

April - 09

## TNPSC BITS

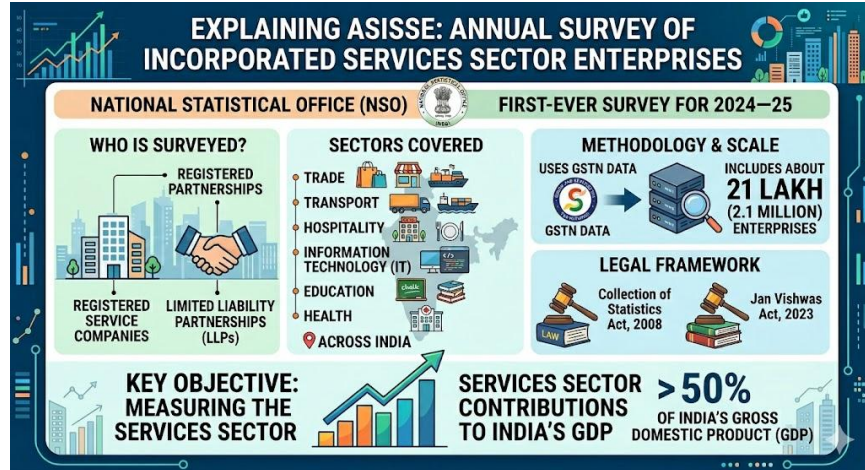
- ❖ A commemorative postage stamp was released to mark 75 years of the Postal Training Centre, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ India achieved the highest-ever wind energy capacity addition of 6.05 gigawatt (GW) in FY2025–26, taking total installed wind power capacity to over 56 gigawatts (GW).
- ❖ Former CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) Director R.K. Raghavan's autobiography, *A Road Well Travelled*, was launched in Chennai.
- ❖ Bharat Tribes Fest 2026 was held in New Delhi, organised by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to promote tribal culture, crafts, and entrepreneurship.
- ❖ Divya Singh, a young adventurer from Uttar Pradesh, cycled to Everest Base Camp in Nepal in 14 days, which is located at an altitude of about 5,364 metres above sea level.
- ❖ Payal Nag became the world's first quadruple amputee to win an international archery gold medal at the World Para Archery Series Final held in Bangkok.
- ❖ One Health Summit 2026 is held in Lyon, France, under the G7 Presidency, promoting the One Health approach linking human, animal, and ecosystem health to address diseases and improve global health cooperation.
- ❖ Murali Sreeshankar won the men's long jump at the Indian Athletics Series 2026 with a jump of 8.15 m.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### ASISSE Survey

- ❖ National Statistical Office (NSO) launched the first-ever ASISSE for 2024–25.
- ❖ ASISSE (Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises) collects data on registered service companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs).
- ❖ It covers sectors like trade, transport, hospitality, information technology (IT), education, and health across India.
- ❖ The survey uses Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) data and includes about 21 lakh enterprises.
- ❖ It is conducted under the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 and the Jan Vishwas Act, 2023.

- ❖ It helps measure the services sector, which contributes more than 50% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).




### Chief Election Commissioner's removal motion



- ❖ Rajya Sabha Chairman and Lok Sabha Speaker rejected the motion to remove Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar.
- ❖ The motion was signed by 130 Lok Sabha members and 63 Rajya Sabha members and submitted on March 12, 2026.
- ❖ Removal of CEC is under Article 324(5) of the Constitution, the same as a Supreme Court judge.

- ❖ The removal of the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners follows the same procedure as that for the removal of judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.
- ❖ The Chairs cited Section 3 of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
- ❖ Grounds for removal are only proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
- ❖ The motion must be signed by at least 100 Lok Sabha or 50 Rajya Sabha members and needs a special majority in Parliament.
- ❖ The final removal order is issued by the President after approval by both Houses.

### Mineral Concession Rules Amendment



**Ministry of Mines**  
Notifies  
**Amendments to the Mineral Concession Rules**

Paving Way for Inclusion of Contiguous Area and Associated Minerals in the Mining Lease

**Minerals (Other than Atomic & Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026**

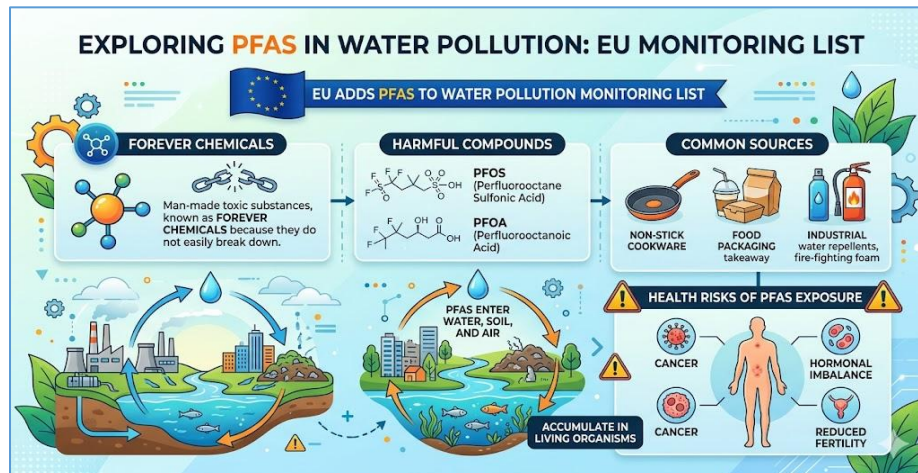
- » To provide **simple & time-bound provisions** for processing application made by **holder of ML\* or CL#** of deep-seated minerals for **one-time extension of area** to include therein a contiguous area
- » Contiguous area under lease/licence:
  - ♦ **ML-** To not exceed **10%** of existing area under lease
  - ♦ **CL-** To not exceed **30%** of existing area under licence

- ❖ The Ministry of Mines notified amendments to the Mineral Concession Rules to simplify mining lease provisions.
- ❖ It allows one-time inclusion of contiguous area for holders of a mining lease or a composite licence of deep-seated minerals.
- ❖ It permits the addition of associated minerals, including minor minerals, within an existing mining lease.
- ❖ The State Government must approve such inclusion within 30 days of application.
- ❖ It also provides rules for adding major minerals in leases granted earlier for minor minerals before the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2025.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### PFAS to Water Pollution List

- ❖ The European Union (EU) has added PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) to its water pollution monitoring list.
- ❖ PFAS are man-made toxic chemicals known as “forever chemicals” because they do not break down easily in the environment.
- ❖ They include harmful compounds like PFOS (Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid) and PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic Acid).
- ❖ PFAS are commonly found in non-stick cookware, food packaging, and industrial products.
- ❖ These chemicals can enter water, soil, and air, and accumulate in living organisms.
- ❖ Exposure to PFAS is linked to health issues such as cancer, hormonal imbalance, and reduced fertility.

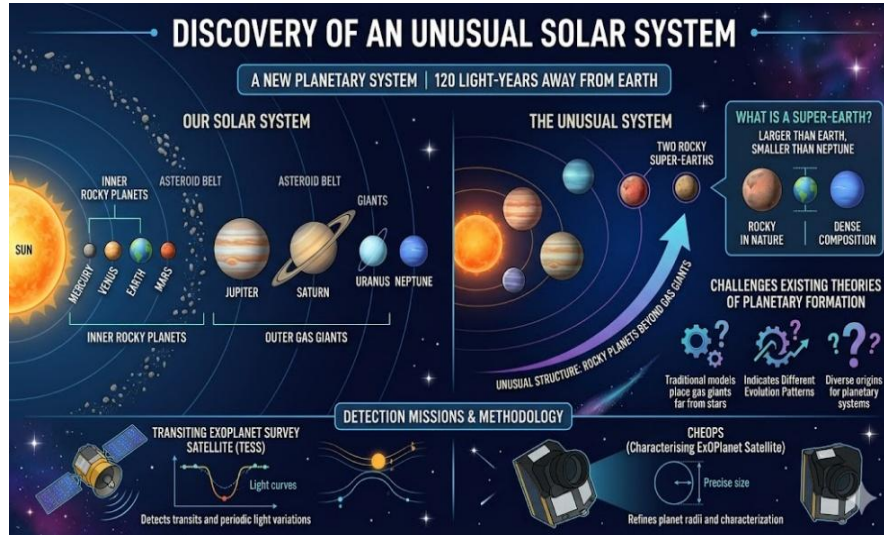


## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Discovery of an Unusual Solar System

- ❖ Astronomers have discovered a new planetary system with two Earth-like planets about 120 light-years away from Earth.
- ❖ These planets are called super-Earths (planets larger than Earth but smaller than Neptune) and are rocky in nature.
- ❖ The system shows an unusual structure where a rocky planet is located beyond gas giants, unlike our Solar System.

- ❖ This discovery challenges existing theories of planetary formation and suggests different evolution patterns.
- ❖ Scientists used space missions like the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) and CHEOPS to detect the planets.



## PFBR Criticality



- ❖ India's PFBR (Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, achieved criticality.
- ❖ Criticality means a self-sustaining nuclear fission chain reaction starts in the reactor.
- ❖ PFBR is a 500-megawatt electric sodium-cooled fast breeder reactor using plutonium fuel.

- ❖ It is operated by Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) at Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam.
- ❖ Fast breeder reactors produce more fissile fuel than they consume.
- ❖ It marks the second stage of India's three-stage nuclear power programme using plutonium and later thorium.

## **ENVIRONMENT NEWS**

### **Jammu and Kashmir Lakes Ecological Crisis**

**518 lakes out of 697 in  
J&K either disappeared or  
receding: CAG**



- ❖ A report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) highlights large-scale loss of lakes in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Out of 697 lakes recorded in 1967, about 315 lakes have completely disappeared, covering around 1,537 hectares of area.
- ❖ Around 203 lakes have shrunk, and in total, 518 lakes have lost nearly 2,851 hectares of water spread.
- ❖ The decline is caused by encroachment, pollution, land-use change, poor sewage treatment, and weak monitoring.
- ❖ Conservation efforts were limited to only six lakes, including Dal Lake and Wular Lake, while most lakes had no proper plans.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### First Queer MP - Menaka Guruswamy

- ❖ Menaka Guruswamy has become India's first openly queer Member of Parliament (MP).
- ❖ She took oath as a Rajya Sabha member on April 6, 2026.
- ❖ She was elected with support from the All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) from West Bengal.
- ❖ She is a senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India.
- ❖ She was part of the legal team in the 2018 case that decriminalised homosexuality by reading down Section 377 (Indian Penal Code).



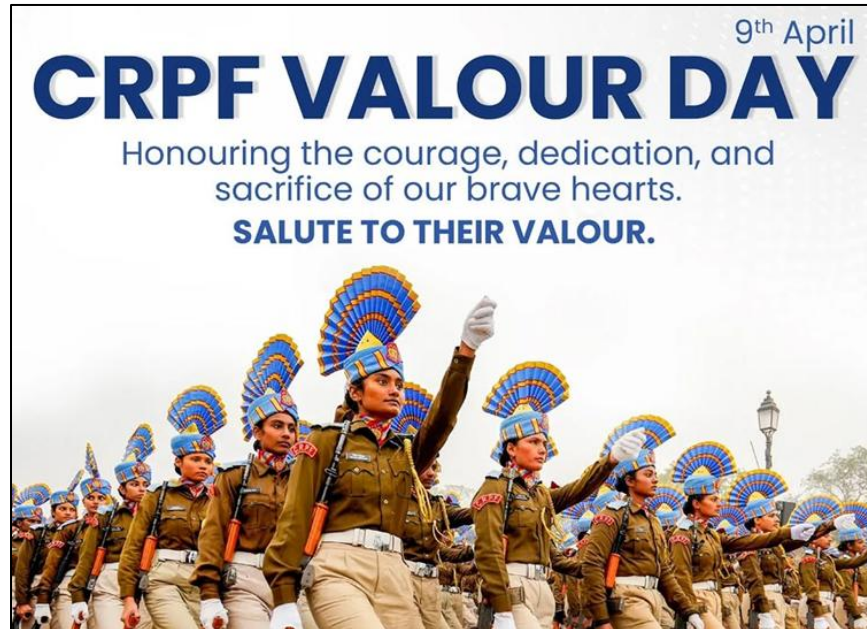
## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Raising Day of Army Medical Corps 2026 – April 03



- ❖ The day marks the formation of the Army Medical Corps on April 3, 1943.
- ❖ It was formed by merging the Indian Medical Service (IMS), Indian Medical Department (IMD), and Indian Hospital Corps (IHC).
- ❖ The Corps provides medical services to the armed forces during war and peace.
- ❖ Its motto is “Sarve Santu Niramaya” (Let all be free from disease).

### **CRPF Valour Day 2026 - April 09**



- ❖ The day commemorates the bravery of CRPF soldiers in the 1965 battle at the Rann of Kutch.
- ❖ Two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) companies defended against a brigade-level attack by the Pakistan Army.
- ❖ CRPF was established in 1939 and became a statutory force under the CRPF Act, 1949.
- ❖ It plays an important role in maintaining law and order, counter-insurgency, and conducting elections in India.

