

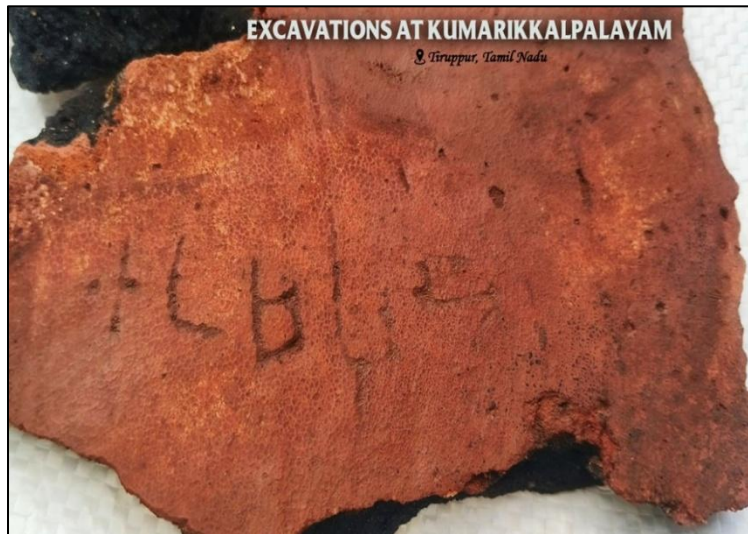
April - 04

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) appointed Sandeep Rai Rathore as Director General of Police (DGP) and Head of Police Force (HoPF), replacing G. Venkatraman.
 - While the ECI appoints a DGP, Elections, to take charge of all poll-related responsibilities, Mr Rathore was posted as DGP since there is a no regular HoPF in the State.
- ❖ Niranjana Jyoti assumed charge as Chairperson and Kiran Umesh Mahalle as Member of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).
- ❖ World Autism Awareness Day is observed on 2 April every year to promote awareness, acceptance, and inclusion of people with autism.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is “Autism and Humanity – Every Life Has Value.”

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Tamil-Brahmi Inscription Discovery



- ❖ A potsherd with a Tamil-Brahmi inscription was discovered at Kumarikkal Palayam in Tiruppur district by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- ❖ The inscription is paleographically dated to the late 1st century BCE to early 1st century CE.
- ❖ The potsherd is a fragment of a black-and-red ware storage jar used in ancient times.

- ❖ The inscription reads “Irumpurai,” which is linked to the Chera rulers of the Sangam period.
- ❖ The excavation site shows evidence of Iron Age and Early Historic human habitation along with burial structures.
- ❖ Other materials found include red-slipped ware, black-and-red ware, and russet-coated pottery.
- ❖ A 26-feet tall menhir at the site may be declared a protected monument.

NATIONAL NEWS

Jan Vishwas Bill 2026

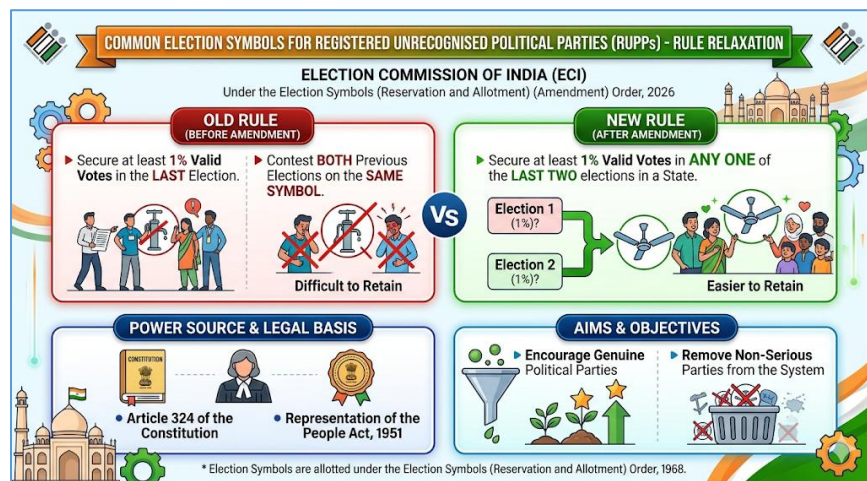


- ❖ Lok Sabha passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026, to reform legal provisions.
- ❖ The Bill aims to decriminalise minor offences and promote ease of doing business and ease of living.
- ❖ It proposes to amend 79 Central Acts administered by 23 Ministries of the Government of India.
- ❖ A total of 784 provisions are amended, including 717 provisions decriminalised and 67 provisions for ease of living.
- ❖ It replaces imprisonment for small offences with monetary fines and penalties based on the nature of the offence.
- ❖ The Bill focuses on simplifying old laws, reducing court cases, and improving trust-based governance.

Common Election Symbols for RUPPs

- ❖ Election Commission of India (ECI) relaxed rules for Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs) to retain common symbols under the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) (Amendment) Order, 2026.

- ❖ RUPPs can retain a common symbol if they secure at least 1% of valid votes in any one of the last two elections in a State.
- ❖ Earlier, parties had to secure 1% votes in the last election and contest both previous elections on the same symbol.
- ❖ The amendment was made under the powers of Article 324 of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- ❖ It aims to encourage genuine political parties and remove non-serious parties from the system.
- ❖ Election symbols are allotted under the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968.



National PNG Drive 2.0



- ❖ The government extended the National PNG (Piped Natural Gas) Drive 2.0 till 30 June 2026 to expand gas connections across the country.

- ❖ It aims to increase PNG connections in households, commercial establishments, hostels, messes, and canteens.
- ❖ Over 3.1 lakh connections were gasified in March, and more than 2.7 lakh new connections are being added.
- ❖ The government directed city gas distribution companies to speed up domestic PNG connections.
- ❖ Adequate supply of petrol, diesel, LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas), and PNG is maintained across the country.
- ❖ The initiative promotes clean fuel usage and reduces pollution and dependence on traditional fuels.

Introduction of E20 Fuel



- ❖ The government introduced the E20 fuel mandate to promote cleaner and more sustainable transport.
- ❖ E20 fuel is a blend of 20% ethanol and 80% petrol used in vehicles.
- ❖ The minimum octane rating of E20 fuel is 95 RON (Research Octane Number), higher than normal petrol.
- ❖ Ethanol (C_2H_5OH) is a renewable biofuel produced from crops like sugarcane, maize, and grains.
- ❖ It helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improves engine efficiency and combustion.
- ❖ The initiative reduces dependence on crude oil imports and strengthens energy security.

Sādhana Saptah 2026 – National Capacity Building Initiative

- ❖ Sādhana Saptah 2026 will be conducted by the Capacity Building Commission under Mission Karmayogi.

- ❖ Sādhana stands for Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement.
- ❖ It is a nationwide capacity building initiative involving 100+ Ministries, 30+ States/UTs, and 250+ Civil Services Training Institutions.
- ❖ The programme focuses on improving the skills of civil servants for achieving Viksit Bharat 2047 goals.
- ❖ It is based on Three Sutras: Technology, Tradition, and Tangible Outcomes.
- ❖ It promotes a shift from rule-based to role-based governance, focusing on skills, innovation, and citizen-centric service delivery.

SADHANA SAPTAH 2026

2nd to 8th APRIL 2026

ECL commences Sadhana Saptah 2026 (2–8 April), a national capacity-building drive guided by the Capacity Building Commission.

FCRA Amendment Bill 2026



- ❖ The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, was introduced in the Lok Sabha to amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.

- ❖ The Bill aims to regulate foreign funds received by NGOs to protect national interest and security.
- ❖ It proposes a designated authority to manage funds and assets when FCRA registration is cancelled or surrendered.
- ❖ The Central Government will have the power to appoint this authority for the proper management of foreign contributions.
- ❖ It ensures the religious character of places of worship is maintained under Clause 16A(7).
- ❖ It allows organisations to regain control of assets if their FCRA registration is restored.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

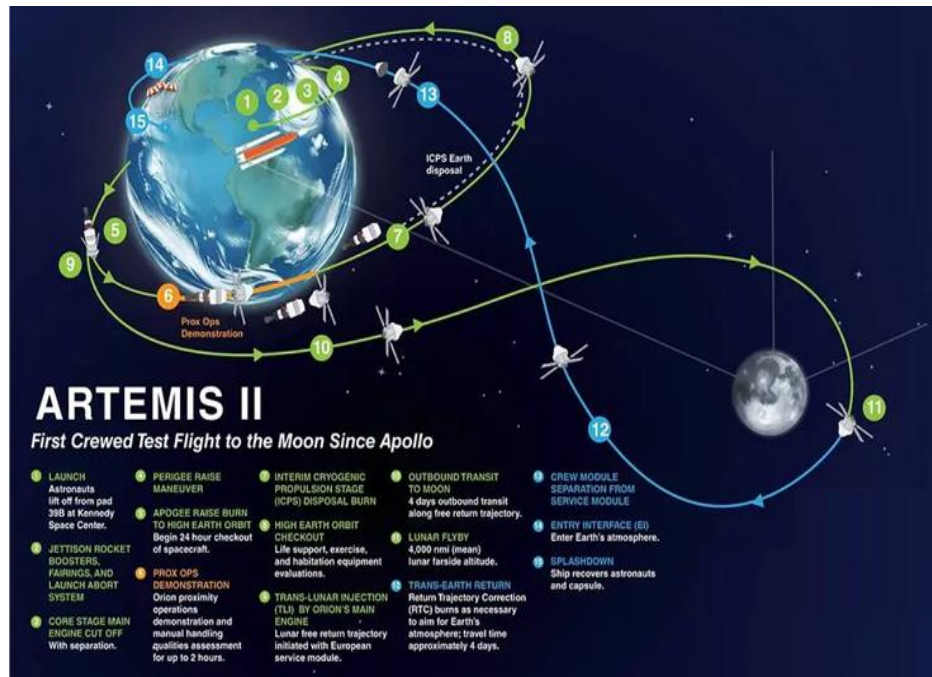
Atoms4NetZero Initiative



- ❖ Atoms4NetZero was launched as a global initiative to support countries in using nuclear energy for achieving net zero emissions.
- ❖ It was launched by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in January 2025 at COP27 (27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change).
- ❖ It aims to help countries integrate nuclear energy into their national energy mix for clean, reliable, and sustainable power generation.
- ❖ It focuses on reducing carbon emissions, decarbonising electricity, and improving energy security in all sectors.
- ❖ It uses tools like MESSAGE (Model for Energy Supply Strategy Alternatives and their General Environmental Impacts) and FRAMES (Framework for Modelling of Energy Systems) for energy planning.
- ❖ Nuclear energy provides about 10% of global electricity and 25% of low-carbon electricity.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Artemis II Moon Mission



- ❖ NASA is preparing for Artemis II, the first crewed Moon mission in over 50 years.
- ❖ Artemis II will be the first human mission to the Moon since the Apollo missions (1968–1972) conducted by NASA.
- ❖ The mission will use the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket, a 32-storey heavy-lift launch vehicle, and the Orion spacecraft.
- ❖ The spacecraft will orbit the Earth first and then perform a flyby around the Moon without landing.
- ❖ The mission will last about 10 days and end with a splashdown landing in the Pacific Ocean.
- ❖ It will test critical systems and support future human Moon missions under the Artemis programme.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Snowy Owl under the UN Convention

- ❖ Snowy Owl has been given international protection under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).
- ❖ Snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) is a large white bird found mainly in Arctic tundra regions of North America and Eurasia.

- ❖ It is different from most owls as it is active during both day and night (not strictly nocturnal).
- ❖ It is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List due to climate change and habitat loss.
- ❖ CMS protection helps improve international cooperation to conserve migratory species across countries.



STATE NEWS

Permanent Capital of Andhra Pradesh - Amaravati

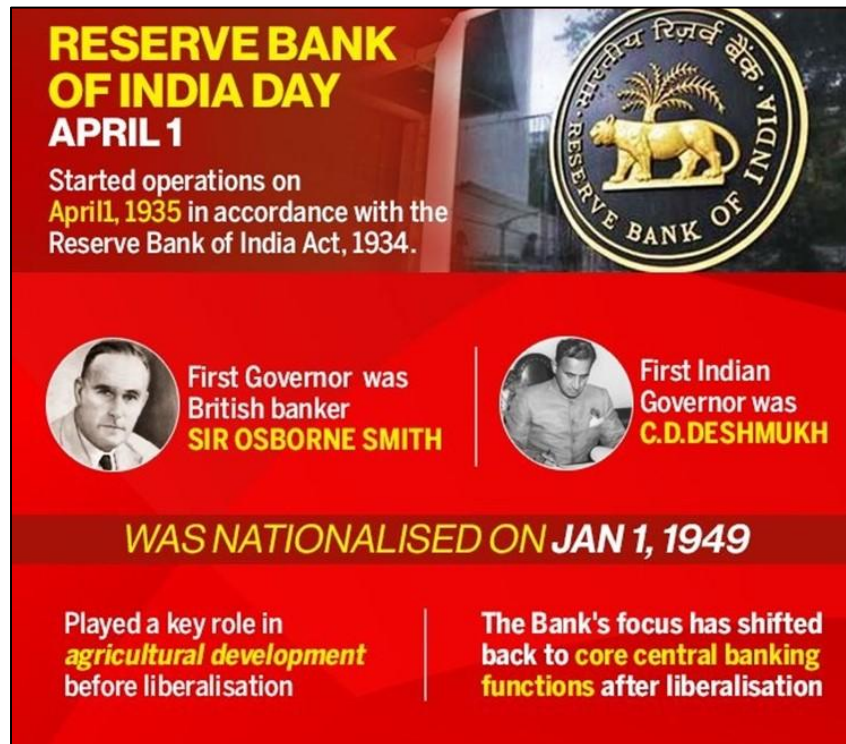


- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was passed by the Lok Sabha to declare Amaravati as the sole capital.
- ❖ The Bill declares Amaravati as the sole and permanent capital of Andhra Pradesh with effect from June 2, 2024.

- ❖ It was passed by the Lok Sabha on April 1, 2026 and will be sent to the Rajya Sabha and then to the President for assent.
- ❖ It provides the statutory backing and prevents any future attempt to change the capital decision.
- ❖ It was introduced by Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai as a public bill.
- ❖ Earlier, Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy proposed a three-capital model (Visakhapatnam–administrative, Amaravati–legislative, Kurnool–judicial).
- ❖ It is among the first instances of Parliament formally declaring a specific location as a state capital.
- ❖ The amendment modifies the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, which had Hyderabad as a temporary joint capital for 10 years.

IMPORTANT DAYS

RBI Foundation Day 2026 - April 01



RESERVE BANK OF INDIA DAY
APRIL 1

Started operations on **April 1, 1935** in accordance with the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

First Governor was British banker SIR OSBORNE SMITH

First Indian Governor was C.D. DESHMUKH

WAS NATIONALISED ON JAN 1, 1949

Played a key role in **agricultural development** before liberalisation

The Bank's focus has shifted back to **core central banking functions** after liberalisation

- ❖ It was established in 1935 under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- ❖ It is the central bank of India and manages inflation, money supply, and banking system.
- ❖ Its headquarters shifted from Kolkata to Mumbai in 1937 and it was nationalised in 1949.

- ❖ It performs functions like monetary policy, currency issue, and foreign exchange management (Foreign Exchange Management Act – FEMA).
- ❖ It introduced E-cheques and MuleHunter.AI for fraud detection.

