



December - 25

TNPSC BITS

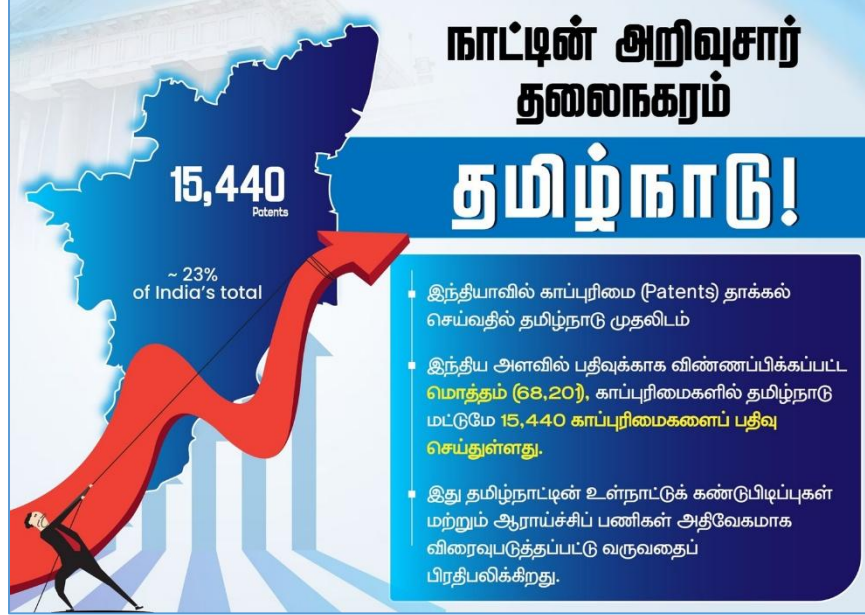
- ❖ Indian women's cricketer Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian woman to score more than 4,000 runs in Women's Twenty20 International (T20I) cricket.
- ❖ The third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), named 'Anjadip' after Anjadip Island off Karwar, Karnataka, was delivered to the Indian Navy in Chennai.
- ❖ Japan has approved the restart of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant after nearly 20 years.
- ❖ INS Sindhughosh, the lead submarine of her class in the Indian Navy, was decommissioned after 40 years of service.
- ❖ Advocate Shubham Awasthi, a lawyer at the Supreme Court of India, received the 40 Under 40 Lawyer Award 2025.
- ❖ M.V. MSC Michaela berthed at V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port, Thoothukudi, and became the longest container vessel with the highest container carrying capacity to berth at the port.
- ❖ An Indian team, Photonics Odyssey from Chennai, won the Most Inspirational Award at NASA's 2025 International Space Apps Challenge.
 - The team has proposed a sovereign phased-array satellite internet system to expand broadband access in remote areas of India.
- ❖ Veteran Assamese actress Ranjana Sharma Bordoloi, a founding member of the theatre group Mancharupa established in 1957, passed away in Dibrugarh at the age of 80.
 - She has received the Bishnu Rabha Award for her contribution to arts and culture.
- ❖ Oman has introduced its first polymer one-rial banknote, issued by the Central Bank of Oman.
 - Polymer notes are more durable than traditional cotton-based notes and have a longer lifespan.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Patent Filings in Tamil Nadu

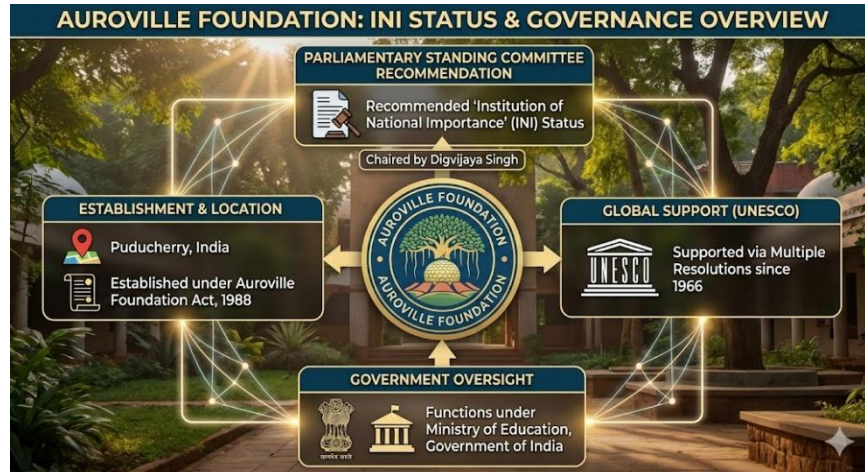
- ❖ Tamil Nadu filed 15,440 patent applications in the year 2024-25.
- ❖ It ranked first among all Indian states in patent filings during this period.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu accounted for 23% of the total 68,201 patent applications filed in India.
- ❖ Patent filings from the state increased by 62% compared to 2023-24.
- ❖ The number of applications rose from 9,565 (2023-24) to 15,440 (2024-25).



NATIONAL NEWS

Auroville Foundation



- ❖ A Parliamentary Standing Committee has recommended granting Institution of National Importance (INI) status to the Auroville Foundation.
- ❖ The Auroville Foundation is located in Puducherry and was established under the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988.

- ❖ The committee recommending the status is chaired by Digvijaya Singh.
- ❖ UNESCO has supported Auroville through multiple resolutions since 1966.
- ❖ The Foundation functions under the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

MLFF Tolling System

- ❖ The Union Government plans to roll out the Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling system across India by the end of 2026.
- ❖ The system will allow vehicles to pass toll points without stopping, reducing waiting time to zero minutes.
- ❖ Vehicles will be able to cross toll plazas at speeds of up to 80 kmph.
- ❖ MLFF will use Artificial Intelligence (AI) based number plate recognition, satellite tracking, and FASTag integration.
- ❖ The initiative aims to improve traffic flow, reduce fuel consumption, and increase transparency in toll collection.



NSSH Scheme

- ❖ The National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub (NSSH) Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of MSME.

- ❖ The scheme aims to promote entrepreneurship among the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities.
- ❖ It is implemented through the National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC).
- ❖ The scheme supports SC/ST entrepreneurs through skill development, financial assistance, and market access.
- ❖ Under public procurement policy, 4% of government purchases are reserved for SC/ST-owned enterprises.
- ❖ The scheme helps SC/ST entrepreneurs participate in government tenders through the Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

NATIONAL SC ST HUB

National Scheduled Caste Scheduled Tribe Hub Scheme (NSSH), an Initiative of the Ministry of MSME, Government of India was Introduced to promote entrepreneurship within the SC/ST community through fulfilment of the 4% procurement target.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Adopt applicable business practices	Provide professional support to SC-ST entrepreneurs to fulfil the obligations under the Public Procurement Policy	Leverage the Stand Up India Initiative
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Trump-class Battleships



- ❖ US President Donald Trump announced a plan to build new “Trump-class” battleships for the US Navy.

- ❖ The plan includes building two Trump-class warships in the first stage.
- ❖ These ships are expected to weigh about 30,000 to 40,000 tonnes.
- ❖ The ships will have missiles, heavy guns, lasers, and hypersonic missiles.
- ❖ US Navy ships are usually named after presidents only after they leave office.

India – New Zealand FTA



INDIA-NEW ZEALAND FTA

India and New Zealand announced the conclusion of negotiations for a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement, strengthening bilateral economic ties.

- ✓ Zero duty on 100% of goods exports upon entry into force
- ✓ Tariff elimination on 8,284 tariff lines, expanding market access for Indian products
- ✓ New growth avenues across IT-ITeS, finance, education, tourism & audio-visual services
- ✓ Unprecedented mobility opportunities for Indian professionals and students
- ✓ MFN treatment to enhance competitiveness and deeper integration into global value chains
- ✓ Strong benefits for farmers, MSMEs, workers, artisans and women, supporting inclusive growth

- ❖ India and New Zealand concluded negotiations for a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- ❖ The agreement aims to strengthen the bilateral trade, investment, and economic cooperation between the two countries.
- ❖ Under the FTA, tariffs on about 95% of New Zealand's exports to India will be reduced or removed.
- ❖ Both countries expect bilateral trade to double within the next five years.



- ❖ New Zealand is expected to invest around 20 billion US dollars in India over the next 15 years.
- ❖ This agreement is India's seventh Free Trade Agreement signed in recent years.
- ❖ It is one of India's fastest-concluded FTAs.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Hypersonic Missile System - Dark Eagle

- ❖ Dark Eagle is a hypersonic missile system developed by the USA.
- ❖ It is a non-nuclear, ground-launched weapon used by the US Army.
- ❖ The system is also called Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW).
- ❖ It can strike targets up to 2,735 kilometres away.
- ❖ It uses a hypersonic glide warhead (Common Hypersonic Glide Body – C-HGB) that can travel at speeds up to Mach 17.
- ❖ The missile is launched using a solid-fuel, two-stage rocket booster.

ABOUT DARK EAGLE

Dark Eagle is the U.S. Army's name for the U.S. **Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW)**.

It is a hypersonic boost-glide weapon with **mobile ground equipment that allows personnel to launch it from anywhere in the world**. The weapon's boost glide architecture makes it hard to detect, track and intercept.

The U.S. Army referred to it as a **"game-changing capability."**

BrahMos Missile Export Deals

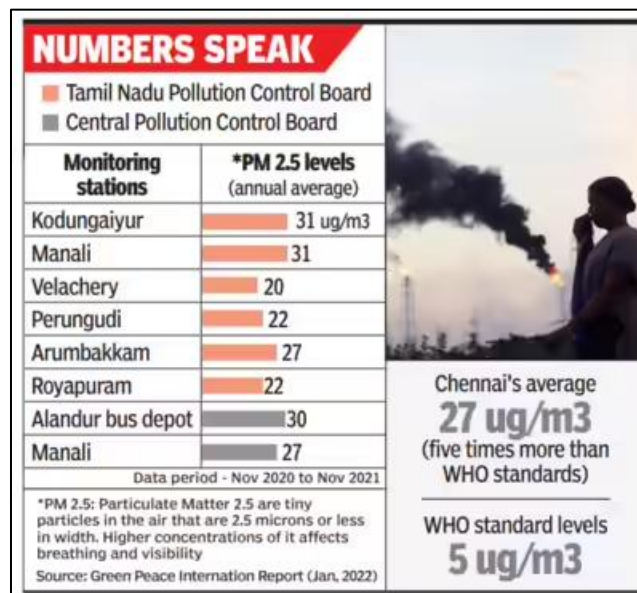
- ❖ India's BrahMos supersonic cruise missile is being exported to foreign countries.

- ❖ Export deals worth approximately \$450 million are expected to be signed soon.
- ❖ The missile can be launched from land, sea, or air platforms.
- ❖ BrahMos was used in Operation Sindoor against Pakistan, with 15 to 19 missiles fired.
- ❖ India recently signed contracts worth about Rs 4,000 crore for BrahMos exports with two countries.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Air Quality in Chennai



- ❖ Chennai recorded lower PM2.5 (fine particulate matter) levels compared to many Indian cities.

- ❖ Kodungaiyur station recorded $12.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, below the national standard of $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- ❖ It recorded the lowest annual average $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ level in the country in 2024.
- ❖ Several areas in Chennai reported $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ levels below $20 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- ❖ PM_{10} (coarse dust particles) pollution remains a major challenge in the city.
- ❖ Velachery recorded $47 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of PM_{10} , within the national limit of $60 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- ❖ Coastal factors like sea breeze helped reduce $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ levels in Chennai.
- ❖ PM_{10} denote the coarser particles largely linked to road dust, construction activity and soil re-suspension.
- ❖ The Delhi-NCR region continues to dominate the list of the most polluted locations for both PM_{10} and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, with annual PM_{10} levels crossing $250 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at multiple stations.

SPORTS NEWS

Asian Youth Para Games 2025



DUBAI 2025
Asian Youth Para Games

DUBAI 2025

ASIAN YOUTH PARA GAMES

	COUNTRIES	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1	UZBEKISTAN	82	49	26	157
2	I.R.IRAN	59	71	72	202
3	JAPAN	39	24	12	75
4	THAILAND	21	25	27	73
5	KAZAKHSTAN	20	21	13	54
6	INDONESIA	16	22	10	48
7	INDIA	16	14	16	46
8	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	12	6	6	24
9	PHILIPPINES	11	10	5	26
10	MALAYSIA	10	12	7	29

- ❖ The fifth edition of the Asian Youth Para Games 2025 was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- ❖ India finished seventh in the medal tally with 102 medals, including 36 gold, 28 silvers, and 38 bronze.
- ❖ Uzbekistan topped the medal table with 197 medals, while Iran finished second and Japan secured third place.
- ❖ The official mascot of the games was “Foxy,” inspired by the Emirati Desert Fox.

IMPORTANT DAYS


National farmers day 2025 - December 23

Choudhary Charan Singh was born on Dec 23, 1902

FARMERS' LEADER

Became 5th prime minister of India in 1979

His birthday is celebrated as KISAN DIWAS across the country	In 1938, introduced the Agriculture Produce Market Bill to protect the interest of farmers from the greed of traders
Abolished Zamindari from UP through the Zamindari Abolition Act, 1950 & brought about the Land holding Act, 1960	Authored several books including <i>Abolition of Zamindari</i> , <i>Co-operative Farming X-rayed & India's Poverty & its Solution</i>
	Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport in Lucknow & Chaudhary Charan Singh University in Meerut have been named after him



- ❖ This day is also known as Kisan Diwas.
- ❖ It marks the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh (former Prime Minister of India).
- ❖ The day was declared by the Government of India in 2001.
- ❖ The day aims to honour farmers and highlight their role in food security and the economy.
- ❖ The theme of 2025 is “Vikasit Bharat 2047 – The Role of FPOs (Farmer Producer Organisations) in Globalising Indian Agriculture.”

Good Governance Day 2025 - December 25

- ❖ It marks the birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee (former PM of India).
- ❖ The day was declared by the Government of India in 2014.
- ❖ The day aims to promote transparency, accountability, and efficient governance.

- ❖ The theme of 2025 is “Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore” (Governance Towards Villages).

GOOD GOVERNANCE DAY 2025 - DECEMBER 25					
CELEBRATING TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY & EFFICIENT GOVERNANCE					
 <p>Birth Anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee (Former Prime Minister of India)</p>	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>KEY FACTS & THEME</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>✓ Declared by the Government of India in 2014.</td></tr><tr><td>✓ Aims to promote transparency, accountability, and efficient governance.</td></tr><tr><td>✓ Theme of Good Governance Day 2025 is “Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore” (Governance Towards Villages).</td></tr></tbody></table> <div><p>Governance Towards Villages गवशासन गाँव की ओर</p></div>	KEY FACTS & THEME	✓ Declared by the Government of India in 2014.	✓ Aims to promote transparency, accountability, and efficient governance.	✓ Theme of Good Governance Day 2025 is “Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore” (Governance Towards Villages).
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MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Cube Shaped Skull – Mexico



- ❖ Archaeologists discovered a cube-shaped human skull at the Balcón de Montezuma site in Mexico.
- ❖ The skull belonged to a man aged about 40 years who lived over 1,000 years ago during the Mesoamerican Classic period (400–900 AD).
- ❖ Scientific analysis shows the skull shape was caused by intentional cranial deformation done in early childhood.



- ❖ Cranial deformation was achieved using boards and bandages to reshape the skull as it grew.
- ❖ The cube-shaped form is a rare and previously unreported style in the Mesoamerican region.
- ❖ The practice is linked to social identity, ritual beliefs, and cultural traditions of pre-Hispanic communities.

