



July - 31

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Kosi-Mechi Intra-State Link Project has been targeted for completion by March 2029, with the Centre approving ₹3,652.56 crore in financial assistance.
 - The project aims to improve irrigation by linking the Kosi and Mechi river systems in Bihar.
- ❖ China has completed the world's largest 582-tonne superconducting magnet for its "Artificial Sun" nuclear fusion programme.
 - The magnet will be used in the Burning Plasma Experimental Superconducting Tokamak (BEST) reactor to confine plasma heated above 100 million°C.
- ❖ Indian Railways operated the first-ever direct commercial container freight train from Kolkata Port, West Bengal, to Biratnagar Customs Yard, Nepal.
- ❖ 'Kharchi Puja' in Agartala is observed after the Ama Pechi (Ambu Bachi) period, believed to represent the menstruation of Mother Earth.
- ❖ The festival marks the ritual purification of Mother Earth, during which ploughing, digging, and certain auspicious activities are avoided.
- ❖ Indian banks' credit deposit (CD) ratio stood at a 62-year high of 82.6% in the first quarter (Q1) of fiscal 2027 as loans grew faster than deposits, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
- ❖ Over the last five years, banks had excess investments on their balance sheet, which they have redeployed into loans.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

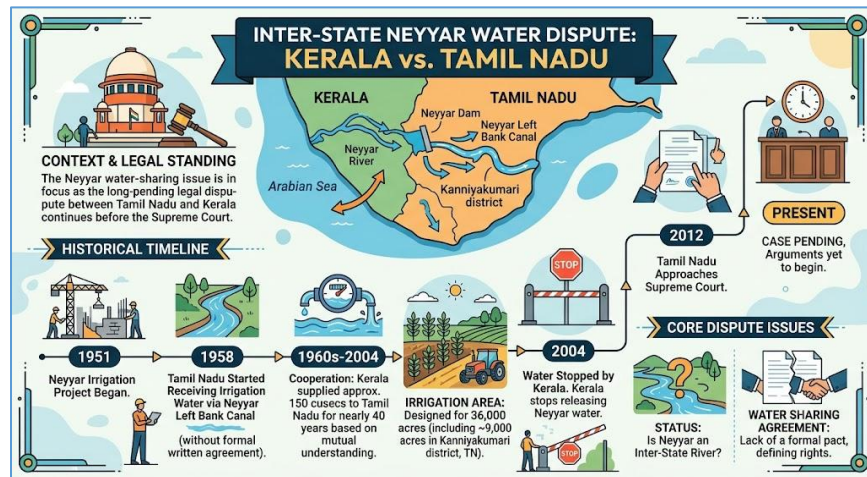
Property Rights for Hindu Daughters

- ❖ The Madras High Court ruled that Hindu daughters who died before September 9, 2005 are not entitled to equal coparcenary rights in ancestral property.
- ❖ The Court said a Hindu daughter must have been alive on September 9, 2005, when the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 came into force, to get equal coparcenary rights.
- ❖ The legal heirs of a daughter who died before September 9, 2005 cannot claim coparcenary rights because she never acquired those rights.
- ❖ The Court clarified that a daughter's date of birth is not important; only her being alive on the amendment date matters.

- ❖ Daughters who were alive on September 9, 2005 have the same rights as sons in ancestral (coparcenary) property.
- ❖ The judgment was delivered by the Madras High Court (Tamil Nadu) while deciding a family property dispute.

The Madras High Court has ruled that Hindu daughters who died before September 9, 2005, are not entitled to an equal share in ancestral property under the amended Hindu Succession Act. The court observed that the 2005 amendment, which granted daughters equal rights as sons in ancestral property, came into effect on September 9, 2005. The ruling clarifies that daughters who were not alive when the amendment came into force cannot claim coparcenary rights under the amended law.

Inter-State Neyyar Water Dispute



- ❖ The Neyyar water-sharing issue is in focus as the long-pending legal dispute between Tamil Nadu and Kerala over Neyyar River water continues before the Supreme Court.
- ❖ The Neyyar Irrigation Project began in 1951, and Tamil Nadu started receiving irrigation water through the Neyyar Left Bank Canal from 1958 without a formal written agreement.
- ❖ The project was designed to irrigate 36,000 acres, including about 9,000 acres in Kanniyakumari district, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Kerala supplied around 150 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for nearly 40 years, based on mutual understanding.

- ❖ In 2004, Kerala stopped releasing Neyyar water, leading to a dispute over water sharing and whether the Neyyar is an inter-State River.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu approached the Supreme Court in 2012, and the case is pending, with arguments yet to begin.

NATIONAL NEWS

India's Efforts to Eliminate Hepatitis by 2030

India's Fight Against Hepatitis

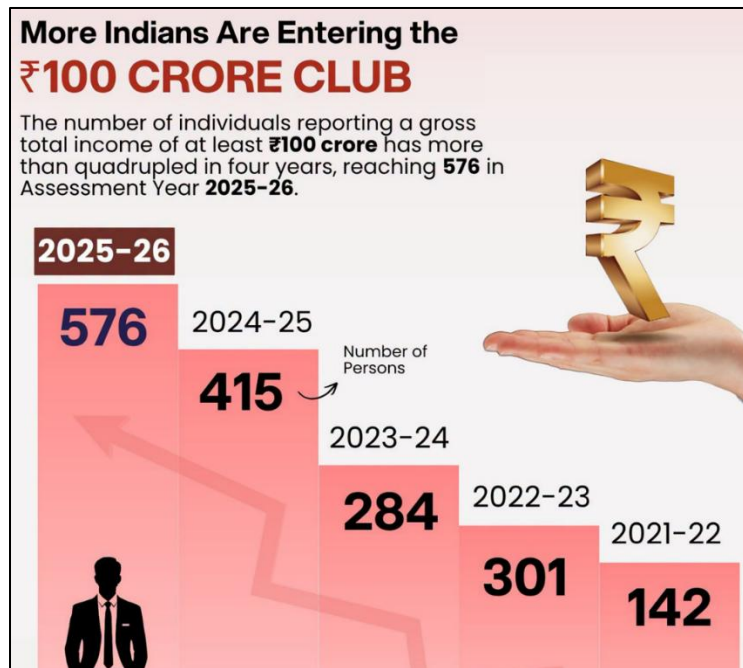
- National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (**NVHCP**) launched in 2018 to combat viral hepatitis.
- Provides free screening, diagnostics, and treatment for **Hepatitis B & C** across the country.
- Focuses on **prevention, early detection, vaccination, and timely treatment**.
- Integrated with major national health programmes to **expand healthcare access** and improve outcomes.
- Universal **Hepatitis B vaccination** helps protect newborns and prevent transmission.
- Services are being expanded from district hospitals to local health centres, bringing care **closer to communities**.
- Digital monitoring through the **NVHCP-MIS portal** strengthens patient management and programme implementation.
- Supports India's commitment to eliminating hepatitis as a public health threat **by 2030**.
- Reflects the vision of "**Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas**" by ensuring healthcare reaches every citizen.

- ❖ India is strengthening efforts to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030 under the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP).
- ❖ Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver mainly caused by viral infections, toxic substances and autoimmune conditions.
- ❖ The five major hepatitis virus types are Hepatitis A, B, C, D and E, with Hepatitis B and C causing severe chronic liver diseases.
- ❖ Hepatitis B and C can lead to liver cirrhosis and primary liver cancer if untreated.
- ❖ The NVHCP provides free screening, diagnosis and antiviral treatment for Hepatitis B and C across India.
- ❖ The programme supports affordable treatment through generic medicines and expands services from district hospitals to Primary Health Centres (PHCs).

- ❖ India's hepatitis elimination strategy aligns with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3.3), which aims to end communicable diseases by 2030.

Rise of High-Income Individuals in India

- ❖ The number of individuals reporting ₹100 crore or more income increased to 576 in AY 2025–26, compared to 142 in AY 2021–22.
- ❖ The data is based on Income Tax Returns (ITRs), as India does not have an official income-based definition of a billionaire.
- ❖ AY 2025–26 refers to income earned during Financial Year (FY) 2024–25 (April 2024–March 2025).
- ❖ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is conducting India's first National Household Income Survey to collect income-related data.
- ❖ The Gini coefficient, a measure of inequality, stood at 0.237 for rural areas and 0.284 for urban areas according to the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (2023–24).



India's Maritime Workforce Growth

- ❖ India has emerged as the world's second-largest supplier of seafarers according to the BIMCO–ICS (Baltic and International Maritime Council – International Chamber of Shipping) Seafarer Workforce Report 2026.

- ❖ India contributes around 12.16% of the global seafaring workforce with about 3.11 lakh maritime professionals, ranking after the Philippines.
- ❖ Indian seafarers work in international merchant fleets and support global shipping, trade and logistics operations.
- ❖ India's share in the global seafaring workforce increased from 5.2% in 2015 to over 12% in 2026, showing growth in maritime employment.
- ❖ The Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways regulates training, certification and welfare of Indian seafarers.



Polymer Currency Notes in India

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India is reviving plans to introduce polymer (plastic) currency notes, starting with a pilot project for ₹10 and ₹20 denominations.
- ❖ The RBI previously tested one billion ₹10 polymer notes across five cities (Chennai, Kochi, Mysore, Jaipur, and Shimla).
- ❖ Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the RBI, issued a global Expression of Interest (EOI) for the supply of Biaxially Oriented Polypropylene (BOPP)-based polymer substrate.
- ❖ Traditional Indian currency is made of 100% cotton-pulp paper.
- ❖ Australia was the first to introduce a full polymer banknote series in 1988.

- ❖ Polymer banknotes are more durable, water-resistant, tear-resistant, and difficult to counterfeit due to advanced security features such as transparent windows and embedded security elements.
- ❖ Many countries have found that the production cost alone was 20–24% of the currency's value for low denominations.
- ❖ The supporters of plastic currency nevertheless say lower replacement frequency can justify the higher production cost.
- ❖ The Constitution of India places currency, coinage, legal tender, and foreign exchange under the exclusive legislative domain of the Union Government through the Union List.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, provides the legal framework for the issuance and management of banknotes.
- ❖ The RBI announced the Clean Note Policy in 1999 to ensure the circulation of clean, good-quality currency notes and coins while withdrawing soiled and mutilated notes from circulation.
- ❖ The Coinage Act, 2011, governs the design, production, and circulation of coins issued by the Government of India.
- ❖ The Government of India is responsible for issuing the Rs 1 note.



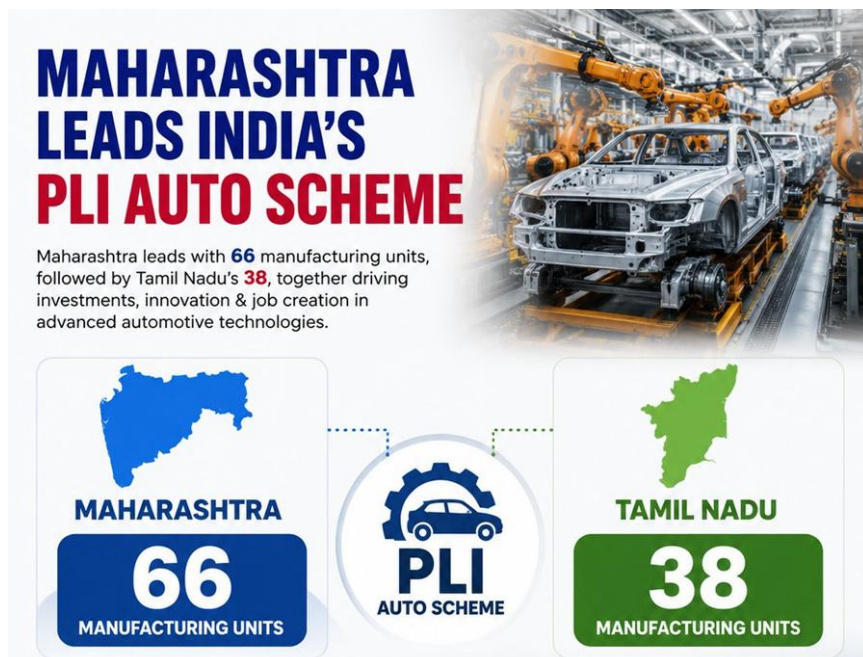
Mission "Golden Spice"

- ❖ Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia launches Mission "Golden Spice" for Meghalaya's Lakadong Turmeric.
- ❖ It aims to enhance the value chain of GI-certified Lakadong turmeric and position Meghalaya as a global spice hub.
- ❖ Meghalaya has the potential to become the world's premier source of high-curcumin organic turmeric.

- ❖ It is known for its high curcumin content.
- ❖ Its curcumin level ranges from 7% to 12%, while the global average for turmeric is about 2% to 4%.
- ❖ Curcumin is the principal bioactive compound in turmeric and is used as a marker for quality assessment.



PLI-Auto scheme with manufacturing units



- ❖ Maharashtra tops the PLI-Auto scheme with 66 manufacturing units.
- ❖ Haryana, with 35 manufacturing units, and Karnataka, with 28, followed Maharashtra.

- ❖ While Tamil Nadu, one of the country's major automobile manufacturing hubs, accounted for 38 units under the scheme.
- ❖ This was according to data presented by the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- ❖ The PLI-Auto scheme seeks to strengthen India's manufacturing capabilities in Advanced Automotive Products (AAT) and promote domestic production of advanced automotive technologies and components.
- ❖ The scheme is aimed at attracting investment, boosting production, creating employment and increasing localisation of advanced automotive products and components, thereby strengthening India's domestic automobile and auto component ecosystem.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US-Saudi Nuclear Deal 2026



- ❖ The US and Saudi Arabia have signed a deal that will reportedly allow the Gulf kingdom to develop a civilian nuclear programme.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia may be allowed to enrich uranium on its soil to produce fuel at a US-built enrichment facility, instead of relying on imported fuel.
- ❖ A 123 Agreement (Atomic Energy Act of 1954 of the USA) is a legal framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation between the United States and another country.
- ❖ The reported agreement does not include the “Gold Standard” safeguard package.
- ❖ The Gold Standard usually bars uranium enrichment and spent fuel reprocessing in the partner country.

- ❖ The deal also does not include the Additional Protocol of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Rome Declaration for an Unarmed and Disarming Peace

- ❖ A group of Nobel laureates, AI scientists, religious leaders, and other luminaries signed the so-called 'Rome Declaration for an Unarmed and Disarming Peace'.
- ❖ The Declaration calls for an international treaty to ban autonomous systems from accessing nuclear launches while emphasizing that the threat is also not so far-fetched.
- ❖ It was inspired by Pope Leo XIV's Magnifica Humanitas.
- ❖ It was a declaration that calls for protecting human dignity from unchecked AI.
- ❖ It warns that AI-controlled nuclear systems pose an existential risk, arguing that algorithms lack morality, empathy, and judgment, and must never replace human decision-making in the use of nuclear weapons.
- ❖ Principles of the Declaration:
 - Disarming the next arms race,
 - Responsible development,
 - Responsible use of AI,
 - Responsible governance,
 - Responsible leadership, and
 - Nuclear disarmament.



Global road deaths data

- ❖ Road traffic deaths worldwide declined by 21 per cent between 2011 and 2025 despite the addition of more than one billion vehicles to the world's roads.

- ❖ This was according to new data released by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❖ However, the WHO South-East Asian Region, which includes India, recorded only a 2 per cent reduction in road fatalities.
- ❖ The region also consists of Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.
- ❖ The WHO European Region recorded the largest decline.
- ❖ The latest WHO figures were released as United Nations (UN) member states adopted a new General Assembly declaration on road safety.
- ❖ The declaration seeks to accelerate efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of reducing road deaths and serious injuries by 50 per cent by 2030, compared with 2021 levels.
- ❖ A key pillar of the declaration is the "Safe System" approach, which recognises that human error is inevitable and therefore calls for safer road design, better vehicles, lower speeds and stronger regulations to minimise the risk of fatal crashes.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Declining Star Formation in Andromeda

- ❖ A new study using data from NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Hubble Space Telescope found that star formation in the Andromeda Galaxy has been declining for the past 500 million years.

- ❖ The Andromeda Galaxy (M31) is a large spiral galaxy located about 2.5 million light years from Earth.
- ❖ It is the closest major galaxy to the Milky Way Galaxy and can be seen with the naked eye under suitable conditions.
- ❖ Andromeda is located in the constellation of Andromeda and is similar in size to the Milky Way.
- ❖ It is a barred spiral galaxy, having a bar-like structure of stars at its centre.
- ❖ The galaxy is moving towards the Milky Way at around 110 km/s and may merge with it in the distant future.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Mangrove Restoration in Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh secured second place among Indian States under the MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes) scheme for mangrove restoration.
- ❖ The State restored 2,047.70 hectares of mangroves during 2025–26 with an investment of ₹18.04 crore.

- ❖ Mangrove restoration is being carried out under the Great Green Wall of Andhra Pradesh initiative to strengthen coastal ecosystems and biodiversity.
- ❖ The Forest Department adopted the Fish Bone Technique to improve tidal water flow, increase mangrove survival and enhance ecological resilience.
- ❖ For 2026–27, Andhra Pradesh has set a target of restoring 1,618 hectares of mangrove ecosystems across the State.
- ❖ The MISHTI scheme promotes mangrove plantation, coastal ecosystem restoration, climate resilience and sustainable livelihoods in coastal areas.

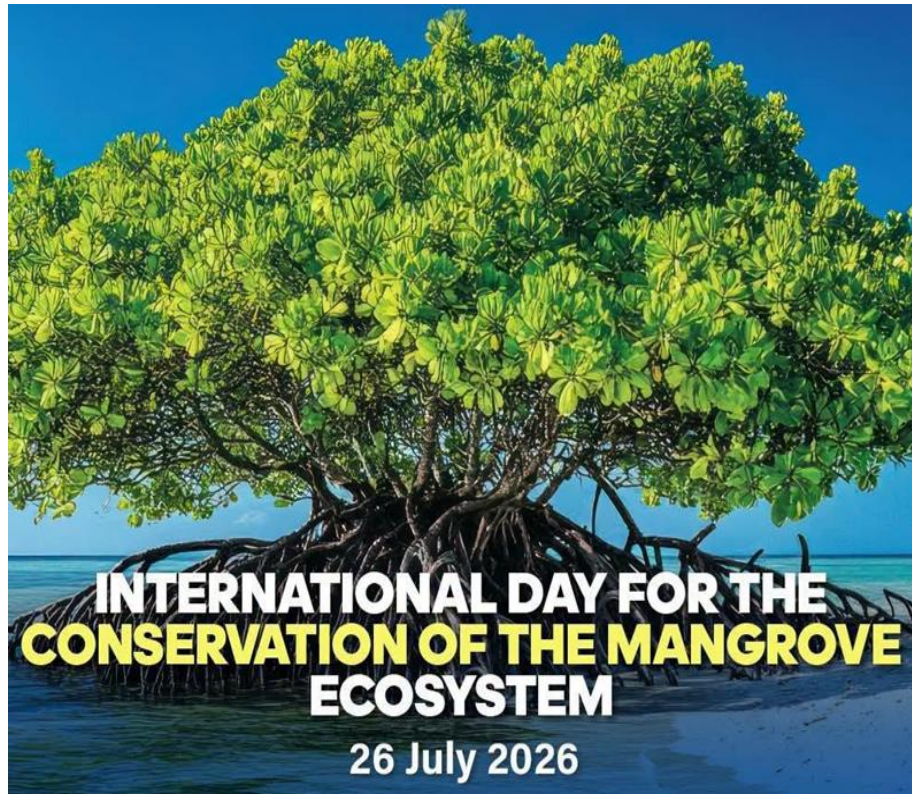


IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem 2026 - July 26

- ❖ The day aims to promote awareness about mangrove conservation and sustainable management.
- ❖ The day was adopted by UNESCO in 2015 to highlight the ecological and socio-economic importance of mangroves.

- ❖ As per the Indian State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023, India has 4,992 sq. km of mangrove cover, with West Bengal having the largest share.
- ❖ Mangroves are salt-tolerant coastal forests that protect shorelines, store carbon, and support marine biodiversity.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Forest Department conducted awareness activities highlighting mangrove biodiversity and the Fish Bone Channel Technique for restoration.

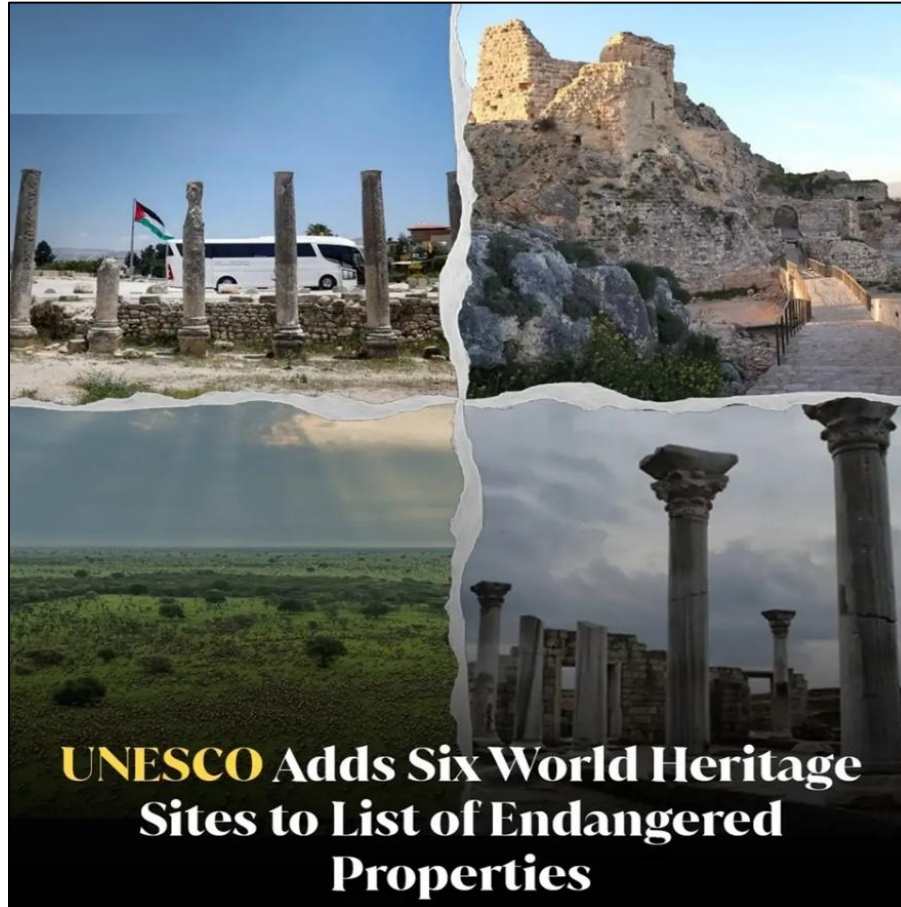


MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

UNESCO World Heritage in Danger List 2026

- ❖ The UNESCO added six sites to the List of World Heritage in Danger during the 48th World Heritage Committee session in Busan, South Korea.
- ❖ Three new World Heritage Sites placed on the Danger List are Boma-Badingilo Migratory Landscape (South Sudan), Mount Amel Castles (Lebanon) and Sebastia (State of Palestine).
- ❖ Three existing World Heritage Sites added to the Danger List are Ancient City of Tauric Chersonese and its Chora (Ukraine), Historic Inner City of Paramaribo (Suriname) and Tyre (Lebanon).

- ❖ The List of World Heritage in Danger was created under the World Heritage Convention (1972) to protect sites facing serious threats.
- ❖ Major threats include armed conflict, climate change, poaching, wildlife trafficking, pollution, uncontrolled urbanisation and infrastructure development.



Sant Guru Ravidas' 650th Birth Anniversary

- ❖ The 650th birth anniversary of Sant Guru Ravidas is being commemorated across India with programmes from July 29, 2026, to February 20, 2027.
- ❖ Guru Ravidas was a 15th–16th century Bhakti movement saint, poet and social reformer, traditionally believed to have been born in Seer Govardhanpur, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).
- ❖ He preached equality, social justice, devotion to one God and the dignity of labour, while opposing caste discrimination and social inequality.
- ❖ His devotional hymns are included in the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy scripture of Sikhism.

- ❖ He is associated with the idea of "Begampura", an ideal society free from sorrow, discrimination and injustice.
- ❖ Guru Ravidas Jayanti is observed every year on Magha Purnima (full moon day of the Hindu month of Magha).

