-second national record set at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.
- ❖ She also won gold in the women's 4x400m relay and silver in the mixed 4x400m relay at the Games.



IMPORTANT DAYS

National Postal Week 2026 – October 09/15

- ❖ The Department of Posts (DoP) is celebrating National Postal Week from 9 to 15 October 2026, beginning with World Post Day on 9 October.
- ❖ The 2026 World Post Day theme is “One Postal Network, Infinite Possibilities.”



- ❖ The week aims to highlight India Post's role in connecting citizens, supporting financial inclusion and improving access to postal services.
- ❖ N-Gen Post Offices and Jan Sewa Connect Post Offices are initiatives to create modern and inclusive postal service spaces.
- ❖ The Dak Sewa App and Dak Mitra App use digital platforms to make postal services more accessible and convenient.

