



September - 17

TNPSC BITS

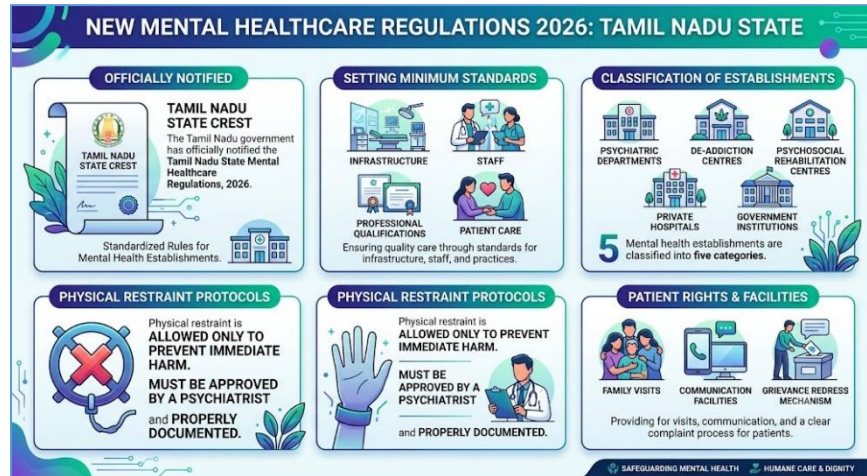
- ❖ India defeated Sri Lanka by 72 runs in the Women's Twenty20 (T20) Asia Cup 2026 final in Dubai to win a record-extending eighth title.
- ❖ India's Dhiraj Bommadevara became the first Indian male recurve archer to win World Cup Final gold at Saltillo, Mexico.
- ❖ The 6th All India Official Language Conference was held in Mumbai on 14 September 2026, along with Hindi Diwas 2026.
 - The conference discussed the development of Hindi, coordination among Indian languages, technology, translation and literature.
- ❖ Ganges Grandmasters won their maiden Global Chess League (GCL) title in Bengaluru by defeating defending champions Alpine APL Pipers.
- ❖ The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) plans to upgrade its 1033 National Highway Helpline using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and real-time location tracking.
 - The 1033 helpline, launched in 2018, operates 24×7 and covers more than 1.46 lakh kilometres of national highways.
- ❖ The Researchers have identified two new-to-science frog species in Mizoram — Duttaphrynus phawngpui and Ingerana aizawl.
 - Duttaphrynus phawngpui was found above 2,000 metres in Phawngpui National Park and was named after Mizoram's highest peak, Phawngpui.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

New Mental Healthcare Regulations 2026

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has officially notified the Tamil Nadu State Mental Healthcare Regulations, 2026.
- ❖ The regulations set minimum standards for infrastructure, staff, professional qualifications and patient care in mental health establishments.
- ❖ Mental health establishments are classified into five categories, including psychiatric departments, de-addiction centres and psychosocial rehabilitation centres.
- ❖ Physical restraint is allowed only to prevent immediate harm and must be approved by a psychiatrist and properly documented.

- ❖ The rules provide for family visits, communication facilities and a grievance redress mechanism for patients.



NATIONAL NEWS

Integrated Fertilizer Management System



- ❖ The Integrated Fertilizer Management System (iFMS) has entered a new phase with digital tools to improve transparency, fertilizer availability and supply-chain monitoring.
- ❖ New dashboards monitor fertilizer production, imports, dispatches, movement, stocks and retail sales at national, State, district and retailer levels.
- ❖ iFMS covers over 14 crore Aadhaar-linked fertilizer buyers, more than 2.5 lakh retailers and around 7 crore metric tonnes of fertilizer transactions annually.

- ❖ The system uses transaction data to analyse fertilizer purchases based on buyer category, landholding, crop, district and fertilizer type.
- ❖ iFMS also supports administration of nearly ₹2 lakh crore in fertilizer subsidies annually.

Tempest Programme - India

- ❖ India has joined the sixth-generation fighter jet programme, Tempest, as a dialogue partner with the UK, Italy and Japan.
- ❖ Tempest is a sixth-generation fighter programme jointly developed by the UK, Japan and Italy, with induction planned from 2034.
- ❖ India's dialogue partner status allows it to discuss the programme's technology, progress and capabilities, but does not make India a buyer or developer.
- ❖ India is currently developing the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), a fifth-generation fighter expected to join the Indian Air Force by 2035.
- ❖ The Tempest programme received US\$6.1 billion in funding to advance its full-scale design phase.



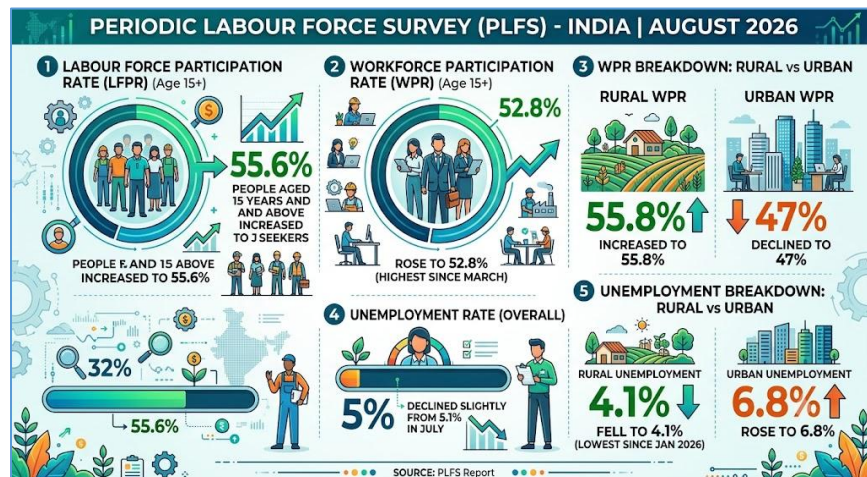
Global Fintech Fest 2026

- ❖ The 7th Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2026 was held in Mumbai.
- ❖ The theme of GFF 2026 is "Potential to Impact: Agentic Artificial Intelligence (AI), Tokenisation, Quantum."
- ❖ The three main technologies discussed are Agentic AI, Tokenisation and Quantum Technology.

- ❖ The principal organisers are Payments Council of India (PCI), National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Fintech Convergence Council (FCC).
- ❖ The Fest is supported by agencies including the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Department of Financial Services, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NITI Aayog.
- ❖ The agenda focuses on using emerging technologies to build trusted, connected and inclusive financial systems.



Periodic Labour Force Survey – August 2026



- ❖ The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) reported that the Workforce Participation Rate (WPR) for people aged 15 years and above rose to 52.8% in August 2026, the highest since March.
- ❖ The rural WPR increased to 55.8%, while the urban WPR declined to 47%.
- ❖ The overall unemployment rate declined slightly to 5% in August from 5.1% in July.

- ❖ Rural unemployment fell to 4.1%, the lowest since January 2026, while urban unemployment rose to 6.8%.
- ❖ The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) for people aged 15 years and above increased to 55.6%.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Historic Pact Among Three Nations

- ❖ Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) seeking greater self-determination and constitutional change from Westminster.
- ❖ The MoU was signed in Cardiff by the leaders of the three nations and states that they have the right to decide their political future democratically.
- ❖ It calls on the British Government to prepare and facilitate constitutional changes in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- ❖ The pact challenges Westminster, the seat of the UK Parliament, and calls for greater cooperation among the three nations in the economy and energy.
- ❖ The signatories support a future in which the three nations are part of the European Union (EU).



Orbital Weapons by USA

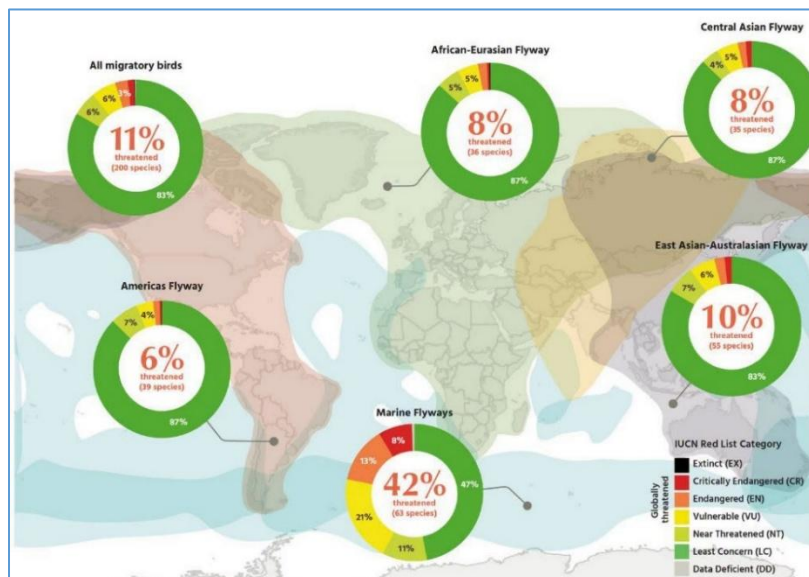
- ❖ The United States has acknowledged for the first time that the U.S. Space Force has deployed weapons in orbit.
- ❖ U.S. Air Force Secretary said the weapons are “on-orbit space control weapons” but did not specify their type or deployment date.

- ❖ The weapons are intended to protect U.S. forces and space systems from hostile actions.
- ❖ The capability could include systems for jamming or other forms of interference, but the exact technology has not been disclosed.
- ❖ The announcement comes as the United States, China and Russia continue developing and testing counterspace capabilities.

- US has publicly acknowledged for the first time that it has deployed offensive-capable weapons in Earth's orbit.
- US Space Force described them as “on-orbit space control weapons” that can be used for both offensive and defensive missions.
- Washington says the move is aimed at protecting US satellites from growing threats posed by Russia and China.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

State of World's Birds Report

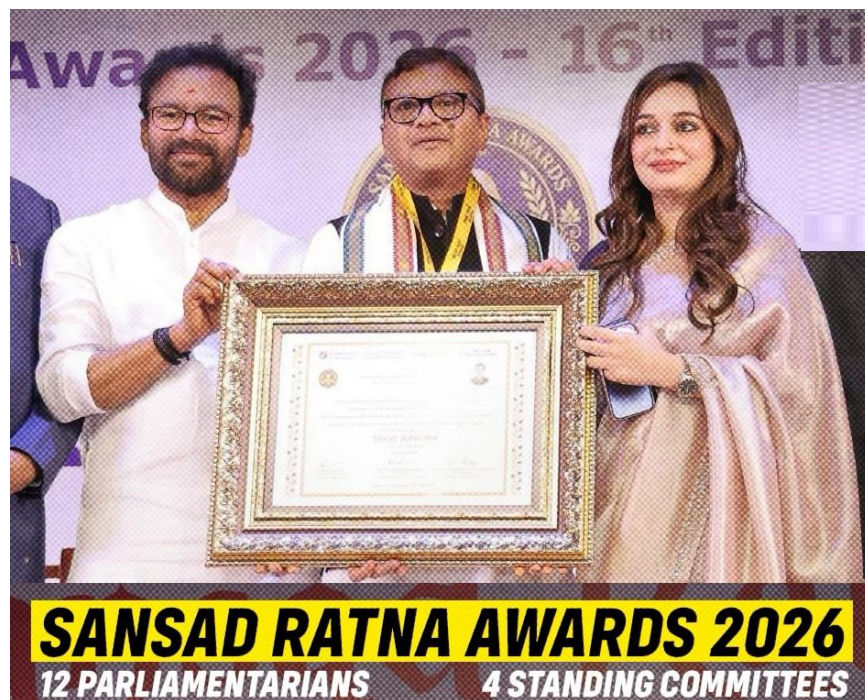


- ❖ BirdLife International's State of the World's Birds 2026 report found that 45% of migratory bird species are declining, while one in nine faces extinction.

- ❖ The report is the first edition focused on migratory birds and their flyways, which are the routes birds use during migration.
- ❖ The Slender-billed Curlew became extinct in 2025, marking the first global bird extinction in mainland Eurasia and Africa in recent centuries.
- ❖ Major threats include invasive species, intensive agriculture, climate change and unsustainable hunting.
- ❖ The Nairobi Flyways Declaration was signed to promote international cooperation for protecting migratory birds and their habitats across entire flyways.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Sansad Ratna Awards 2026



- ❖ The Jury Committee selected 10 Lok Sabha MPs, 2 Rajya Sabha MPs and 4 Parliamentary Standing Committees for the Sansad Ratna Awards 2026.
- ❖ The award recognises parliamentary performance based on questions, debates, private member bills, committee work and attendance.
- ❖ P. P. Chaudhary was selected for the award for the fourth time.
- ❖ The 12 individual awardees include MPs from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- ❖ Four committees were also selected: Agriculture, Finance, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, and Coal and Mines.

- ❖ The Sansad Ratna Award was instituted in 2010 by the Prime Point Foundation, inspired by former President Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Democracy 2026 - September 15

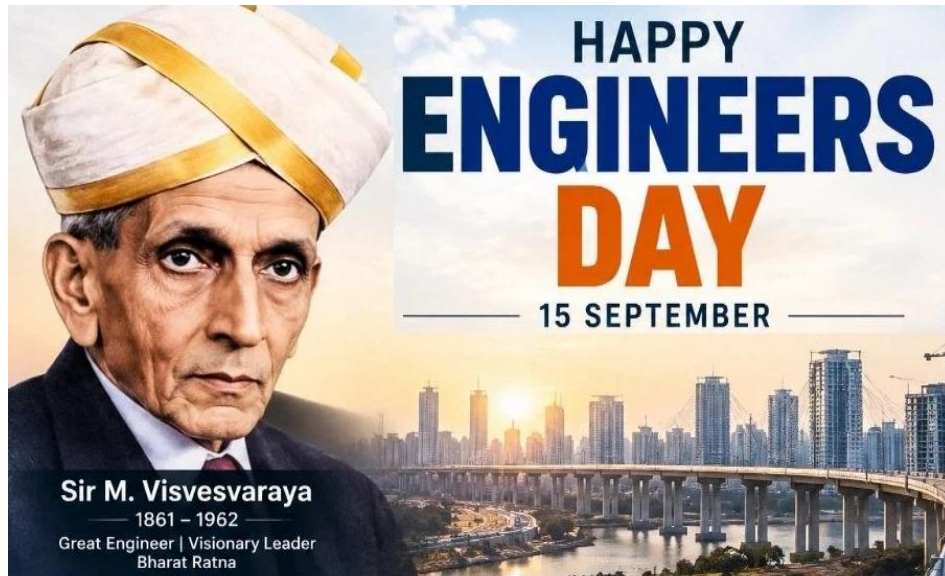
- ❖ The day aims to promote and strengthen the principles of democracy.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly established the day in 2007 through a consensus resolution, and the first observance was held in 2008.
- ❖ The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) adopted the Universal Declaration on Democracy in September 1997, affirming democratic principles.
- ❖ Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) protects freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to seek, receive and share information.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “When every voice counts, democracy delivers”.



National Engineers Day 2026 - September 15

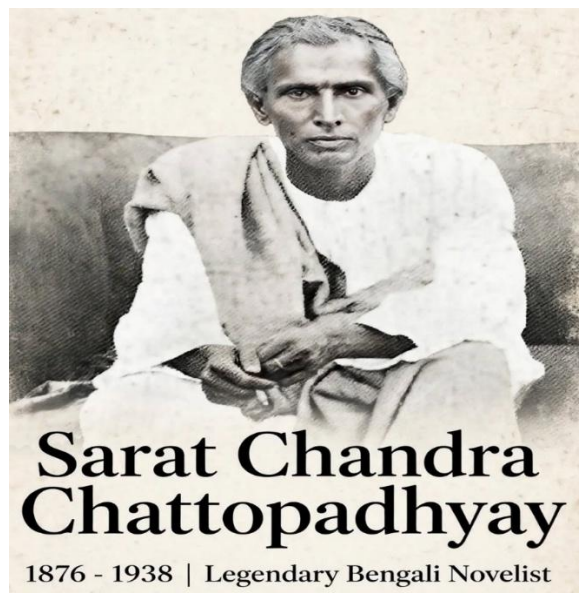
- ❖ National Engineers' Day is observed on September 15 to mark M. Visvesvaraya's birth anniversary.
- ❖ Visvesvaraya was born in 1861 in Muddenahalli, Karnataka.
- ❖ He served as the Diwan of Mysore from 1912 to 1918 and worked on infrastructure projects.

- ❖ He contributed to irrigation, water management and flood protection systems.
- ❖ He wrote books including *Planned Economy for India* and *Reconstructing India*.
- ❖ He received the Bharat Ratna in 1955, India's highest civilian award, and died in 1962.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

150 Years of Saratchandra Chattopadhyay



- ❖ Bengali writer Saratchandra Chattopadhyay was remembered on his 150th birth anniversary.



- ❖ Born on 15 September 1876 in Debanandapur, Bengal, he was a Bengali novelist and short-story writer.
- ❖ His notable works include Devdas, Srikanta, Parineeta, Choritrohin and Pather Dabi.
- ❖ His works portrayed 19th-century India, especially rural Bengali society, and highlighted social issues and women's rights.
- ❖ He lived in Burma (Myanmar) for 13 years and returned to Calcutta in 1916 to become a full-time writer.
- ❖ Pather Dabi, published in 1926, was banned by the British Government of India because of its revolutionary theme.
- ❖ He received the Jagattarini Gold Medal from the University of Calcutta and a Doctor of Literature (honoris causa) from the University of Dhaka.

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