

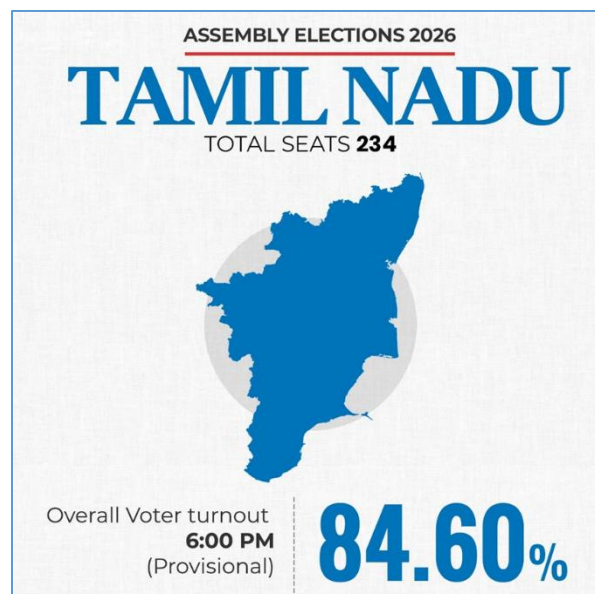
April - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Konyak tribe recently celebrated the Aoleang festival in Kohima from April 1–6, marking the New Year, the arrival of spring.
- ❖ Former MP J Santosh Kumar was honoured as “Global Green Icon” at the World Climate Leaders Conclave in the UK for his work in afforestation and climate action through the Green India Challenge.
- ❖ Kolkata-based player Aronyak Ghosh became India’s 95th Grandmaster after achieving his final norm at the Bangkok Chess Club Open 2026.
- ❖ The Central Bureau of Investigation launched an AI chatbot, ‘Abhay’, an artificial intelligence tool that helps citizens check if agency notices are real or fake and avoid online scams.
- ❖ The Ministry of Culture has launched the “VM Frames” National Filmmaking Competition to mark 150 years of Vande Mataram.
 - It aims to promote patriotism and cultural heritage through reels, AI-based films and short films.
- ❖ World Penguin Day is observed every year on April 25 to celebrate penguins and raise awareness about their conservation.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Tamil Nadu Elections 2026



- ❖ Tamil Nadu recorded its highest polling percentage in an Assembly election on April 23, 2026.
- ❖ The State achieved about 84.69% voter turnout (provisional), the highest in its electoral history.
- ❖ Over 4.85 crore voters cast their votes from 7 a.m. across 234 Assembly constituencies.
- ❖ This election was held to choose members of the 17th Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.
- ❖ The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) (revision of electoral roll) reduced the size of the electorate compared to 2021, which played a key role in the higher turnout.

NATIONAL NEWS

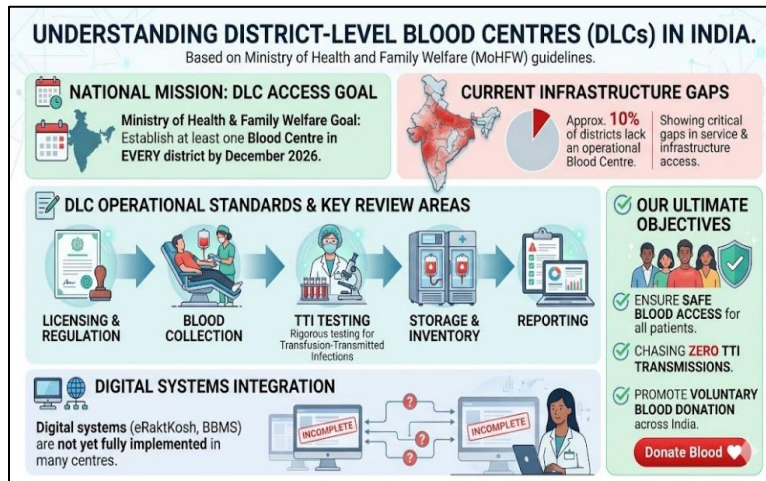
India's Seafood Exports



- ❖ India's seafood exports reached a record ₹72,325.82 crore in FY 2025–26 as per Marine Products Export Development Authority data.
- ❖ Export volume also rose to 19.32 lakh metric tonnes, showing strong global demand.
- ❖ Frozen shrimp contributed the highest share with ₹47,973.13 crore, making it the main export product.
- ❖ Exports to the United States declined, but growth increased in China, the European Union (EU) and Southeast Asia.
- ❖ Major ports supporting exports include Visakhapatnam, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Kochi, Kolkata and Chennai.

District-Level Blood Centres

- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare aims to establish at least one blood centre in every district by December 2026.
- ❖ Around 10% of districts still lack a blood centre, showing gaps in infrastructure and services.
- ❖ The review covered licensing, blood collection, testing for TTIs (Transfusion-Transmitted Infections), storage and reporting.
- ❖ Digital systems like eRaktKosh and BBMS (Blood Bank Management System) are not fully implemented in many centres.
- ❖ The goal is to ensure safe blood access, zero TTIs, and promote voluntary blood donation across India.



Atal Pension Yojana Boom

ATAL PENSION YOJANA
CROSSES 9 CRORE ENROLMENTS

GUARANTEED PENSION AFTER AGE 60
SECURE TODAY BETTER TOMORROW

GROWING AWARENESS, SECURING FUTURES

WILL PENSION LIMIT BE DOUBLED TO **₹10,000?**

HERE'S WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU —

- GUARANTEED MONTHLY PENSION (₹1,000 TO ₹5,000 (CURRENTLY))
- SPOUSE GETS THE SAME PENSION AFTER YOU
- NOMINEE GETS THE ACCUMULATED CORPUS
- TAX BENEFITS UNDER SECTION 80CCD

WHO CAN ENROL?

- Indian Citizen
- Age between 18 and 40 years
- Should not be an income taxpayer at the time of joining (Rule effective from Oct 1, 2023)

HOW TO ENROL?

- Visit your bank or post office
- Fill APY registration form
- Choose your desired pension amount
- Set up auto-debit for regular contributions

Atal Pension Yojana
A STEP TOWARDS A SECURE RETIREMENT

SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT
EXTENDED TILL FY21
For awareness, outreach, capacity building & financial sustainability

- ❖ Atal Pension Yojana has crossed 9 crore total enrolments as of April 2026.
- ❖ In FY 2025–26, it recorded a record 1.35 crore new subscribers, the highest annual addition since launch.
- ❖ Atal Pension Yojana was launched on 9th May 2015.
- ❖ The scheme mainly targets workers in the unorganised sector to provide social security after retirement.
- ❖ It is regulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- ❖ The scheme ensures a fixed monthly pension after 60 years based on contribution level and promotes financial inclusion.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ban Tobacco for Future Generations - UK



- ❖ The United Kingdom passed a tobacco and vapes law banning people born on or after 1 January 2009 from legally buying tobacco.
- ❖ It aims to create a “smoke-free generation” by gradually increasing the legal restriction every year.
- ❖ Smoking causes about 64,000 deaths annually in England and places a heavy burden on the National Health Service (NHS).
- ❖ The law also tightens rules on vaping and expands smoking bans in public places like schools, hospitals, and playgrounds.

- ❖ The bill will become law after receiving royal assent, making it one of the strictest anti-tobacco laws globally.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope



- ❖ The Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope has completed assembly and entered final testing before its 2026 launch.
- ❖ Built by NASA, it is considered the next major telescope after the Hubble Space Telescope and the James Webb Space Telescope.
- ❖ It has a 2.4-metre mirror and can capture images of space covering 100 times larger an area than Hubble.
- ❖ The mission will study dark energy, dark matter and help understand the expansion of the universe.
- ❖ It will also detect exoplanets and will be launched on SpaceX Falcon Heavy to a point called L2 in space.

New Lunar Mineral

- ❖ Chinese scientists discovered a new Moon mineral named Cerium–Magnesium Changesite, marking the 11th lunar mineral identified so far.
- ❖ The mineral was found in a 44-gram lunar meteorite collected in China by the China Geological Survey.

- ❖ It is colourless, transparent, brittle, and shows unique fluorescence with crystal grains smaller than 10 micrometres.
- ❖ The discovery is important for LED (Light Emitting Diode) technology as cerium is a rare earth element used in lighting and electronics.
- ❖ It helps improve energy efficiency, brightness, and durability in next-generation electronic devices.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Rare Big Cat Convergence in Ranthambore

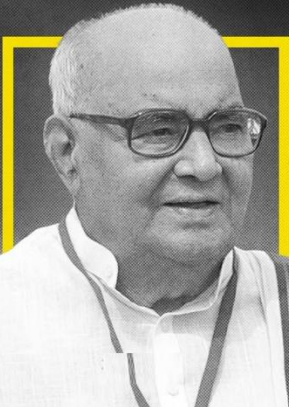
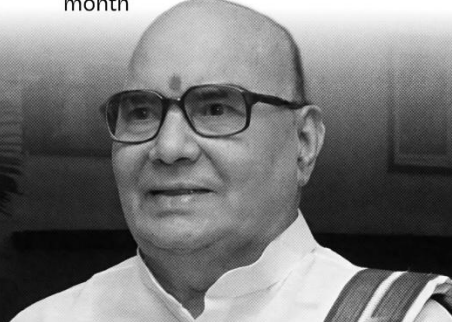
- ❖ A tiger, leopard and cheetah were sighted together in Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan, making it an extremely rare wildlife event in India.
- ❖ The sighting took place in Zone 9 near the Chakal River, with all three apex predators seen within a 1–2 km range at the same time.
- ❖ Experts stated that such coexistence is rare due to “niche partitioning”, where species reduce competition by using different habitats and hunting times.
- ❖ Tigers are dominant territorial carnivores, leopards are adaptable and avoid direct conflict, while cheetahs prefer open grasslands and rely on speed for hunting.

- ❖ Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan is a major biodiversity hotspot with around 70 tigers and rich wildlife diversity.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Nadendra Bhaskar Rao's demise

<p>SHORTEST-SERVING CM OF UNDIVIDED ANDHRA PRADESH DIES AT 90 Nadendra Bhaskara Rao's Unique Political Legacy</p> 	<p>1984 POLITICAL DRAMA</p> <p>The Turning Point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Took over as CM after a political coup• Replaced N. T. Rama Rao briefly• Faced massive backlash & protests• Government collapsed within a month 
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- ❖ Nadendra Bhaskar Rao passed away at the age of 90 in Hyderabad.

- ❖ He was a former Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh and served briefly in 1984.
- ❖ He was a founding member of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) under N.T. Rama Rao in 1982.
- ❖ He also served as a Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA), Minister, and Member of Parliament (MP) from Khammam, Telangana.
- ❖ His tenure in 1984 led to a major political and constitutional crisis, after which N.T. Rama Rao was reinstated as Chief Minister.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Malaria Day 2026 - April 25

- ❖ The day aims to promote prevention, diagnosis and treatment of malaria worldwide.
- ❖ Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites and spread through the bite of an infected mosquito.
- ❖ The theme for 2026 is “Driven to End Malaria: Now We Can. Now We Must.”

