

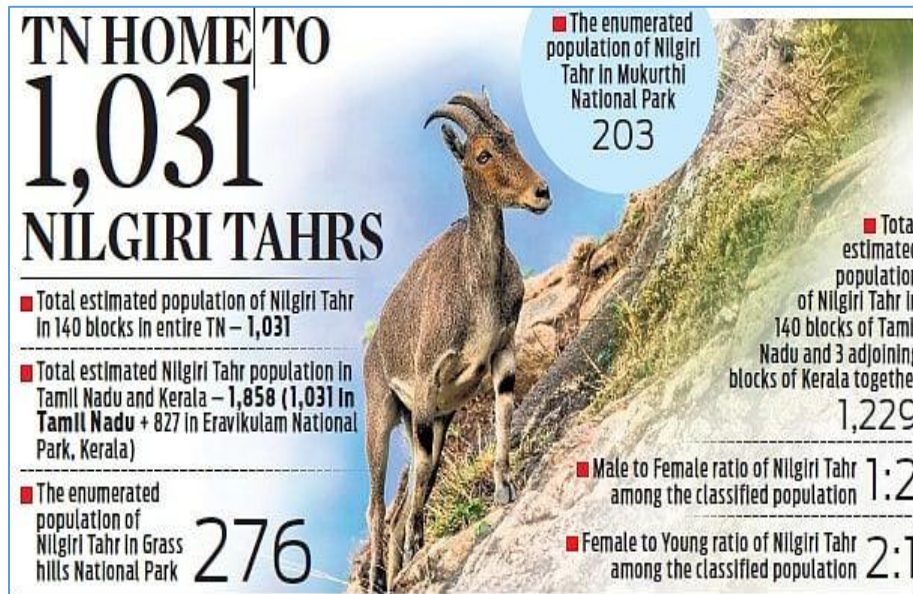
April - 12

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamilnadu Govt is going to set up a manimandapam in honour of late leader of the Dravidian movement W.P.A. Soundarapandian.
- ❖ Indian sand artist Sudarsan Patnaik from Odisha has become the first Indian to receive the prestigious Fred Darrington Sand Master Award for his outstanding contributions to sand art during the Sand world 2025 International Sand Art Festival in Dorset, England.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company Limited (CSPGCL) will set up the first super critical thermal power project (SCTPP) in Korba district.
- ❖ Mount Kanlaon, one of the Philippines' most active volcanoes, erupted recently.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Nilgiri Tahr census 2025

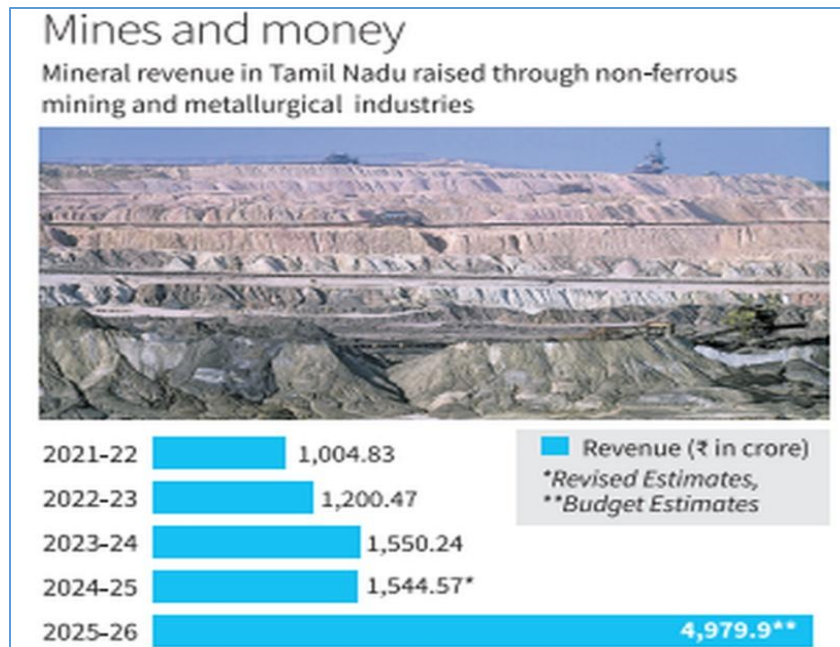


- ❖ Tamil Nadu and Kerala will jointly carry out a Nilgiri Tahr census in the span 89 census blocks in Kerala and 176 blocks in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The synchronised survey is conducted to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Eravikulam National Park.
- ❖ The Nilgiri Tahr, a vulnerable species endemic to the Western Ghats, is primarily found in the highlands of southern India.

- ❖ The Eravikulam National Park hosts the largest population of this species, thus making the region a major tourist attraction for visitors to Munnar.

New tax on mineral-bearing land 2025

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government is expected to generate an estimated additional revenue of ₹2,400 crore annually following the introduction of a new tax on the mineral-bearing land.
- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu enacted a new Act called “the Tamil Nadu Mineral Bearing Land Tax Act, 2024” for levy and collection of tax on mineral bearing land.
- ❖ As per the Act and Rules, the rate of mineral bearing land tax has been fixed for 32 minerals.
- ❖ The leaseholders of both major and minor minerals shall pay the mineral bearing land tax from April 4.
- ❖ The highest tax amount is ₹7,000 per tonne for Sillimanite, and the lowest tax is ₹40 per tonne for clay minerals.



Second opinion of Governor

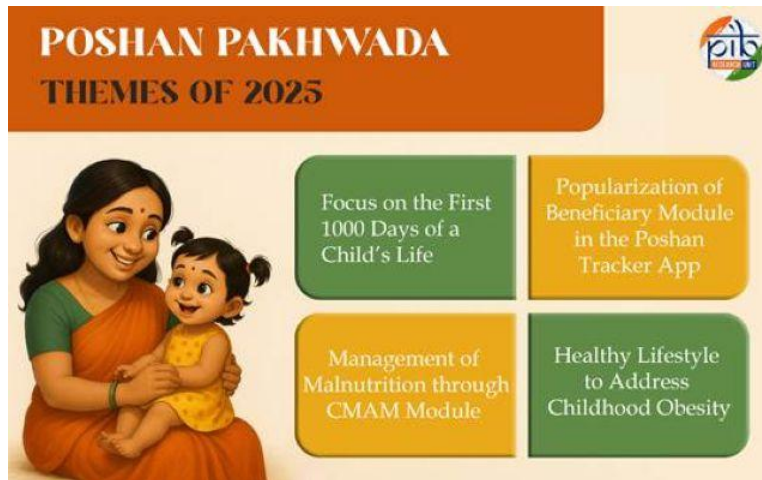
- ❖ The Supreme Court held that a Governor cannot reserve a Bill for the President’s consideration when the proposed law, which was earlier rejected by him, is presented for the second time by the State Legislature.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Governor had withheld consent to 10 Bills sent to him the first time for consent under Article 200 of the Constitution.
- ❖ However, in the second round, after the Bills were re-passed by the State Assembly, the Governor chose to opt to refer them to the President.
- ❖ The Governor wanted to reserve the Bill for the consideration of the President, he ought to have done it in the first instance itself.
- ❖ The apex court had clarified that a Bill is “presented again after reconsideration in accordance with the first proviso of Article 200, the Governor must grant assent forthwith or subject to a maximum of one month”.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு வழக்கில் தலைமை நீதிபதி கருத்து
“ஆளுநருக்கு சட்டத்தை செயலிழக்க வைக்கவோ, முடக்கி வைக்கவோ (Kill the Bill) அதிகாரம் இல்லை குடியரசுத் தலைவருக்கு அனுப்புவதாக இருந்தால் ஆளுநர் முதலிலேயே செய்திருக்க வேண்டும். மீண்டும் சட்டப்பேரவையில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்ட மசோதாக்களை குடியரசுத் தலைவருக்கு அனுப்ப முடியாது”

NATIONAL NEWS

7th Edition of Poshan Pakhwada 2025



- ❖ Poshan Pakhwada is a nationwide campaign aimed at combating malnutrition and promoting healthy lifestyles.
- ❖ It is organised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development under the Poshan Abhiyaan initiative.
- ❖ This year's focus is on four key themes: the critical first 1,000 days of life.

- ❖ It also aims to popularise the beneficiary module of the Poshan Tracker, thus by managing malnutrition through the Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) approach.
- ❖ The campaign seeks to enhance the health and well-being of women and children across India.

Saline Aquaculture hubs 2025

- ❖ The Review meeting of the Saline Water Shrimp Aquaculture in the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh was held in Mumbai.
- ❖ This meeting aimed to tap the potential of saline land resources for aquaculture, generating employment and livelihood opportunities.
- ❖ Approximately 58,000 hectares of the saline area has been identified in these 4 states, yet only around 2,608 hectares is currently being utilized.
- ❖ Saline Aquaculture refers to the use of saline-affected lands (often unsuitable for traditional agriculture) for inland saline aquaculture.
- ❖ India is the second-largest producer of cultured shrimp globally, earns over 65% of its seafood export value from shrimp alone.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

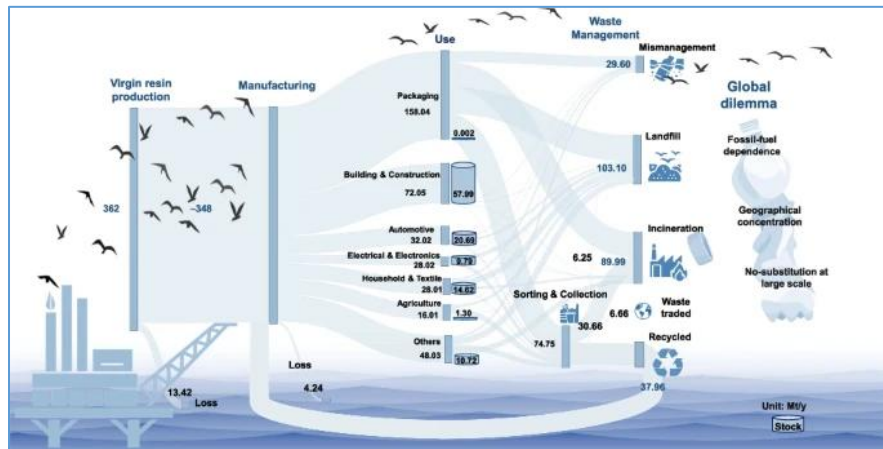
Artemis Accords Signatory – Bangladesh

- ❖ Bangladesh has become the latest and 54th signatory of the Artemis Mission.

- ❖ It is a US-led effort to explore the Moon with plans to build long-term settlements on the lunar surface and push onward to Mars.
- ❖ India also signed the Accords in 2023 to boost the cooperation between the two nations and explore the domain beyond the boundaries of Earth.
- ❖ The program aims to build a permanent presence in the lunar orbit and on the surface.



UNHRC resolution on Plastic pollution



- ❖ The United Nations Human Rights Council has adopted a resolution linking the plastic pollution, ocean protection and human right to a healthy environment, for the first time.
- ❖ The resolution explicitly states that the plastic pollution, climate change and the biodiversity loss are together threatening the health of the world's oceans — and, by extension, imperilling basic human rights.
- ❖ The resolution urged all states to take decisive, coordinated action across the entire plastics life cycle - from production and consumption to disposal.

- ❖ It also recognises the transboundary nature of plastic pollution, including the threat of microplastics to ecosystems and clean water.
- ❖ The UN Ocean Conference in Nice, France and the final round of negotiations for a global treaty to end the plastic pollution, set to take place in Geneva are the upcoming important events regarding this subject.

Hungary and ICC

- ❖ Hungary announced its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- ❖ Israel's leader Benjamin Netanyahu, who is sought under an ICC arrest warrant, arrived in Hungary for a state visit.
- ❖ The ICC, a global court, has the authority to prosecute those accused of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- ❖ Hungary is a founding member of the ICC and will be the first European Union nation to pull out of it.
- ❖ India, US, Russia, China and the North Korea are among the nations that are not part of the ICC, and therefore do not recognise its jurisdiction.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

De-extinction of dire wolf

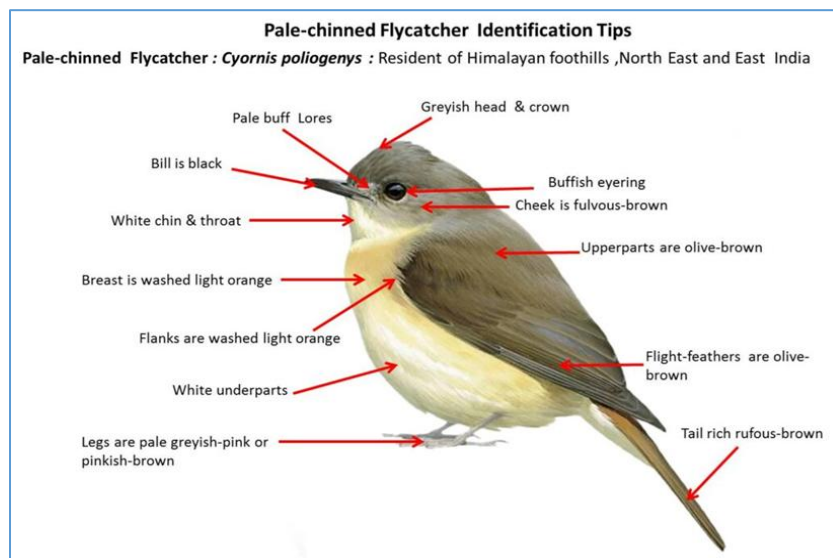
- ❖ US based bioscience company had revived an extinct species of animal, the dire wolf.

- ❖ Dire wolves (*Aenocyon dirus*) were the large canines that dominated the southern Canada and the US before they went extinct about 13,000 years ago.
- ❖ They had resembled the grey/ gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) of today, but were larger, with white coats.
- ❖ The dire wolf specimens accessed from a tooth thought to be about 13,000 years old, and a 72,000-year-old skull.
- ❖ The new pups are not 100% the same as the now-extinct dire wolves.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Pale-Chinned Flycatcher

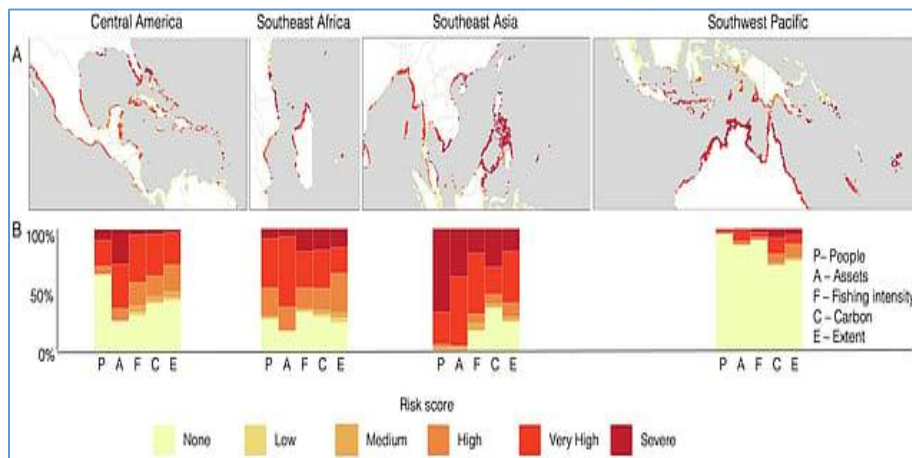


- ❖ The Rare Pale-chinned Flycatcher (*Cyornis polioagenys*) has been sighted in the Nong Loung (Bor Beel) forest area of Namsai district, Arunachal Pradesh.

- ❖ It spread across India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, and parts of Southeast Asia.
- ❖ They prefer dense, moist forest habitats, especially evergreen and semi-evergreen forests with rich undergrowth.
- ❖ Its IUCN Red List status is Least Concern.

Mangrove Risk Index 2025

- ❖ Researchers from Switzerland and United States have developed a risk index for mangroves as well as associated biodiversity and ecosystem.
- ❖ Over 56 per cent of the world’s mangroves could be at high or severe risk, under the worst-case scenario.
- ❖ About 34 per cent of the most valuable mangroves, could face very serious and possibly irreversible damage.
- ❖ This is called a “regime shift”, meaning the ecosystem may change completely and may not recover.
- ❖ The Philippines is one of the most at-risk countries.
- ❖ It has over 260,000 hectares of mangroves and already gets hit by many storms.
- ❖ Mangroves alone provide \$65 billion worth of flood protection each year.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Kumari Anandhan

- ❖ The Former Tamil Nadu Congress chief Kumari Ananthan, 93, passed away in Chennai.
- ❖ In 1977, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from Nagercoil.

- ❖ He was a member of the Tamil Nadu Assembly four times and was an eminent orator in Tamil.



150th IPU assembly

- ❖ The 150th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- ❖ The overarching theme of this year's General Debate is "Parliamentary Action for Social Development and Justice".
- ❖ IPU was established in 1889 as a small group of parliamentarians, dedicated to promoting peace through parliamentary diplomacy and dialogue.
- ❖ Now it has 182 Members and 15 Associate Members.

