


January - 31

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Maharashtra has started India's first menopause clinics in government hospitals and urban health facilities.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Republic Day awards of Tamil Nadu 2026

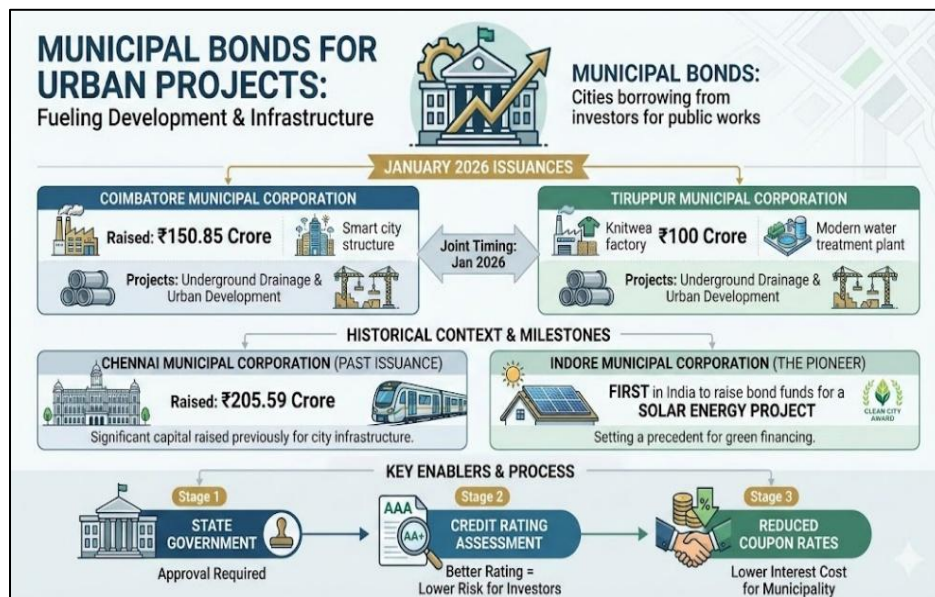
 Republic Day Awards of Tamil Nadu 2026		
Award Category	Recipient(s)	Reason for Award / Details
Anna Medal for Gallantry (Posthumous)	Peter Johnson	Died saving two youngsters from drowning in Thamirabharani river last year.
Anna Medal for Gallantry	V. Sankar (Fireman Driver), S. Rameshkumar (Fireman), P. Suresh (Fireman)	Rescued three persons whose vehicle was caught in a flash flood in Dharmagiri.
Kottai Ameer Award	M. Kalimula (Tiruppur district)	Awarded for communal harmony and social service.
Narayanasamy Naidu Paddy Productivity Award	Farmer G. Veeramani	Recognized for achieving high paddy productivity.
Gandhi Adigal Police Medals	Inspector P. Natarajan, Sub-inspector M. Sathianandan, Sub-inspector S. Manikandan, Sub-inspector K. Natarajan, Constable V.P. Kannan	Awarded for outstanding anti-liquor enforcement and prohibition work.
Chief Minister's Trophies for Best Police Stations	Madurai City (1st Place), Tiruppur City (2nd Place), Coimbatore District (3rd Place)	Secured top positions for overall performance among police stations in the State.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government's Anna Medal for Gallantry 2026 was posthumously awarded to Peter Johnson.
- ❖ He died while saving two youngsters from drowning in Thamirabharani river last year.
- ❖ Three men belonging to the Fire and Rescue Services department — fireman driver V. Sankar, fireman S. Rameshkumar and fireman P. Suresh — also received the Anna Medal for Gallantry.
- ❖ They rescued three persons whose vehicle was caught in a flash flood in Dharmagiri.
- ❖ M. Kalimula of Tiruppur district received the Kottai Ameer Award.
- ❖ Farmer G. Veeramani received the Narayanasamy Naidu Paddy Productivity Award.
- ❖ Inspector P. Natarajan, sub-inspectors M. Sathianandan, S. Manikandan, K. Natarajan, and constable V.P. Kannan received the Gandhi Adigal police medals.

- ❖ Madurai city, Tiruppur city and Coimbatore district secured the top three positions in the Chief Minister's Trophies for the best police stations in the State.

Municipal Bonds – Coimbatore and Tiruppur

- ❖ Coimbatore and Tiruppur Municipal Corporations raised funds through municipal bonds in January 2026.
- ❖ Coimbatore Municipal Corporation raised ₹150.85 crore, while Tiruppur Municipal Corporation raised ₹100 crore through bonds.
- ❖ Chennai Municipal Corporation has raised ₹205.59 crore through municipal bonds.
- ❖ The funds will be used for underground drainage and urban development projects.
- ❖ Indore was the first Municipal Corporation in India to raise funds through bonds for a solar energy project.

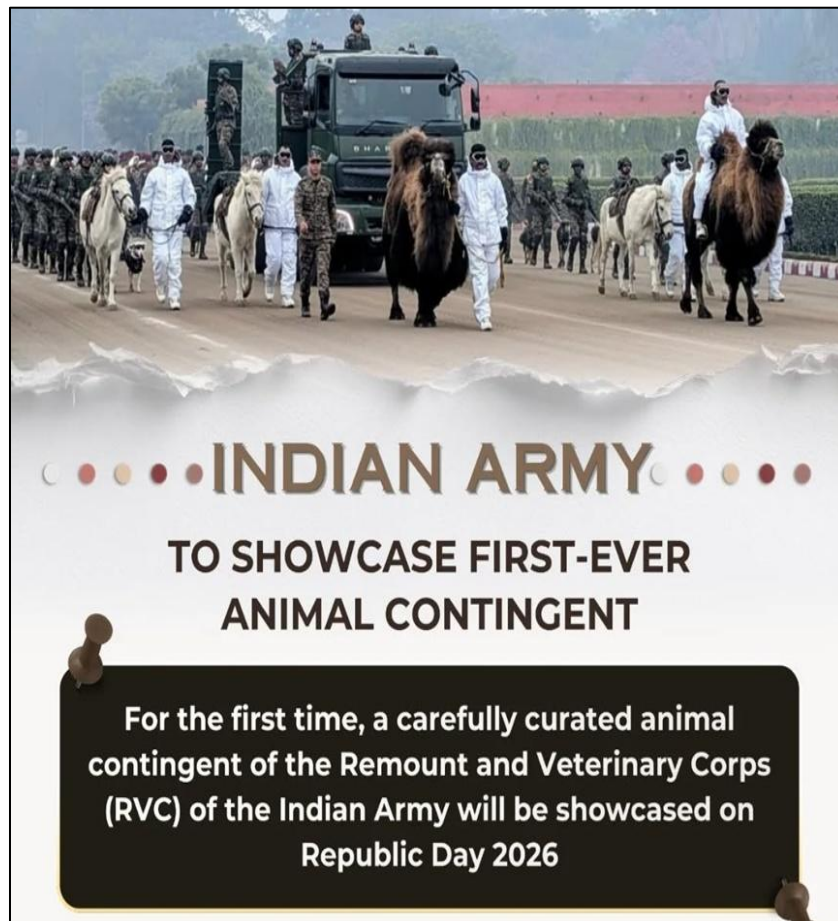


NATIONAL NEWS

RVC Parade on Republic Day 2026

- ❖ The Remount and Veterinary Corps (RVC) of the Indian Army made a debut at the Republic Day Parade 2026.
- ❖ For the first time in its 247-year history, the RVC contingent was led by a woman officer.

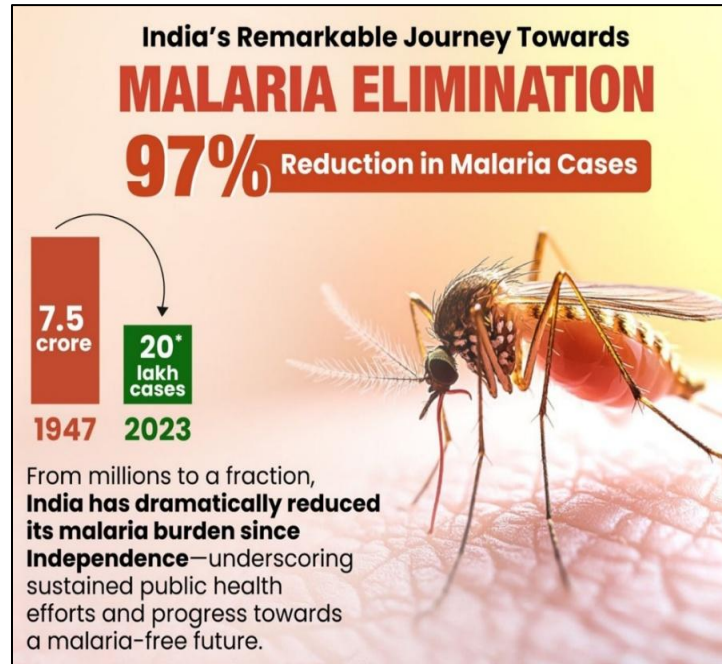
- ❖ Captain Harshita Raghav was inducted into the RVC in 2023 leading the contingent.
- ❖ The RVC is responsible for breeding, training, and maintaining Army animals such as horses, mules, camels, and dogs.
- ❖ The corps was originally set up as the Stud Department in Bengal in 1779 and formally named RVC in 1960.
- ❖ The RVC supports military operations, logistics, reconnaissance, combat support, and disaster relief across India.



India's Malaria Progress Report

- ❖ India reduced malaria cases by nearly 80% between 2015 and 2023 and is on track to meet its 2030 elimination target.
- ❖ India aims to eliminate malaria by 2030 under the National Framework for Malaria Elimination.
- ❖ By 2023, 34 States and Union Territories had an Annual Parasite Incidence (API) below 1 per 1,000 population, except Tripura (5.69) and Mizoram (14.23).

- ❖ By 2025, 160 districts in 23 States/UTs reported zero indigenous malaria cases between 2022 and 2024.



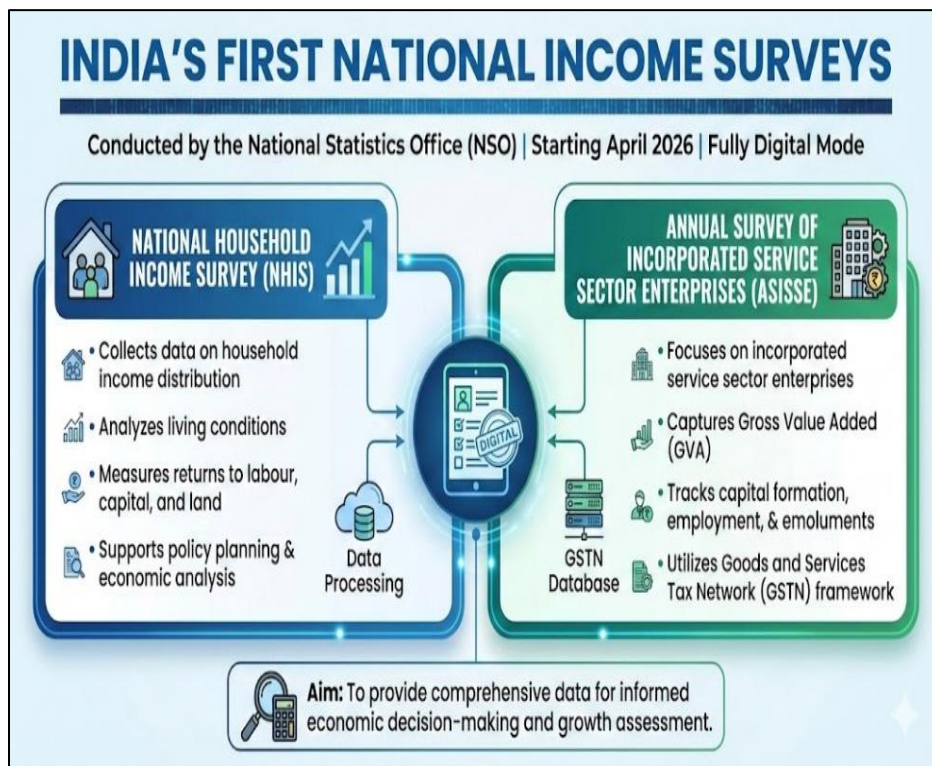
India's Renewable Capacity



- ❖ India is reaching 50% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources, five years ahead of the 2030 target.

- ❖ As of June 30, 2025, India's total installed power capacity is 484.82 gigawatts (GW).
- ❖ Out of this, 242.8 GW comes from non-fossil fuel sources, including 8.78 GW nuclear, 49.38 GW hydroelectric, and 184.62 GW renewable energy.
- ❖ Renewable energy sources include 5.10 GW of small hydropower, 51.67 GW of wind power, 11.59 GW of bioenergy, and 116.25 GW of solar power.
- ❖ This achievement is part of India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

India's First National Income Surveys



- ❖ The National Statistics Office (NSO) is preparing India's first-ever nationwide surveys on household income and corporate services.
- ❖ The surveys include the National Household Income Survey (NHIS) and the Annual Survey of Incorporated Service Sector Enterprises (ASISSE).
- ❖ Both surveys will start fieldwork in April 2026 and will be conducted using a fully digital mode.
- ❖ NHIS collects data on household income distribution, living conditions, returns to labour, capital and land, supporting policy planning and economic analysis.

- ❖ ASISSE focuses on incorporated service sector enterprises, capturing Gross Value Added, capital formation, employment, and emoluments, using the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) framework.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India-EU First Defense Partnership

- ❖ India and the European Union (EU) signed their first comprehensive Security and Defence Partnership.
- ❖ The agreement was signed during the 77th Republic Day celebrations in India.
- ❖ It covers maritime security, defence industry, cyber threats, counter-terrorism, and defence technology.
- ❖ Alongside, both sides started negotiations on a Security of Information Agreement (SOIA) for sharing classified material.
- ❖ The partnership includes a strategic roadmap, “Towards 2030: India–EU Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda”.
- ❖ The roadmap focuses on prosperity, technology, security, connectivity, and people-to-people ties.



Dollar Index Drop

- ❖ The U.S. dollar fell to its lowest level in four years recently

- ❖ The U.S. Dollar Index, which measures the dollar against major global currencies, fell 1.4% to 95.77 its lowest since February 2022.
- ❖ The decline is linked to trade tensions, domestic political uncertainty, and concerns over the independence of the Federal Reserve.
- ❖ Trump announced plans to raise tariffs on South Korean and Canadian imports.
- ❖ The Japanese yen strengthened to 152 per dollar, while the euro rose above \$1.20.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Inflatable Space Habitat Mission

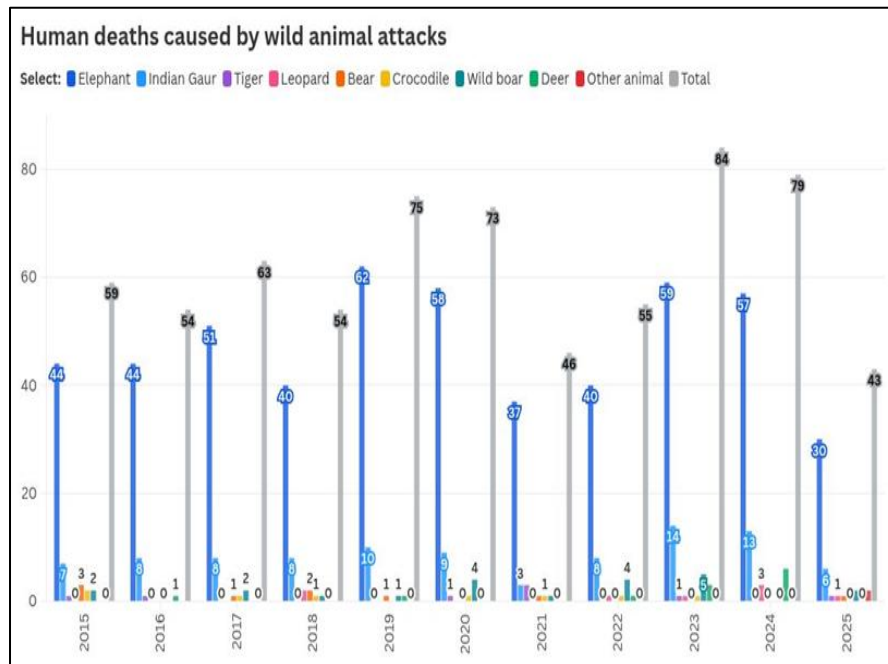


- ❖ Indian startup Akashlabdhi is preparing to launch the country's first inflatable space habitat, named AntarikshHAB.

- ❖ The project is incubated at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.
- ❖ AntarikshHAB allows a compact module to be launched and inflated in orbit, increasing usable living space from 70 cubic metres initially to 300 cubic metres in final configuration.
- ❖ Tests include pressure, leak, thermal cycling, impact, and deployment trials, reaching Technology Readiness Level 6, meaning system validation in a relevant environment.
- ❖ The mission is planned for July 2026 aboard a vehicle by Spanish firm PLD Space, including controlled de-orbit and atmospheric re-entry tests.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Wild Animal Attacks in Tamil Nadu



- ❖ Wild animal attacks caused 685 human deaths in Tamil Nadu during the last 10 years (2015–2025).
- ❖ The data was released by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department.
- ❖ Most deaths were caused by wild elephants (522), followed by gaur, wild boar, deer, and bear.
- ❖ The highest number of deaths due to elephant attacks was reported in 2019 (62 deaths).
- ❖ Conflict is severe in the Western Ghats and parts of the Eastern Ghats districts of Tamil Nadu.

- ❖ Habitat loss, lack of food and water, and expansion of human settlements are key reasons for the conflict.

STATES' NEWS

Uniform Civil Code Ordinance, 2026



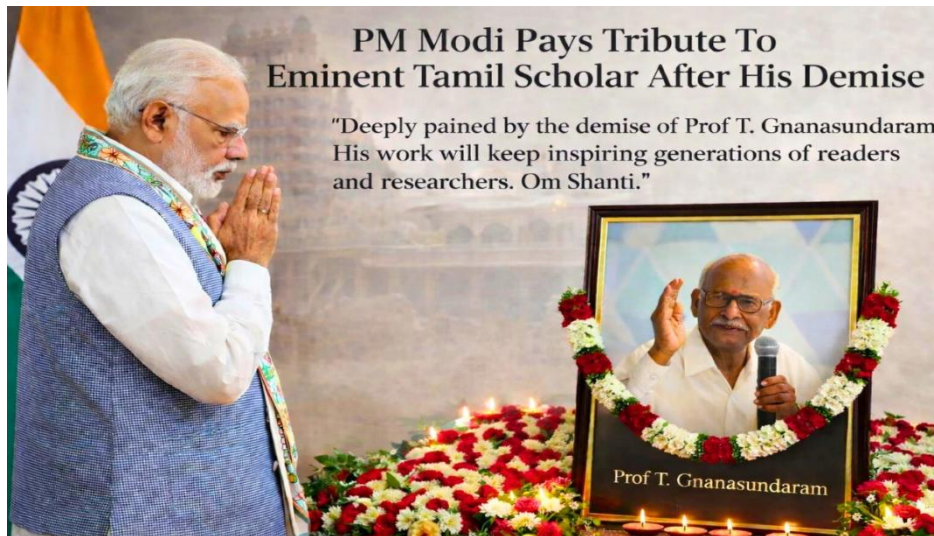
- ❖ The Uttarakhand government has implemented the Uniform Civil Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, to improve transparency, digital registration, and women's empowerment.
- ❖ The ordinance was promulgated under Article 213 of the Constitution of India, giving it immediate legal effect.
- ❖ It introduces procedural, administrative, and penal reforms to the existing UCC Act, 2024, to remove ambiguities and align with new criminal laws.
- ❖ The amendments strengthen digital marriage registration, registration-related powers, and the appellate mechanism.
- ❖ Since the original UCC implementation, over five lakh marriages have been registered online within one year.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Tamil Scholar D. Gnanasundaram demise

- ❖ D. Gnanasundaram served as Deputy Director of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil.

- ❖ He devoted his life to the study of classical Tamil and Vaishnava traditions.
- ❖ He contributed scholarly works on the Ramayana, Kamba Ramayanam, and Divya Prabandham.
- ❖ He received the Ilakkiya Mamani Award (2024) from the Tamil Nadu Government.



Ajit Pawar's demise



- ❖ A Bombardier Learjet 45 crash at Baramati, Maharashtra, on January 28, 2026 led to the death of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar.
- ❖ In 1991, he was first elected as a member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from the Baramati constituency, which he represented for eight terms.

- ❖ In 2023, he made a split within the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) by aligning with the BJP-led coalition.
- ❖ In February 2024, the Election Commission of India acknowledged Ajit Pawar's faction as the official NCP.
- ❖ The same year, he was sworn in as Maharashtra's deputy chief minister for a sixth time.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Clean Energy 2026 – January 26



- ❖ It was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2023.
- ❖ The day marks the founding of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in 2009.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness and mobilize action for a just and inclusive transition to clean energy for the benefit of people and the planet.
- ❖ Clean energy includes renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

World's Oldest Cave Artwork

- ❖ Researchers reported the world's oldest known cave artwork discovered in Indonesia.

- ❖ The artwork is a red hand stencil found in limestone caves of Sulawesi, Indonesia.
- ❖ Scientific dating using uranium-series analysis showed the handprint is about 67,800 years old.
- ❖ It predates the oldest known European cave art by nearly 30,000 years.

