

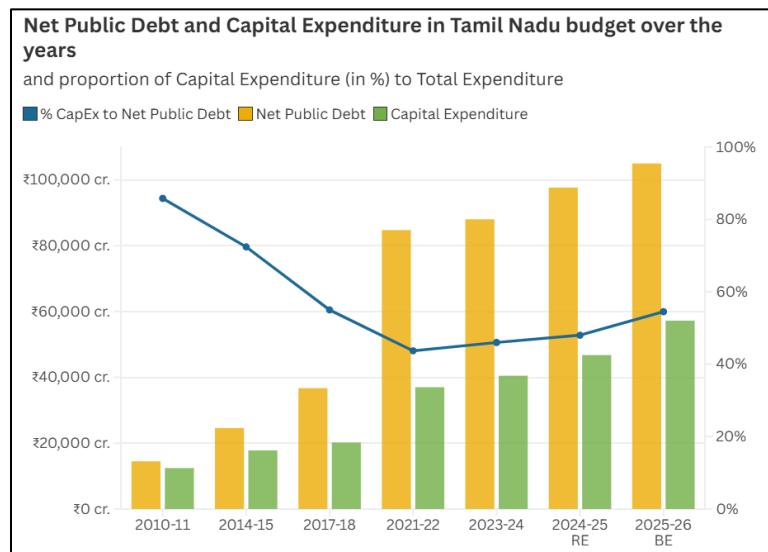
March - 23

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Samyuktha Narayanan (7), from Tamil Nadu's Madurai, has made the Guinness World Records by becoming the world's youngest Taekwondo instructor.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has recorded 1,540 murders in 2024, marking the lowest annual figure in the past 12 years.
- ❖ The trial run of Chennai Metro Rail's first driverless train for the Phase II network was held recently.
- ❖ Madras Medical College received the Excellence Award for the performance of its unit during the Medical Colleges Research Connect 2025 organised in New Delhi.
- ❖ Scholar and theorist Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak has won the 2025 Holberg Prize, considered the equivalent of the Nobel Prize in the field of the humanities, social sciences, law or theology research.
- ❖ IndiaAI, in collaboration with the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines, has launched the IndiaAI Hackathon on Mineral Targeting.
- ❖ North India's first nuclear project is coming up in Haryana in a small town called Gorakhpur with 10,380 MW capacity.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Tamil Nadu's finances in 2025



- ❖ The finances of the Tamil Nadu government are showing signs of improvement.

- ❖ Compared to 2021-22, the proportion of capital expenditure to total expenditure is gradually moving to 13% after it went down to 10.4% in 2017-18.
- ❖ Fifteen years ago, nearly 86% of the public debt was used for capital expenditure.
- ❖ Since then, the share steadily and steeply declined to around 44% in 2021-22.
- ❖ As per the budget estimates of the coming year, it is expected to be about 55%.
- ❖ In the coming year, the overall food subsidy bill is expected to be ₹14,000 crore.
- ❖ The State government will also provide in the coming year ₹17,000 crore towards Power tariff subsidy and ₹7,700 crore for loss funding.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Ashwini Radars

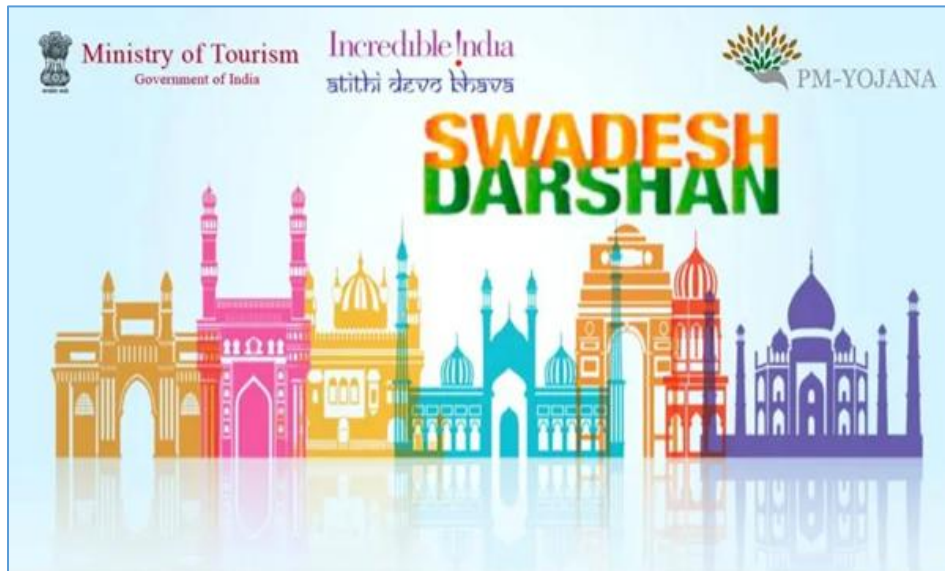


- ❖ The Ministry of Defence has inked a capital acquisition contract with the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Ghaziabad for the procurement of the Low-level Transportable Radar, LLTR (Ashwini).
- ❖ LLTR (Ashwini) is an active electronically scanned phased array radar based on state-of-the-art solid-state technology.
- ❖ The radar is capable of tracking aerial targets from high-speed fighter aircraft to slow moving targets such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and helicopters.
- ❖ Its acquisition will significantly enhance the operational preparedness of the Indian Air Force.

### Swadesh Darshan Scheme 2.0

- ❖ The Centre has sanctioned a total of 116 new tourist destinations across the country under various schemes.

- ❖ Out of these 34 have been sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme, 42 have been identified under the “Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)”, a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan.
- ❖ 40 would be developed under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI).
- ❖ The Swadesh Darshan Scheme is a flagship initiative of the Union Tourism Ministry.
- ❖ It aims to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations by focusing on theme-based circuits and providing financial assistance to state govt for infrastructure development.
- ❖ The scheme was revamped as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable tourism destinations.



### **Revised Rashtriya Gokul Mission 2025**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the Revised Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) to boost growth in the livestock sector.
- ❖ It got total allocation of ₹3,400 crore for the 15th Finance Commission cycle from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ❖ It provides one-time assistance of 35% of capital cost for setting up 30 housing facilities for 15,000 heifers.
- ❖ 3% interest subvention on loans taken by farmers to purchase HGM IVF heifers from milk unions/financial institutions will be provided.
- ❖ Milk production has increased by 63.55 percent over the past decade.

- ❖ The availability of milk per capita, which stood at 307 grams per day in 2013-14, has risen to 471 grams per day in 2023-24.
- ❖ Productivity has also improved by 26.34 percent in the last ten years.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Squad alliance – India

**WHAT IS 'SQUAD'?**

Its prime objective is to deepen military integration and uphold the rules-based order in the region.

Plans include enhanced military interoperability, joint patrols, drills, and intelligence-sharing.

The Philippines has urged India to join the alliance to push back against China's aggressive expansion.

**Intelligence & Maritime Security**  
Squad membership would enhance real-time intelligence sharing, and strategic deterrence.

**Trade & Economic Security**  
With 55% of India's trade passing through the South China Sea, freedom of navigation is critical for economic stability.

**Maritime Domain Awareness**  
Access to advanced surveillance, satellite tracking, and underwater monitoring strengthens India's naval capabilities.

- ❖ India may soon be a part of military alliance with focus on security in the South China Sea.
- ❖ The grouping 'Squad' comprises the United States, Australia, Japan and the Philippines.

- ❖ It aims to exchange intelligence and hold joint military exercises and operations to counter China's dominance in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ❖ India is already a member of Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad).

### Alien Enemies Act 1798 - USA

Criteria	Description	Enforcement Status
State of War or Conflict	U.S. must be in a declared war or open hostilities with a foreign nation.	✅ Required
Nationality of the Alien	Applies only to citizens or subjects of an enemy nation (not U.S. citizens).	✅ Required
Presidential Authority	The President determines restrictions, detentions, or deportations.	✅ Required
Threat to National Security	The individual must be deemed a potential threat to U.S. interests.	⚠️ Case-by-case
Due Process & Legal Review	Modern legal interpretations may require court oversight before enforcement.	⚠️ Case-by-case
Historical Precedents	Used in WWI, WWII for German, Italian, Japanese nationals.	✅ Historically Used
Misuse Risks	Potential for political suppression or racial discrimination if misapplied.	❌ Avoid Misuse

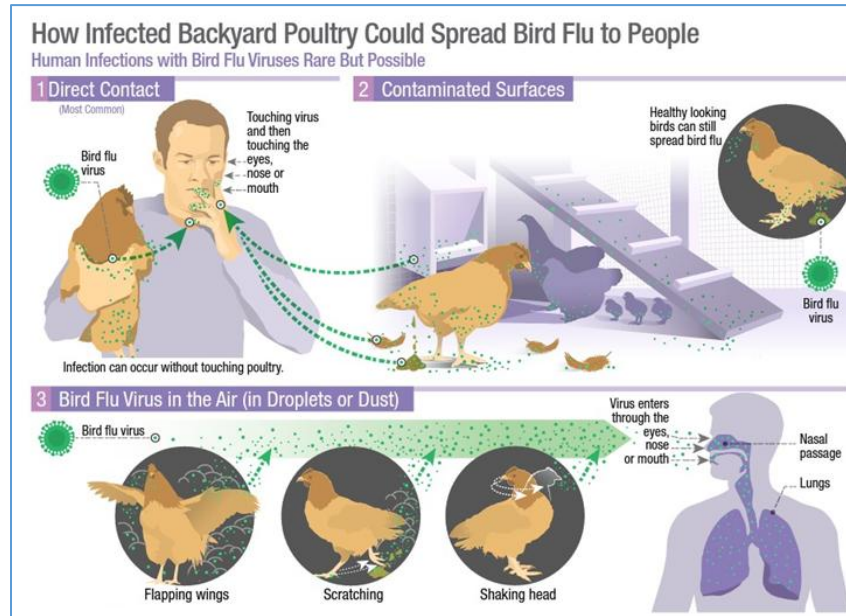
- ❖ The U.S. President Donald Trump invoked the Alien Enemies Act in a proclamation to deport millions of people who are in the country illegally.
- ❖ He also ordered the removal of hundreds of Venezuelans from the US for their alleged links to a designated Foreign Terrorist Organisation named Tren de Aragua.
- ❖ The Alien Enemies Act was enacted in 1798 to combat spying and sabotage during tensions with France.
- ❖ The act requires the president to publicly proclaim the event that prompted the act to be invoked.
- ❖ The act remains in effect until the president terminates it.

### H7N9 Bird Flu Outbreak in USA

- ❖ The United States has reported an outbreak of the deadly H7N9 strain of the highly pathogenic avian flu (HPAI) virus in commercial poultry.
- ❖ Avian influenza A(H7N9) is a subtype of influenza viruses that have been detected in birds in the past.
- ❖ The virus was first detected in March 2013 in China.
- ❖ This is the second outbreak since March 2017.

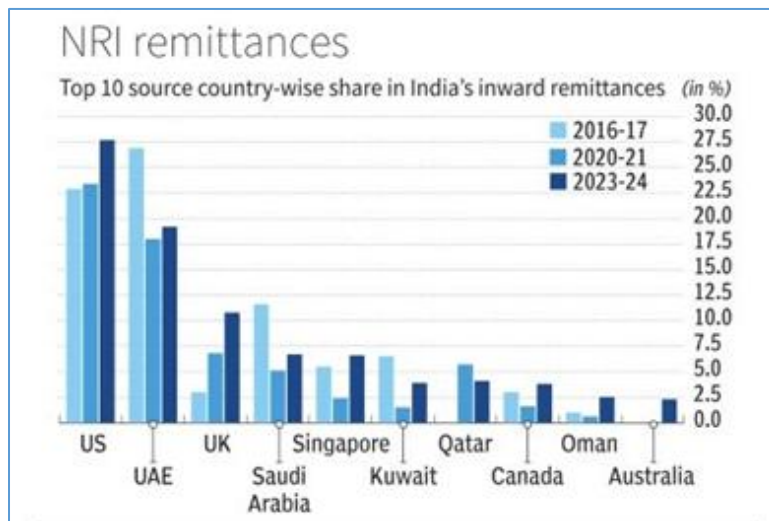


- ❖ H7N9 bird flu virus has proved to have a far higher death rate, killing nearly 40 per cent of the humans infected.



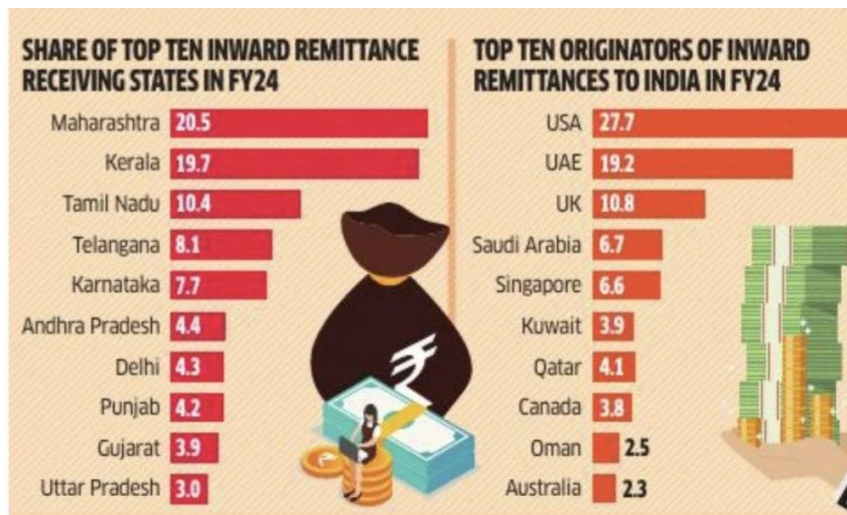
## ECONOMY NEWS

### Sixth round of India's Remittance Survey 2023/24

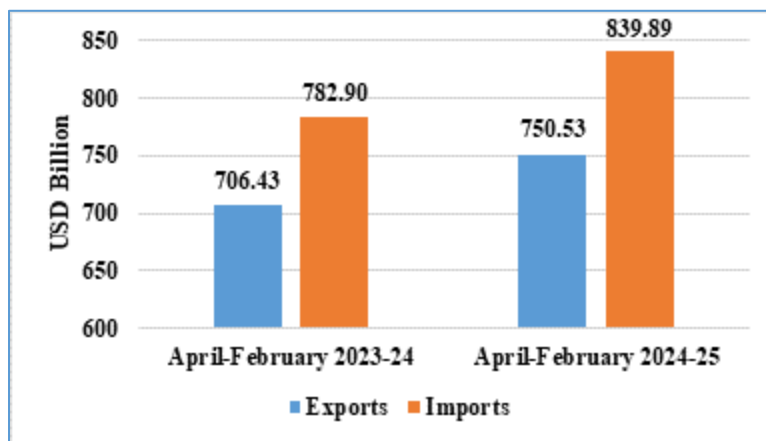


- ❖ India's remittances have more than doubled from \$55.6 billion in 2010-11 to \$118.7 billion in 2023-24.
- ❖ India's total remittances has jumped to \$129 billion in 2024, with a 14.3 percent share of global flows.

- ❖ US surpassed UAE to become the largest contributor with a 27.7 percent share in India's total remittances.
- ❖ The UAE's share during this period declined from 26.9 percent to 19.2 percent.
- ❖ Similarly, the United Kingdom, which just had a 3 percent share in 2016-17, has replaced Saudi Arabia with a 10.9 percent share in 2023-24.
- ❖ Maharashtra received the largest share of 20.5 per cent in 2023-24.
- ❖ Kerala followed closely with its share increasing to 19.7 per cent from about 10 per cent during the same period.
- ❖ It is followed by Tamil Nadu (10.4 per cent), Telangana (8.1 per cent), and Karnataka (7.7 per cent).



### India's total exports 2024-25

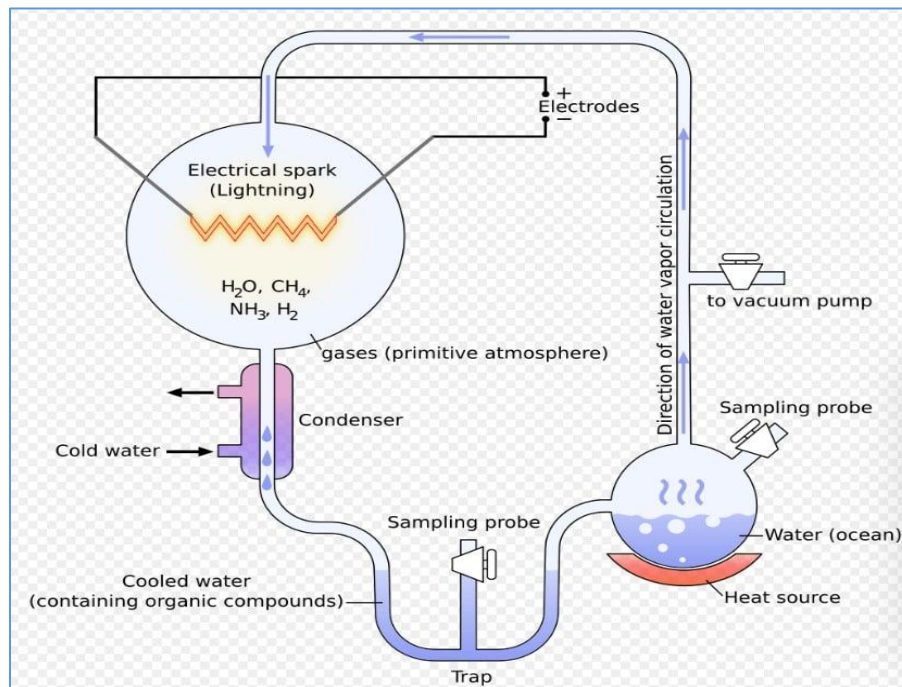


- ❖ India's total exports (Merchandise and Services combined) for February-2025 are estimated at USD 71.95 Billion.

- ❖ It was registering a positive growth of 3.16 percent vis-à-vis February-2024.
- ❖ The total imports (Merchandise and Services combined) for February 2025 are estimated at USD 67.52 Billion.
- ❖ It was registering a negative growth of (-)11.34 percent vis-à-vis February2024.
- ❖ India's total exports during April-February 2024-25 are estimated at USD 750.53 Billion registering a positive growth of 6.24 percent.
- ❖ Total imports during April-February 2024-25 are estimated at USD 839.89 Billion registering a growth of 7.28 percent.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Micro Lightning - Miller-Urey hypothesis



- ❖ The Spraying of water microdroplets forms luminescence and causes chemical reactions in surrounding gas.
- ❖ In 1952, the American chemist Stanley Miller and physicist Harold Urey have demonstrated that the organic compounds (such as amino acids) needed for life could form with the application of electricity to a mixture of water and inorganic gases.
- ❖ When the lightning bolt struck the ocean it is triggering chemical interaction with gases such as methane, ammonia, and hydrogen that created organic molecules.



- ❖ According to the new study, the water spray is sufficient to generate the organic compounds without the requirement of external electricity.
- ❖ The findings showed that it was not necessarily that lightning strikes may have kick-started life on Earth.
- ❖ Tiny sparks due to crashing waves or waterfalls may have done the job.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### World Happiness Rankings 2025

<b>World's 10 Most Happiest Countries In 2025</b>		
		Rank
	<b>Finland</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Denmark</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Iceland</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Costa Rica</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>Norway</b>	<b>7</b>
	<b>Israel</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>Luxembourg</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>India</b>	<b>118</b>

- ❖ Finland has secured its position as the world's happiest nation for the eighth consecutive year.
- ❖ It is followed by Denmark and Iceland.
- ❖ Israel secured 8th position despite the Hamas conflict
- ❖ The United States has dropped to its lowest position at 24th, down from its peak at 11th in 2012.
- ❖ Afghanistan remains at the bottom of the rankings.
- ❖ India ranked 118th in the World Happiness Report 2025 published Thursday, up from the 126th position in the previous year
- ❖ Among India's neighbouring countries, Sri Lanka was ranked at 133, Bangladesh at 134, Pakistan at 109, Nepal at 92 and China at 68.



- ❖ It is released by the Wellbeing Research Centre at the University of Oxford, in the collaboration with Gallup, the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and an independent editorial board.

