



September - 27

TNPSC BITS

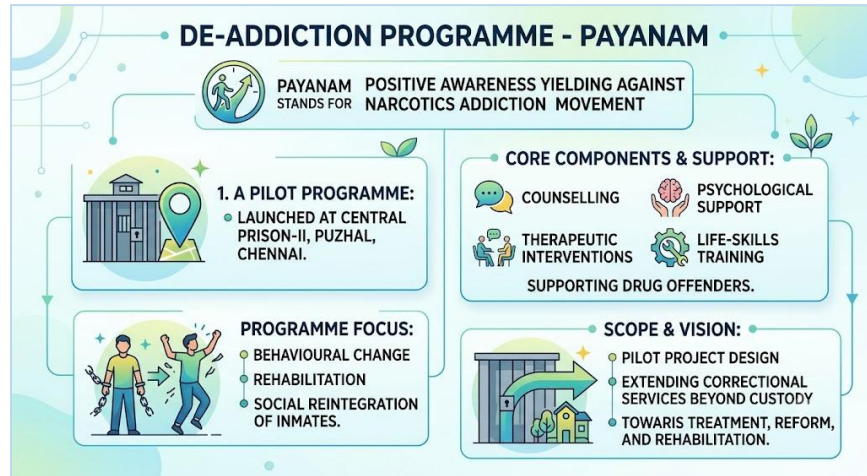
- ❖ India's first indigenous long-range One-Way Attack (OWA) drone, KAL, was successfully flight-tested at Pokhran, Rajasthan, in September 2026.
 - An OWA drone is a one-way unmanned aircraft designed to reach a designated target and strike it without returning to its launch point.
- ❖ India has sent its largest-ever contingent of 70 skilled competitors to the 48th WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai, China.
 - India's global skills ranking improved from 29th in 2015 to 13th in 2024; India also secured 8th rank at WorldSkills Asia 2025.
- ❖ India won its first-ever mixed team medal in skeet shooting at the Asian Games 2026 in Nagoya, Japan.
 - Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Parinaaz Dhaliwal won the bronze medal in the mixed team skeet event.
- ❖ The 9th India International Water Week (IIWW) 2026 was inaugurated at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, focusing on water security, climate-resilient water management, policy dialogue, technology exchange and global cooperation.
 - IIWW 2026 is organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti from 22–26 September 2026 with the theme "Climate Resilient Water Management."
- ❖ World Rose Day is observed on 22 September 2026 to support cancer patients with hope, care and encouragement.
 - World Rose Day is associated with the story of Melinda Rose, a young Canadian cancer patient whose life inspired the observance.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

De-addiction Programme - PAYANAM

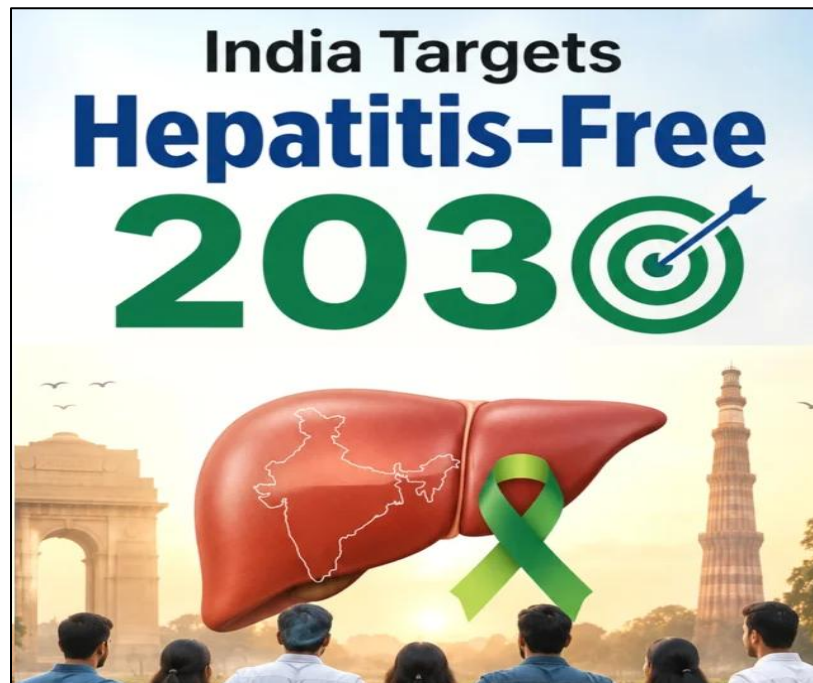
- ❖ A pilot de-addiction and rehabilitation programme called PAYANAM was launched at Central Prison-II, Puzhal, Chennai.
- ❖ PAYANAM stands for Positive Awareness Yielding Against Narcotics Addiction Movement.
- ❖ The programme aims to support drug offenders through counselling, psychological support, therapeutic interventions and life-skills training.
- ❖ It also focuses on behavioural change, rehabilitation and social reintegration of inmates.

- ❖ PAYANAM is designed as a pilot project to extend correctional services beyond custody towards treatment, reform and rehabilitation.



NATIONAL NEWS

Hepatitis Elimination by 2030



- ❖ India reaffirmed its commitment to eliminate Hepatitis B and C as public health threats by 2030 at a United Nations General Assembly side event in New York.
- ❖ India is strengthening prevention, screening, diagnosis, treatment and care for viral hepatitis.

- ❖ Measures include Hepatitis B immunisation, antenatal screening, free diagnosis and treatment, and safe blood transfusion services.
- ❖ Counselling and rehabilitation support are provided for people who inject drugs.
- ❖ India stressed global cooperation and equal access to prevention, testing and treatment to achieve the 2030 target.

Telecom Security in India

- ❖ India's active wireless mobile subscriber base reached 1,204.01 million in July 2026, highlighting the need to protect mobile devices and International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers.
- ❖ IMEI is a unique 15-digit number that identifies a mobile device on a telecom network; the first 8 digits form the Type Allocation Code (TAC).
- ❖ Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) oversees TAC allocation, while manufacturers assign unique IMEIs to devices.
- ❖ Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, IMEI tampering and obtaining SIMs through fraud or impersonation are prohibited and can attract up to 3 years' imprisonment, a ₹50 lakh fine, or both.
- ❖ The Sanchar Saathi platform helps users verify device details and block lost or stolen mobile phones.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

V4+India Foreign Ministers' Meeting

- ❖ The first V4+India Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in New York on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session.

- ❖ The meeting brought together India with Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic, which form the Visegrád Group (V4).
- ❖ External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar participated in the meeting under the Slovak Presidency of the V4.
- ❖ Discussions covered trade, investment, technology, innovation, defence, security, connectivity, education and mobility.
- ❖ The V4+India format provides an additional platform for dialogue and cooperation between India and the Visegrád Group.



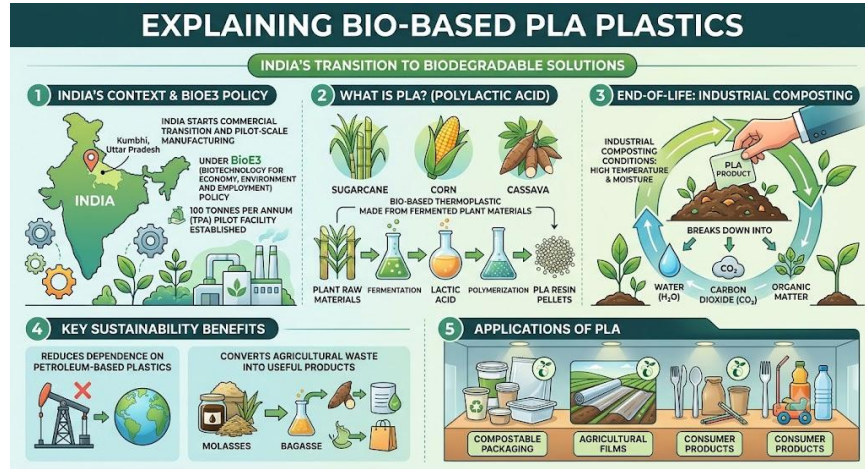
'Historic occasion': Jaishankar describes first V4+India foreign ministers meeting

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Bio-Based PLA Plastics

- ❖ India has started the commercial transition and pilot-scale manufacturing of bio-based, biodegradable Polylactic Acid (PLA) plastics under the BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy.
- ❖ A 100 Tonnes Per Annum (TPA) pilot facility is being established at Kumbhi, Uttar Pradesh, using agricultural feedstock such as sugarcane molasses and bagasse.
- ❖ PLA is a bio-based thermoplastic made from fermented plant materials such as sugarcane, corn and cassava.
- ❖ PLA can be industrially composted and breaks down into water, carbon dioxide and organic matter under suitable conditions.

- ❖ It can reduce dependence on petroleum-based plastics and convert agricultural waste into useful products.
- ❖ PLA can be used in compostable packaging, agricultural films and consumer products.



Rapidly Shrinking Binary - eRASSU J0608



- ❖ Indian-led astronomers identified eRASSU J060839.5–704014 (eRASSU J0608), a pair of white dwarfs orbiting each other in about 6.2 minutes.
- ❖ It is an ultracompact double-white-dwarf binary whose orbit is shrinking at about 4.7×10^{-11} seconds per second.
- ❖ White dwarfs are dense remains of stars like the Sun after they use up their nuclear fuel and lose their outer layers.
- ❖ Material from one white dwarf may directly hit the other through direct-impact accretion, producing strong X-ray emission.

- ❖ NASA NICER, Einstein Probe and European Space Agency (ESA) XMM-Newton observations were used to study the system for about 3.5 years.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Tamil Nadu Palm Seed Drive 2026

- ❖ Tamil Nadu launched a State-wide drive to plant one crore palm seeds to strengthen waterbody bunds and prevent soil erosion.
- ❖ The drive was inaugurated at Devariyambakkam village, Kancheepuram district, by the Rural Development-Panchayat Raj and Water Resources Minister.
- ❖ The initiative aims to support groundwater recharge, soil conservation and production of value-added palm products.
- ❖ Palm trees have deep and strong roots that hold soil, reduce soil erosion, improve water infiltration, and help conserve groundwater.
- ❖ They are drought-tolerant and can grow well in dry regions with less water.



SPORTS NEWS

Asian Games 2026 Opening Ceremony

- ❖ The Asian Games 2026 officially opened at the Mizuho Park Athletics Stadium in Nagoya, Japan.
- ❖ Emperor Naruhito of Japan formally declared the Games open.
- ❖ The opening ceremony highlighted the theme of unity and oneness, with the concept “Harmonic Heart Beat.”

- ❖ Pawan Sehrawat and Manu Bhaker led the Indian contingent during the parade of nations.
- ❖ The heart-shaped cauldron was lit by Shigenobu Murofushi, accompanied by his son Koji Murofushi.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Pharmacists Day 2026 - September 25



- ❖ The day aims to recognise the role of pharmacists in healthcare and safe medicine use.
- ❖ Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) awareness and responsible use of antibiotics are also important focuses in 2026.
- ❖ In India, the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) is observing the day with the mission “Swastha Bharat: Combating Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).”

- ❖ The PCI is a statutory body established under the Pharmacy Act, 1948, to regulate pharmacy education and professional standards in India.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Empowering pharmacists for healthier futures.”

World Lung Day 2026 - September 25

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about lung health and respiratory diseases.
- ❖ Major lung-related diseases include asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), lung cancer, tuberculosis (TB) and respiratory infections.
- ❖ Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) created the idea of World Lung Day during the 2016 FIRS Kyoto Assembly.
- ❖ Lung diseases are linked to major risk factors such as smoking, air pollution, second-hand smoke and harmful environmental exposure.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “A Lifetime of Lung Health.”

