

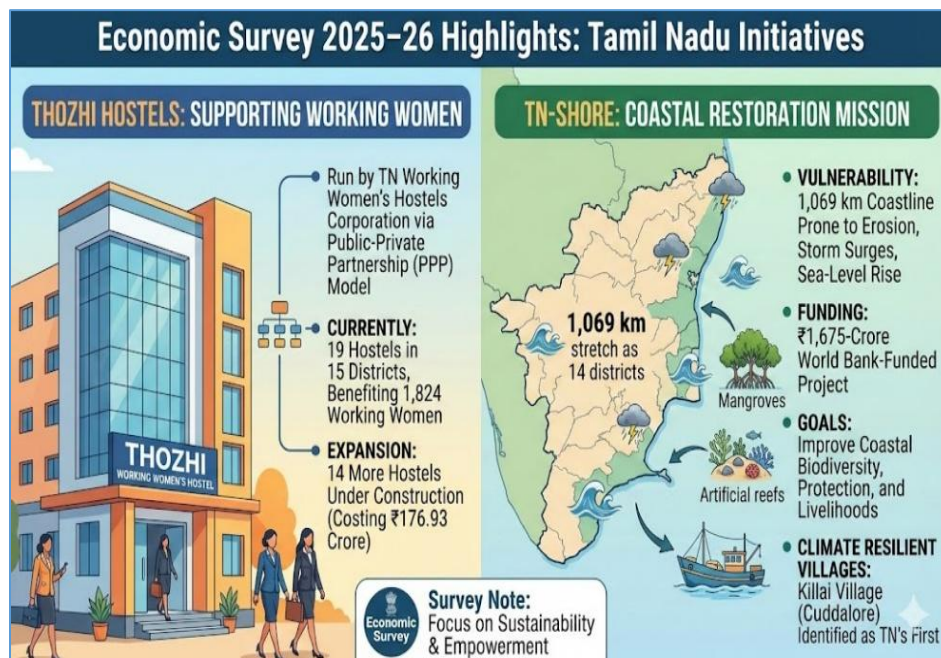
February - 01

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Roshini, a Class 9 student from Ranipet, won a gold medal at the 29th All India National Championship 2026 for Traditional Martial Arts, held in Goa.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin unveiled the foundation for an integrated Multi-Modal Facility Complex (MMFC) with Kuralagam at Broadway, Chennai.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Thozhi Hostels and Coastal Restoration



- ❖ The Economic Survey 2025-26 has highlighted Tamil Nadu's 'Thozhi' working women's hostels and Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN-SHORE) coastal restoration mission.
- ❖ Thozhi hostels are run by the Tamil Nadu Working Women's Hostels Corporation through public-private partnership (PPP) (Public-Private Partnership) model.
- ❖ At present, 19 Thozhi hostels in 15 districts benefit 1,824 working women, and 14 more hostels costing ₹176.93 crore are under construction.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has a 1,069-kilometre coastline across 14 districts, which is vulnerable to erosion, storm surges, and sea-level rise.

- ❖ The TN-SHORE is a ₹1,675-crore World Bank-funded project to improve coastal biodiversity, protection, and livelihoods.
- ❖ The survey also noted Climate Resilient Villages, with Killai village in Cuddalore district identified as Tamil Nadu's first such village.

### **Tamil Nadu's Knowledge City Initiative**

- ❖ At the India Global Education Summit 2026 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu announced the Knowledge City project and multiple international education tie-ups.
- ❖ The 872-acre Knowledge City is planned in the Tiruvallur district as an integrated academic-industrial ecosystem.
- ❖ It will combine higher education, research, advanced manufacturing, clean technology, and entrepreneurship.
- ❖ The first phase of the project will be ready for allocation by the end of 2026.
- ❖ The project is expected to support over 25,000 students and researchers in the long term.

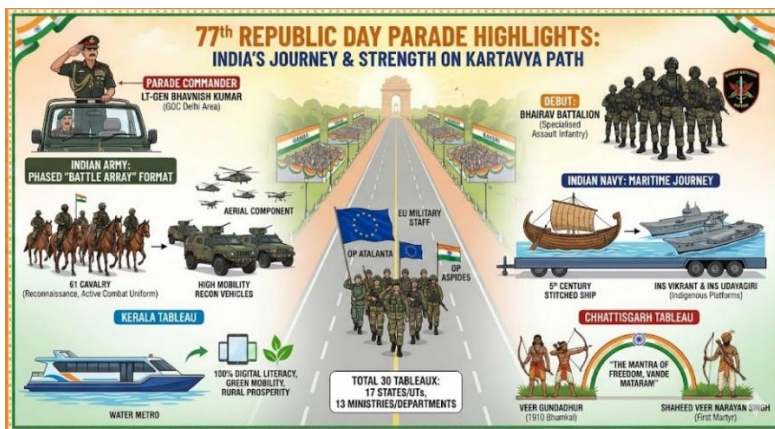


## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **77<sup>th</sup> Republic Day Parade of India – Highlights**

- ❖ The parade was led by Parade Commander Lieutenant-General Bhavnish Kumar, General Officer Commanding of Delhi Area.
- ❖ For the first time, the Indian Army showcased a phased “battle array format”, including its aerial component.

- ❖ The reconnaissance element featured the historic 61 Cavalry in active combat uniform, followed by high mobility reconnaissance vehicles.
- ❖ The Indian Navy tableau traced India's maritime journey from a 5th century stitched ship to modern indigenous platforms such as INS Vikrant and INS Udayagiri.
- ❖ The 77th Republic Day celebration also saw the parade debut of the newly-raised Bhairav Battalion.
- ❖ It is a specialised assault infantry unit aimed at bridging the capabilities of conventional infantry and special forces.
- ❖ In addition, a military contingent from the European Union, carrying its military staff flag and flags of Operations Atalanta and Aspides, and the naval operations of the grouping, also participated in the parade.
- ❖ It was the EU's first participation in such an event outside of Europe.
- ❖ A total of 30 tableaux -- 17 of States and Union Territories and 13 of various Ministries and Departments, rolled down the Kartavya Path.
- ❖ Showcasing India's first Water Metro, the Kerala's tableau depicted the State's achievement of 100% digital literacy and green mobility, rural prosperity and women-led digital empowerment.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh's tableau was themed "The Mantra of Freedom, Vande Mataram".
- ❖ It paid tribute to tribal freedom fighters and featured Veer Gundadhur of the 1910 Bhumkal Rebellion and Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh, the State's first martyr.
- ❖ This year, the enclosures for the parade were named after the rivers flowing across the nation.



## Economic Survey 2025/26 - Key Highlights

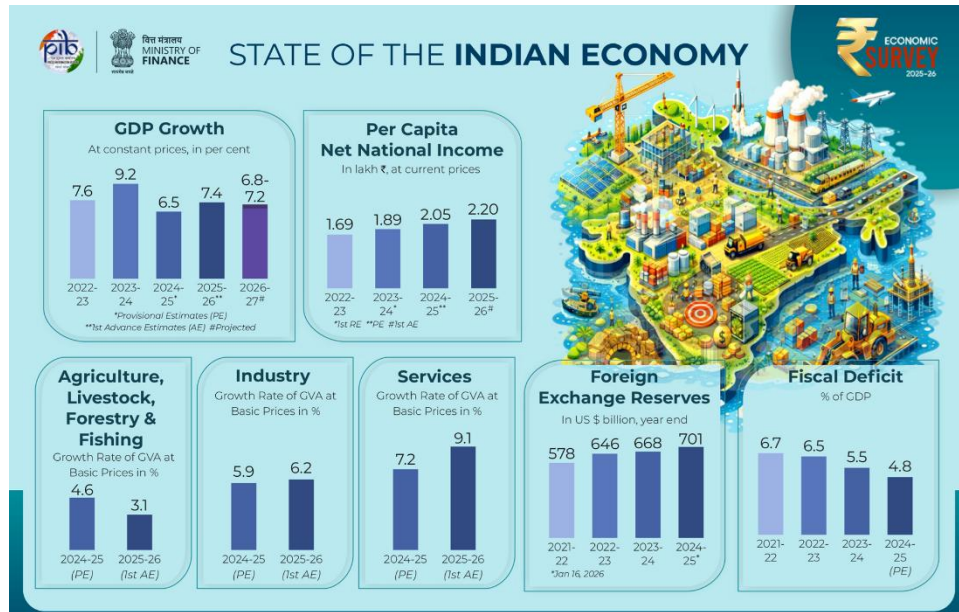
- ❖ The Economic Survey 2025–26 was tabled in Parliament on 29 January 2026, ahead of the Union Budget 2026–27.



- ❖ India's potential growth rate has been revised upward to 7%, up from 6.5% in previous estimates.
- ❖ The economy is projected to grow at 6.8–7.2% in FY2026–27.
- ❖ India remains the fastest-growing major economy for the fourth consecutive year.
- ❖ The Survey warns of global economic uncertainty, estimating a 10–20% chance of a crisis worse than the 2008 global financial crisis in 2026.
- ❖ Even the best-case global scenario for 2026 is “business as in 2025”, though conditions are increasingly fragile.
- ❖ India is described as an “oasis of economic performance” in a weak global environment.
- ❖ Inflation is tamed and anchored, with average Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation at 1.7% during April–December 2025, the lowest since the series began.
- ❖ Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) grew by 7% in FY26, forming 61.5% of GDP, the highest share since FY23.
- ❖ The agriculture and services sectors remain the largest contributors to India's GDP.
- ❖ Food grain production in the Agriculture Year 2024–25 reached 3,577.3 lakh metric tonnes (LMT), an increase of 254.3 LMT over the previous year, driven by rice, wheat, maize, and coarse cereals.
- ❖ The Government of India's capital expenditure rose nearly 4.2 times, from ₹2.63 lakh crore in FY18 to ₹11.21 lakh crore in FY26 (Budget Estimates), while effective capital expenditure in FY26 is ₹15.48 lakh crore.
- ❖ The National Highway network expanded by 60%, from 91,287 km in FY14 to 1,46,572 km in FY26 (up to December).
- ❖ The operational High-Speed Corridors increased nearly ten-fold, from 550 km in FY14 to 5,364 km in FY26 (up to December).
- ❖ The railway network reached 69,439 route km as of March 2025, with 99.1% electrification achieved by October 2025.
- ❖ India became the world's third-largest domestic aviation market, with the number of airports increasing from 74 in 2014 to 164 in 2025.
- ❖ India achieved autonomous satellite docking (SpaDeX), becoming the fourth nation in the world to do so.
- ❖ Total exports reached a record \$825.3 billion in FY25, registering a 6.1% year-on-year growth, driven mainly by services exports.
- ❖ The banking sector's asset quality improved, with Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) at 2.2% and Net NPA at 0.5% in September 2025.
- ❖ The fiscal deficit is on track at 4.4% of GDP for FY26.



- ❖ The Indian rupee underperformed in 2025, not reflecting the country's strong economic fundamentals.



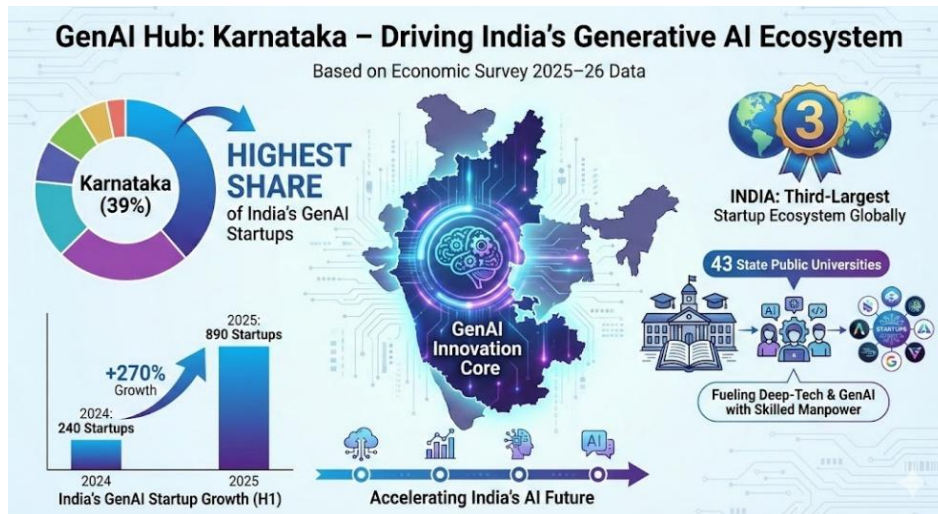
- ❖ India benefits from a large domestic market, strong foreign exchange reserves, and a credible degree of strategic autonomy, which provide buffers against financial volatility.
- ❖ The Survey supports Swadeshi as a legitimate policy instrument amid increasing export controls and global uncertainties.
- ❖ It emphasizes import substitution, strategic resilience, and strategic indispensability as long-term priorities.
- ❖ Agriculture, manufacturing, and services must grow together to sustain momentum.
- ❖ Labour Codes recognize gig and platform workers, expanding social security and benefits, and aim to improve formal employment.
- ❖ Climate finance remains a binding constraint, and climate action is now a core component of India's development strategy.
- ❖ The Survey recommends age-based limits for social media and reduced online teaching to prevent digital addiction among children.
- ❖ It also suggests a ban on advertisements of ultra-processed foods from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., highlighting rising childhood obesity.
- ❖ The RTI Act may need re-examination to align with global best practices while retaining its original intent.
- ❖ India's late entry into AI offers an advantage, enabling resource-efficient and inclusive adoption aligned with public objectives.

- ❖ The Survey includes 16 chapters, covering topics like urbanisation, AI, environment, infrastructure, industry, education, and strategic resilience.

## STATE NEWS

### GenAI Hub - Karnataka

- ❖ The Economic Survey 2025–26 reported that Karnataka leads India's generative artificial intelligence startup ecosystem.
- ❖ Karnataka hosts 39% of India's GenAI (Generative Artificial Intelligence) startups, the highest share in the country.
- ❖ India recorded 890 GenAI startups in the first half of 2025, rising from 240 in the same period of 2024.
- ❖ India's startup ecosystem is ranked as the third-largest globally, as per the Economic Survey 2025–26.
- ❖ Karnataka has 43 State Public Universities, supporting skilled manpower for deep-tech and GenAI startups.



### Indigenous Bridges of Meghalaya

- ❖ India nominated Meghalaya's living root bridges for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List 2026–27.
- ❖ Living root bridges are natural bridges formed by training the roots of rubber fig trees across rivers and streams.
- ❖ These bridges are traditionally built and maintained by the Khasi and Jaintia communities of Meghalaya.

- ❖ They are mainly located in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, including Nongriat village, which has a famous double-decker root bridge.



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Republic Day Parade 2026

REPUBLIC DAY PARADE 2026 - WINNERS & AWARDS			The Government of India announced the winners of the Republic Day Parade 2026.		
OFFICIAL JURY WINNERS			MYGOV POPULAR CHOICE AWARDS		
CATEGORY	WINNER(S)	DESCRIPTION / THEME	CATEGORY	WINNER(S)	THEME / DESCRIPTION
Best Marching Contingent (Three Services)	Indian Navy	Awarded for exceptional discipline and precision marching.	Services (Marching)	Assam Regiment	Chosen as the popular favorite among Services marching contingents.
Best Marching Contingent (CAPFs & Other Auxiliary Forces)	Delhi Police	Recognized for excellent performance among CAPFs and auxiliary forces.	CAPFs (Marching)	CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force)	Chosen as the popular favorite among CAPF marching contingents.
Top Three Tableaux (States & Union Territories)	1. Maharashtra	Theme: 'Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta'	Best Tableau (States/UTs)	Gujarat	Theme: 'Mantra of Swadeshi – Self-Reliance – Freedom'
	2. Jammu & Kashmir	Theme: 'Handicrafts and Folk Dances'	Best Tableau (Ministries)	Department of School Education and Literacy	Theme: 'National Education Policy 2020: Rocketing Indian School Education on the Path to Viksit Bharat'
	3. Kerala	Theme: 'Water Metro and 100% Digital Literacy: Aatmanirbhar Kerala for Aatmanirbhar Bharat'			
Best Tableau (Central Ministries & Departments)	Ministry of Culture	Theme: 'Vande Mataram – The Soul Cry of a Nation'			

- ❖ The Government of India announced the winners of the Republic Day Parade 2026.



- ❖ The Indian Navy won the Best Marching Contingent among the three Services.
- ❖ The Delhi Police won the Best Marching Contingent among Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and other auxiliary forces.
- ❖ The top three Tableaux from States and Union Territories were Maharashtra (Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta), Jammu & Kashmir (Handicrafts and Folk Dances), and Kerala (Water Metro and 100% Digital Literacy: Aatmanirbhar Kerala for Aatmanirbhar Bharat).
- ❖ The Ministry of Culture won the Best Tableau from Central Ministries and Departments (Vande Mataram – The Soul Cry of a Nation).
- ❖ Popular Choice winners from the online My Government (MyGov) poll were Assam Regiment (Services), CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) (CAPFs), Gujarat (Mantra of Swadeshi – Self-Reliance – Freedom), and Department of School Education and Literacy (National Education Policy 2020: Rocketing Indian School Education on the Path to Viksit Bharat).

### Community Water Champions - WaSH Warriors



- ❖ The Ministry of Jal Shakti honoured WaSH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Warriors for grassroots water leadership.
- ❖ The recognition was given at a Samvad Samaroh held in New Delhi.
- ❖ A total of 58 WaSH Warriors from States and Union Territories were honoured under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
- ❖ They were selected from Swachh Sujal Gaon villages with Har Ghar Jal certification and ODF (Open Defecation Free) Plus Model status under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen).



- ❖ A booklet titled “Peyjal: Jan Shakti Ki Abhivyakti – Volume II” was released during the event.

### State Film Awards – 2016/2022

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has announced the State Film Awards for the years 2016 to 2022.
- ❖ Actors including Vijay Sethupathi, Keerthy Suresh, Karthi, Nayanthara, Dhanush, Jyothika, Suriya, Aparna Balamurali, Arya, Lijomol Jose, Vikram Prabhu, and Sai Pallavi have been selected for the best actor awards.
- ❖ Tamil films Maanagaram, Aram, Pariyerum Perumal, Asuran, Koozhangal, Jai Bhim, and Gargi have won the best film awards for the respective years.
- ❖ Directors such as Lokesh Kanagaraj, Pushkar–Gayathri, Mari Selvaraj, R. Parthiban, Sudha Kongara, T.J. Gnanavel, and Gautham Ramachandran have been chosen for the best director awards.

TAMIL NADU STATE FILM AWARDS 2016–2022: A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE				
YEAR	BEST FILM	BEST ACTOR (MALE)	BEST ACTOR (FEMALE)	BEST DIRECTOR
2016	Maanagaram	Vijay Sethupathi	Keerthy Suresh	Lokesh Kanagaraj
2017	Aramm	Karthi	Nayanthara	Pushkar–Gayathri
2018	Pariyerum Perumal	Dhanush	Jyothika	Mari Selvaraj
2019	Asuran	R. Parthiban	Manju Warriar	R. Parthiban
2020	Koozhangal	Suriya	Aparna Balamurali	Sudha Kongara
2021	Jai Bhim	Arya	Lijomol Jose	T.J. Gnanavel
2022	Gargi	Vikram Prabhu	Sai Pallavi	Gautham Ramachandran

Source: Tamil Nadu Government Announcements. Highlighting major winners across key categories.

