

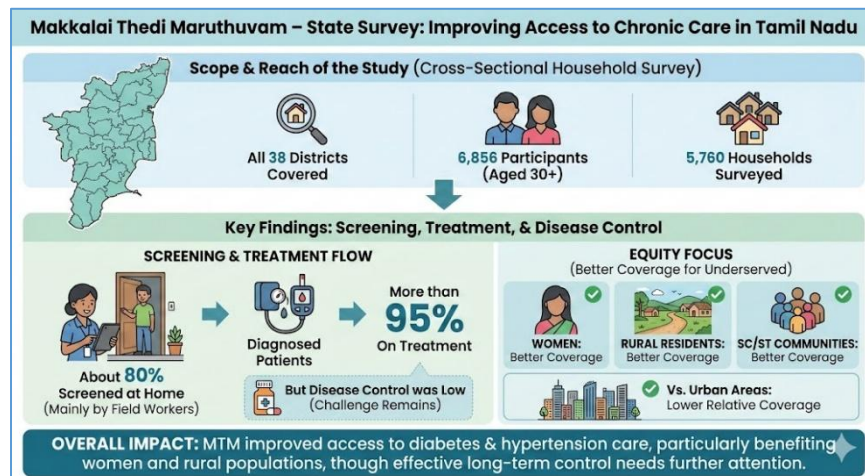
January - 30

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

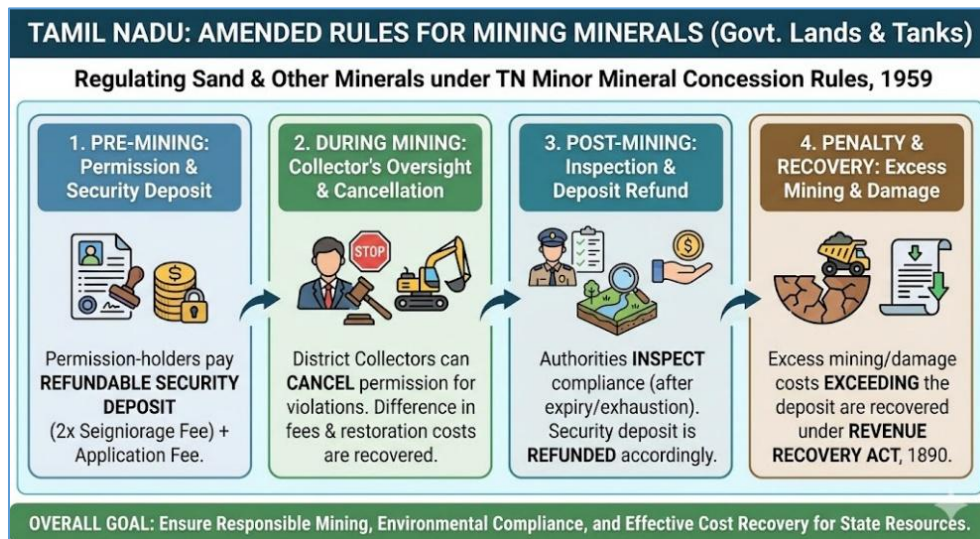


- ❖ A State-wide study found that the Tamil Nadu government's Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam (MTM) scheme has improved access to diabetes and hypertension care, especially for women and rural people.
- ❖ The study was a State-wide cross-sectional household survey conducted in all 38 districts of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ 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' திட்டம் தொடக்கம்!
இந்தியாவில் முதன்முறையாக, உலக வங்கியின்
உதவியுடன் தமிழ்நாட்டின் அனைத்து வயது
பெண்களையும் உள்ளடக்கிய,
'தமிழ்நாடு மகளிர் வேலைவாய்ப்பு மற்றும்
பாதுகாப்பு' திட்டத்தை (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 |
|--|---|

- ❖ 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.

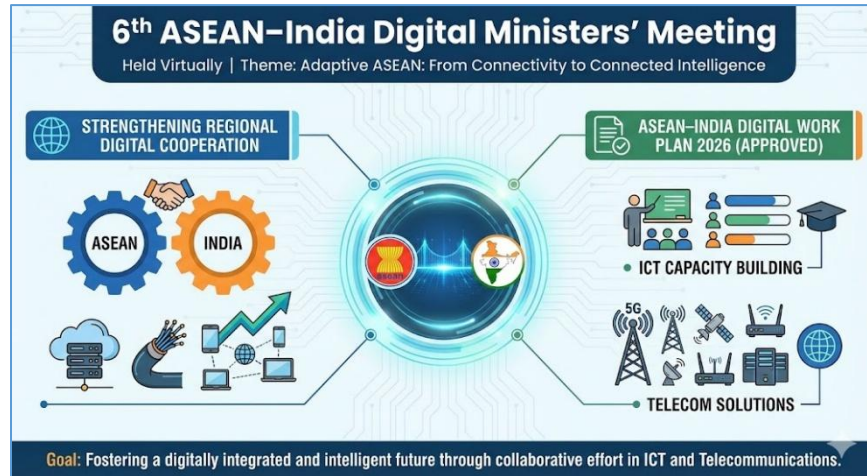


INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ASEAN–India Digital Ministers Meeting

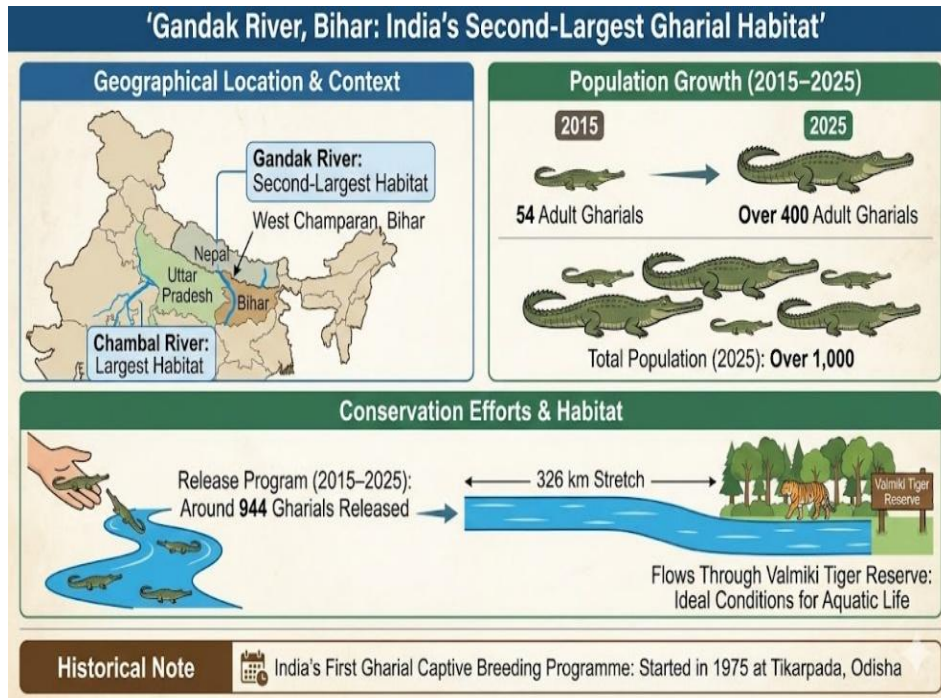
- ❖ The 6th ASEAN–India Digital Ministers’ Meeting was held virtually.
- ❖ The theme of the event is “Adaptive ASEAN: From Connectivity to Connected Intelligence.”
- ❖ The aim is to strengthen ASEAN–India regional cooperation in the digital sector.

- ❖ 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

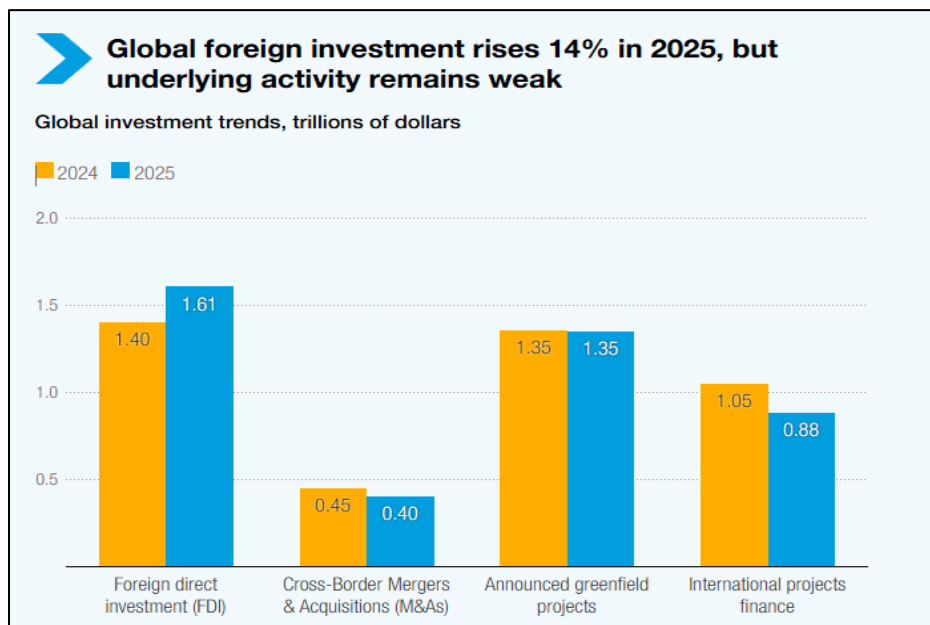


- ❖ The Gandak River in Bihar has become India's second-largest habitat for gharials, after the Chambal River.
- ❖ The Gandak River flows along the India–Nepal border through West Champaran district, Bihar.

- ❖ 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



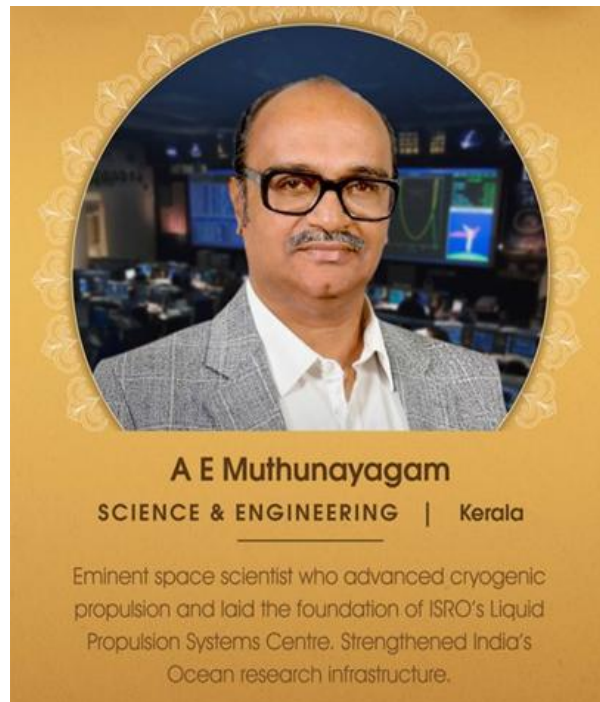
- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) released the report Global Investment Trends Monitor for 2024.
- ❖ Global foreign direct investment (FDI) rose 14% in 2025 to \$1.6 trillion.
- ❖ More than \$140 billion of the increase in global FDI came from higher flows through global 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).

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, reverently called the Father of the Nation, was assassinated on Jan 30, 1948

The death of a MAHATMA

About 5:17 pm
Gandhi walks slowly towards his prayer meeting in Birla House, New Delhi

Nathuram Godse bursts
from the crowd, and bows low before the Mahatma

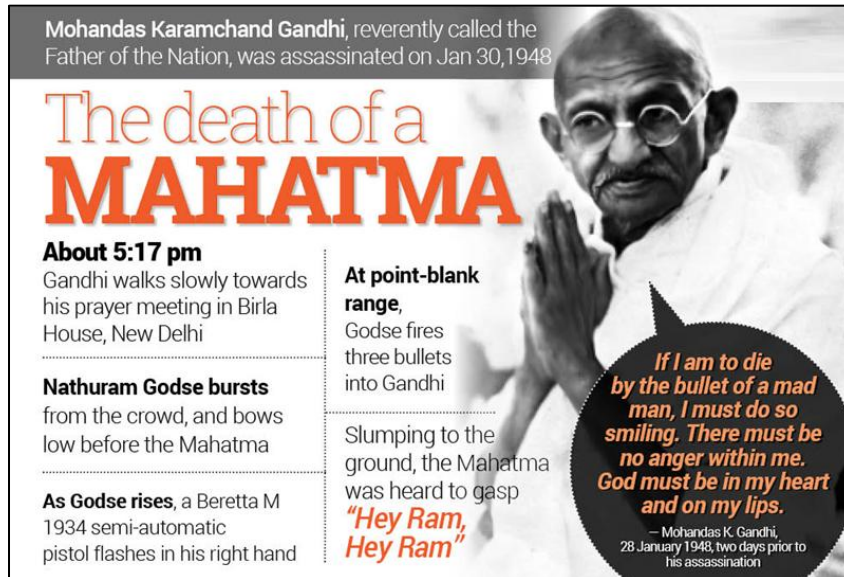
As Godse rises, a Beretta M 1934 semi-automatic pistol flashes in his right hand

At point-blank range,
Godse fires three bullets into Gandhi

Slumping to the ground, the Mahatma was heard to gasp
"Hey Ram, Hey Ram"

If I am to die by the bullet of a mad man, I must do so smiling. There must be no anger within me. God must be in my heart and on my lips.

— Mohandas K. Gandhi, 28 January 1948, two days prior to his assassination



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.

