

April - 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Election Commission of India ordered changes in Tamil Nadu, appointing M. Sai Kumar as Chief Secretary and Sandeep Mittal as Director General of Police (Armed Police and Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC)).
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates launched the world's first 10G (10 Gigabit) U6GHz internet network.
- ❖ The Indian Institute of Management Rohtak won the Hermes Dialogue 6.0 debate competition hosted by the Birla Institute of Management Technology.
- ❖ Indian-origin scientist Deep Jariwala was appointed to the UT-ORNL (University of Tennessee–Oak Ridge National Laboratory) Governor's Chair for Quantum Devices in the United States.
- ❖ Blanka Vlašić, an Olympic medalist, was appointed as Global Ambassador for the World 10K Bengaluru 2026.

NATIONAL NEWS

International Election Visitors Programme 2026



- ❖ The Election Commission of India started the IEVP (International Election Visitors' Programme) 2026 to showcase India's election system to global delegates.
- ❖ IEVP is an outreach programme where foreign election officials visit India to observe the conduct of large-scale democratic elections.
- ❖ It aims to demonstrate transparency, fairness, voter education, and the use of modern technology in elections.

- ❖ Delegates will visit states like Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu in two phases during April 2026.
- ❖ They will observe polling stations, security arrangements, and the use of EVMs (Electronic Voting Machines) and VVPATs (Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail).
- ❖ The programme includes meetings with Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) and District Election Officers (DEOs) to understand ground-level election management.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PHC Summit 2026

- ❖ The Partnership for Healthy Cities (PHC) Summit 2026 has renewed the global commitment to reducing diseases.
- ❖ The summit was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with officials from 55 cities.
- ❖ PHC is a network of 74 cities working to prevent NCDs (Non-Communicable Diseases) and injuries.
- ❖ Indian cities like Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Bengaluru are part of this network.
- ❖ NCDs are long-term diseases that do not spread from person to person.
- ❖ Major NCDs include heart diseases, cancers, respiratory diseases, and diabetes.
- ❖ Over 80% of global deaths are caused by NCDs and injuries.



Global Hunger Risk Warning 2026

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund, World Bank and World Food Programme have warned about rising global hunger risks.
- ❖ Rising oil, gas, and fertiliser prices are increasing food production and transport costs worldwide.

- ❖ Conflicts in West Asia are causing supply disruptions and price volatility.
- ❖ Higher energy costs are leading to global food inflation and increased food insecurity.
- ❖ Low-income and import-dependent countries are most affected due to high dependence on imports.
- ❖ These countries also face high debt and limited ability to control rising prices.
- ❖ Global agencies are monitoring the situation and coordinating actions to prevent a food crisis.



ECONOMY NEWS

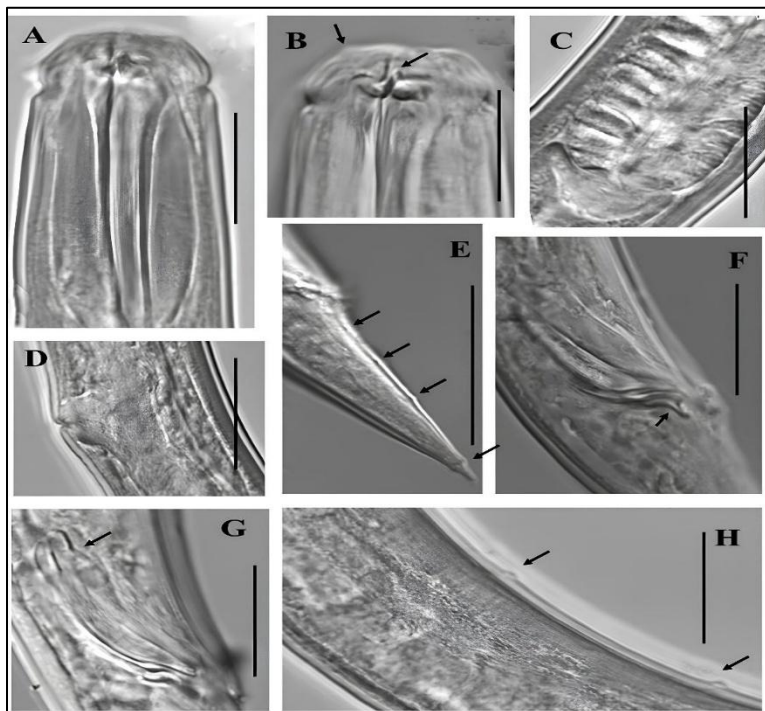
India's Lead for South Asia Growth

- ❖ The World Bank said India will lead economic growth in South Asia.
- ❖ India's economy grew from 7.1% in FY25 to 7.6% in FY26, showing strong performance.
- ❖ Growth is expected to be 6.6% in FY27, making India the fastest-growing major economy in the region.
- ❖ Strong private consumption and exports are supporting economic growth and demand.
- ❖ GST (Goods and Services Tax) reforms and low inflation have increased people's spending power.
- ❖ Risks include rising oil prices and tensions in West Asia affecting supply and inflation.
- ❖ South Asia's overall growth may slow to 6.3% in 2026 due to global uncertainties.

World Bank raises India's FY27 GDP growth projections to 6.6%; flags Middle East risks

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

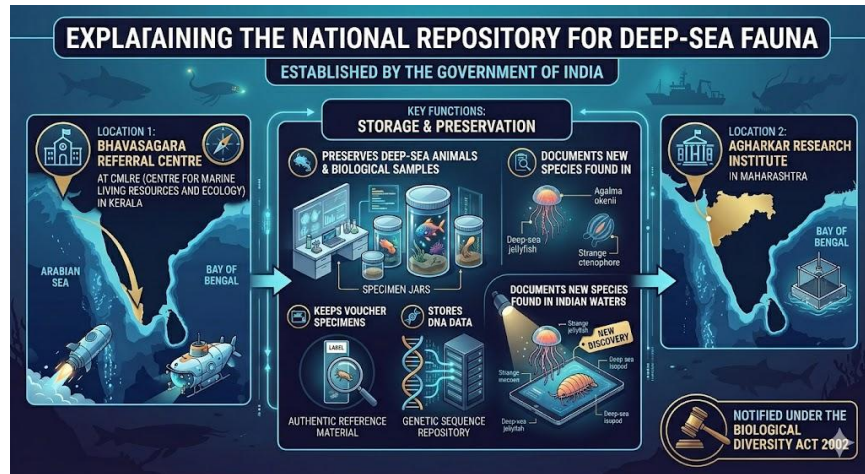
New Marine Nematode Species



- ❖ Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) discovered two new marine species off the coast of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The species are named *Corononema dhriti* and *Epacanthion indica*.
- ❖ *Corononema dhriti* is the fourth known species of its genus in the world and is named after ZSI Director Dr Dhriti Banerjee.

- ❖ *Epacanthion indica* is a predatory nematode with special mandibles and tooth-like structures.
- ❖ Nematodes belong to the phylum Nematoda and can be free-living or parasitic organisms.
- ❖ These marine nematodes help in nutrient cycling, maintain ocean health, and act as bioindicators of environmental change.

National Repository for Deep-Sea Fauna



- ❖ The Government of India notified new centres as National Repositories under the Biological Diversity Act 2002.
- ❖ “Bhavasagara” Referral Centre at CMLRE (Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology) in Kerala was designated as a National Repository.
- ❖ Agharkar Research Institute in Maharashtra was also notified as a National Repository.
- ❖ These centres will store and preserve deep-sea animals and biological samples.
- ❖ They will keep voucher specimens, DNA data, and new species found in Indian waters.

Sanderling Bird Migration

- ❖ A Sanderling was spotted in Narcondam Island after a long-distance migration.
- ❖ The bird travelled about 7,400 km from South Australia, showing strong migration ability.
- ❖ Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) is a small, fast-moving shorebird found along sandy coasts.

- ❖ It migrates 3,000–10,000 km between breeding (Arctic regions) and wintering areas.
- ❖ Its conservation status is “Least Concern” as per IUCN, but habitat loss is a threat.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Mohsina Kidwai's demise



- ❖ Mohsina Kidwai, veteran Congress leader and former Union Minister, passed away in Noida at the age of 94.
- ❖ She served as Union Minister in departments like Labour, Health and Family Welfare, Rural Development, Transport, and Urban Development.

- ❖ She began her political career in 1960 as a member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council and later became a state minister.
- ❖ She was elected to the Lok Sabha from Azamgarh in 1978 and also served as a Rajya Sabha member.
- ❖ She was a senior leader of the Indian National Congress and a member of the Congress Working Committee and Central Election Committee.
- ❖ She is one of the few leaders to serve in four legislatures: the Legislative Council, the Legislative Assembly, the Lok Sabha, and the Rajya Sabha.

