

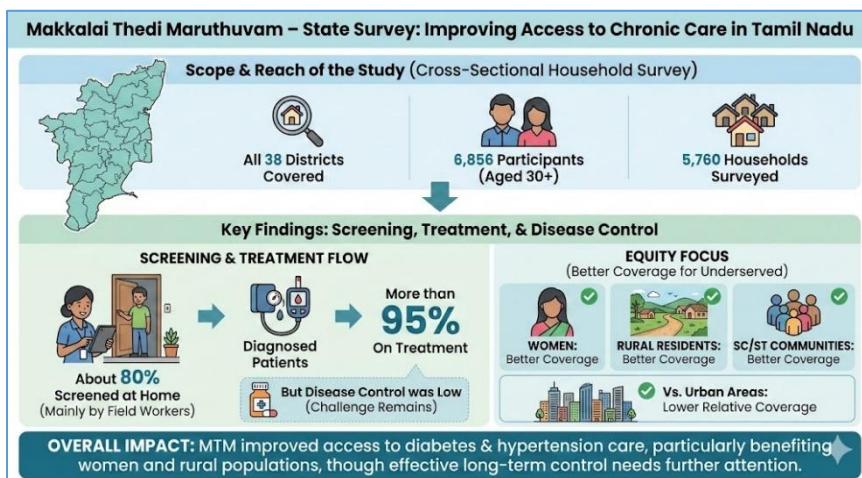
January - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ NLC India Limited (NLCIL) has commissioned its full 300-Megawatt (MW) Barsingar Solar Power Project in Rajasthan.
- ❖ Microsoft launched the Maia 200 AI chip, offering 30% higher performance per dollar, and deployed it in U.S. data centres for Microsoft 365 Copilot and cloud AI services.
- ❖ Scotland replaced Bangladesh in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 after Bangladesh withdrew from the tournament.
- ❖ National Geographic Day was observed on 27 January to highlight geography, science, exploration, wildlife, and environmental conservation.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam – State Survey

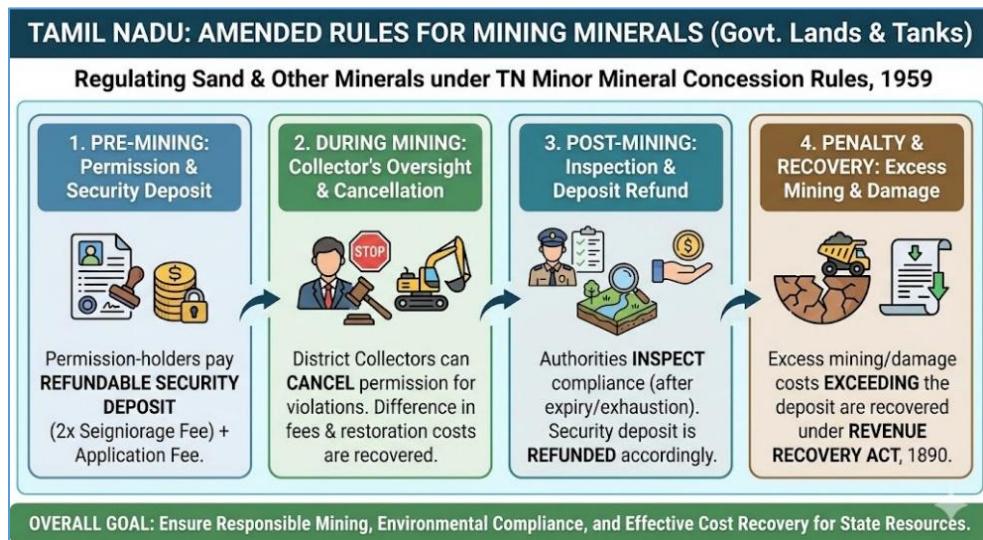


- ❖ A State-wide study found that the Tamil Nadu government's Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam (MTM) scheme has improved access to diabetes and hypertension care, especially for women and rural people.
- ❖ The study was a State-wide cross-sectional household survey conducted in all 38 districts of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ About 80% of people were screened for diabetes and hypertension, mainly by MTM field workers at home.
- ❖ More than 95% of diagnosed patients were on treatment, but disease control was low.

- ❖ Women, rural residents, and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) had better coverage than urban areas.

Rules on Mining Minerals

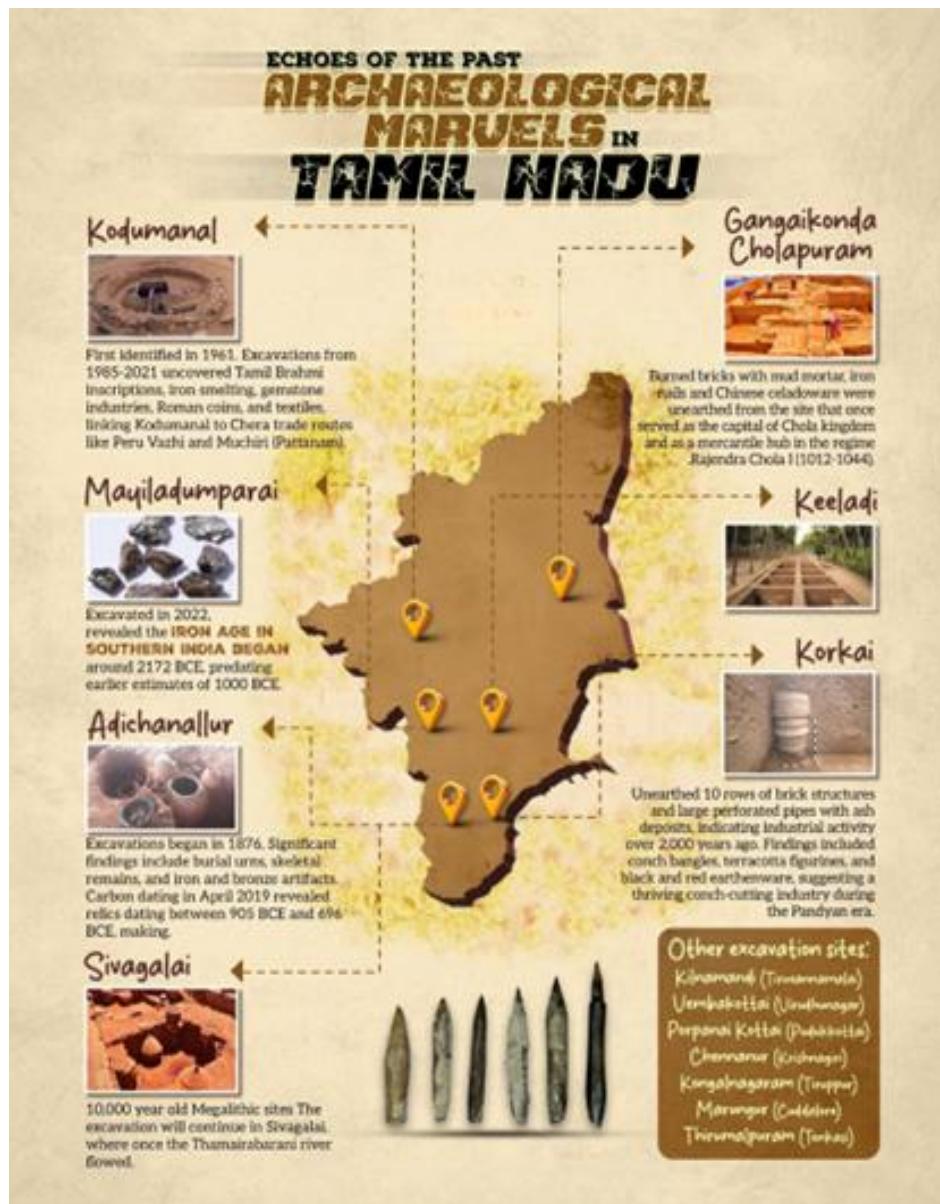
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government amended the Tamil Nadu Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1959, to regulate mining of sand and other minerals from government lands and tanks.
- ❖ Permission-holders must pay a refundable security deposit equal to two times the seigniorage fee, along with the application fee.
- ❖ District Collectors can cancel mining permission if conditions are violated and recover the difference in fees and restoration costs.
- ❖ Authorities will inspect compliance after expiry of permission or exhaustion of quantity and refund the security deposit accordingly.
- ❖ Excess mining or damage costs will be recovered under the Revenue Recovery Act, 1890, if they exceed the security deposit.



Iron Age Burial Site – Kodaikanal

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) began excavation at an Iron Age burial site in Kamanur, Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The project is part of a three-year excavation plan covering several sites in the Palani Hills.
- ❖ Archaeologists have identified cists, dolmens, urn burials, and pit burials in the region.

- ❖ This is the first ASI-led excavation in Kodaikanal; earlier excavations were conducted at Thandikudi in 2004 and 2006.



TNWESafe Project and HPV Vaccination Drive

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin launched the Tamil Nadu Women Employment and Safety (TNWESafe) Project and the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme at a Tamil Nadu Global Women Summit 2026.
- ❖ The TNWESafe Project is financed by a World Bank loan to improve women's safety and employment.

- ❖ The HPV vaccination drive will begin in Ariyalur, Dharmapuri, Perambalur, and Tiruvannamalai districts.
- ❖ The vaccination programme will benefit 3,38,649 girls above 14 years of age.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu became the first state in India to launch a state-wide free Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme for 14-year-old girls to prevent cervical cancer.
- ❖ India's first indigenously developed, affordable quadrivalent vaccine, CERVAVAC, was developed by the Serum Institute of India (SII).

மகளிருக்கான ‘TNWESafe’ தீட்டம் தொடக்கம்!

**இந்தியாவில் முதன்முறையாக, உலக வங்கியின்
உதவியுடன் தமிழ்நாட்டின் அனைத்து வயது
பெண்களையும் உள்ளடக்கிய,
‘தமிழ்நாடு மகளிர் வேலைவாய்ப்பு மற்றும்
பாதுகாப்பு’ தீட்டத்தை (TNWESafe)
முதலமைச்சர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.**

UGC on Language Policy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ UGC launched this initiative based on the multilingualism envisioned in the NEP ➤ UG, PG and doctoral students are main target population ➤ The language courses will also be opened for all teaching and non-teaching staff 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All universities and colleges need offer three Indian languages - one local language and another two may be any other Indian languages ➤ These courses to be offered at three levels - basic, intermediate and advanced with flexi entry and exit
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- ❖ Tamil Nadu has opposed the UGC (University Grants Commission) circular on introducing a third language in higher education institutions.
- ❖ The State said the circular is against its long-followed two-language policy.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has followed the two-language formula of Tamil and English since 1968.

- ❖ The State rejected the three-language formula proposed under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- ❖ Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, leading to Centre–State differences.
- ❖ Earlier, in 2022, the Tamil Nadu Assembly opposed steps to promote Hindi in central institutions.

NATIONAL NEWS

LR-AShM missile in the Republic Day parade



- ❖ DRDO showcased the LR-AShM hypersonic glide missile system for the first time at the 77th Republic Day parade.
- ❖ The LR-AShM (Long-Range Anti-Ship Missile) is an indigenously developed hypersonic glide missile.
- ❖ It is designed mainly for coastal defence operations of the Indian Navy.
- ❖ It is capable of striking high-value enemy naval targets with high precision.

Carbon Credit Trading Scheme Expansion

- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity targets for 208 additional high-emitting units.

- ❖ The notification brought four new sectors, namely Petroleum Refineries, Petrochemicals, Textiles and Secondary Aluminium, under the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme.
- ❖ With this inclusion, the total number of obligated entities under the scheme increased to 490.
- ❖ Earlier, Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity targets were notified in October 2025 for the Aluminium, Cement, Chlor Alkali and Pulp and Paper sectors.
- ❖ The Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) was notified in 2023 to operationalise the Indian Carbon Market.
- ❖ The scheme allows industries achieving excess emission reductions to earn Carbon Credit Certificates for trading.

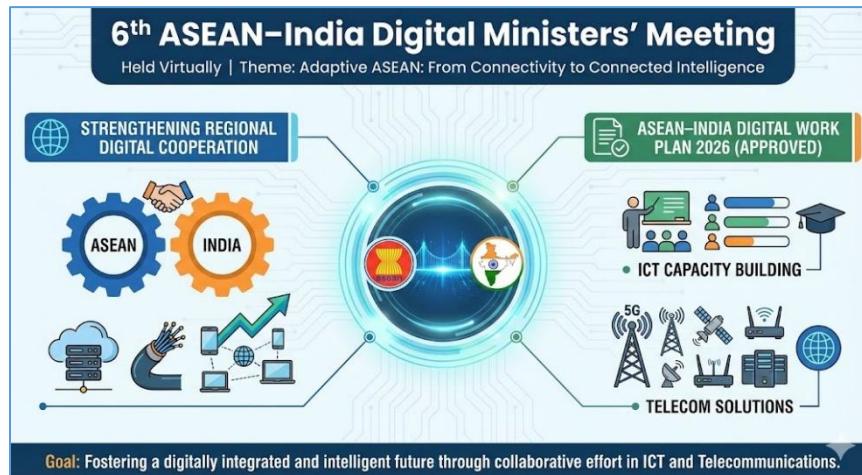


INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ASEAN-India Digital Ministers Meeting

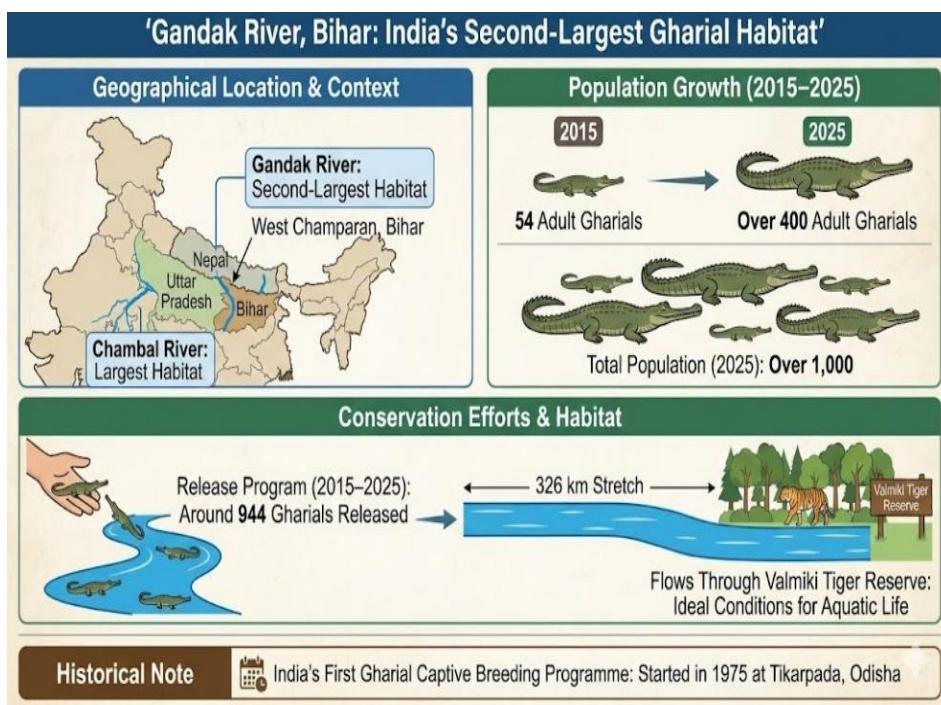
- ❖ The 6th ASEAN-India Digital Ministers' Meeting was held virtually.
- ❖ The theme of the event is "Adaptive ASEAN: From Connectivity to Connected Intelligence."
- ❖ The aim is to strengthen ASEAN-India regional cooperation in the digital sector.

- ❖ The ASEAN-India Digital Work Plan 2026 was approved, focusing on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capacity building and telecom solutions.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

India's Second-Largest Gharial Habitat

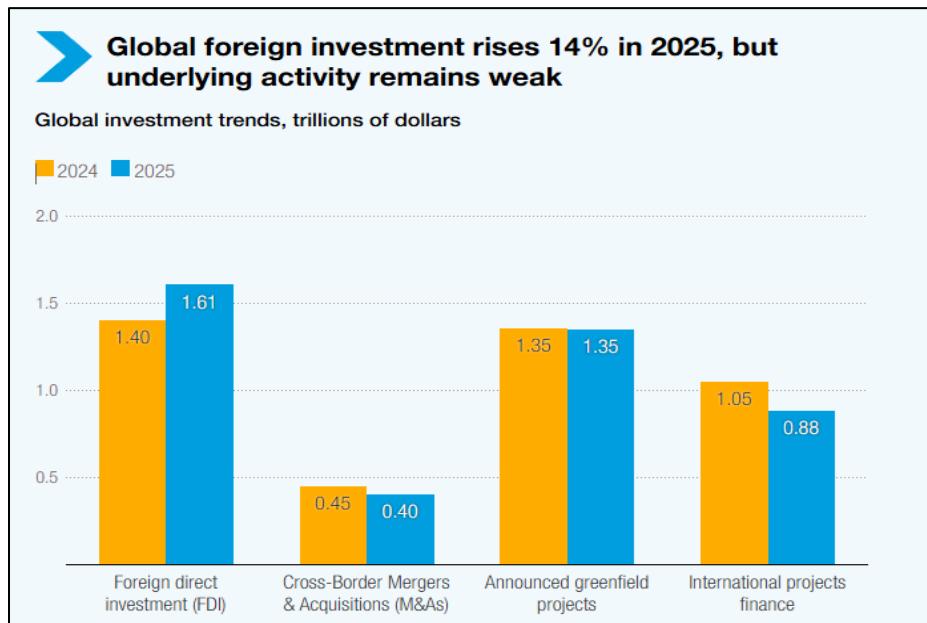


- ❖ The Gandak River in Bihar has become India's second-largest habitat for gharials, after the Chambal River.
- ❖ The Gandak River flows along the India-Nepal border through West Champaran district, Bihar.

- ❖ Adult gharial numbers increased from 54 in 2015 to over 400 in 2025; the total population, including juveniles, crossed 1,000.
- ❖ Around 944 gharials were released into a 326-kilometre stretch of the river between 2015 and 2025.
- ❖ The river passes through the Valmiki Tiger Reserve, providing ideal conditions for aquatic life.
- ❖ India's first gharial captive breeding programme started in 1975 at Tikarpada, Odisha.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Investment Trends Monitor



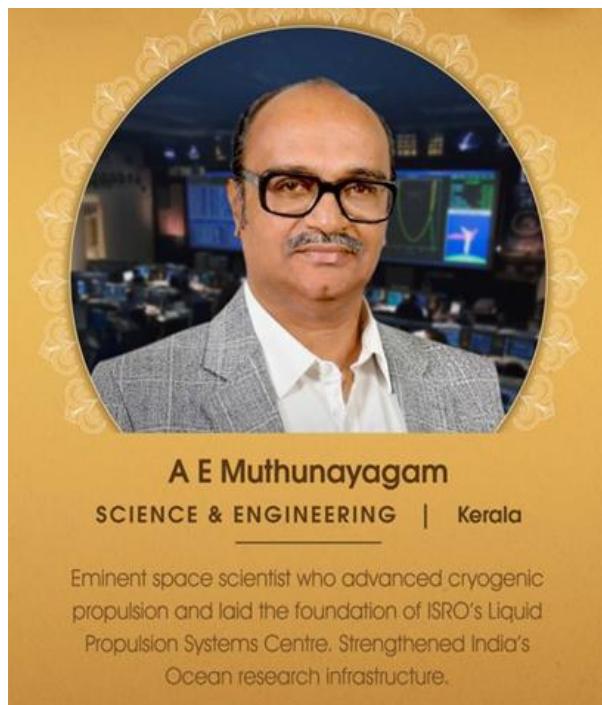
- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) released the report Global Investment Trends Monitor for 2024.
- ❖ Global foreign direct investment (FDI) rose 14% in 2025 to \$1.6 trillion.
- ❖ More than \$140 billion of the increase in global FDI came from higher flows through global financial centres.
- ❖ FDI flows to developed economies jumped 43% to \$728 billion in 2025.
- ❖ The European Union recorded a 56% increase.
- ❖ But flows to developing economies declined by 2% to \$877 billion, accounting for 55% of global FDI.

- ❖ UNCTAD is a UN body established in 1964 with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Padma Shri 2026 - A. E. Muthunayagam

- ❖ Veteran space scientist Dr A. E. Muthunayagam has been awarded the Padma Shri in 2026 for his contributions to India's space programme.
- ❖ Dr A. E. Muthunayagam is known as the pioneer of India's liquid rocket propulsion programme.
- ❖ He was born on January 11, 1939, in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ He played a key role in developing the Vikas engine used in PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) and GSLV (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle).
- ❖ He was the founding Director of the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of ISRO.

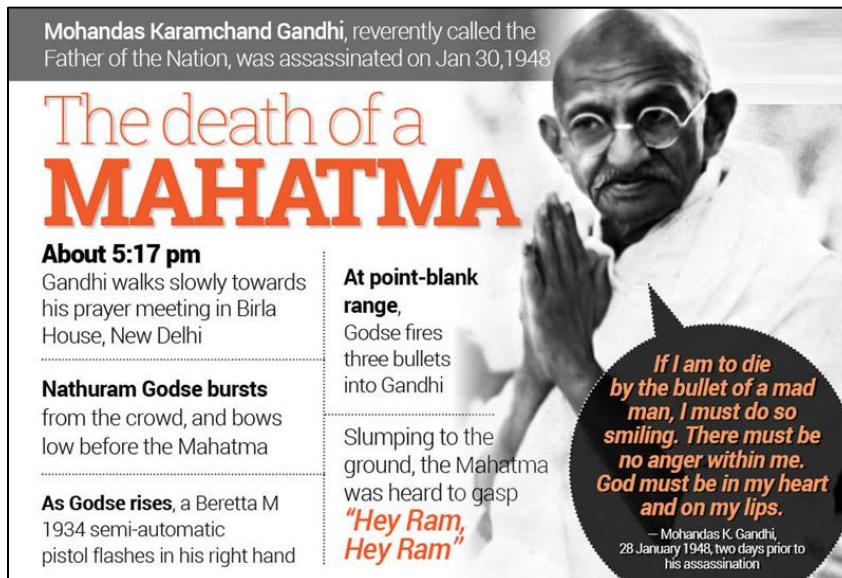


IMPORTANT DAYS

Martyrs' Day 2026 - January 30

- ❖ Martyrs' Day is also known as Shaheed Diwas or Sarvodaya Day.

- ❖ 30 January 2026 marks the 78th death anniversary of MK Gandhi, the Father of the Nation.
- ❖ Martyrs' Day was officially declared in 1949 to honour MK Gandhi and other freedom fighters.
- ❖ Gandhi was assassinated on 30 January 1948 in New Delhi, by Nathuram Godse.
- ❖ Other Martyrs' Days in India include 23 March (Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev), 19 May (Bhasha Shahid Divas – Language Martyrs of the Bengali Movement), and 19 November (birth anniversary of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi).



Statehood Day of Himachal Pradesh 2026 - January 26



- ❖ Himachal Pradesh became a Chief Commissioner's Province on 15 April 1948.

- ❖ On 26 January 1950, it became a Part C State after the Indian Constitution came into effect.
- ❖ In 1956, the Part A, B, and C classification was abolished, and Himachal Pradesh became a Union Territory.
- ❖ On 1 November 1966, hill areas from Punjab (Kangra, Kullu, Lahaul-Spiti) were merged into Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It achieved full statehood on 25 January 1971, becoming India's 18th state under the State of Himachal Pradesh Act, 1970.
- ❖ The name "Himachal Pradesh" means "Lap of Snow", and it shares borders with Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, and China.

