



December - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Fino Payments Bank Limited has received in-principal approval from RBI to become a Small Finance Bank (SFB).
 - It is the first payments bank get the transition into a Small Finance Bank.
- ❖ Google has launched Gemini 3 Deep Think for Google AI Ultra subscribers, using advanced parallel reasoning to explore multiple hypotheses simultaneously.
- ❖ President Donald Trump received FIFA's first Peace Prize at the 2026 World Cup draw in Washington for promoting global peace and unity.
- ❖ The fifth edition of the India-Malaysia joint military exercise Harimau Shakti 2025 started in Rajasthan.
- ❖ Luke Littler became the youngest-ever world number one in darts at age 18 after winning the Grand Slam of Darts final.
- ❖ Russia has become the 19th member of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).
- ❖ India will offer free 30-day single-entry e-tourist and group visas to Russian citizens from early 2026.
- ❖ Roman Gofman has been appointed as the new chief of Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence agency, succeeding David Barnea.
- ❖ The Indian Railways has commissioned the upgraded Kavach 4.0 automatic train protection system, certified to Safety Integrity Level-4 (SIL-4), on 738 km covering the Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Howrah corridors.
 - The system has five sub-systems: track-mounted safety units, onboard devices, optical fibre cabling, telecom towers, and edge data centres.
- ❖ National Handicrafts Week is observed annually from 8-14 December to celebrate India's artisans and craft traditions.
- ❖ National Microwave Oven Day is observed every year on 6 December to celebrate the invention and usefulness of the microwave oven.

NATIONAL NEWS

India's First All-Electric Green Tug

- ❖ India launched its first all-electric green tug for the Deendayal Port Authority (DPA) under the Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP).
- ❖ The tug is designed to support harbour work with silent operations, zero carbon emissions and a 60-ton bollard pull capacity.

- ❖ GTTP plans to induct 50 green tugs by 2030, with 16 tugs in Phase 1 (2024–2027).
- ❖ DPA, Paradip Port Authority, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority and V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority will each get two tugs in Phase 1.
- ❖ The tug will help in manoeuvring, escorting and emergency work while providing data for future green projects.



Indian Maritime Doctrine 2025



- ❖ The Indian Navy released the Indian Maritime Doctrine 2025 on Navy Day (4 December).
- ❖ The doctrine is the Navy's top guidance document for strategy, force use and capability building.
- ❖ It formally recognises the “no-war, no-peace” category and stresses joint operations among the three services.

- ❖ It highlights new threat areas such as grey-zone, hybrid, space, cyber and cognitive warfare.
- ❖ The doctrine promotes advanced technologies like autonomous and uncrewed systems.

Economic Cooperation Plan 2030

- ❖ India and Russia launched the Economic Cooperation Programme till 2030 to boost trade and strategic ties.
- ❖ The programme focuses on energy, defence, technology, and the industrial collaboration.
- ❖ Both countries aim to increase annual bilateral trade volume to US \$100 billion.
- ❖ Transport corridors like the International North-South Transport Corridor and Arctic shipping lanes are prioritised.
- ❖ Cooperation will include nuclear energy, small modular reactors, floating nuclear plants, and energy infrastructure.
- ❖ The plan also covers defence R&D, joint manufacturing, space collaboration, technology, tourism, and skilled workforce mobility.



India-Russia Summit 2025

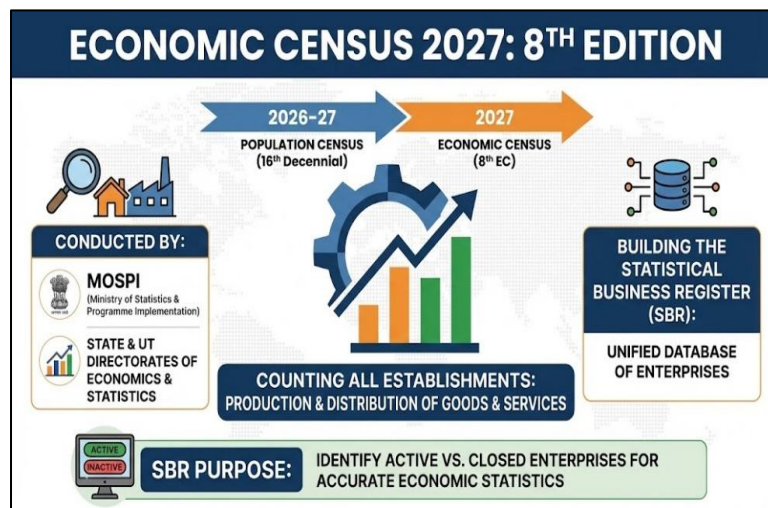
- ❖ The 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The summit marked the 25th anniversary of the Declaration on Strategic Partnership (2000).
- ❖ The partnership was elevated to a "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership" in 2010.
- ❖ Leaders adopted the Economic Programme 2030 to diversify trade beyond energy and defence.

- ❖ Bilateral trade target set at \$100 billion by 2030, up from \$68.7 billion in 2024–25.
- ❖ Agreements included fast-tracked FTA with the Eurasian Economic Union, energy cooperation, defence R&D, connectivity projects, Arctic collaboration, and 30-day visa-free e-tourist entry for Russian citizens.



ECONOMY NEWS

Economic Census 2027

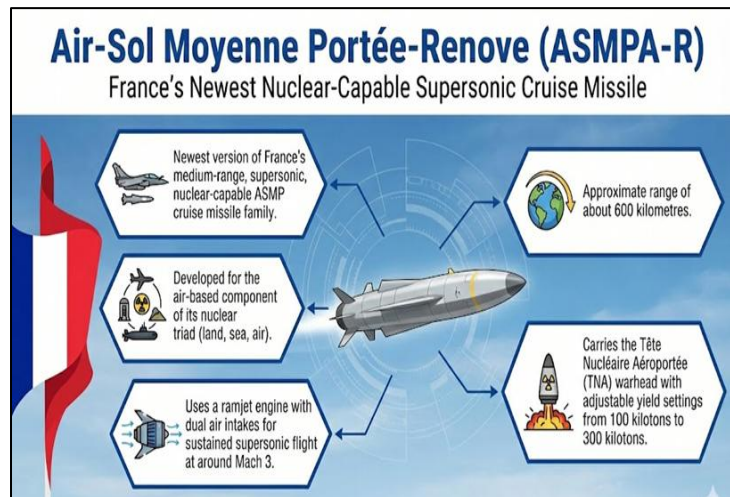


- ❖ India will conduct its 8th Economic Census (EC) in 2027 after the two-phase Population Census of 2026–27.
- ❖ The Economic Census counts all establishments involved in producing or distributing goods and services.

- ❖ EC is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) with State and UT Directorates of Economics and Statistics.
- ❖ Data from the 8th EC will be used to build the Statistical Business Register (SBR), a unified database of enterprises.
- ❖ The SBR will help identify active and closed enterprises for accurate economic statistics.
- ❖ The 2027 Population Census will be India's 16th decennial Census, conducted under the Census Act, 1948.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove



- ❖ The Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove (ASMPA-R) is the newest version of France's medium-range, supersonic, nuclear-capable ASMP cruise missile family.
- ❖ It was developed by France for the air-based component of its nuclear triad (land, sea, air).
- ❖ The missile uses a ramjet engine with dual air intakes that enables sustained supersonic flight at around Mach 3.
- ❖ The ASMPA-R has an approximate range of about 600 kilometres.
- ❖ It carries the Airborne Nuclear Warhead with adjustable yield settings from 100 kilotons to 300 kilotons.

KYC-Based Caller ID

- ❖ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) will require telecom operators to show the KYC (Know Your Customer)-registered name for all incoming calls.

- ❖ The feature, called Caller Name Presentation (CNAP), is being tested in Haryana.
- ❖ CNAP uses the same system that flags calls as “Suspected” or “Suspicious.”
- ❖ The move aims to reduce spam and fraud by helping users identify callers.
- ❖ DoT will enable CNAP by default, with identity-hiding allowed only through CLIR (Caller Line Identification Restriction) for authorised users.
- ❖ The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has given recommendations for the rollout.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Sonnerat's Shrew

- ❖ On 1 October 2022, wildlife researchers photographed a dead shrew near Ooty Lake in Udthagamandalam.
- ❖ Sonnerat's shrew (*Diplomesodon sonnerati*) was first described in 1813 near Puducherry by the French naturalist Pierre Sonnerat.
- ❖ No physical specimen of this species has ever been collected since its original description.
- ❖ The photographed shrew showed clear morphological differences from other local species, including the Asian highland shrew, Asian house shrew, Indian highland shrew, and Kelaart's long-clawed shrew.

- ❖ Experts confirmed that the fur pattern matched Pierre Sonnerat's original description, but the rediscovery cannot be confirmed because the specimen was not collected.



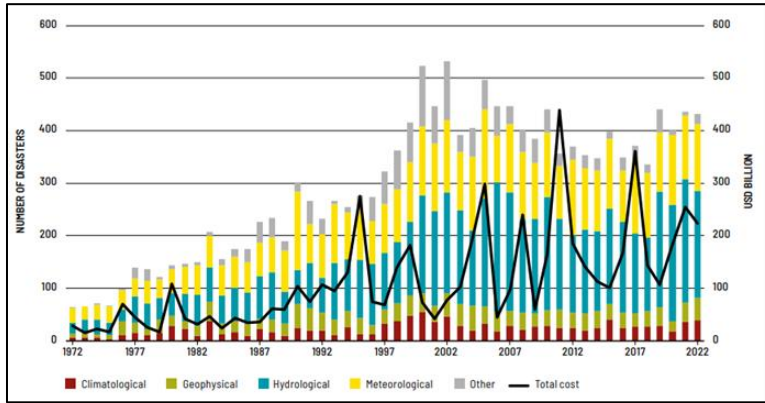
COP24 of the Barcelona Convention



- ❖ The 24th meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP 24) took place in Cairo, Egypt.
- ❖ Theme of the event is “Mediterranean Blue Growth: Towards a Resilient and Sustainable Future”.
- ❖ The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (Barcelona Convention) was adopted on 16 February 1976 in Barcelona and entered into force in 1978.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security report 2025



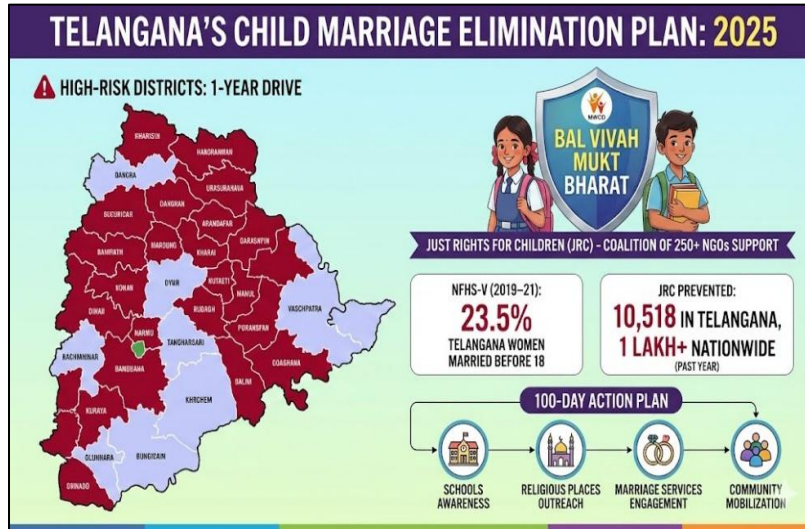
- ❖ The report was released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.
- ❖ Disasters caused USD 3.26 trillion in agricultural losses between 1991 and 2023, with cereals being the most affected.
- ❖ Asia accounts for 47% of global agricultural losses due to large-scale agriculture and high exposure to storms and floods.
- ❖ Disasters reduce global food availability by 320 kilocalories (kcal) per person per day.
- ❖ Marine heatwaves caused USD 6.6 billion in losses from 1985 to 2022, affecting 15% of global fisheries.
- ❖ Digital tools such as data platforms, early warning systems and agrometeorological advisories help reduce risks, with Indian farmers saving USD 29.65 per hectare in wheat cultivation.

STATES' NEWS

Child Marriage Elimination Plan

- ❖ Telangana has marked 26 high-risk districts for an intensive child marriage elimination drive within one year.
- ❖ The initiative is part of the “Bal Vivah Mukta Bharat” campaign by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD).
- ❖ Just Rights for Children (JRC), a coalition of over 250 non-governmental organisations (NGOs), supports the programme.
- ❖ National Family Health Survey V (NFHS-V, 2019–21) shows 23.5% of women in Telangana married before age 18.

- ❖ JRC prevented 10,518 child marriages in Telangana and over 1 lakh nationwide in the past year.
- ❖ A 100-day action plan includes awareness in schools, religious places, marriage service providers, and local communities.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Sons of the Soil Awards Assam 2025

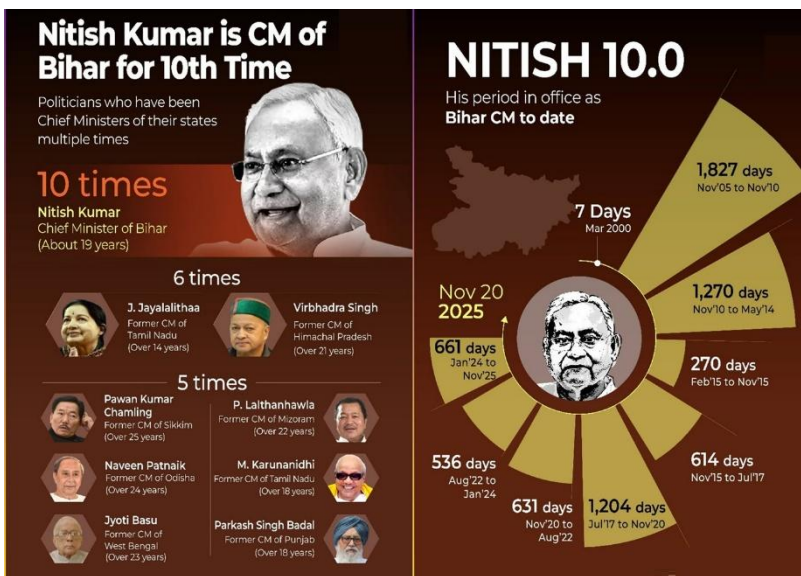
- ❖ The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) conferred the Sons of the Soil Emerging Achievers Award at the 5th Biennial Son of the Soil Awards Assam 2025.
- ❖ Five young achievers received the Emerging Achievers Award:
 - Sukrita Baruah (Media and Communication)
 - Sanghamitra Kalita (Entrepreneurship)
 - Isharani Baruah (Sports)
 - Himjyoti Talukdar (Art and Culture) and
 - Dr. Debjani Borah (Conservation).
- ❖ Five distinguished personalities received the Lifetime Achievement Award:
 - Arun Nath (Art and Culture)
 - Ravi Shankar Ravi (News and Media)
 - Mainuddin Ahmed (Sports)
 - Lakhimi Baruah (Entrepreneurship) and
 - Simanta Das (Public Service).

- ❖ The Social Sector Development Award was given to Dr. Alaka Sarma and Akshar Foundation.
- ❖ The Son of the Soil Awards were instituted in 2016 and are organised by Care Luit.

Sons of the Soil Awards Assam 2025		
Award Category	Recipient Name	Field/Domain
Emerging Achievers Award	Sukrita Baruah	Media and Communication
	Sanghamitra Kalita	Entrepreneurship
	Isharani Baruah	Sports
	Himjyoti Talukdar	Art and Culture
	Dr. Debjani Borah	Conservation
Lifetime Achievement Award	Arun Nath	Art and Culture
	Ravi Shankar Ravi	News and Media
	Mainuddin Ahmed	Sports
	Lakhimi Baruah	Entrepreneurship
	Simanta Das	Public Service
Social Sector Development Award	Dr. Alaka Sarma	Social Sector Development
	Akshar Foundation	Social Sector Development

Presented by Union Minister of MoPSW. Organised by Care Luit (Instituted in 2016).

World Book of Records - Nitish Kumar



- ❖ Nitish Kumar became the first Indian Chief Minister to take oath ten times.
- ❖ The World Book of Records, London, honoured him for this achievement
- ❖ He first became Chief Minister (CM) in 2000 and has served mostly continuously since 2005.
- ❖ His 10th swearing-in followed the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) victory in the 2025 election.

EARTH Summit 2025

- ❖ The EARTH (Empowering Agriculture, Rural Transformation and Holistic) Summit 2025 was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ More than 13 services and products were launched under the 'Sahakar Sarathi' initiative.
- ❖ They include Digi KCC (Digital Kisan Credit Card), Campaign Sarathi, Website Sarathi, Cooperative Governance Index, ePACS (Electronic Primary Agricultural Credit Societies), World's Largest Grain Storage Application, Shiksha Sarathi, and Sarathi Technology Forum.
- ❖ The summit is the second in a series of three focused on rural economy and development solutions.
- ❖ A policy framework will be finalised at the third meeting in Delhi in 2026.
- ❖ The initiative targets strengthening agriculture, animal husbandry, and cooperatives in India.



IMPORTANT DAYS

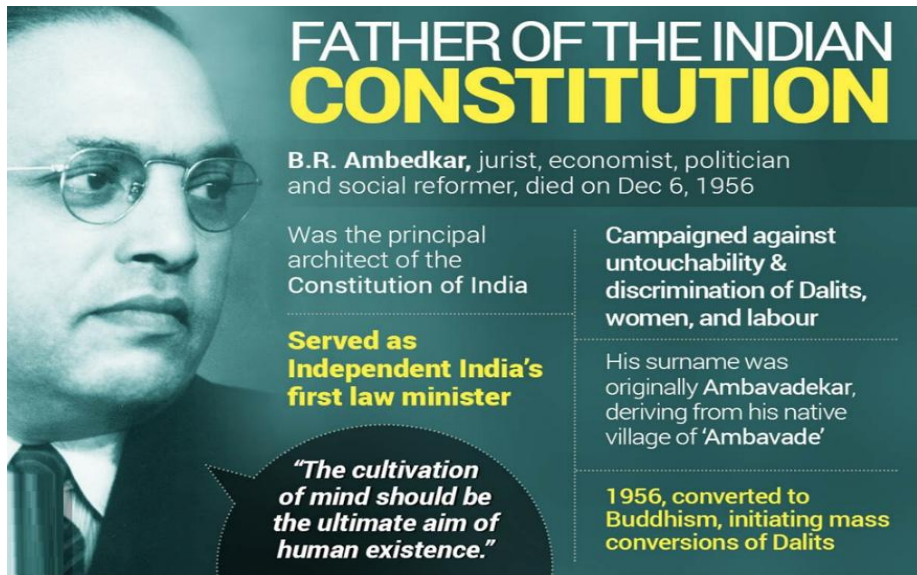
Armed Forces Flag Day 2025 - December 07



- ❖ This day honours the services and sacrifices of the nation's brave Army, Navy and Air Force personnel.
- ❖ The Flag Day originated on December 7, 1949.
- ❖ In 1993, the Defence Ministry of India consolidated related welfare funds into a single Armed Forces Flag Day fund.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Mahaparinirvan Diwas 2025



- ❖ The day is observed every year on 6 December to mark the death anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar.
- ❖ The word Mahaparinirvan means "ultimate liberation" in Buddhist philosophy.
- ❖ Ambedkar embraced Buddhism on 14th October 1956.
- ❖ He played a major role in the Round Table Conferences (1930–1932) and signed the Poona Pact (1932).
- ❖ He served as India's first Law Minister and was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution.
- ❖ He converted to Buddhism on 14 October 1956 and passed away on 6 December 1956.
- ❖ He was awarded the Bharat Ratna (highest civilian award of India) in 1990 (posthumously).

