

February - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Navy will commission INS Anjadip at Chennai Port, and it is the third ship under the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) project.
 - INS Anjadip is called a “Dolphin Hunter” because it detects and destroys enemy submarines in coastal and shallow waters.
- ❖ India established its first government-supported National Biobank dedicated to Lysosomal Storage Disorders.
 - Lysosomal Storage Disorders are inherited metabolic diseases caused by a deficiency of specific enzymes.
- ❖ World NGO Day 2026 is observed on 27 February 2026 to recognize the contribution of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) worldwide.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is “Restoring Dignity Through Inclusion.”

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Tamil Nadu Model Schools



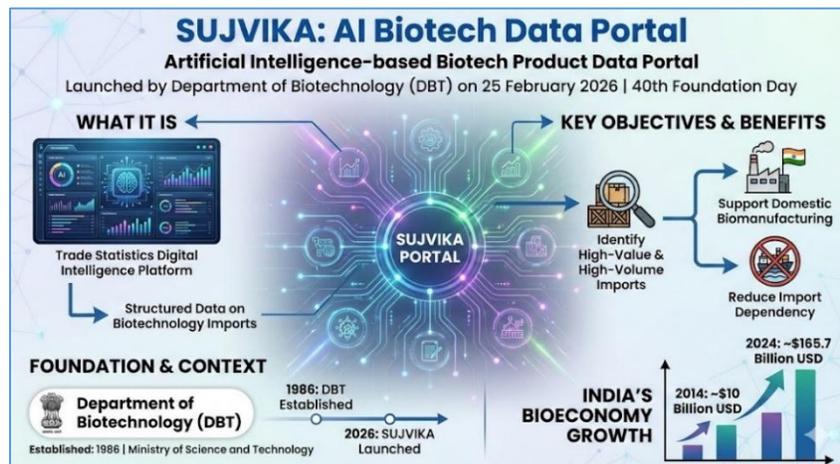
- ❖ 448 Government Model School students from Tamil Nadu qualified in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main 2026.
- ❖ The Government of Tamil Nadu has established 38 Model Schools, one in each district.
- ❖ The schools follow the “Dravidian Model” of education, inspired by reforms in Delhi government schools.
- ❖ The schools have advanced infrastructure such as laboratories, libraries, smart classrooms, and hostels.

- ❖ Model Schools provide special coaching for competitive examinations.
- ❖ The aim is to help students secure admission in premier higher educational institutions.
- ❖ The “Vetri” Schools initiative has also helped many students qualify for premier higher education institutions.

NATIONAL NEWS

SUJVICA - AI Biotech Data Portal

- ❖ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has launched “SUJVICA”, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based Biotech Product Data Portal, on 25 February 2026, marking its 40th Foundation Day.
- ❖ It is a Trade Statistics Digital Intelligence Platform that provides structured data on biotechnology imports.
- ❖ The portal helps identify high-value and high-volume imports to support domestic biomanufacturing and reduce import dependency.
- ❖ The DBT was established in 1986 under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- ❖ India’s bioeconomy increased from nearly 10 billion United States Dollars (USD) in 2014 to about 165.7 billion USD in 2024.

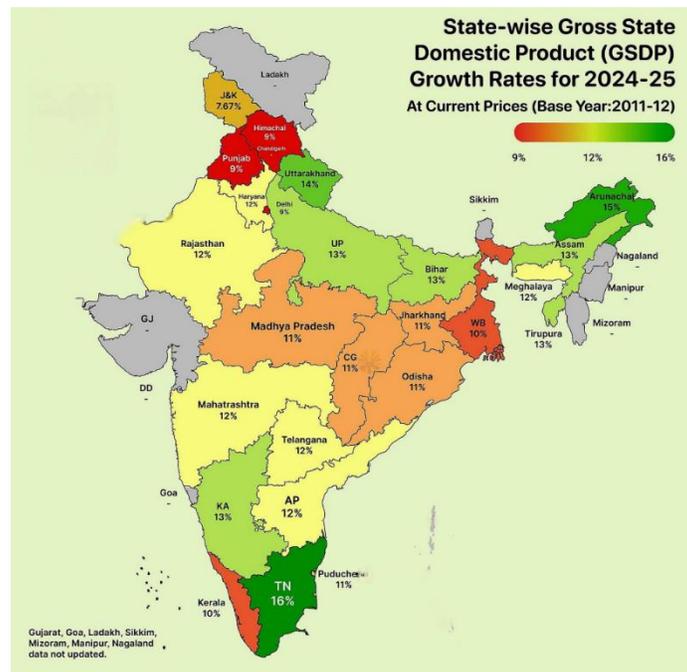


ECONOMY NEWS

GSDP Rankings of Indian States FY 2025

- ❖ India’s Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) rankings for the financial year 2025 have been released, showing the richest and poorest states and Union Territories (UTs).

- ❖ GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product) measures the total economic output of a state or UT.
- ❖ Maharashtra is the richest state with a GSDP of ₹45.32 lakh crore, driven by finance, manufacturing, and services.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is second with a GSDP of ₹31.19 lakh crore, led by automobiles, manufacturing, and information technology (IT).
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh is third with a GSDP of ₹29.78 lakh crore, supported by infrastructure, agriculture, and industry.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh has the smallest GSDP at ₹4,423 crore, followed by Tripura at ₹8,968 crore and Himachal Pradesh at ₹23,169 crore.
- ❖ Southern states dominate the top rankings, while northeastern states and smaller UTs have lower GSDP due to smaller populations and geography.
- ❖ India's overall real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is projected at 7.4% for FY 2024–25.

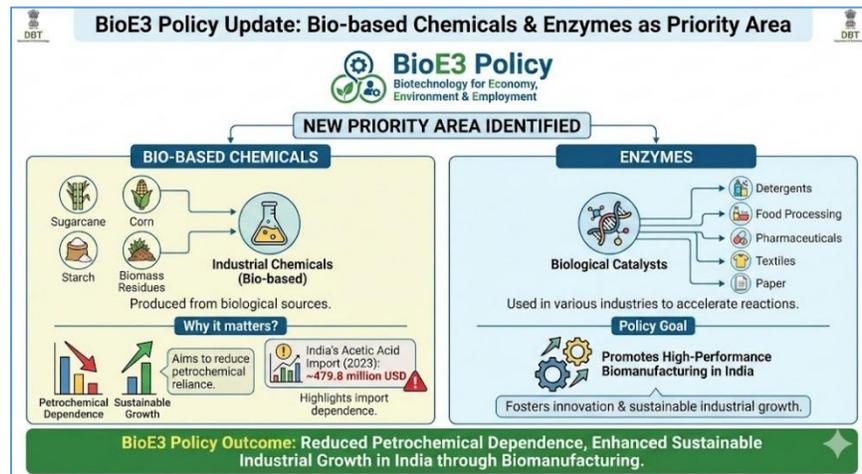


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

BioE3 Policy update

- ❖ Bio-based chemicals and enzymes have been identified as a priority area under the BioE3 Policy of the Department of Biotechnology.
- ❖ Bio-based chemicals are industrial chemicals produced from biological sources such as sugarcane, corn, starch, and biomass residues.

- ❖ Enzymes are biological catalysts used in industries such as detergents, food processing, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and paper.
- ❖ The BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) promotes high-performance biomanufacturing in India.
- ❖ India imported about 479.8 million USD worth of acetic acid in 2023, indicating import dependence.
- ❖ The policy aims to reduce dependence on petrochemicals and promote sustainable industrial growth.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Vaan Island Restoration



- ❖ A technical assessment reported a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) of 2.34 for the restoration of Vaan Island.

- ❖ The assessment was conducted by the Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission, Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Foundation and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras.
- ❖ Vaan Island is one of 21 uninhabited coral islands in the Gulf of Mannar.
- ❖ The island had shrunk by 92% between 1969 and 2015 due to coral mining, reef degradation and sea-level rise.
- ❖ Artificial reef modules were deployed from 2015 to prevent erosion and restore the island.
- ❖ The project generated socio-ecological benefits worth ₹61.67 crore against a cost of ₹26.37 crore.

Smooth-Coated Otter

- ❖ Smooth-coated otters were officially recorded for the first time in Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttarakhand.
- ❖ Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand between the Gola and Sharda rivers.
- ❖ The smooth-coated otter (Scientific name: *Lutrogale perspicillata*) is listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN.
- ❖ The species is a semi-aquatic mammal found in freshwater rivers, wetlands, and mangroves.



New Diplura Species - *Lepidocampa sikkimensis*

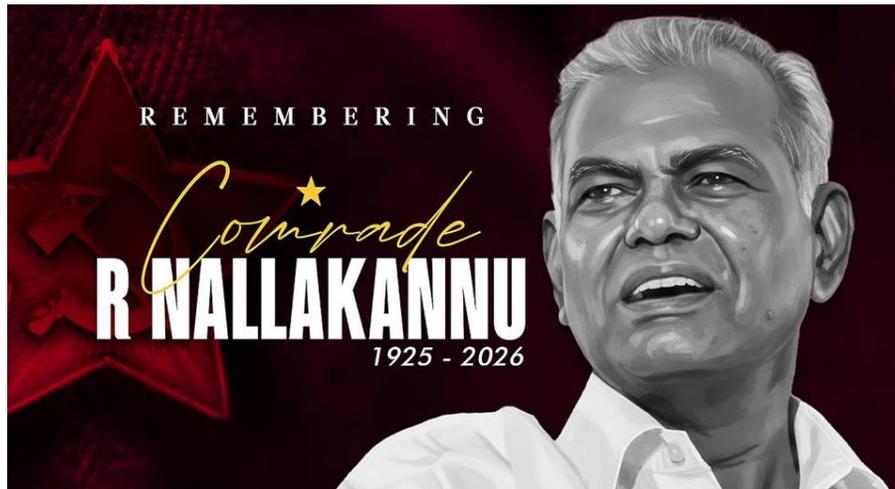
- ❖ Scientists of the Zoological Survey of India have discovered a new species of Diplura named *Lepidocampa sikkimensis* in the eastern Himalayas.

- ❖ Diplura are primitive hexapods under the class Hexapoda.
- ❖ They are soil-dwelling micro-arthropods.
- ❖ This is the first Diplura species formally described by an Indian research team.
- ❖ Earlier, 17 Diplura species had been recorded in India, all identified by foreign scientists.
- ❖ Researchers also rediscovered *Lepidocampa juradii bengalensis*, a rare subspecies not recorded for nearly 50 years.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

R. Nallakannu (1925–2026) Demise



- ❖ R. Nallakannu, senior leader of the Communist Party of India (CPI), passed away on 25 February 2026 in Chennai at the age of 101 and was accorded State honours.
- ❖ R. Nallakannu was a leader of the CPI and served as the Tamil Nadu State Secretary for three terms from 1992.

- ❖ He was born in 1925 in Srivaikundam, Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu, and joined the Indian freedom movement as a school student.
- ❖ In 1949, he was arrested in the Nellore Conspiracy Case, which alleged that Communist leaders planned to overthrow the Government led by Jawaharlal Nehru.
- ❖ He was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Nellore Conspiracy Case along with K. Balathandayutham, P. Manikkam, I. Mayandibharathi, and many others.
- ❖ He was released from prison in 1956.
- ❖ He lived underground when the Communist Party was banned by the British government and later by the Congress government led by Jawaharlal Nehru.
- ❖ In 1964, when the Communist movement in India split after the Indo-China War, he chose to remain with the CPI.
- ❖ In 1999, he contested the Lok Sabha election from Coimbatore as a CPI candidate and lost to C. P. Radhakrishnan of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- ❖ He led a campaign against illegal sand mining in the Thamirabarani river basin and, in 2010, filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Madras High Court, where he personally argued the case and obtained a stay order against sand mining.
- ❖ On 15 August 2022, he received the 'Thagaisal Thamizhar' award from the Government of Tamil Nadu, presented by M. K. Stalin, and he donated ₹10 lakh along with ₹5,000 of his own money to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.

Parliamentary Friendship Group



- ❖ Shrikant Eknath Shinde is the youngest MP to be nominated as the President of the India-Indonesia Parliamentary Friendship Group.

- ❖ Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MP Supriya Sule leads the India-Singapore Parliamentary Friendship Group.
- ❖ A total of 64 Parliamentary Friendship Groups have been formed in the 18th Lok Sabha.
- ❖ Shrikant Shinde is a three-term MP and the son of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.
- ❖ He has previously led international parliamentary delegations to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sierra Leone, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in May 2025.
- ❖ The group will work to strengthen cultural, economic, and social relations between India and Indonesia.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Central Excise Day 2026 - February 24

- ❖ It commemorates the Central Excise and Salt Act enacted on 24 February 1944, which unified 11 excise laws into one framework.
- ❖ Central Excise is an indirect tax levied on goods manufactured in India.
- ❖ After the introduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in 2017, excise duty continues mainly on petroleum and tobacco products.
- ❖ The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) administers Central Excise, Customs, and Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST).
- ❖ The CBIC functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.



National Science Day 2026 - February 28

- ❖ The day aims to promote scientific temper and encourage interest in science among people.

- ❖ It is celebrated to mark the discovery of the Raman Effect in 1928 by C. V. Raman.
- ❖ C. V. Raman received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930 for this discovery.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Women in Science: Catalysing Viksit Bharat.”

NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY 2026 - FEBRUARY 28: CELEBRATING SCIENCE & INNOVATION IN INDIA

Explaining the Significance & Theme

OBJECTIVE: PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC TEMPER

Aims to cultivate scientific thinking, logical reasoning, and curiosity among all citizens. Encourages questioning and evidence-based understanding.

GLOBAL RECOGNITION: NOBEL PRIZE (1930)

For this momentous discovery, Sir C. V. Raman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930, making him the first Asian to receive this honour in science.

THE HISTORICAL DISCOVERY: RAMAN EFFECT (1928)

Celebrates the ground-breaking discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by Indian physicist Sir C. V. Raman on Feb 28, 1928. This phenomenon is the inelastic scattering of light.

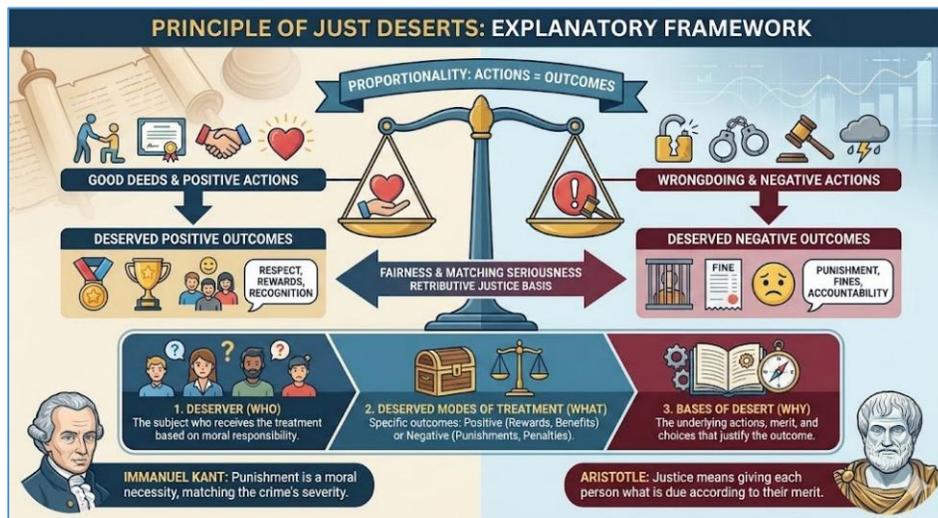


THEME FOR 2026: WOMEN IN SCIENCE: CATALYSING VIKSIT BHARAT

Highlighting the crucial role of women scientists and researchers in driving India's progress towards a developed nation (Viksit Bharat). Focusing on their contributions to innovation, technology, and national development.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Principle of Just Deserts



- ❖ The Principle of Just Deserts explains that people should receive rewards or punishments based on their actions.
- ❖ A person who does good deeds deserves rewards, while someone who commits a crime deserves punishment.

- ❖ Punishment should match the seriousness of the crime, based on fairness and proportionality.
- ❖ The principle has three main parts: Deserver (who deserves), Deserved Modes of Treatment (what is deserved), and Bases of Desert (why it is deserved).
- ❖ Deserved outcomes can be positive (rewards, respect) or negative (punishment, fines), depending on actions.
- ❖ The principle is based on retributive justice, where people are morally responsible for their choices.
- ❖ Philosophers like Immanuel Kant and Aristotle supported the idea that punishment or benefits should be fair and proportionate to merit.

