



August - 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Rishabh Yadav won bronze in compound men's individual archery at the World Games 2025 in Chengdu, China.
- ❖ Mumbai hosted the 18th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education.
- ❖ Indian Navy commissioned INS Udayagiri (constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai) and INS Himgiri (built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) in Kolkata) at Visakhapatnam, by marking the first time two major surface combatants from the different Indian shipyards were commissioned together.
- ❖ Skyroot Aerospace successfully completed the first static test of the KALAM 1200 motor, the Vikram-1 launch vehicle's first stage, at ISRO's Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
- ❖ Prime Minister flagged off three new Vande Bharat Express trains recently, and the total Vande Bharat count crosses 150.
- ❖ Guwahati International Airport won the International Architectural Award 2025 for its bamboo-inspired design and excellence in transport architecture.
- ❖ The 4th Tamil Nadu International Kite Festival will take place from 14 to 17 August 2025, at East Coast Road, Mahabalipuram.
- ❖ Tendong Lho Rum Faat, an ancient Lepcha festival was celebrated in Sikkim for honouring Tendong Hill for protecting the tribe from a great disaster.
- ❖ The book titled 'No Minister' authored by Shantanu Gupta that offers an insider's account of governance and power dynamics in Indian politics.
- ❖ The country's first Animal Stem Cell Biobank was launched at the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology in Hyderabad.
- ❖ SEBI has proposed SWAGAT-FI, a single-window gateway to ease market access for verified low-risk foreign investors.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Thayumanavar Scheme

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched the Thayumanavar Scheme on August 12, 2025.
- ❖ The scheme delivers the ration products to the senior citizens above 70 years and disabled persons at their homes.

- ❖ It will cover over 21.7 lakh beneficiaries across the state.
- ❖ Delivery will be through vehicles from 34,809 fair price shops under the Public Distribution System (PDS).
- ❖ Ration will be delivered on the second Saturday and Sunday of every month.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu currently has 37,328 ration shops and opened 2,394 shops in the last four years.



உங்கள் இல்லை தேடி வரும் ரேஷன் பொருட்கள்!

“முதலமைச்சரின் தாயுமானவர் திட்டம்”

தமிழ்நாட்டிலுள்ள வயது முதிர்ந்தோர் மற்றும் மாற்றுத்திறனாளி குடும்ப அட்டைதாரர்களின் இல்லத்திற்கே சென்று அரிசி, சர்க்கரை உள்ளிட்ட ரேசன் பொருட்களை விநியோகம் செய்யும் “முதலமைச்சரின் தாயுமானவர் திட்டத்தை” சென்னையில் வருகிற 12.8.2025 அன்று தொடங்கி வைக்கிறார்கள்

இத்திட்டத்தின் வாயிலாக 34,809 நியாயவிலைக் கடைகளைச் சேர்ந்த **70 வயதிற்கு மேற்பட்ட மூத்த குடிமக்களைக் கொண்ட 15,81,364 குடும்ப அட்டைகளில்** உள்ள **20,42,657 பயனாளர்களும்,**

91,969 குடும்ப அட்டைகளில் உள்ள 1,27,797 மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகளும்,

ஆக மொத்தம் **16,73,333 குடும்ப அட்டைகளில் உள்ள 21,70,454 பயனாளர்களுக்கு** அவர்தம் இல்லங்களிலேயே குடிமைப் பொருட்களை விநியோகம் செய்ய வழிவகை செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது.

PRD - 07/08/2025

NATIONAL NEWS

Bankey Bihari Ji Maharaj Temple committee

- ❖ The Supreme Court has suspended the management committee of Thakur Shri Bankey Bihari Ji Temple in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ A High-Powered Committee led by Retired Justice Ashok Kumar of Allahabad High Court was formed to manage the temple's daily affairs.
- ❖ The temple was built in 1864 on land gifted by Raja Ratan Singh and is a famous Hindu pilgrimage site.
- ❖ Longstanding disputes between two sects known as Raj Bhog and Shayan Bhog have affected temple management since 1938.
- ❖ A 2016 Allahabad High Court order gave final administrative approvals to the Munsif of Mathura amid ongoing disputes.

- ❖ A 2022 stampede caused high injuries and deaths leading to a Public Interest Litigation and the State's proposal for an independent trust.
- ❖ The Supreme Court stayed the Uttar Pradesh Shri Bankey Bihari Ji Temple Trust Ordinance, 2025, pending High Court review.
- ❖ The Court clarified it made no decision on the constitutionality of the ordinance and left all challenges to the High Court.



New Income Tax Bill 2025

Overview of the New Income Tax Bill, 2025	Transformative Amendments in Taxation
Simplifying Taxation for All <ul style="list-style-type: none">Aims to replace the Income Tax Act, 1961Introduces clearer terminology, e.g., "tax year" instead of "assessment year."Includes terms like "virtual digital asset" to reflect the digital economyClarifies rules for global income taxation for residents and non-residents	Key Provisions of the Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consolidates existing deductions and introduces new provisions for startups and renewable energyEstablishes stricter compliance and clearer definitions for charitable organizationsMaintains categorization of gains while updating tax rates for digital assetsExpected to come into effect from April 1, 2026

Slide - 1

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- ❖ Parliament passed the Income Tax (No. 2) Bill, 2025 to replace the Income Tax Act 1961 after sixty years.
- ❖ The new law aims to modernise tax administration without changing current tax rates.

- ❖ It simplifies the terminology by introducing the unified term tax year instead of assessment year and previous year.
- ❖ The bill has 536 sections and 16 schedules.
- ❖ The number of chapters has been brought down to 23 from 47 and the number of Sections to 536 from 819.
- ❖ It allows individuals to claim tax deducted at source (TDS) refunds even if returns are filed late without penalty.
- ❖ It also broadens the powers of income tax officials, allowing them to forcibly break into personal emails and social media accounts of assesses during search operations.

Gender Cap on Army Posting



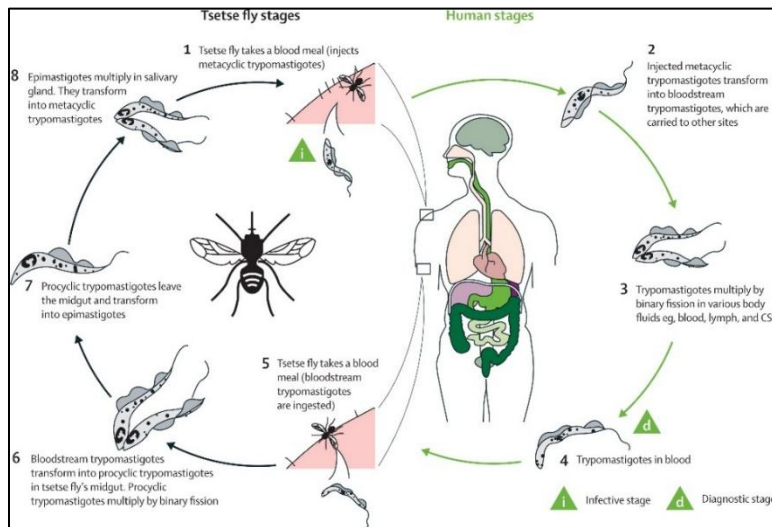
- ❖ The Supreme Court struck down the policy limiting women's seats in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) branch of the Indian Army.
- ❖ The court has ruled the Army cannot impose extra restrictions once women are allowed to join under Section 12 of the Army Act, 1950.
- ❖ The policy reserving six seats for men and only three for women violated Articles 14, 15, and 16 of the Constitution.
- ❖ The court ordered a common merit list, stating meritorious women must not be capped at 50% seats.

- ❖ Section 12 of the Army Act states that women are not eligible for enrolment or employment in the regular Army except in specific corps, departments, or branches that the Central Government may specify by official notification.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sleeping Sickness free - Kenya

- ❖ WHO certified Kenya as free of human African trypanosomiasis as a public health problem.
- ❖ Kenya became the 10th country to achieve this milestone in eliminating sleeping sickness.
- ❖ Human African trypanosomiasis is caused by protozoan parasites spread by infected tsetse flies.
- ❖ The disease causes fever headaches joint pain and in advanced stages leads to confusion sleep disruption and behavioural changes.
- ❖ Kenya earlier eliminated Guinea worm disease and was certified free of it in 2018.

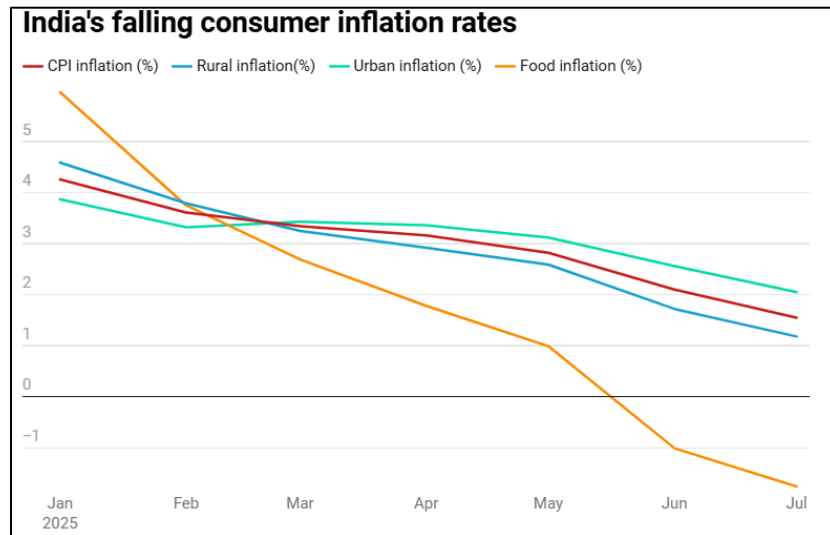


ECONOMY NEWS

India's retail inflation – July 2025

- ❖ The headline retail inflation rate fell to an eight-year low of 1.55 per cent in July 2025.
- ❖ It is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of National Statistical Office (NSO).

- ❖ Now it has come under the lower-bound of the RBI's flexible inflation target of 2-6 per cent for the first time since January 2019.
- ❖ So far in 2025-26, CPI inflation has averaged 2.4 per cent.
- ❖ The CPI calculates the difference in the price of commodities and services such as food, medical care, education, electronics etc, which Indian consumers buy for use.
- ❖ The CPI has several sub-groups including food and beverages, fuel and light, housing and clothing, bedding and footwear.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Blue Pinkgill and shuttlecock Mushroom



- ❖ A burst of the very rare and colourful Blue Pink gill fungi has been found in the Kagaznagar forest division in Telangana.
- ❖ The 'blue pink gill' is species native to New Zealand and famously featured on the country's \$50 note.
- ❖ Researchers also recorded the rare shuttlecock mushroom (*Clathrus delicatus*) in the Kawal Tiger Reserve.
- ❖ This marks the first confirmed record of the species in the Eastern Ghats.

STATES' NEWS

Grant for Non- Working Mothers



- ❖ Sikkim kickstarted his mega outreach for women by distributing cheques of Rs 20,000 each to 32,000 non-working women, who are mothers.
- ❖ All unemployed women, who are mothers, will get Rs 40,000 per year under the Aama Sashaktikaran Yojana.
- ❖ Sikkim also announced that 'Nari Adalats' will be set up under the Women, Child, Senior Citizen and Divyanjan Department.
- ❖ The Nari Adalat is a community-based forum run by women to provide accessible and informal justice, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.

IMPORTANT DAYS

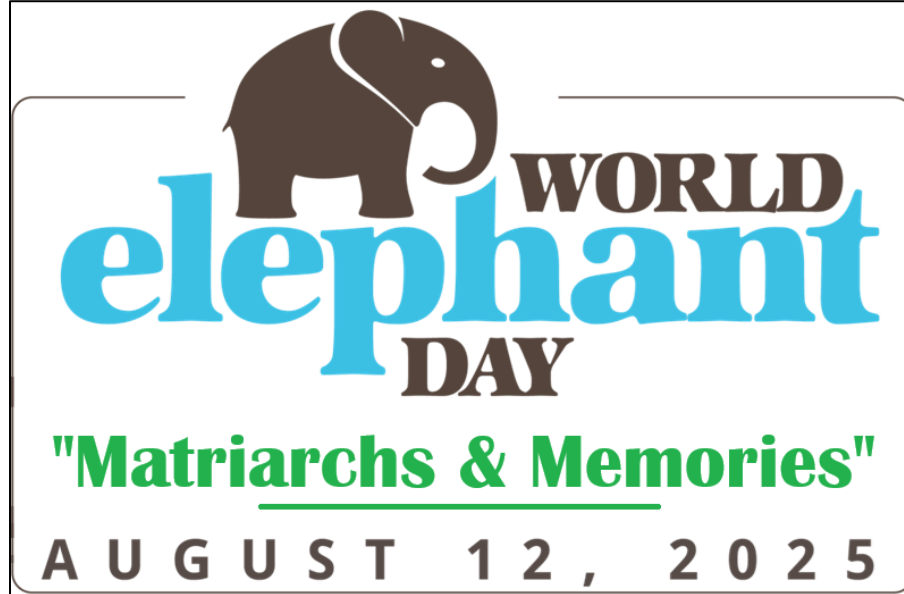
International Youth Day 2025 - August 12

- ❖ The day aims to recognize the youth contributions, raise awareness about their challenges, and promote youth engagement in global and local development.

- ❖ The idea was first proposed in 1991 at the World Youth Forum in Vienna.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond.”



World Elephant Day 2025 - August 12

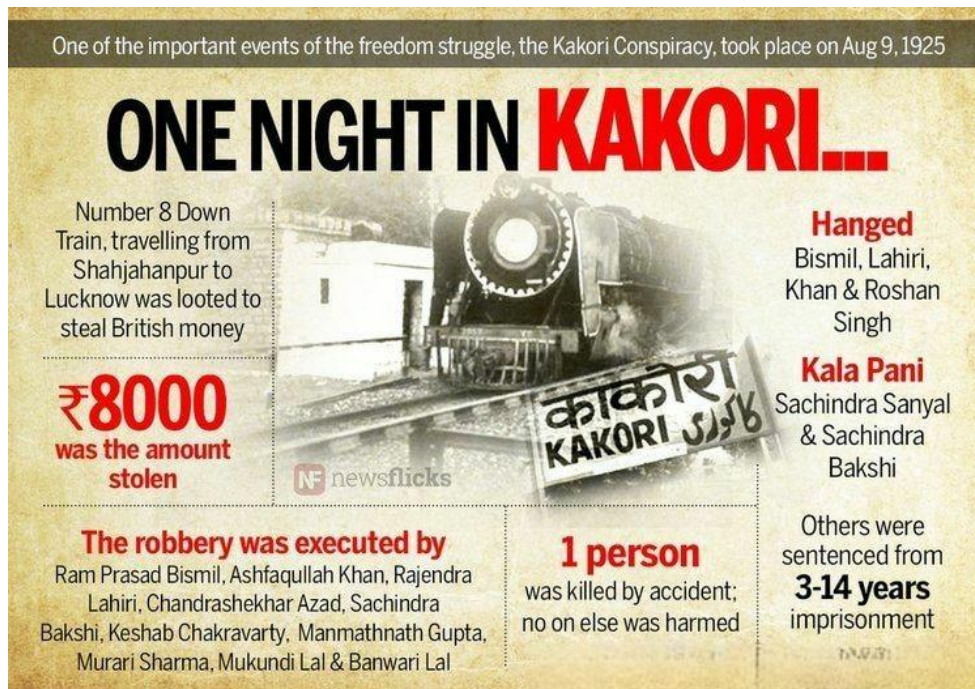


- ❖ It was first celebrated in 2012, initiated by Patricia Sims and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand.
- ❖ The aim is to raise awareness about poaching, habitat loss, and promote ethical tourism and habitat protection for elephants.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Matriarchs & Memories.”

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

100 Years of Kakori Rail Conspiracy

- ❖ The Kakori Rail Conspiracy took place on August 9 in 1925 near Kakori railway station in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Revolutionaries stopped the 8-Down train on the Saharanpur to Lucknow line and seized government treasury funds.
- ❖ The action was carried out by members of the Hindustan Republican Association to fund the freedom movement.
- ❖ The British government responded with mass arrests and strict punishments.
- ❖ Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Rajendra Lahiri and Roshan Singh were executed in 1927.
- ❖ Others involved received long prison sentences.
- ❖ Chandrashekhar Azad evaded arrest and continued the struggle until 1931.
- ❖ In 2025 the 100th anniversary of the incident was officially observed.



Supreme Court on Stray Dogs control

- ❖ The Supreme Court directed municipal authorities to pick up and house all stray dogs in Delhi and parts of the National Capital Region in dedicated shelters within eight weeks.



- ❖ The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, aims to prevent “the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals”.
- ❖ Under the Act, the Centre in 2001 promulgated the ABC (Dogs) Rules.
- ❖ The Animal Birth Control Rules 2023 provides a doctrine of “capture, neuter, vaccinate, release”.
- ❖ It forbids municipalities from permanently relocating healthy dogs or impounding them for long periods except if a dog is rabid, incurably ill or found to be dangerously aggressive by a veterinarian.

DOG BITES IN INDIA

THE LARGEST population of stray dogs is in India; numbers are not known, but are estimated to run into crores. In 2019, the government told Lok Sabha that stray dogs numbered 1.53 crore; it repeated this data in 2022.

MORE THAN 37 LAKH cases of dog bites were reported in the country in 2024, up from 30.5 lakh in 2023 and 21.9 lakh in 2022, according to government data from February this year. Nearly 4.3 lakh dog bites were reported in January this year.

IF THE DOG IS RABID, its bite can infect the victim with rabies, a viral disease that affects the central

nervous system and is almost always fatal if not treated immediately.

According to government data from February 2025, 54 people died from rabies in 2024, up from 50 deaths in 2023 and 21 deaths in 2022.

36% OF RABIES DEATHS in the world occur in India, according to estimates by the World Health Organization. Dog bites are responsible for about 96% of the mortality and morbidity associated with rabies in India, the WHO says. 30-60% of reported rabies cases and deaths in India occur in children under the age of 15 years, according to WHO.

Dardanelles Strait





- ❖ Turkey temporarily closed the Dardanelles Strait due to forest fires near the city of Canakkale.
- ❖ The strait is a major international waterway linking the Aegean Sea to the Sea of Marmara and supports heavy commercial shipping between Europe and Asia.
- ❖ Nearly 46,000 vessels passed through the Dardanelles in 2024 according to official records.

