

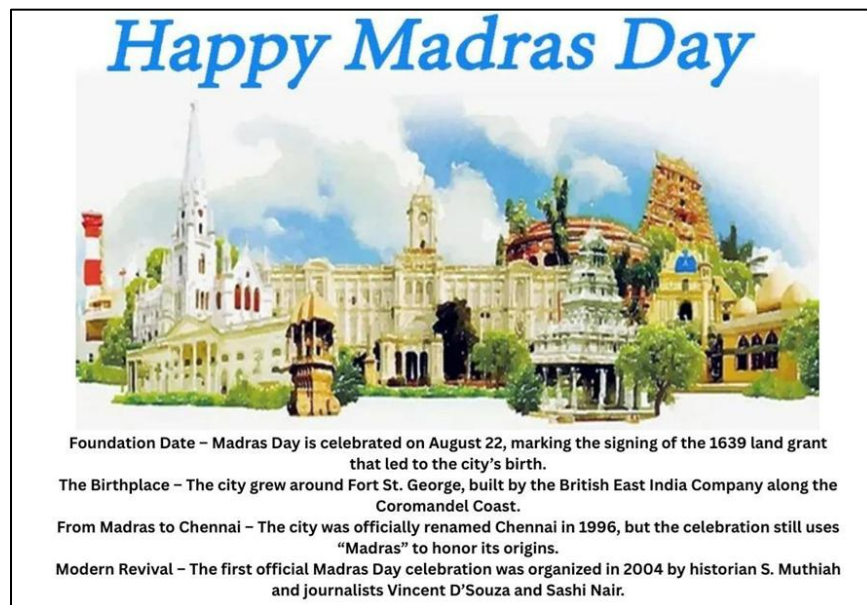
August - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indian shooter Elavenil Valarivan won gold in the women's 10m air rifle at the 16th Asian Championships in Shymkent, Kazakhstan.
- ❖ RBI approves Indranil Bhattacharyya as ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), replacing Rajiv Ranjan.
 - Indranil was appointed Executive Director of the Monetary Policy Department on March 19, 2025.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

387th Madras Day 2025



- ❖ Madras Day is observed every year on August 22 to mark the founding of Madras (now Chennai) on this day in 1639.
- ❖ In 1639, the East India Company (EIC) had acquired the fishing village of Madrasapatnam, beginning the city's colonial-era transformation.
- ❖ Post-Independence, the region was called Madras State until it was renamed Tamil Nadu in 1969.
- ❖ The city of Madras was renamed as Chennai in 1996.
- ❖ The idea for Madras Day was proposed in 2004 by journalists Vincent D'Souza and Sashi Nair, along with historian S. Muthiah.

Senior citizens help center

- ❖ Chennai Police has set up a senior citizens help centre with the helpline number 1252 for people aged 60 and above.
- ❖ A special support scheme called "Bandham", launched in 2024, provides direct assistance to citizens aged 75 and above.
- ❖ Assistance includes medical support, legal aid, counselling, security arrangements, and guidance by the police department.
- ❖ As of 2025, the "Bandham" centre has resolved 1,191 cases, including 185 legal, 6 medical, 5 security, and 41 essential services within 72 hours.
- ❖ Another initiative, Kaval Karangal, rescued 646 abandoned seniors this year, of which 117 were reunited with their families after tracing their addresses.

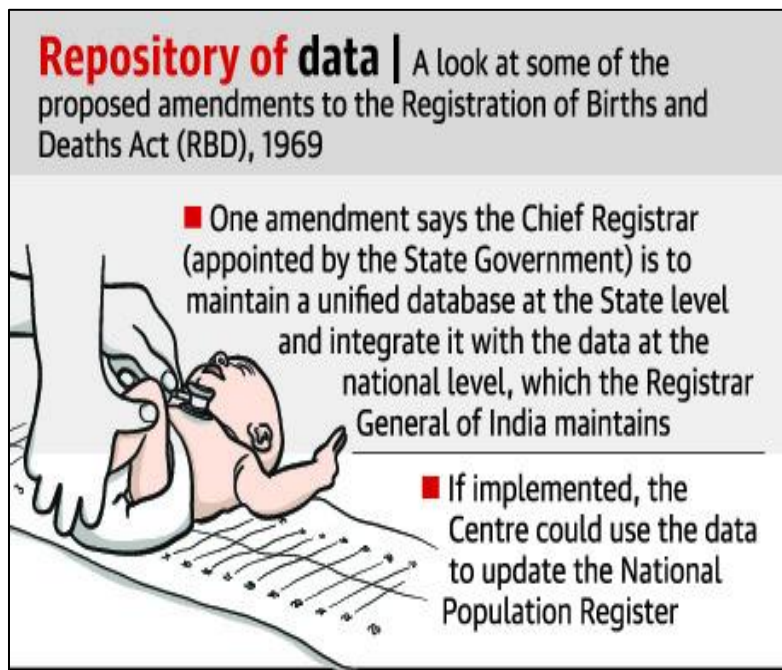


NATIONAL NEWS

Universal registration of births and deaths

- ❖ The Registrar General of India (RGI) asked States to take steps towards achieving universal registration of births and deaths.
- ❖ Following the directives of the Supreme Court, all government hospitals have been declared 'registrars' of births and deaths.

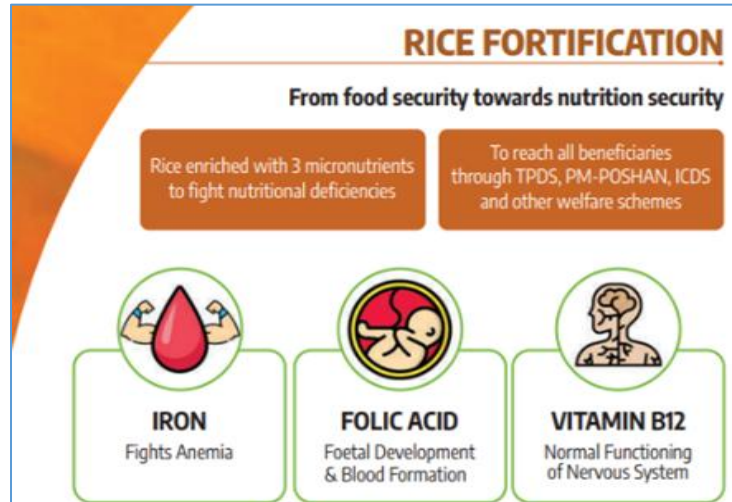
- ❖ Hospitals have to report the event within 21 days under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.
- ❖ The RBD Act, 1969, which was amended in 2023, makes online registration of births and deaths compulsory on the RGI portal.
- ❖ Earlier, States maintained their own database and shared statistics with the RGI office that functions under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ❖ The database with the RGI can be used to update electoral rolls, National Population Register, ration cards and property registrations.
- ❖ From October 1, 2023, the digital birth certificate is the single document to prove the date of birth for various services such as admission to educational institutions, government jobs and marriage registration among others.



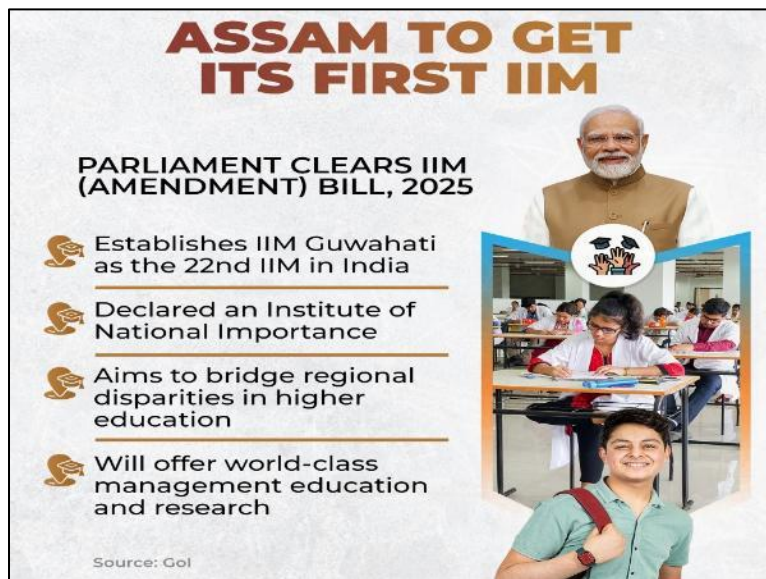
Fortified Rice Scheme Expansion

- ❖ The Fortified Rice Scheme has been extended until December 2028 with ₹17,082 crore.
- ❖ All custom-milled rice under food safety schemes is now fortified with iron, folic acid, and vitamin B12.
- ❖ The rice is distributed through TPDS (Targeted Public Distribution System), PM POSHAN, and ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services).
- ❖ Under PM POSHAN, fortified rice, salt, and edible oil are used to fight micronutrient deficiencies in schoolchildren.

- ❖ The AMB (Anemia Mukht Bharat) initiative launched in 2018 promotes fortified foods to reduce anaemia.
- ❖ The NDDB (National Dairy Development Board) has distributed 7.10 lakh litres of fortified milk to 41,700 children in 11 states.



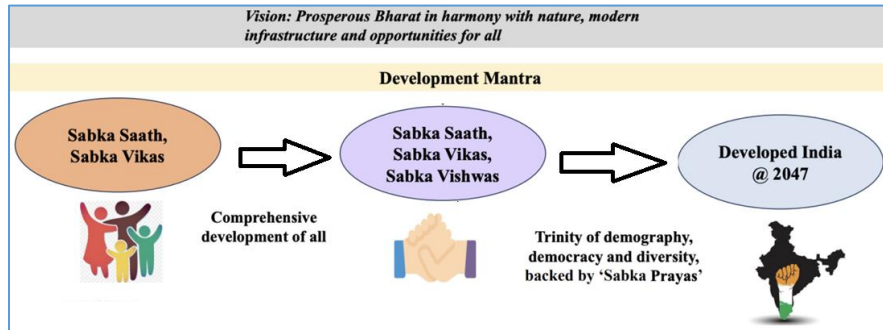
IIM in Guwahati, Assam



- ❖ Parliament passed the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025, to establish an IIM in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ The Bill was approved by the Rajya Sabha and amends the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017.
- ❖ The new IIM in Guwahati will start admissions in the 2025-26 academic year.
- ❖ The Bill provides a corpus fund of ₹555 crore for IIM Guwahati.

- ❖ With this addition, the total number of IIMs in India will be 22.

Rajiv Gauba-led panels



- ❖ The central government has set up two high-powered groups led by Rajiv Gauba, full-time NITI Aayog member and former Cabinet Secretary.
- ❖ One group is tasked with achieving Viksit Bharat goals, while the other focuses on regulatory reforms in the non-financial sector.
- ❖ A separate committee, chaired by Cabinet Secretary TVS Swaminathan, is working on deregulation at the state level.
- ❖ Members include secretaries from DPIIT, Expenditure, MSME, and Power ministries, along with directors from CII, FICCI, and ASSOCHAM.
- ❖ Industry leaders such as Pawan Goenka, Manish Sabharwal, and Janmejay Sinha are also part of the committees.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sustainable Power 1404 drill

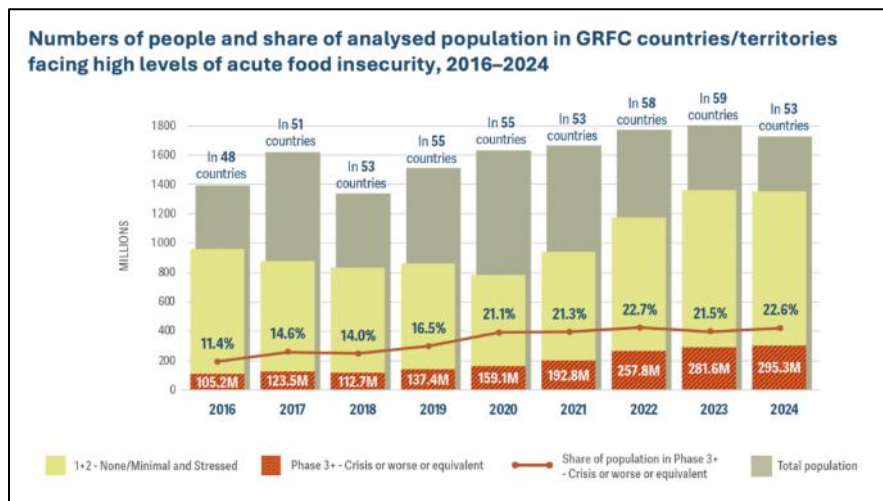


- ❖ Iran conducted its first military drill after the 12-day war with Israel.

- ❖ Cruise missiles were launched at sea targets in the Gulf of Oman and Indian Ocean.
- ❖ Drones carried out surveillance operations across key maritime zones.
- ❖ The drill aimed to project strength after Israeli strikes on air defense and nuclear sites.

First Famine in West Asia

- ❖ The United Nations (UN) has confirmed the first officially recorded famine in West Asia, occurring in Gaza as of August 15, 2025.
- ❖ Approximately 500,000 people in Gaza are experiencing severe food insecurity, according to UN assessments.
- ❖ The confirmation was made by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), citing verified data.
- ❖ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) reported daily hunger-related deaths in 1 out of 5 homes and 1 in 3 children affected by malnutrition.
- ❖ IPC forecasts indicate famine-level conditions may spread to Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis regions by late September 2025.

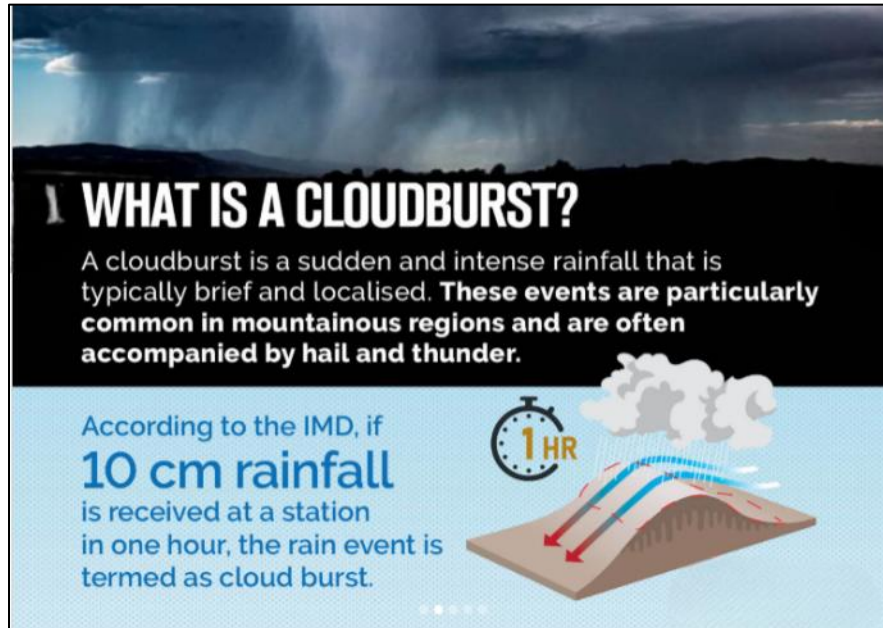


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Cloudburst in Chamoli

- ❖ A massive cloudburst hit Chamoli, Uttarakhand recently.
- ❖ The IMD (India Meteorological Department) has issued an orange alert for heavy rain and thunderstorms.

- ❖ Landslides have blocked roads in Pithoragarh, and a new lake formed in Harsil is being drained.
- ❖ The Yamuna River is blocked at Syanchatti in Barkot tehsil, leading to flooding in nearby homes.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

NTCA on tiger corridor

FACTS OF THE MATTER	
> NH-69 cuts through the Satpura-Melghat tiger corridor. It is among the 32 tiger corridors identified by the Centre	
> NHAI initiated construction without securing the required wildlife clearances from NBWL and NTCA.	
> MP HC granted a stay in April 2022 on a PIL by Amravati-based wildlife conservationist	
> In July 2024, NBWL conditionally approved the project, but work cannot proceed until the NTCA submits its report	



- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has now restricted corridor recognition mainly to 32 “least cost pathways” (LCP) identified in 2014.
- ❖ These LCPs were designed using cost-distance modelling to show minimum resistance routes but were meant as baseline, not exhaustive, maps.

- ❖ This change may ease clearances for industrial projects including Lloyds Metals' 9.5 sq km Surajgarh iron ore mine and Western Coalfields' Durgapur mine.
- ❖ Tiger corridors are forested linkages that connect tiger habitats, enabling free movement, gene flow, and survival of populations.
- ❖ New findings connect 30 tiger reserves and nearly 150 protected areas (PAs), reflecting real-world movement possibilities.

STATES' NEWS

Fully Digitally Literate State



- ❖ Kerala has been declared the first fully digitally literate state in India.
- ❖ The achievement comes under the Digi Kerala project aimed at empowering citizens with digital skills.
- ❖ The second phase will include digitisation of all essential documents linked to DigiLocker.
- ❖ Citizens will be trained to identify cybercrimes and prevent misuse of social media.
- ❖ About 9,000 government services are now available online across the state.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Lord Swraj Paul's demise

- ❖ Lord Swraj Paul passed away in London.
- ❖ Born in Jalandhar in 1931, Paul moved to the UK in the 1960s.

- ❖ He founded the Ambika Paul Foundation in memory of his daughter to support child welfare.
- ❖ Paul established the Caparo Group in the UK and became a noted NRI businessman.
- ❖ In 1978, Swraj Paul was awarded a knighthood by the British Queen and later became a member of the UK House of Lords.
- ❖ In 1983, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan, by Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India.
- ❖ From 2000 to 2005, he co-chaired the Indo-British Roundtable Conference.
- ❖ He has a total of 15 honorary degrees from universities in the UK, USA, India, Switzerland, and Russia.



IESO 2025

Ludhiana's Rayansh Gupta wins gold & silver at the 18th Earth Science Olympiad in China, competing against 31 countries including the USA, Germany & Australia!



- ❖ Rayansh Gupta from Ludhiana won a gold and a silver at the 18th International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO 2025) 2025 in Jining, China.
- ❖ Rayansh was appointed captain of the Indian team and held the national flag.
- ❖ The Indian team won 7 medals and 1 special award at the global event.
- ❖ Rayansh also received the GYM (Geoscience for Youth and Media) Reporter Award.

SPORTS NEWS

World Humanoid Robot Games

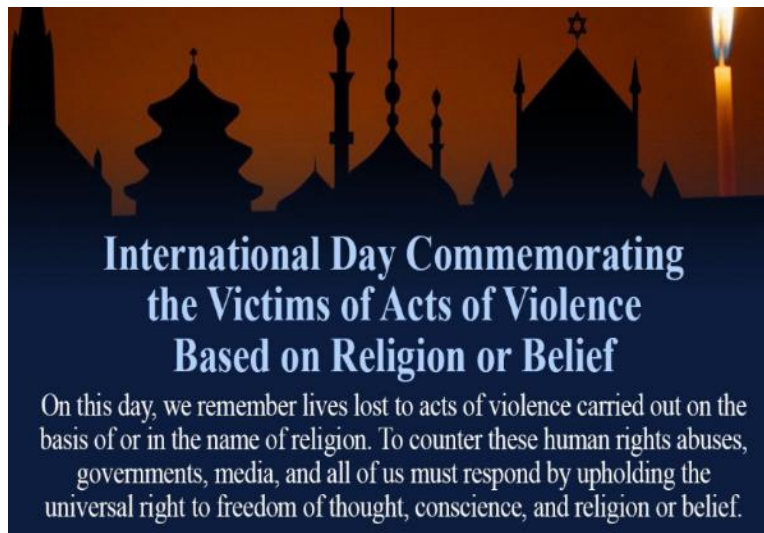


- ❖ China hosts inaugural World Humanoid Robot Games in Beijing to highlight AI and robotics.
- ❖ Over 500 androids from 16 nations competed in 26 categories like soccer, boxing, and gymnastics.
- ❖ The event served as a live testing ground to enhance robot agility, vision, and independence.
- ❖ China targets leadership in humanoid robotics, with the global market projected at \$5 trillion by 2050.
- ❖ Morgan Stanley estimates China will operate over 300 million humanoids by mid-century.
- ❖ A state-led fund worth 1 trillion yuan backs China's long-term tech and robotics expansion.

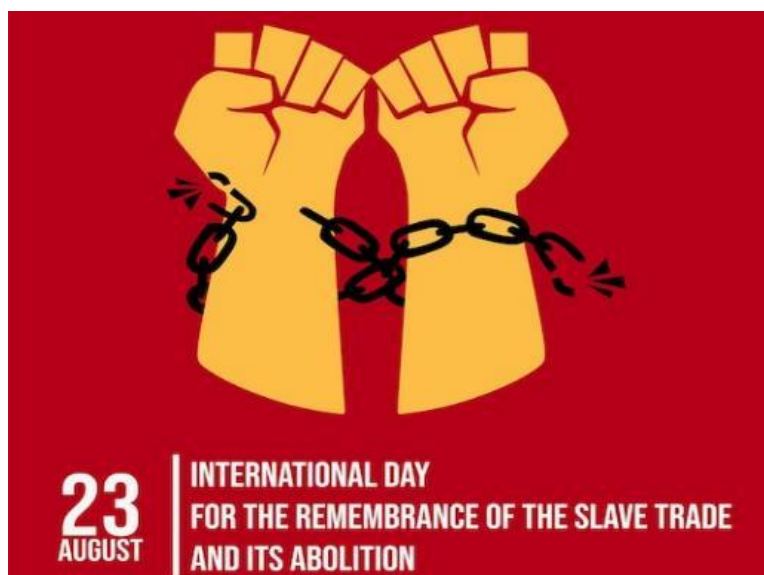
IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief 2025 – August 22

- ❖ The day aims to promote tolerance, interfaith harmony, and ensure accountability for violence rooted in religious discrimination.
- ❖ The day was first commemorated in 2019 by UN.
- ❖ The observance highlights the universal right to freedom of religion or belief as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 18).



International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition 2025 – August 23



- ❖ This day honours the memory of millions affected by the transatlantic slave trade.
- ❖ The day was initiated by UNESCO in 1997 to acknowledge the historical injustices of slavery and celebrate the resistance of enslaved peoples.
- ❖ On August 22–23, 1791, enslaved people in Saint Domingue (present-day Haiti) launched a revolt that sparked the Haitian Revolution.
- ❖ This uprising led to the formation of the first modern Black republic and became a symbol of global resistance against oppression.

ISRO Day / National Space Day 2025 – August 23

- ❖ National Space Day honours ISRO's achievements and India's rise as a global space power.
- ❖ The date marks the historic Chandrayaan-3 soft landing on the Moon's south pole on August 23, 2023.
- ❖ It was making India as the first nation to reach that region.
- ❖ The theme of 2025 is "Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Ancient Wisdom to Infinite Possibilities", connecting India's astronomy heritage to its space future.



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