



September - 13

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's first government-built dedicated skate park was inaugurated at Buttfire near Udhagamandalam (Ooty), Nilgiris, on September 11, 2026.
- ❖ Stanzin Tsangyang became the first woman officer from Kargil district to be commissioned into the Indian Army at the Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai.
 - She is also the first person from Zaskar district of Ladakh to be commissioned as an officer in the Indian Army.
- ❖ AstraZeneca's breast cancer drug camizestrant (Etcamah) failed to significantly improve progression-free survival in a late-stage trial involving 1,371 patients with advanced hormone-receptor-positive, HER2-negative breast cancer.
- ❖ The International Day to Protect Education from Attack is observed every year on 9 September to highlight the need to protect education during armed conflicts.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "Can Education Survive Attack? The Resilience of Human Communities."
- ❖ World Suicide Prevention Day is observed every year on 10 September to raise awareness about suicide as a public health concern and promote prevention efforts.
 - The 2024–2026 theme is "Changing the Narrative on Suicide", with the call to action "Start the Conversation."

TAMIL NADU NEWS

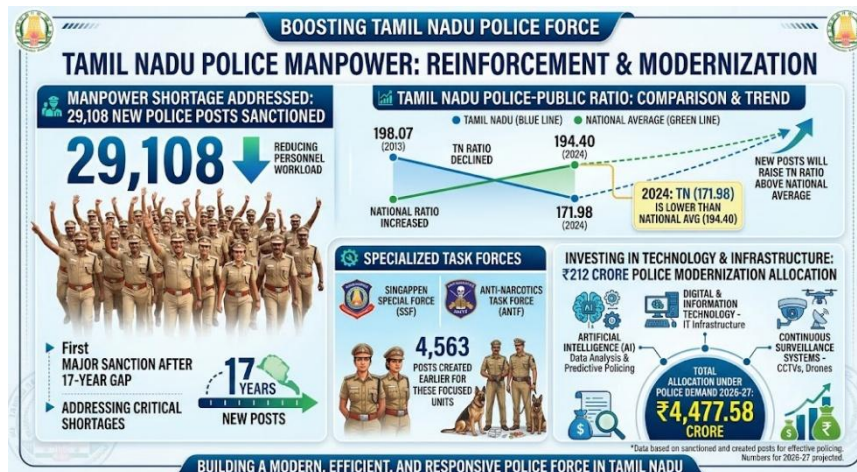
Sangam-period Water Management Structure

- ❖ A brick structure exposed in the Kollidam riverbed at Koogur near Lalgudi, Tiruchi district, has been identified by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) as a Sangam-period water regulation structure.
- ❖ The structure is located about 100 m from the northern bank of the Kollidam, near the ancient Kallanai.
- ❖ Its bricks measure about 39–43 cm × 20–22 cm × 6–7 cm, similar to bricks found at Arikamedu, Keeladi, Mangulam and Poompuhar.
- ❖ The structure has been linked to Kurampu, an ancient water-management structure comparable to a check dam.
- ❖ It may have helped regulate the flow of Cauvery water into the Kollidam through the Ullar.

BRICK STRUCTURE IN THE KOLLIDAM RIVERBED



Tamil Nadu Police Manpower

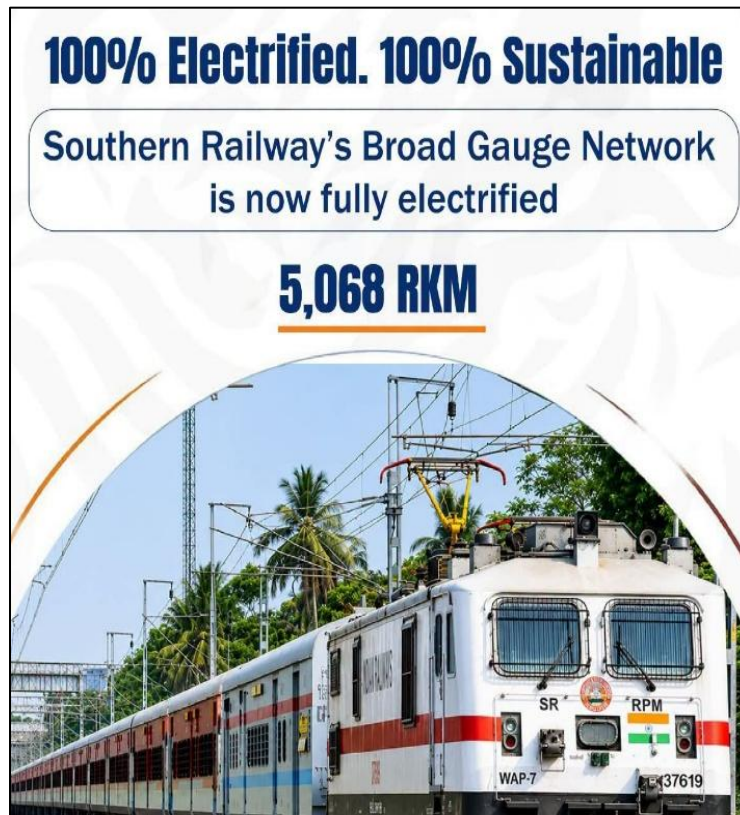


- ❖ Tamil Nadu has sanctioned 29,108 new police posts after a gap of 17 years to address manpower shortages and reduce the workload of police personnel.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's police-public ratio declined from 198.07 (2013) to 171.98 (2024), while the national ratio increased to 194.40 in 2024.
- ❖ The additional strength is expected to take Tamil Nadu's police-public ratio above the national average.
- ❖ Earlier, 4,563 posts were created for the Singappen Special Force and Anti-Narcotics Task Force.
- ❖ ₹212 crore was allocated for police modernisation, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), Digital and Information Technology infrastructure and continuous surveillance systems.

- ❖ ₹4,477.58 crore was allocated under the Police Demand for 2026–27.

Southern Railway Electrification

- ❖ Southern Railway's entire 5,068 route-km (rkm) broad-gauge network has achieved 100% electrification.
- ❖ The electrification milestone traces back to 11 May 1931, when Madras became the second metropolitan city in India after Bombay to introduce electric traction.
- ❖ In 1968, 25 kilovolt (kV) alternating current (AC) electrification was commissioned between Madras Beach and Tambaram.
- ❖ This marks the completion of electrification across Southern Railway's entire broad-gauge network.



NATIONAL NEWS

HPV Vaccination Milestone

- ❖ India has administered more than 80 lakh (8 million) Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine doses under the National HPV Vaccination Campaign since its launch in February 2026.

- ❖ The campaign provides free, voluntary, single-dose HPV vaccination with parental consent to 14-year-old girls at government health facilities.
- ❖ Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram achieved 100% coverage, while Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Assam crossed 90%.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number, with more than 22 lakh adolescent girls vaccinated.
- ❖ The U-WIN digital platform is used to monitor vaccination coverage, identify gaps and track missed beneficiaries.



One Tag System for FASTag

- ❖ The union minister for Road Transport and Highways launched the One Tag system on September 11, 2026, at the Global Fintech Fest 2026 in Mumbai, allowing users to change the FASTag issuing bank without replacing the physical tag.
- ❖ The One Tag system works like mobile number portability, allowing users to digitally switch their FASTag to a new bank.
- ❖ Users can port their existing FASTag through the Rajmarg Yatra mobile app by linking it to a new bank account.

- ❖ FASTag uses Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for automatic deduction of toll charges.
- ❖ About 13 crore FASTags have been issued, and digital toll collection covers more than 98% of national highway user fees.



FASTag OneTag Launched

Users can switch banks without changing the physical tag

SAME TAG | MORE FREEDOM | SMOOTHER JOURNEYS

ONE TAG. MORE CHOICE.

- Same physical tag
- Same Tag ID
- Same vehicle registration number

Key Details

- Launched by Nitin Gadkari at Global Fintech Fest 2026
- Developed by IHMCL and NPCI
- Portability via **Rajmargyatra** app
- Existing issuer handles pending transactions and refunds
- No change needed at toll plazas

Why It Matters

- Easier to switch FASTag provider
- No need to replace the sticker
- Can reduce reissuance and logistics costs

Enable Mobility for a Smarter India

FASTag penetration: 98%+

NETC FASTags issued: 13 crore

Active FASTags: ~6 crore

Global 6G Network Initiative

- ❖ India endorsed the Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security on September 9, 2026, joining 24 like-minded countries to promote open, interoperable, secure and resilient 6G networks.
- ❖ The initiative was announced on the sidelines of the G20 Innovation Ministerial in North Carolina, United States.
- ❖ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) will coordinate India's participation with government agencies, industry and academia.
- ❖ India aims to contribute 10% of global 6G standards and patents and build on the Bharat 6G Vision and Bharat 6G Alliance.

- ❖ The initiative focuses on 6G research, cybersecurity, resilient supply chains and global 6G standards.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bangladesh Measles Outbreak



- ❖ Bangladesh is facing its worst measles outbreak on record, with 999 suspected and confirmed measles-related deaths reported since March 2026.

- ❖ More than 166,000 suspected cases and 19,835 laboratory-confirmed cases have been reported, while over 146,000 patients have been hospitalised.
- ❖ The outbreak was linked to gaps in routine vaccination during 2024–2025 and vaccine supply problems.
- ❖ An emergency measles-rubella vaccination campaign targeted about 18 million children aged 6 months to under 5 years, with more than 19.7 million children vaccinated.
- ❖ Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that can be prevented through vaccination.

STATE NEWS

Elder-Friendly Office Certification – Kerala



- ❖ Kerala launched the Elder-Friendly Office Certification (EFOC) scheme to assess whether public offices and institutions are accessible and convenient for senior citizens.
- ❖ EFOC is the first government certification system of its kind in India, covering physical accessibility, service delivery, staff behaviour, communication and senior-citizen participation.
- ❖ Mandatory facilities include step-free access, a ground-floor toilet, a priority queue for senior citizens and a designated officer to address their needs.

- ❖ 14 offices, one in each district, will be selected for a pilot programme in the first six months; it will later expand to village, taluk and other government offices.
- ❖ Kerala is India's most rapidly ageing State, with about 16.5% of its population above 60 years in 2021, projected to reach 20.9% by 2031

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2026

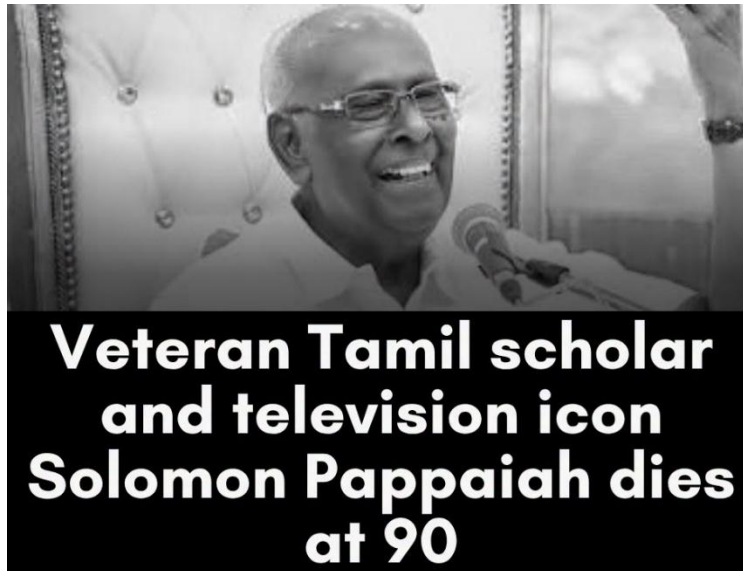


- ❖ UNESCO awarded the International Literacy Prizes 2026 to six literacy initiatives from six countries for their contribution to advancing literacy.
- ❖ The UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize was awarded to initiatives from Colombia, the Netherlands and Nigeria for promoting multilingual and mother-language-based literacy.
- ❖ The UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy was awarded to initiatives from Lebanon, Mexico and Thailand, focusing on displaced youth, community literacy and multilingual learning.
- ❖ Each of the six laureates receives US\$30,000, a medal and a diploma for their contribution to literacy.
- ❖ The prizes have been awarded since 1967.

Solomon Pappaiah Demise

- ❖ Veteran Tamil scholar and orator Solomon Pappaiah passed away at the age of 90.
- ❖ He served at The American College, Madurai, from 1961 to 1994 and headed its Department of Tamil.

- ❖ Under his leadership, the Undergraduate Tamil programme was upgraded into a Postgraduate Department in 1986.
- ❖ He was widely known for Pattimandram (Tamil debate) and conducted more than 12,000 Pattimandrams, promoting Tamil literature and culture.
- ❖ He received the Kalaimamani Award in 2000 and the Padma Shri in 2021 for contributions to literature and education.



India's BRICS Sherpa 2026 - Sudhakar Dalela

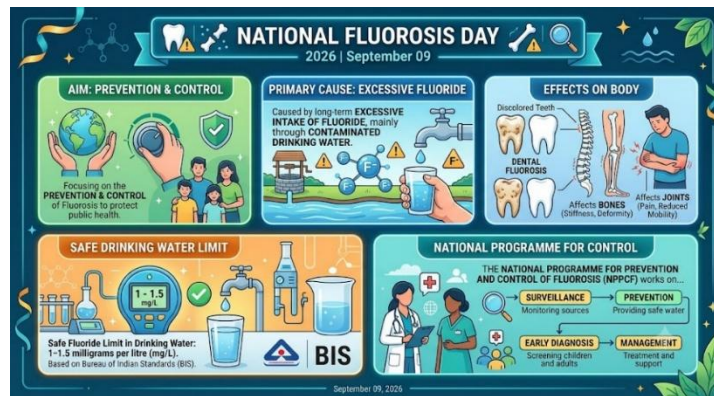


- ❖ Sudhakar Dalela, Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, is India's BRICS Sherpa as India holds the BRICS Chair in 2026.

- ❖ He is currently Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and coordinates India's position, negotiations and summit preparations within BRICS.
- ❖ He previously served as Ambassador of India to Bhutan, Deputy Chief of Mission in Washington, D.C., and Consul General in Chicago.
- ❖ A BRICS Sherpa is the senior official who represents a member country in diplomatic preparations, negotiations and consensus-building before BRICS summits.
- ❖ The first Sherpa/Sous-Sherpa meeting for India's 2026 BRICS Chairship was held in New Delhi in February 2026, with Dalela as India's Sherpa.
- ❖ BRICS Chair refers to the country holding the rotating chairmanship, while the Sherpa is the senior official representing an individual member country.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Fluorosis Day 2026 - September 09



- ❖ The day aims to focus on the prevention and control of fluorosis.
- ❖ Fluorosis is caused by long-term excessive intake of fluoride, mainly through contaminated drinking water.
- ❖ High fluoride exposure can affect the teeth, bones and joints.
- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) safe fluoride limit in drinking water is 1–1.5 milligrams per litre (mg/L).
- ❖ The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Fluorosis (NPPCF) works on surveillance, prevention, early diagnosis and management of fluorosis.

