



April - 20

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Odisha has become the 34th state of India to implement the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).
- ❖ Former Supreme Court judge Dinesh Maheshwari is appointed chairperson of the 23rd Law Commission.
- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind move, the Mumbai-Manmad Panchavati Express has become the first train in India to have an ATM installed onboard.
- ❖ Techvantage.ai, an enterprise AI innovation, conducted India's first large-scale Agentic AI Hackathon as part of Agentic AI Week, in collaboration with CrewAI.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Space Industrial Policy – 2025

"விண்வெளி தொழில் கொள்கைக்கு ஒப்புதல்"

"தமிழ்நாடு விண்வெளி தொழில் கொள்கைக்கு அமைச்சரவை ஒப்புதல் அளித்துள்ளது; அடுத்த 5 ஆண்டுகளில் விண்வெளித் துறையில் ரூ.10 ஆயிரம் கோடிக்கான முதலீடுகளை ஈர்ப்பது, குறைந்தபட்சம் 10 ஆயிரம் நபர்களுக்கான வேலை வாய்ப்புகளை உருவாக்குதல் மற்றும் விண்வெளித் துறைக்கான தகுதியான திறமையான நபர்களை உருவாக்குதல் ஆகிய 3 இலக்குகள் நிர்ணயம் செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது"

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Cabinet approved the Tamil Nadu Space Industrial Policy 2025.
- ❖ It aims to attract Rs 10,000 crore in investment in the space tech, create at least 10,000 jobs in the sector.
- ❖ Drawing inspiration from the USA Florida's famed Space Coast, the Tamil Nadu state government may establish a 'Space Bay' across four southern districts—Madurai, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Virudhunagar.
- ❖ The Startups and companies with an annual turnover of Rs 25 crore or less will be eligible to participate in the space ecosystem.

- ❖ The policy will reimburse 50% of the expenditure incurred by space firms during the investment period for the activities such as registering patents, copyrights, trademarks and geographical indicators.
- ❖ Additionally, the space sector projects exceeding Rs 300 crore will be eligible for a Special Structured Package of Incentives.

Statues of Lord Murugan

- ❖ Three statues of Lord Murugan, all over 100 feet tall, would be installed at three temples in the State.
- ❖ A statue of Lord Murugan, measuring 184 feet tall, would be installed at the Subramaniaswamy temple at Marudhamalai in Coimbatore district, along with a museum and parking facilities.
- ❖ While one statue, measuring 180 feet tall, would be installed at the Velayudha swamy temple at Thindal in Erode district.
- ❖ The another one in 114 feet tall, would come up at the Subramaniaswamy temple at Timiri in Ranipet district.



Use of Tamil as official language

- ❖ An advisory was issued by the Tamil Development and Information Department.
- ❖ It has gone to the Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Secretaries, departments at the Secretariat, District Collectors, and heads of departments.
- ❖ It was urging them to follow the existing instructions to use Tamil in all official communications and actions.

- ❖ It noted previous orders that specified that the government orders should only be issued in Tamil, and that circulars should also be in Tamil.
- ❖ Except for some of the exempted cases, all other letters, communications, and correspondence should also be in Tamil.
- ❖ The letters received in Tamil from the public should be replied to in Tamil; the notes about them should also be in Tamil.
- ❖ The Government employees should sign only in Tamil in all correspondence.
- ❖ Additionally, for those correspondence and government orders, an exemption has been granted for issuing them in English.
- ❖ The departments at the Secretariat should send them to the Translation Division of the Tamil Development and Information Department to translate them into Tamil.
- ❖ Tamil is the official language of the Government of Tamil Nadu, according to the Official Languages Act, 1956.



இனி தமிழில் மட்டுமே அரசாணை - தமிழக அரசு அதிரடி

- ▶ தமிழக அரசு சார்பில் வெளியிடப்படும் அரசாணைகள், சுற்றறிக்கைகள் தமிழில் மட்டுமே இருக்க வேண்டும்
- ▶ துறைத் தலைமை அலுவலகங்களில் இருந்து அரசு மற்றும் பிற அலுவலகங்களுக்கு அனுப்பப்படும் கருத்துரைகள் தமிழிலேயே இருக்க வேண்டும்
- ▶ பொதுமக்களிடம் இருந்து தமிழில் வரும் கடிதங்களுக்கு தமிழிலேயே பதில் அளிக்க வேண்டும்
- ▶ அரசுப்பணியாளர்கள் அனைத்து பதிவுகளிலும் தமிழில் மட்டுமே கையொப்பமிட வேண்டும்

Caste references in Educational Institutions

- ❖ The Madras High Court ordered that no school or college, be it government run or a private institution, in Tamil Nadu should carry a caste appellation from the academic year 2025-26.

- ❖ The judgement was passed while disposing of a batch of writ petitions filed by South Indian Senguntha Mahajana Sangam, Tiruchengode Vatta Kongu Vellalar Sangam and The Poor Educational Fund.
- ❖ If the school managements concerned fail to drop the caste appellations, their recognition should be withdrawn.
- ❖ It also directed the State government to implement the recommendations made by a committee headed by retired judge K. Chandru to remove terms such as 'Kallar Reclamation' and 'Adi Dravidar Welfare' from the names of government schools.
- ❖ The associations which perpetuate the caste system cannot exercise the writ jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution to resolve disputes related to such associations.
- ❖ The caste system was not confined to one religion but cuts across almost all the religions.



கல்வி நிறுவனங்களில் சாதிப் பெயர் - உத்தரவு

கல்வி நிறுவனங்களின் பெயர்களில் உள்ள
சாதிப் பெயர்களை 4 வாரங்களில் நீக்க வேண்டும்
சாதிப் பெயர்களை நீக்காவிட்டால்
கல்வி நிறுவனங்களின்
அங்கீகாரத்தை ரத்து செய்ய வேண்டும்
- சென்னை உயர்நீதிமன்றம் உத்தரவு

Ban on government staff from writing books

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has restrained its employees from publishing any work of art containing views against policies of the State.
- ❖ It has amended provisions under the Tamil Nadu Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1973.
- ❖ It prescribes that any government servant shall obtain the prior permission to publish any book.



- ❖ The government servant who writes books on literature, short story, novel, drama, essay and poetry shall immediately report to the prescribed authority when he receives the remuneration from the publisher.
- ❖ The employee shall submit a declaration that no criticism or attack against the State had been made in the book.
- ❖ The book does not contain any objectionable text/content affecting the law and order of the State.
- ❖ Also, the employee shall not use his/her time and official influence for promoting the sale of copies of the book.
- ❖ The new rules said that no government servant shall accept the lump-sum remuneration or remuneration on royalty basis from the publishers without getting prior permission from the government in all cases.

தமிழக அரசுக்கு எதிராக புத்தகம் எழுத அரசு ஊழியர்களுக்கு தடை

அரசு ஊழியர்கள் புத்தகம் எழுதுவது, வெளியிடுவது தொடர்பான திருத்த அரசாணையை தமிழக அரசு வெளியிட்டுள்ளது. தமிழ்நாடு அரசு ஊழியர்கள் நடத்தை விதிகள் 1973- ன்படி ஒவ்வொரு புத்தகத்தையும் வெளியிடுவதற்கு முன் அனுமதி பெற வேண்டும், வெளியீட்டாளரிடம் இருந்து ஊதியம் பெறும்போது அதிகாரிக்கு தெரிவிக்க வேண்டும் என விதி உள்ளது. அரசு ஊழியர்கள் எழுதும் புத்தகத்தில் அரசுக்கு எதிரான எந்த விமர்சனமும் இல்லை என்றும், மாநிலத்தின் சட்ட ஒழுங்கை பாதிக்கும் வகையில் உரை இல்லை என்றும் ஒரு அறிவிப்பை வெளியிட வேண்டும் என கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Ban on 28 plastic products across Western Ghats

- ❖ The Madras High Court bans 28 plastic products across Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The ban would extend from the Nilgiris to Agasthiyar Biosphere in the Kanniyakumari district.
- ❖ The ban would apply to all hill stations, sanctuaries and tiger reserves as well.
- ❖ The banned products include the single-use plastic bottles used for consuming water/juices, plastic sheets/cling film used for food wrapping, plastic sheets used for spreading on dining tables, plastic plates, plastic-coated paper plates, plastic-coated paper cups, plastic teacups, plastic tumblers, and thermocol cups.
- ❖ The Plastic-coated carry bags, non-woven carry bags, water pouches/packets, plastic straws, plastic flags, ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic carry bags of all

sizes and thicknesses, candies with plastic sticks, ice-cream with plastic sticks, and polystyrene for decorations were also banned by the High Court.

- ❖ The Division Bench said cutleries such as plastic forks, plastic spoons, plastic knives, wrapping or packaging films around sweet boxes, wrapping or packaging films around invitation cards, wrapping or packaging films around cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 microns, and plastic stirrers and trays shall also be banned.
- ❖ The judges said that the State government had imposed a blanket ban on single-use plastics across the State in 2018.
- ❖ They had ordered the ban of certain plastics in the Nilgiris and Kodaikanal in 2019.
- ❖ The judges directed the State government to invoke its powers under the Motor Vehicles Act, 2019.
- ❖ Not a single plastic wrapper, sachet, or the packaging material can be strewn in the Nilgiris, Kodaikanal hills, and the entire Western Ghats.



NATIONAL NEWS

Supreme Court on Kanha Gachibowli forest

- ❖ The Supreme Court directed the Telangana Wildlife Warden to take immediate steps to protect the wildlife affected by the destruction of 100 acres of the Kanha Gachibowli “forest” area.
- ❖ It made it clear to the Telangana government that not a single tree more must be felled in the area.

- ❖ Justice Gavai said the court wanted employment and development, but not at the cost of the environment.
- ❖ Earlier, the petitioners had also claimed that Kancha Gachibowli fell under the category of 'forest' under the Forest Conservation Act of 1980.



'RESTORE entire 100 acre Hyderabad forest or get ready for Jail'
~ Supreme Court

Supreme Court on Urdu Language

The prejudice against Urdu stems from the misconception that Urdu is alien to India. This opinion, we are afraid, is incorrect as Urdu, like Marathi and Hindi, is an Indo-Aryan language. It is a language which was born in this land. Urdu developed and flourished in India due to the need for people belonging to different cultural milieus who wanted to exchange ideas and communicate amongst themselves :

Supreme Court

It may also be of some interest to know that when we criticize Urdu, we are in a way also criticizing Hindi, as according to linguists and literary scholars, Urdu and Hindi are not two languages, but it is one language. True, Urdu is mainly written in Nastaliq and Hindi in Devnagri; but then scripts do not make a language. What makes languages distinct is their syntax, their grammar and their phonology. Urdu and Hindi have broad similarities in all these counts ;
Supreme Court

- ❖ The supreme court said that the Urdu is the finest specimen of composite cultural ethos of India.



- ❖ It was stemmed from an appeal filed against the use of Urdu on the signboard of a new building of the Municipal Council, Patur, in Akola district of Maharashtra.
- ❖ The appellant said Marathi was the official language of the State of Maharashtra.
- ❖ In reply, the court said that it was a “pitiable digression from reality” to believe that Hindi is the language of the Hindus and Urdu of the Muslims.
 - A language is only a means of communication and does not represent a religion.
 - “Language is not religion. Language does not even represent religion. Language belongs to a community, to a region, to people; and not to a religion. Language is culture. Language is the yardstick to measure the civilizational march of a community and its people”.
- ❖ Urdu is the finest specimen of Ganga-Jamuni tahzeeb, or the Hindustani tahzeeb, which is the composite cultural ethos of the plains of northern and central India.
- ❖ The court said Urdu was not an alien language.
- ❖ It was born and nurtured in India, and reached greater refinement and became a language of choice for poets in India.
- ❖ Urdu, like Marathi and Hindi, is an Indo-Aryan language.
- ❖ The court said Hindi and Urdu were fundamentally one language.
- ❖ Urdu is mainly written in Nastaliq and Hindi in Devanagari; but then scripts do not make a language.
- ❖ What makes the languages distinct is their syntax, their grammar and their phonology.
- ❖ The fusion of the two languages, Hindi and Urdu, met a roadblock in the form of the puritans on both sides and Hindi became more Sanskritised and Urdu more Persian.
- ❖ The common man’s everyday Hindi was peppered with Urdu terms.
- ❖ The word ‘Hindi’ itself comes from the Persian word ‘Hindavi’.
- ❖ Urdu was adopted by many States and Union Territories as their second official language in exercise of powers conferred by Article 345 of the Constitution.
- ❖ The States which have Urdu as one of the official languages were Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.
- ❖ The Union Territories Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir also follow this practice
- ❖ In the 2011 Census, the number of mother tongues increased to 270.
- ❖ This number was also arrived at by taking into consideration only those mother tongues which had more than 10,000 speakers.

- ❖ It would not be wrong to say that the actual number of mother tongues in India would run into thousands.

Vibrant Villages Program-II



Vibrant Villages Program-2

Total Outlay: ₹6,839 crore
for 2025–26 to
2029–30 period

Focus: Border villages in
Arunachal Pradesh
Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim
Uttarakhand, and Ladakh

Coverage: Around 2,967 villages

The infographic features two circular images: one showing a rural village with traditional houses and green fields, and another showing a group of children in school uniforms.

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the Vibrant Villages Programme -II (VVP-II) as a Central Sector Scheme (100% Centre funding).
- ❖ It would help in the comprehensive development of the villages located in the blocks abutting international land borders (ILBs), other than the Northern border already covered under VVP-I.
- ❖ It aims to create the better living conditions and adequate livelihood opportunities to ensure prosperous and safe borders, control trans-border crime and assimilate the border population with the nation.

First edition of ITES-Q

- ❖ The Indian government released the first edition of the International Technology Engagement Strategy – Quantum (ITES-Q).
- ❖ It aims to accelerate discovery, foster innovation, and catalyse adoption in the quantum science, technology, and innovation (QSTI).
- ❖ The strategy outlines India’s vision for technology diplomacy in quantum science.
- ❖ It addresses the key areas such as investments, talent development, intellectual property, startups, and industrial activity.

- ❖ The United Nations also designated 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology.



SC Guidelines to Child Trafficking 2025



NEWS
BEWARE OF CHILD TRAFFICKERS – SC CAUTIONS PARENTS

BEWARE OF CHILD TRAFFICKERS – SC CAUTIONS PARENTS

The Supreme Court of India issued a stern warning to parents, urging them to remain vigilant against child trafficking gangs exploiting children for heinous purposes like sexual abuse, forced labor, and illegal adoptions. This landmark judgment, delivered by a bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan, underscores the growing menace of child trafficking and the urgent need for systemic action.

- ❖ The Supreme Court issued a set of guidelines for all the States to prevent child trafficking and offences arising out of it.
- ❖ It stated that, any laxity in implementing the directions would be taken seriously and be treated as contempt of court.



- ❖ The court held that hospitals would have their licence suspended and exposed to legal action if newborns were found missing and trafficked.
- ❖ “When any of the woman comes to deliver her baby in any hospital, it is the responsibility of the administration of the hospital to protect the newborn infant in all respects.
- ❖ The High Courts across the country were asked to pull up all the pending cases of child trafficking and ensure that the trials were completed in six months.

SC interim Ruling on Waqf Amendment Act 2025

#WaqfAmendmentAct2025

CJI Sanjiv Khanna ordered

- No appointments to Waqf Boards/ Councils till next hearing
- Status of all declared/registered Waqfs (incl. Waqf by user) won't be altered

Matter posted to 5th May

- ❖ The Supreme Court is hearing 73 petitions challenging the Waqf (Amendment) Act of 2025.
- ❖ The Supreme Court expressed serious concerns over the provisions of the act.
- ❖ The Centre also assured that neither waqf properties, including “waqf by user”, will be de-notified nor appointments will be made to the central waqf council and boards till May 5.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

IISR Surya

- ❖ The ICAR – Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) has developed a new light-coloured turmeric variety for the masala industry.
- ❖ Christened as IISR Surya, the new variety features a light-coloured rhizome for the powdering industry.
- ❖ It is a high-yielding, long-duration variety (9 months) that offers a 20-30 per cent yield increase compared to existing light-coloured varieties (Mydukur).

- ❖ IISR Surya has also been recommended for the cultivation in Kerala, Telangana, Odisha, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh.



STATES' NEWS

Pohela Boishakh 2025

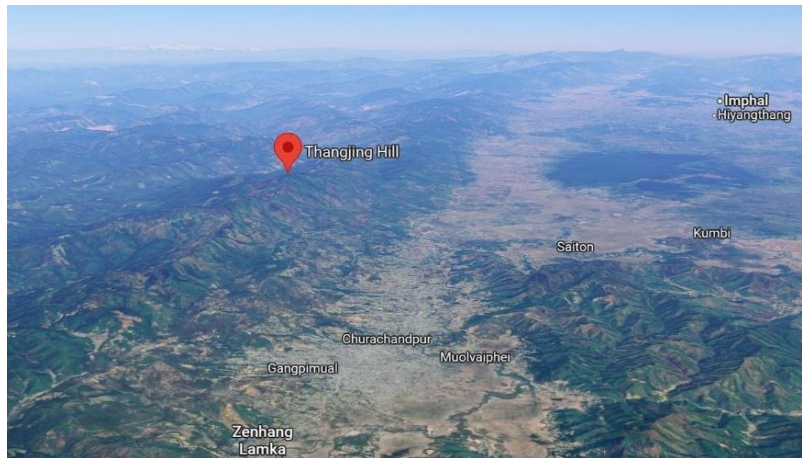


- ❖ The Bengali New Year begins on 'Pohela Boishakh', also known as Poila Baisakh or Noboborsho.
- ❖ Falls on the first day of Boishakh in the Bengali solar calendar, it is very widely celebrated in Bangladesh and in parts of Assam, West Bengal, and Tripura.

- ❖ For the Bengali groups, it symbolises a fresh start and has deep cultural and traditional significance.
- ❖ The King Shoshangko of ancient Bengal is credited with starting the Bengali era, which began in approximately 594 CE.

Thangjing Hills - Sacred Meitei Site

- ❖ Kuki-Zo civil society organisations have "warned" the Meitei community against climbing the Thangjing Hill in Manipur's Churachandpur district.
- ❖ The Thangjing Hill is considered a sacred site for Meiteis who visit it in April.
- ❖ Since the ancient times, the Meiteis have been going on an annual pilgrimage to the hilltop shrine of Ibudhou Thangjing, the guardian of the mountains.
- ❖ The Kuki-Zo tribes deny the hill is exclusively a sacred site of the Meiteis.



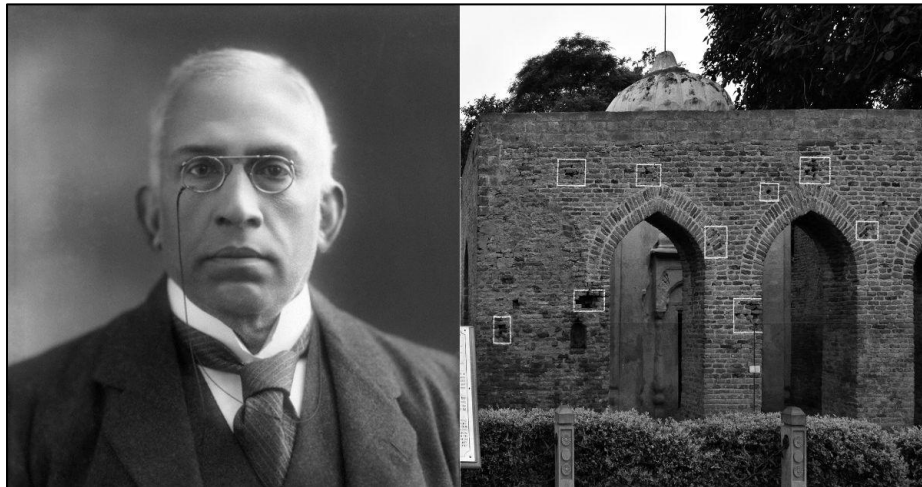
MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre and Sir Sankaran Nair

- ❖ The Indian Prime Minister has recalled the nationalist and jurist Sir Chettur Sankaran Nair on 106th Jallianwala Bagh anniversary.
- ❖ Nair fought a legendary courtroom battle against a senior official of the British who had sued Sir Sankaran for holding him responsible for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919.
- ❖ In 1897, he became the youngest president of the Indian National Congress.
- ❖ By 1908, he had been appointed as a permanent judge of Madras High Court.
- ❖ His best-known judgements indicated his commitment to social reforms — in *Budasna v Fatima* (1914), he ruled that those who converted to Hinduism could

not be treated as outcastes, and in a few other cases, he upheld inter-caste and inter-religious marriages.

- ❖ In 1919, he had played an important role in the expansion of provisions in the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms which introduced a system of dyarchy in the provinces and increased participation of Indians in the administration.
- ❖ Following the massacre of Jallianwala Bagh, he had resigned from the Viceroy's Council in protest.
- ❖ In 1922, Nair published Gandhi and Anarchy, a book in which he spelt out his critique of Gandhi's methods of non-violence, civil disobedience, and the non-cooperation.
- ❖ He also accused Michael O'Dwyer, who was Lieutenant Governor of Punjab at the time of the massacre, of following policies that led to the deaths.
- ❖ O'Dwyer sued Nair for defamation in England, expecting the English court to side with him.
- ❖ At the end of case, Nair was ordered to pay £500 and the expenses of the trial to the plaintiff.
- ❖ O'Dwyer said he would forgo the penalty if Nair apologised but Nair refused.



Recognition of degrees obtained from foreign countries

- ❖ The UGC (Recognition and Grant of Equivalence to Qualifications Obtained from Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2025 notified by UGC.
- ❖ The Indian students returning from abroad with international credentials, often facing delays and uncertainty in getting their degrees recognised either for the admission to Indian institutions or for employment.
- ❖ Disciplines like medicine, pharmacy, nursing, law, and architecture, and other qualifications regulated by the norms of respective Statutory Councils in India.

- ❖ Such qualifications will continue to be governed by the specific norms and the recognition procedures laid down by the respective regulatory bodies.
- ❖ The UGC has also listed the conditions for recognition of foreign degrees.
- ❖ The UGC has also clarified that the qualifications obtained through unrecognised institutions, unaccredited programmes, or in contravention of regulatory norms in India such as those offered via franchise arrangements will not be eligible for equivalence.



150 years of Bombay Stock Exchange

BSE 150 years celebration

- BSE's growth started with brokers who sat under banyan tree
- BSE has now grown with the technology-driven world
- The common man has grown like the banyan tree since the 1890s

- In 1957, BSE got recognised as a stock exchange
- With the SEBI act in 1992, the direction became clear: Investor protection
- BSE has around 5.5k listed companies
- Number of investors have grown four times
- No. of retail folios: 12 fold growth

- ❖ The BSE Ltd, Asia's oldest stock exchange, has celebrated its 150th anniversary recently.
- ❖ The BSE, the fourth largest stock exchange in the world, was founded on July 9, 1875, near Town Hall in South Bombay.
- ❖ The Stock brokers in 1855 began meeting under the banyan tree to buy and sell cotton.

- ❖ By 1865, the unorganised stock market was witnessing a massive boom.
- ❖ Bombay back then had 31 banks, 62 joint stock companies, 20 insurance companies and 16 cotton pressing companies.
- ❖ In 1957, the BSE granted permanent recognition under Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act (SCRA).
- ❖ In 1986, the S&P BSE SENSEX, India's first equity index was officially launched at a base of 1,000.
- ❖ In 2017, the BSE became the first listed stock exchange in India.

