

April - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Creative Technologies (IICT), Mumbai has collaborated with various organizations for the establishment of a world-class institute dedicated to the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) sector.
- ❖ Meghalaya received two top awards from the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) as the best-performing State in carrying out mandatory biometric updates of children and in the verification of adult Aadhaar enrolment.
- ❖ According to the ACI World, Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport became the 9th busiest airport in the world in 2024.
- ❖ The Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is going to invest INR 61,000 crore to set up a world-class petrochemical complex near its Paradip refinery in Odisha.
- ❖ Indian endocrinologist Dr. Ambrish Mithal, has been honored with the 2025 Committee of Scientific Advisors (CSA) Medal of Achievement by the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) for his exceptional contributions to osteoporosis research.
- ❖ The Cheetah Project Steering Committee has approved the translocation of a few cheetahs from Kuno National Park to Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary, both located in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The 3rd BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ Singapore Changi Airport is named as the World's Best Airport for 2025, according to the Skytrax World Airport Awards.
- ❖ The Bihar Chief Minister unveiled the official mascot and logo of the Khelo India Youth Games 2025 in Patna.
 - The mascot will be "Gajsimha" which symbolizes the power of elephant and heart of lion.
- ❖ Mauritius has become the first African country to sign a Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
 - The island nation is the fourth globally, after Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Cuba, to formalize the framework.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Kurian Joseph committee

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister announced the formation of a high-level committee to review and recommend the measures to safeguard the rights of states and to rebalance the federal structure of India.



- ❖ The Former Supreme Court judge Kurian Joseph will head the panel.
- ❖ This committee also includes the former IAS officer Ashok Vardhan Shetty and an economist M Naganathan.
- ❖ The Former CM M Karunanidhi set up the Rajamannar Committee in 1969 to study Union–State relations.
- ❖ In 1971, the Rajamannar Committee submitted its detailed report.
- ❖ Following this, the Union government formed the Sarkaria Commission in 1983 and later the Punchhi Commission in 2007 to further examine Centre-State relations.

பேரவையில் முக்கிய அறிவிப்பை வெளியிட்ட முதலமைச்சர்

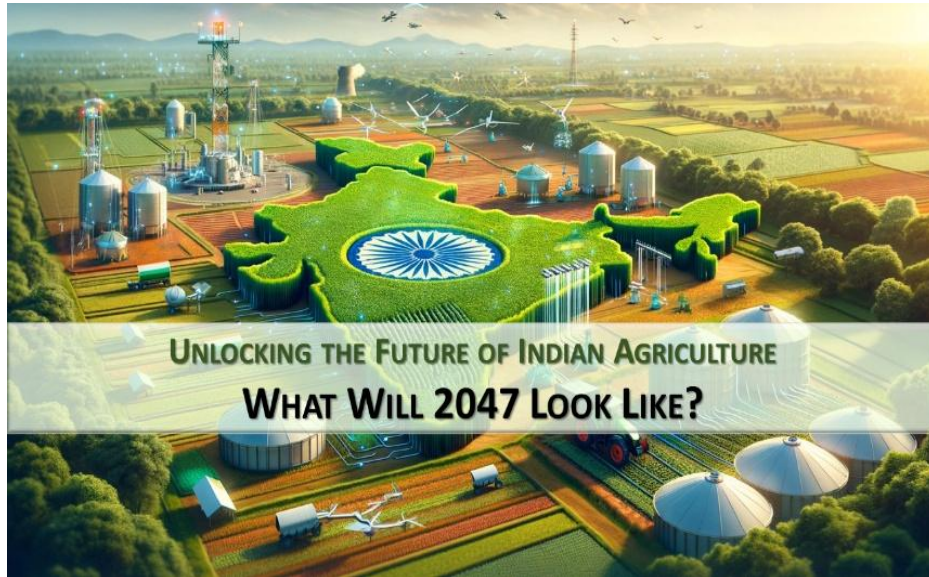
“மாநில சுயாட்சியை உறுதி செய்ய ஒன்றிய - மாநில அரசுகளின் உறவுகள் குறித்து விரிவாக ஆராய உச்சநீதிமன்ற முன்னாள் நீதிபதி குரியன் ஜோசப் தலைமையில் உயர்நிலைக் குழு அமைக்கப்படும். ஓய்வுபெற்ற ஐஏஎஸ் அசோக் வர்தன் செட்டி, திட்டக்குழு முன்னாள் துணைத்தலைவர் நாகநாதன் இதில் உறுப்பினர்களாக இருப்பர். 2026 ஜனவரி இறுதிக்குள் இடைக்கால அறிக்கை, 2 ஆண்டுகளில் இறுதி அறிக்கையும் அரசுக்கு சமர்ப்பிக்க வேண்டும் என இலக்கு”

NATIONAL NEWS

Indian Agriculture to 2047

- ❖ ICAR released a policy paper titled Indian Agriculture to 2047-Reshaping Policies for Sustainable Development.
- ❖ By 2047, India’s aggregate food demand is projected to exceed twice the current demand.
- ❖ Whereas the demand for nutrient-rich foods, including horticultural and animal products, is expected to increase three to four times.
- ❖ However, the agricultural lands needed to meet this increased food demand is expected to shrink to 176 million hectares (mha) from the current 180 mha.
- ❖ The researchers have called for reallocation of resources from traditional staples to more diverse and nutritionally rich commodities.
- ❖ The Indian economy must grow at an annual rate of approximately eight per cent to achieve the status of a developed nation by the year 2047.

- ❖ At the same time, the country's population is expected to reach 1.6 billion with nearly half of Indians residing in urban areas.
- ❖ Projections also indicated an increase in the contribution of livestock to the gross value of agricultural output to 39 per cent from the current 31 per cent, and of fisheries to 10 per cent from 7 per cent.



LRGB 'Gaurav'

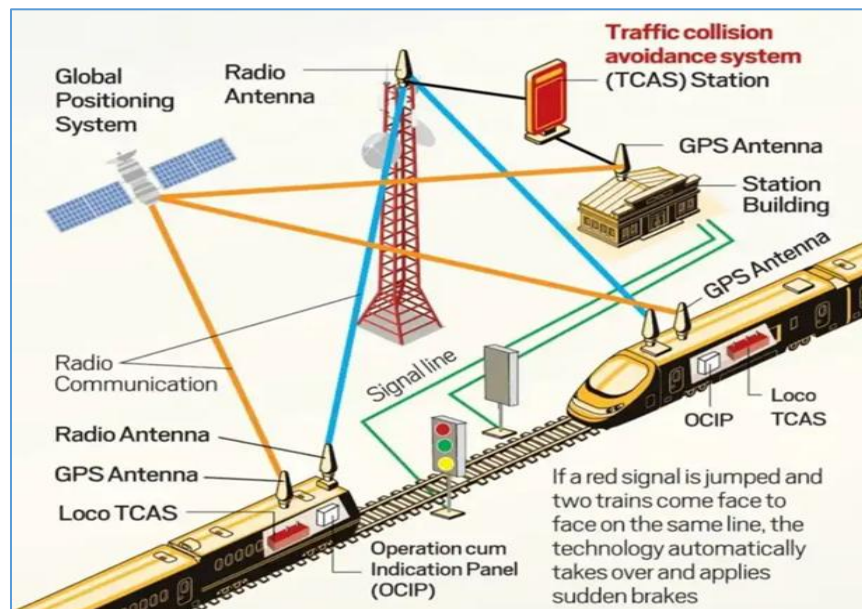


- ❖ India has successfully conducted the release trials of Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) 'Gaurav'.
- ❖ "Gaurav" is a 1,000-kg class glide bomb designed and developed indigenously by the DRDO.

- ❖ The lightweight “Glide” bomb, called the SAAW (Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon), was also test-fired in Odisha.
- ❖ The SAAW is a lightweight, precision-guided bomb designed to target the enemy airfields, runways, bunkers, and other reinforced structures at ranges up to 100 Kms.

Kavach 5.0

- ❖ The Union Railways Ministry revealed plans for the rollout of Kavach 5.0 - an upgraded automatic train protection system.
- ❖ Kavach 5.0 is expected to significantly reduce the inter-train headway, enabling more trains to run safely and efficiently.
- ❖ Kavach is the India’s indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system.
- ❖ It is developed to prevent train collisions by automatically activating the braking system if the loco pilot fails to act.
- ❖ India operates the world’s fourth-largest railway network, spanning over 65,000 kms.

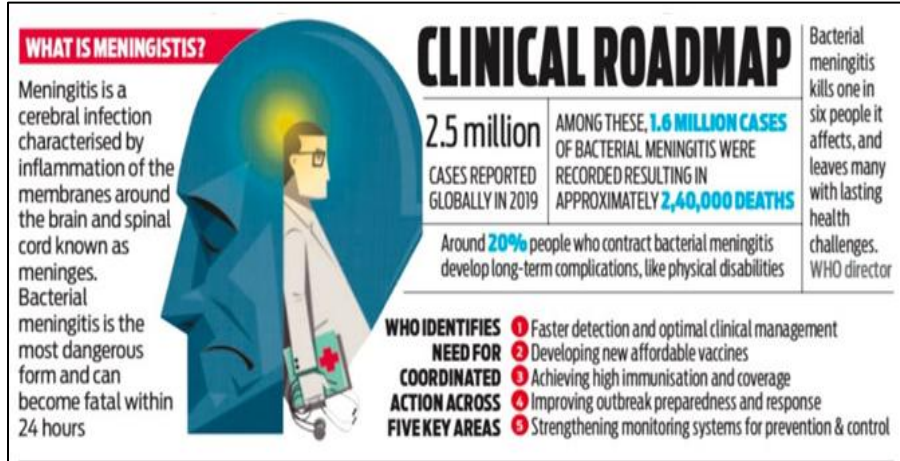


INTERNATIONAL NEWS

First ever guidelines for Meningitis

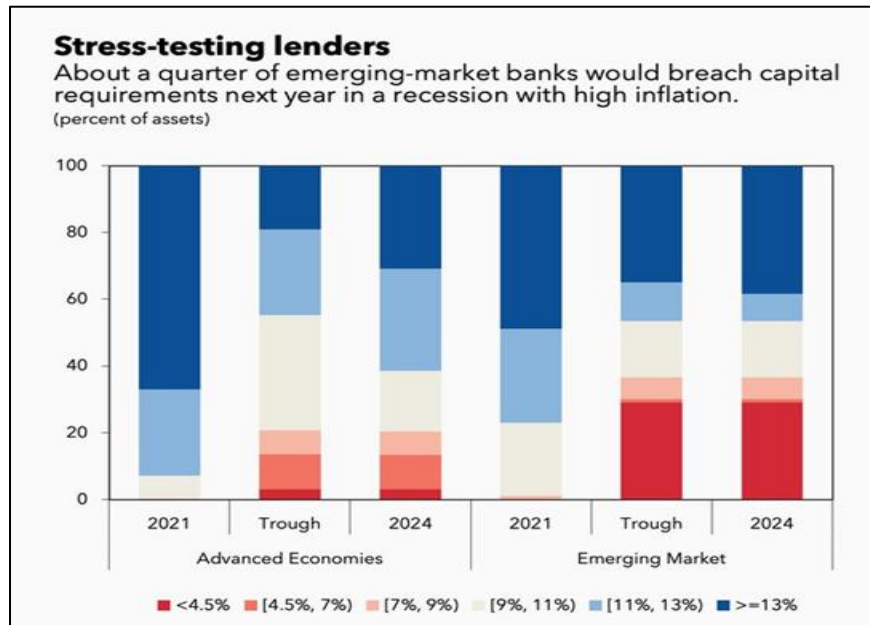
- ❖ The WHO has launched its first-ever clinical guidelines aimed at transforming how the disease is diagnosed, treated, and managed.

- ❖ This comprehensive document is set to play a vital role in improving the patient outcomes, saving lives, and supporting long-term care for survivors.
- ❖ Meningitis, particularly its bacterial form, remains one of the deadliest infections, often claiming lives within 24 hours of onset.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Financial Stability Report 2025

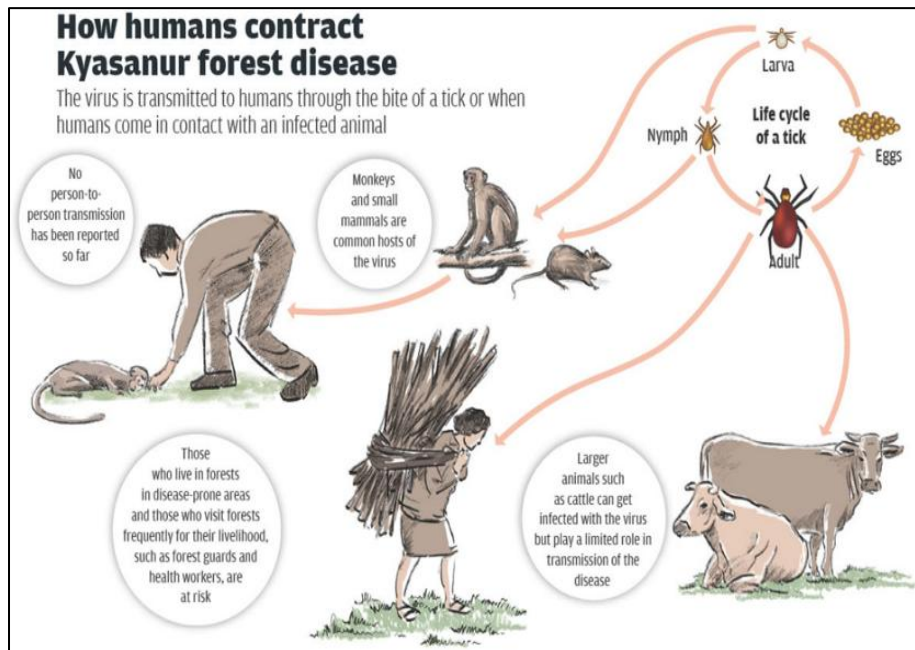


- ❖ International Monetary Fund recently released Global Financial Stability Report 2025.
- ❖ This Report provides an assessment of the global financial system and markets, and addresses emerging market financing in a global context.

- ❖ Global geopolitical risks remain elevated, raising concerns about their potential impact for macro financial stability.
- ❖ Minimum global tax is adopted by many countries, some others are withdrawing from multilateral tax policy.
- ❖ The Increased military spending and economic downturns raise public-debt-to-GDP ratios, escalating fiscal sustainability concerns and sovereign risk.
- ❖ The Geopolitical risks generally lower investor confidence, leading to market uncertainty and increased volatility.

STATES' NEWS

Kyasanur Forest Disease 2025



- ❖ Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD), also known as "monkey fever," is on the rise in Karnataka.
- ❖ This tick-borne viral disease is of serious health concern to people who live in and around forest belts.
- ❖ KFD is viral haemorrhagic fever that is due to the Kyasanur Forest Disease Virus (KFDV) belonging to the Flaviviridae family.
- ❖ It was initially detected in 1957 in the Kyasanur Forest of Karnataka.
- ❖ Humans are infected mainly through the bite of the infected hard ticks, especially *Haemaphysalis spinigera*.
- ❖ The virus exists in forest ecosystems among small mammals, monkeys, and ticks.

- ❖ The Human beings are incidental hosts and do not play a role in the transmission cycle.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Kumudini Lakhia

- ❖ The Indian classical dancer and a towering figure in Kathak - Kumudini Lakhia of Gujarat passed away.
- ❖ In 1967, she had founded the Kadamb Centre for Dance, a space that became synonymous with her bold reimagining of Kathak.
- ❖ She also received the Padma Shri (1987), Padma Bhushan (2010) and Padma Vibhushan (2025) awards.



Tribal artist 'Kitna'



- ❖ Renowned Tribal artist R. Krishnan, known as "Kitna" passed away recently.

- ❖ He was from the Alu Kurumba community in the Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ For nearly three decades, Krishnan single-handedly popularized the community's unique art style, inspired by over 3,000-year-old rock art in his village.
- ❖ He created thousands of paintings depicting Alu Kurumba life, using only natural pigments derived from forest materials.
- ❖ The Alu Kurumba art, characterized by its natural paints and stylistic inspiration from the "Ezhuthu Paarai" rock art site, distinguishes itself from other art forms.

Tree man - Daripalli Ramaiah



- ❖ The Padma Shri awardee 'Vanajeevi' Ramaiah had died in Khammam district of Telangana.
- ❖ Daripalli Ramaiah is also popularly known as the green crusader, "Chettu (tree) Ramaiah" or "Vanajeevi" in Khammam district.
- ❖ He has planted more than one crore saplings over the last several decades and received Padma Shri Award in 2017.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Captive breeding of Toda buffalo

- ❖ Over the last three decades, the population of the Toda buffalo has declined by more than 90%.
- ❖ It is an indigenous species of water buffalo linked to the culture of the Toda tribals.

- ❖ Toda tribe is one of the very oldest Dravidian ethnic groups residing in the Upper Nilgiris plateau in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ In a new initiative, the Sheep Breeding Research Station at Sandynallah in the Nilgiris has begun a captive breeding program to help the population re-establish itself in the hills.
- ❖ The buffalo population is ranged from 15,000 to 20,000 across the Nilgiris just a few decades ago.

