October - 25

TNPSC BITS

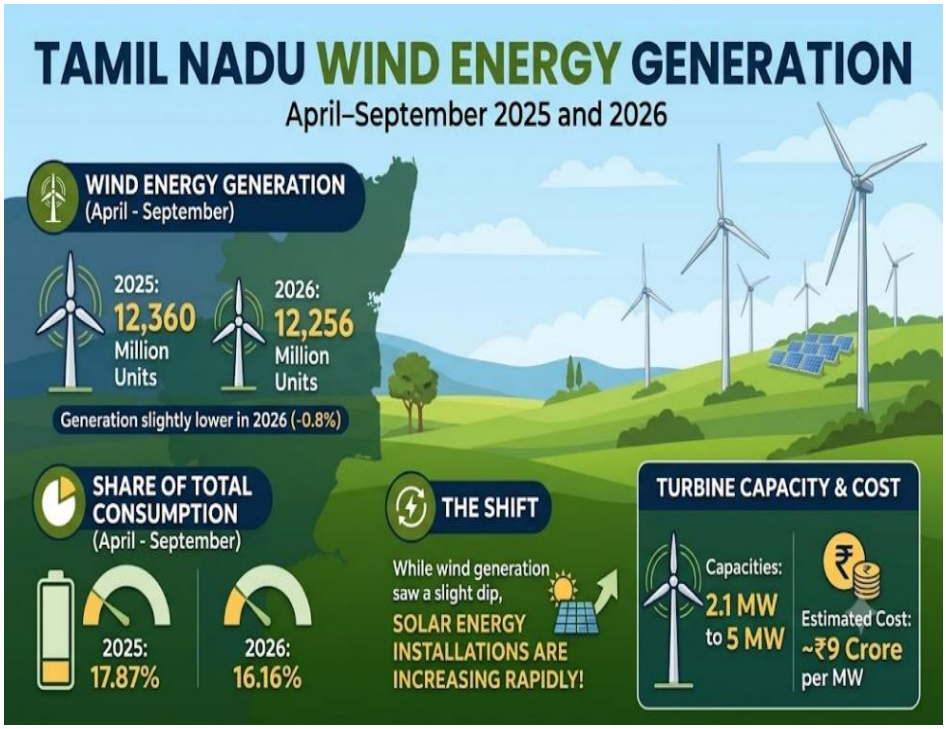
- Indian wrestler Vishvajit Ramchandra More won silver in the men's 55 kg Greco-Roman event at the 2026 U23 World Wrestling Championships in Las Vegas, United States.
- Tamil Nadu MLAs' monthly emoluments increased by 71% from ₹1.05 lakh to ₹1.80 lakh from 1 October 2026 through an amendment to the Tamil Nadu Payment of Salaries Act, 1951.
- Severe wildfires in Indonesia have spread toxic haze across Southeast Asia, affecting Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines, with nearly 1.9 million hectares reportedly burned by the end of September.
- The 33rd edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)-2026 commenced at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, between the Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy.
- Scientists from the University of Gothenburg, Chalmers University of Technology and Stockholm University have synthesised diamondiyne, a porous 3D carbon material proposed theoretically about 35 years ago.
  - Diamondiyne is a carbon allotrope that retains a diamond-like 3D network but contains both single and triple carbon–carbon bonds, making its structure more open and porous.
- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) launched its maiden sailing expedition aboard yacht Antara from Chennai as part of its 50th year celebrations.
  - The team will sail from Chennai to Kochi along India's coastline and then undertake international passages to the Maldives and Sri Lanka.
- International Stuttering Awareness Day is observed annually on 22 October to spread awareness about stuttering and the challenges faced by people who stutter.
  - The 2026 theme is "Shades of Stuttering – What's yours?"

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Tamil Nadu Wind Energy Generation

- Tamil Nadu generated 12,256 million units of wind energy between April and September 2026, almost similar to the 12,360 million units generated during the same period in 2025.

- Wind energy accounted for 16.16% of Tamil Nadu's total electricity consumption during April–September 2026.
- During the same period in 2025, wind energy formed 17.87% of the State's total electricity consumption.
- The State's wind energy generation was slightly lower this year, while solar energy installations are increasing rapidly.
- Wind turbine capacities currently range from 2.1 megawatts (MW) to 5 MW, with the cost reaching about ₹9 crore per MW.



NATIONAL NEWS

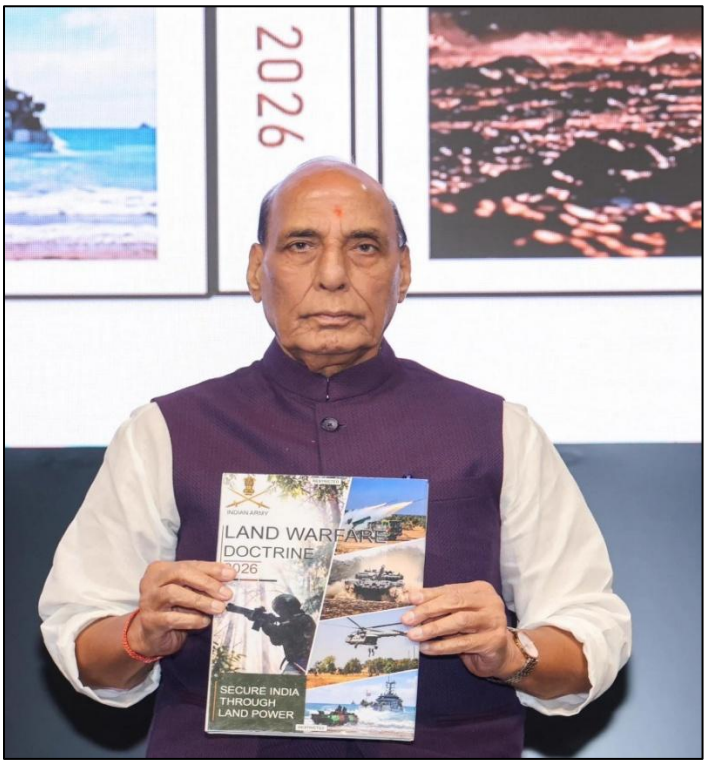
Core Industrial Growth – September 2026

- India's Index of Core Industries (ICI) recorded a 7.9% growth in September 2026, the highest since the new data series began in April 2024.
- Coal grew 10.7%, its highest growth in 13 months, while refinery products grew 10.3% and iron ore grew 18.4%.
- Electricity grew 11.4%, while cement and steel grew 9.8% and 4.9%, respectively.
- Crude oil contracted 1.4% and natural gas contracted 4.6%, while fertiliser contracted 11.7% for the seventh consecutive month.

- The ICI tracks the performance of eight core sectors: coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity.



Land Warfare Doctrine 2026



- The Indian Army's Land Warfare Doctrine 2026 was released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, during the Army Commanders' Conference held in New Delhi.

- The doctrine covers the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Iran-US conflict and Operation Sindoor, highlighting drones, surveillance, contested communications and information warfare.
- It focuses on Artificial Intelligence (AI), precision warfare, multi-domain operations, advanced technology and jointness among the armed forces.
- It stresses Atmanirbharta, indigenous defence capabilities, resilient logistics, human leadership and man-unmanned teaming.
- The Army will introduce a five-year multi-domain training roadmap, three-level AI skill development for officers and drone operations as a secondary skill.

Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana

- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) for 2026–27 to 2030–31 with an outlay of ₹53,428 crore, renamed as the Pradhan Mantri Samajik Sahayata Yojana.
- NSAP was launched on 15 August 1995 to provide social assistance to poor households, in line with Article 41 of the Constitution.
- The programme will cover 3.20 crore beneficiaries and includes pensions for senior citizens, widows and persons with disabilities, along with family benefits.
- Disability pension eligibility has been widened from 80% to 40% benchmark disability, with the minimum age requirement removed.
- Central assistance for disability pension has increased to ₹375 per month up to 79 years and ₹625 per month for those aged 80 years and above.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Badr Defence Cooperation

- Türkiye, Qatar, Pakistan and Indonesia signed the Badr Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Doha to promote cooperation in military production, defence capabilities, technical training, research and development.

- The four countries will combine their expertise for joint defence manufacturing and modern defence technology, with an executive board planning projects and a strategic board deciding budgets and production locations.
- Türkiye contributes defence technology, Qatar financial resources, Indonesia defence manufacturing experience, and Pakistan manufacturing facilities, skilled manpower and a defence market.
- Joint production facilities are expected to be established in Türkiye, which has extensive defence industry infrastructure.
- The Badr MoU is a defence cooperation arrangement, not a military alliance, and provides a framework for joint defence research, technology and industrial cooperation.

Turkey, Qatar, Pakistan and Indonesia signed the **Badr Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** in Doha on Wednesday, according to Turkey's Defence Ministry.

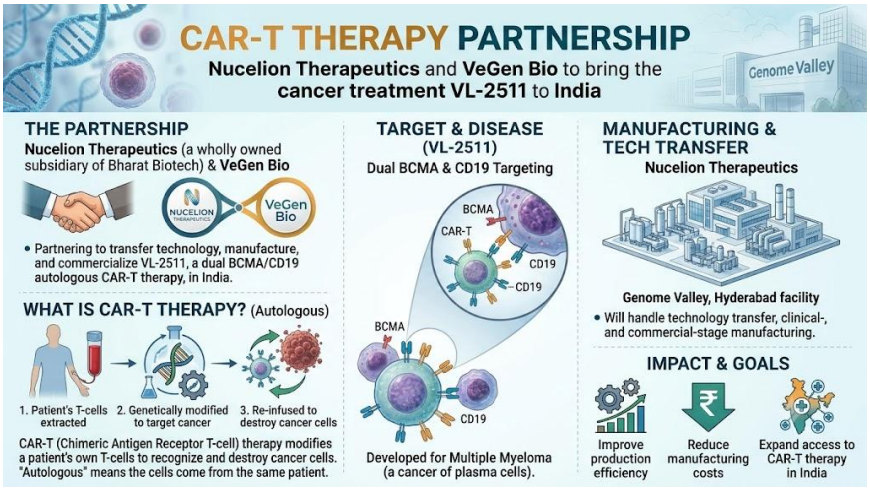
The agreement aims to deepen defence partnerships and strengthen the participating countries' military capabilities through greater cooperation.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

CAR-T Therapy Partnership

- Nucelion Therapeutics and VeGen Bio announced a partnership to transfer technology and manufacture and commercialise VL-2511, a dual BCMA/CD19 autologous CAR-T therapy, in India.
- CAR-T (Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell) therapy modifies a patient's own T cells to recognise and destroy cancer cells; autologous means the cells come from the same patient.
- VL-2511 targets BCMA (B-cell maturation antigen) and CD19 and is being developed for multiple myeloma, a cancer of plasma cells.
- Nucelion Therapeutics, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bharat Biotech, will handle technology transfer and clinical- and commercial-stage manufacturing at its facility in Genome Valley, Hyderabad.

- The partnership aims to improve production efficiency, reduce manufacturing costs and expand access to CAR-T therapy in India.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Madras Hedgehog Conservation

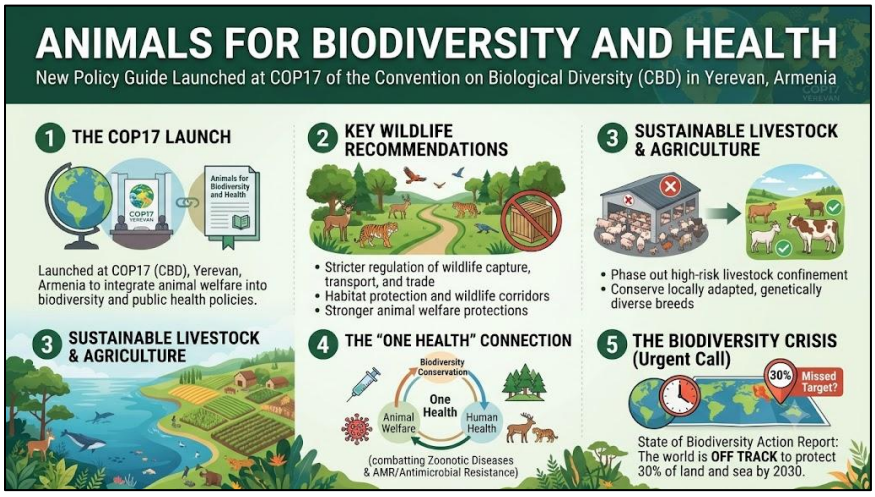


- Tenkasi Forest Division has proposed expanding the 'Golden Jackal Ambassadors' programme to conserve the Madras hedgehog (mulleli).
- The Madras hedgehog (Paraechinus nudiventris) is a nocturnal, spiny mammal found in southern India and is listed as Least Concern (LC) on the IUCN Red List.
- It has been recorded in Alangulam, Sankarankovil, Sivagiri and Uthumalai areas of Tenkasi district, with sightings photo-documented by the Forest Department.
- Students, volunteers, local youth and villagers will be trained to identify and report threats to the Madras hedgehog and other wildlife.

- Forest Guard Brother / Forest Guard Sister will be nominated for schools and colleges to support wildlife awareness, while Village Forest Committees will assist conservation activities.

Animals for Biodiversity and Health

- A new policy guide, Animals for Biodiversity and Health, was launched at COP17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Yerevan, Armenia, to integrate animal welfare into biodiversity and public health policies.
- The guide recommends stricter regulation of wildlife capture, transport and trade, better habitat protection, wildlife corridors and stronger protection of animal welfare.
- It calls for phasing out high-risk livestock confinement systems and conserving locally adapted, genetically diverse livestock breeds.
- The guide links animal welfare with biodiversity conservation, zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) under the One Health approach.
- The State of Biodiversity Action report found that the world is off track to meet the target of protecting 30% of land and sea by 2030.



SPORTS NEWS

Tamil Nadu Para Games Medallists

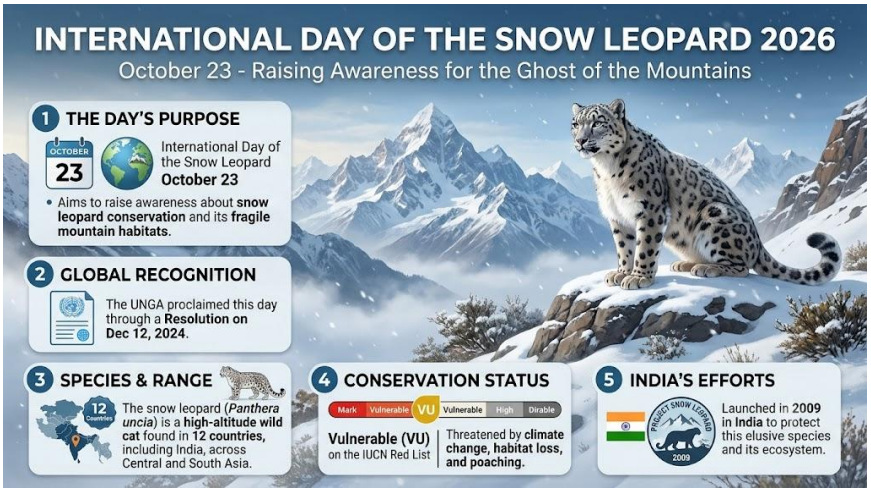
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister congratulated the State's medal winners at the 5th Asian Para Games in Japan.
- Naveen Sivakumar won gold in the men's singles SL4 badminton category.

- Thulasimathi Murugesan and Nithya Sree won silver in women's singles SU5 and SH6 badminton categories, respectively.
- Jehan Dorab Madan won bronze in the men's doubles MD4 table tennis category.
- The Tamil Nadu government will award ₹75 lakh to Naveen, ₹50 lakh each to Thulasimathi and Nithya Sree, and ₹30 lakh to Jehan as incentives.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of the Snow Leopard 2026 - October 23



- The day aims to raise awareness about snow leopard conservation and its mountain habitats.
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed the day through Resolution on 12 December 2024.
- The snow leopard (Panthera uncia) is a high-altitude wild cat found in 12 countries, including India, across Central and South Asia.

- It is listed as Vulnerable (VU) on the IUCN Red List.
- In India, Project Snow Leopard was launched in 2009.

United Nations Day 2026 - October 24

- United Nations Day 2026 marks 81 years since the United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945.
- In 1945, representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco to prepare the United Nations Charter.
- The five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- The United Nations brings countries together to address common international issues and promote global cooperation.
- The day reaffirms the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.



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