

April - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The National Green Tribunal has organised the two-day National Conference on Environment 2025 in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Punjab government plans to develop Jhajjar-Bachauli Wildlife Sanctuary in Sri Anandpur Sahib into an eco-tourism hub and Punjab's first leopard safari.
- ❖ The report named '2030 Global Forest Vision (GFV): the Priority Actions for the Governments in 2025' was recently released by Forest Declaration Assessment.
- ❖ After 320 international appearances and 158 goals spread over 15 years, Indian women's hockey player Vandana Katariya of Uttarakhand has announced her retirement recently.
- ❖ Niharika Singhania, a young Indian equestrian athlete, secured the first position in the renowned Azelhof CSI Lier equestrian competition held in Belgium.
- ❖ The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has announced April 2025 as the "Customer Service Month".
- ❖ The Defence Ministry has given an in-principal approval for Telangana's Adilabad airport to be used for civil operations.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of the Third Launch Pad (TLP) at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The ISRO has announced significant progress in the design and development of a Semi cryogenic engine or Liquid Oxygen/Kerosene engine with a high thrust of 2,000 kN (kilonewton).
 - It will power the Semi cryogenic booster stage of the Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3).

TAMIL NADU NEWS

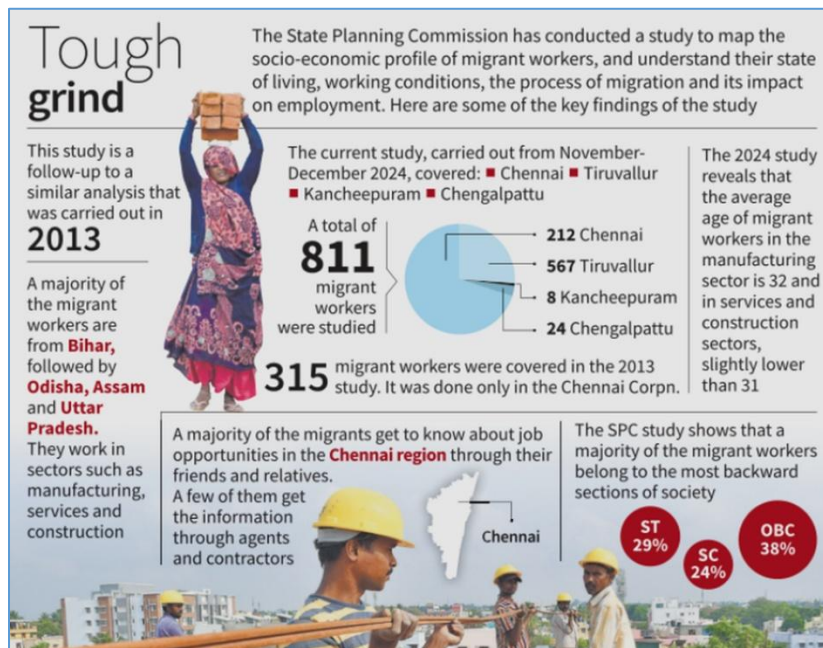
Six new initiatives in Nilgiris

- ❖ TN Chief Minister has announced six new initiatives focused on improving the tourism sector.
- ❖ The government is planning to construct housing for 300 families in Gudalur at a cost of ₹26.6 crore, and would be called Kalaignar Nagar.
- ❖ He announced the construction of a "Tribal Museum and Research Center at a cost of ₹10 crore, "hop-on, hop-off" tourism services at a cost of ₹5 crore with ten buses, a new multilevel parking facility at a cost of ₹20 crore, eco-tourism

facilities in Nadugani and the setting up of 23 community halls and 200 houses for Adivasi communities.



Planning Commission on Migrant workers

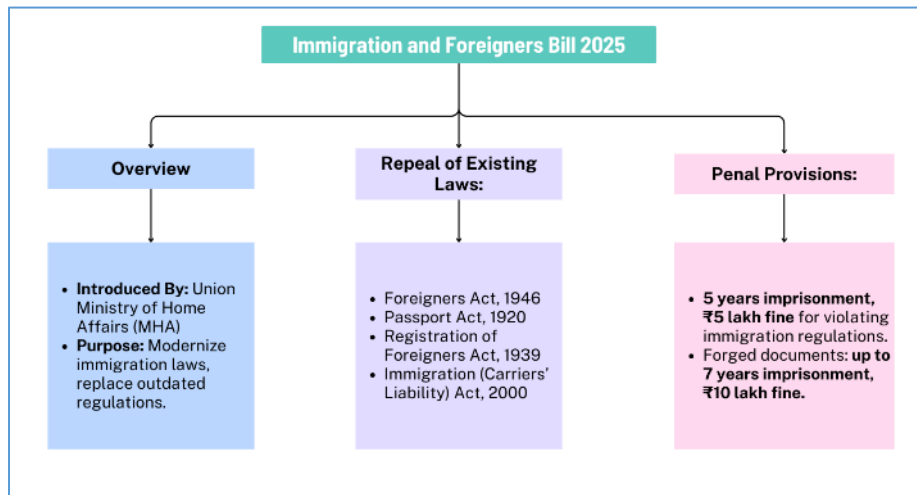


- ❖ A study conducted by the State Planning Commission (SPC) has found that the migrant workers are subjected to long working hours.
- ❖ 53% of them working for more than eight hours a day.
- ❖ A majority of the migrant labourers in the construction sector work for nearly 10 hours a day.
- ❖ In manufacturing, half of them work for more than eight hours a day.
- ❖ In the services sector, they work for up to 12 hours a day.
- ❖ Around 84% of the workers surveyed are employed without any written contract.

- ❖ They also do not receive any social security benefits such as the Provident Fund, health insurance, and paid medical leave.

NATIONAL NEWS

Immigration and Foreigners Bill 2025



- ❖ The President Droupadi Murmu gave assent to the Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025 and it now becomes a law.
- ❖ The legislation seeks to regulate the immigration, entry, and stay of foreigners in India.
- ❖ It repeals the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, the Foreigners Act, 1946, and the Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000.
- ❖ Now, the Foreigners can be denied entry if deemed a threat to national security, sovereignty, public health, or foreign relations.
- ❖ Institutions such as educational establishments, hospitals, and nursing homes will be required to report foreign nationals to immigration authorities.

SC verdict 2025 on Senior Citizens Act 2007

- ❖ The Senior Citizens Act allows parents, who are unable to maintain themselves “from his own earning or property owned by him”, to file a suit for maintenance against their children or relatives (legal heirs).
- ❖ It places an obligation on these children or relatives to meet the parents’ needs “so that such parent may lead a normal life”.

- ❖ The Act also establishes the dedicated tribunals to hear these suits, along with the appellate tribunals to hear challenges to any orders passed.
- ❖ But if the maintenance is not provided, the registration of transferring or gifting property can be declared void if the senior citizen approaches the tribunal.
- ❖ Though the Act does not explicitly give parents the right to evict their children or the relatives from their home, the Supreme Court has interpreted the provision related to the property transfers to allowing the such eviction orders in the certain circumstances.

ADOPTIVE CHILDREN & STEPKIDS TO BE INCLUDED IN ACT

- The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, will remove the cap of Rs 10,000 as maximum maintenance
- Definition of 'maintenance' will include housing, safety and security
- Will include adoptive children as well as stepsons and daughters
- Care-givers can be jailed up to 6 months, instead of current 3 months, in case of any violations
- Application for monthly allowance for maintenance to be disposed of within 90 days from the date of receipt of the application by the tribunal
- Such application to disposed of within 60 days in case of senior citizens who are over 80 years



Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024

COASTAL

Shipping Bill 2024

- *To create a secure & robust framework for regulation of the commercial activity of coastal trade*
- *To introduce a framework of regulations at par with up-to date domestic & international standards*
- *Eliminates the requirement for Indian vessels to obtain license for engaging in maritime trade*
- *To create a National Database of Coastal Shipping with information regarding licenses issued*

- ❖ The bill aims to provide a dedicated legal framework for coastal trade, promoting a more economical, reliable, and sustainable mode of transportation.

- ❖ The proposed legislation addresses gaps in earlier laws such as the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.
- ❖ The Bill seeks to regulate all types of the vessels including ships, boats, sailing vessels, and mobile offshore drilling units engaged in trade within Indian coastal waters.
- ❖ The Bill also seeks to regulate the foreign vessels chartered by Indian entities and outlines penalties for violations.
- ❖ Coastal cargo traffic has surged 119% in the past decade, from 74 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 162 million tonnes in 2023-24.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Blindsight chip 2025

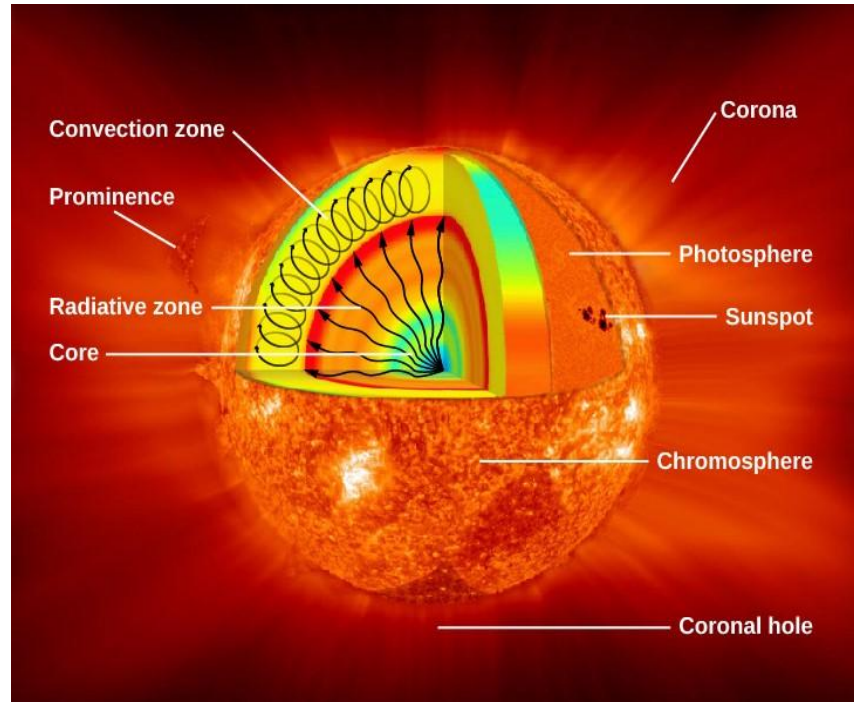


- ❖ Elon Musk's brain chip startup Neuralink aims to have its artificial visual prosthesis, Blindsight, implanted in a human for the first time by the end of 2025.
- ❖ Blindsight is designed to enable even those who have lost both the eyes and their optic nerve to see.
- ❖ It is reportedly capable of stimulating neurons or nerve cells located in the visual cortex based on patterns relayed from a camera.

Iron in Sun - recent study

- ❖ Iron (Fe) makes up about 0.14% of the Sun's mass, which is a very small fraction compared to hydrogen (~74%) and helium (~24%).
- ❖ Iron is found mostly in the Sun's core and outer layers (photosphere, corona) in ionized forms.
- ❖ Iron in the Sun comes from nucleosynthesis in earlier generations of stars.

- ❖ Iron opacity affects temperature, density and fusion rates inside the Sun.



Fram2 Mission

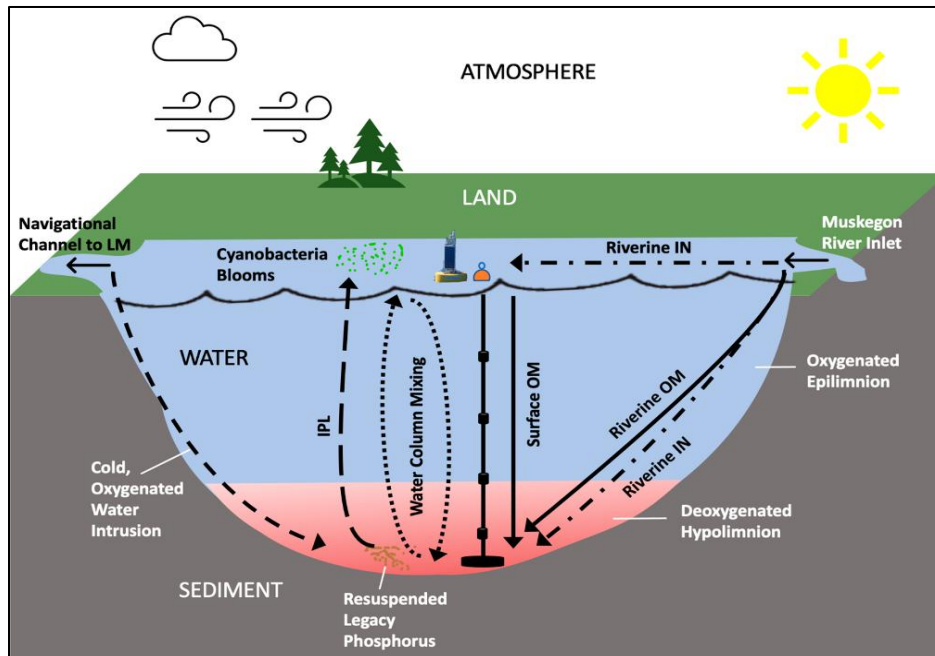


- ❖ The privately funded Fram2 human space mission has successfully completed its journey and splash down in California coast of USA.
- ❖ It was launched by Falcon 9 rocket with Crew Dragon capsule “Resilience” into a polar orbit.
- ❖ The mission was led by an international crew of four astronauts.
- ❖ During their four-day flight, the crew conducted 22 research studies designed to help advance humanity’s capabilities for long-duration space.

- ❖ The crew has performed the first-ever x-ray in space, providing insights into how microgravity affects bone and muscle density.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Global Lake Deoxygenation Crisis



- ❖ The Short-term heat waves, along with long-term global warming, are reducing the levels of dissolved oxygen (DO) on the surface of lakes across the globe.
- ❖ The average deoxygenation rate in global lakes is faster than that observed in the oceans and in rivers.
- ❖ Decreasing solubility due to global warming accounted for 55 per cent of surface oxygen loss in global lakes.
- ❖ While eutrophication is responsible for 10 per cent of surface oxygen loss.
- ❖ Deoxygenation is projected to occur more rapidly in Europe and North America compared to Africa, Asia, Oceania and South America.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Women's Prize for Non-Fiction 2025

- ❖ Six books are shortlisted for the 2025 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction from various theme.

- ❖ It is an annual book prize that celebrates the exceptional narrative non-fiction by women.
- ❖ The Prize is open to all women writers from across the globe who are published in the UK and writing in English.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Copper Plates of Devaraya I's Reign



- ❖ A set of the copper plates dating back to early 15th Century from the reign of Devaraya I of the Sangama Dynasty were unveiled by ASI.

- ❖ It was written in Sanskrit and Kannada and Nāgarī characters, are unique as they were issued during the coronation of King Devaraya I.
- ❖ Notably, the seal features an image of Vamana instead of the customary Varaha, the royal insignia of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- ❖ The copper plates are dated Saka 1328 (Nāga-Chakshu-Guna Sasi), Vyaya, Kārtika ba. Daśami (10), Friday, corresponding to November 5, 1406 CE.

25th Year of NCPOR



- ❖ The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) is situated in Vasco da Gama, Goa.
- ❖ The NCPOR has led India's explorations in the Arctic, Antarctic, and the Indian Ocean, driving cutting-edge research in polar and marine sciences.
- ❖ Maitri (1989) and Bharati (2011) were established for carrying out the research by the Indian scientists in all disciplines of polar research.
- ❖ It has also established the high-altitude research station HIMANSH (2016) in the Himalayas to spearheading vital climate and ocean studies.

