

May - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The second synchronised survey of the Nilgiri Tahr, Tamil Nadu's State animal, has concluded successfully.
- ❖ Reliance Industries becomes the first Indian company to cross total equity of over Rs 10 lakh crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ India and France have inked an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for the procurement of 26 Rafale-M aircraft – 22 single-seater and four twin-seater – for the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The 24th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) held at the UN Headquarters in New York.
- ❖ Nirva, a cheetah in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park gave birth to five cubs.
 - With this, the total number of cheetahs has increased to 29 in the national park and 31 in India.
- ❖ The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has operationalised a dedicated 'Global Tariff and Trade Helpdesk' to assist stakeholders in navigating emerging trade issues.
- ❖ Meghalaya's Ryndia Silk & Khasi Handloom have officially received the GI Tag recognition.
- ❖ Pop singer Katy Perry and five other women launched into space on a Blue Origin rocket and successfully returned to Earth, marking the first all-female spaceflight in more than 60 years.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

2025 amendment to Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994

- ❖ The hoardings, digital banners and placards installed in rural local bodies across the State are set to be regulated.
- ❖ It sought to empower the government in this regard.
- ❖ Section 172-B of the Act only empowered the government to make rules for the manner of displaying advertisements but not regulate the installation of hoardings, digital banners, and placards.
- ❖ As per the Bill, the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) would receive applications with fee and grant or refuse licence.
- ❖ The Block Development Officer can also cancel or suspend the licence granted.


- ❖ The Block Development Officer is empowered to confiscate and remove any of the hoarding, digital banner, or placard installed without the necessary permissions.

"கிராமங்களில் விளம்பர பலகை வைக்க அனுமதி கட்டாயம்"



ஊராட்சி பகுதிகளில் அனுமதியின்றி விளம்பர பலகைகள், மின்னணு திரைகள் வைத்தால் ஓராண்டு சிறை; சிறை தண்டனையுடன் ரூ.5,000 அபராதமும் விதிக்கப்படும் என புதிய மசோதாவில் தகவல்

ஆண்டு ஒன்றுக்கு ஒரு சதுர மீட்டருக்கு ரூ.15,000 என்ற கட்டணத்தின் அடிப்படையில் 3 ஆண்டுகள் உரிமம் பெறலாம் - ஊராட்சிகளில் விளம்பர பலகைகளை ஒழுங்குபடுத்தும் மசோதாவை அமைச்சர் ஜ.பெரியசாமி தாக்கல் செய்தார்

Welfare announcements for Govt Employees



**சட்டமன்றப் பேரவையில்
விதி 110-ன் கீழ்
அரசு
உழியர்களுக்கான
அறிவிப்புகள்**

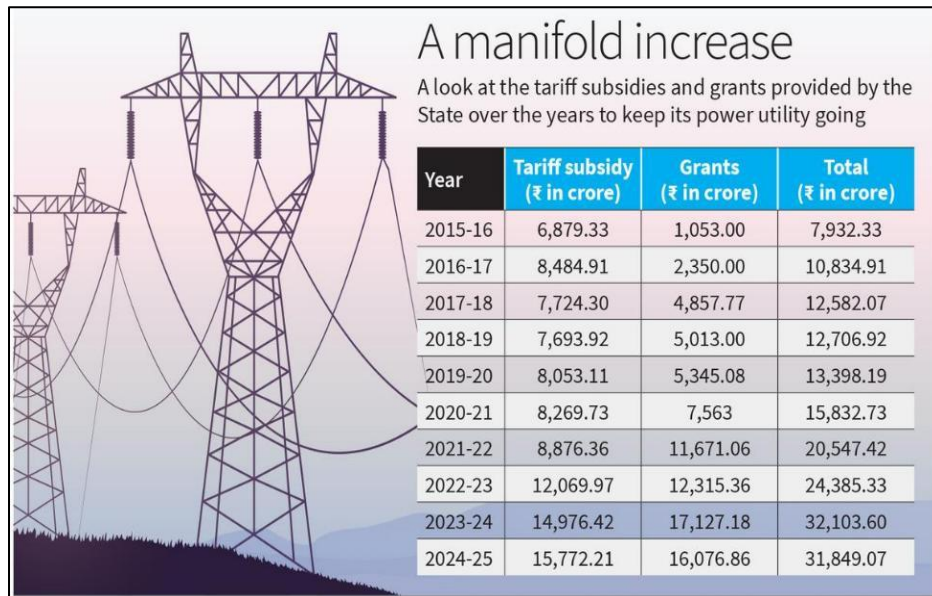
- அரசு உழியர்களுக்கான ஈட்டிய விடுப்பு சரண் இந்தாண்டே அமல்
- மாநில அரசுப் பணியாளர்களுக்கும் 01-01-2025 முதல் அகவிலைப்படி 2% உயர்வு
- பண்டிகைக் கால முன்பணம் ரூ.20,000/-ஆக உயர்வு
- அரசுப் பணியாளர்களுக்கு கல்வி முன்பணம் உயர்வு
- திருமண முன்பணம் ரூ.5,00,000/-ஆக உயர்வு
- பொங்கல் பண்டிகை பரிசுத்தொகை ரூ.1,000/-ஆக உயர்வு
- ஓய்வூதியதாரர்களுக்கு பண்டிகை கால முன்பணம் ரூ.6,000/- ஆக உயர்வு
- மூன்று ஓய்வூதியத் திட்டங்கள் குறித்த குழுவின் பரிந்துரையை செப்டம்பர் 30க்குள் சமர்ப்பிக்க அறிவுறுத்தல்
- அரசு பெண் உழியர்களின் மகப்பேறு விடுப்புக் காலத்தினை அவர்களது தகுதிகாண் பருவத்திற்கு கணக்கில் எடுத்துக் கொள்ள அரசு முடிவு

- மு.க.ஸ்டாலின்
தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர்

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has made nine announcements in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly for the welfare of the State government's Police staff.
- ❖ The first announcement is the earned leave surrender, starting from October 1, up to 15 days of earned leave can be surrendered for a cash benefit.
- ❖ Based on the Central Government's decision to increase DA by 2 per cent from January 2025, the State Government will also increase the DA by 2% from the same date for state government employees.

- ❖ The existing festival advance of Rs 10,000 will now be increased to Rs 20,000.
- ❖ From this year, for the vocational education of higher education of employees' children, the education advance will be increased to Rs 1,00,000.
- ❖ For arts, science, and polytechnic, it will be increased to Rs 50,000.
- ❖ The marriage advances increased to Rs 5,00,000 for all employees, regardless of gender, in the fifth announcement.
- ❖ The sixth announcement is the Pongal festival bonus given annually by the Tamil Nadu Government to the retired C & D category staff, all types of individual pensioners, and family pensioners will be increased from Rs 500 to Rs 1,000.
- ❖ To help pensioners to celebrate festivals with their families, the existing festival advance of Rs 4,000 will be increased to Rs 6,000.
- ❖ The committee constituted to look into the Old Pension Scheme, Contributory Pension Scheme, and Unified Pension Scheme, would be advised to submit its report by September 30 this year.
- ❖ The government has decided that, the maternity leave will now be counted towards the probation period.

Financial aid to power utility



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government's assistance to the State power utility in the form of electricity tariff subsidy and grants has witnessed an around 300% increase in 10 years.
- ❖ Since 2019-20, the rise was quite steep, registering around 137%.

- ❖ The amount of subsidy and grants comes to about 30% of the total revenue of the power utility.
- ❖ For farmers alone, the subsidy amount will be ₹8,186 crore this year.
- ❖ For all categories, the tariff subsidy is estimated to be around ₹16,275 crore.
- ❖ The estimated loss funding for 2025-26 will be ₹16,000 crore.

NATIONAL NEWS

Sachet App

- ❖ The Prime Minister urged people to use the 'Sachet' mobile app, launched by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).
- ❖ It will help in getting a HeadStart on escaping natural disasters.
- ❖ The app provides real-time geotagged early warning alerts of disasters to warn the public.
- ❖ Furthermore, the app also provides the weather reports and forecasts from Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) for day-to-day weather updates.



Zero Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign 2025-26

- ❖ Centre has launched zero measles-rubella (MR) cases campaign recently.

- ❖ It also set the target to eliminate the viral diseases from the country in next one year.
- ❖ In 2024, measles cases dropped by 73% and rubella cases by 17% compared to 2023.
- ❖ M-R are contagious viral diseases affecting mainly children.
- ❖ Measles is caused by the Morbillivirus (RNA virus) and Rubella is caused by the rubella virus.



I4C under PMLA



- ❖ The Finance Ministry included I4C under Section 66 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.
- ❖ It authorised Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) to share and receive information from the ED under the anti-money laundering law.

- ❖ This would help I4C to share and receive the information from the Enforcement Directorate and other law enforcement agencies.
- ❖ This would help identify the masterminds behind cyber frauds.

21-Point Action Plan for BIMSTEC

PM's 21-point Action Plan for 6th BIMSTEC Summit	PM's 21-point Action Plan for 6th BIMSTEC Summit	PM's 21-point Action Plan for 6th BIMSTEC Summit
<p>BIMSTEC</p> <p>MITIGATION AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing the BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence for Disaster Management in India. This Centre will cooperate in disaster management, relief and rehabilitation The fourth joint exercises between BIMSTEC Disaster Management Authorities will be held in India this year 	<p>BIMSTEC</p> <p>BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce Organization of BIMSTEC Business Summit every year A feasibility study on the possibilities of trade in local currency in the BIMSTEC region 	<p>BIMSTEC</p> <p>IT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot study to understand the needs of BIMSTEC countries to share the experience of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Connectivity between India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and payment systems in the BIMSTEC region

- ❖ The Indian Prime Minister addressed at the 6th Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral and Technical Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit, hosted by Thailand.
- ❖ Theme of the event was 'BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open'.
- ❖ This event has adopted the Bangkok Vision 2030 and a Maritime Transportation Agreement to boost connectivity and engagement between member nations.
- ❖ Indian Prime Minister proposed a 21-point action plan at the BIMSTEC Summit.
- ❖ It focusing on the regional connectivity, economic cooperation, and technological integration.
- ❖ It includes linking India's UPI with the payment systems of BIMSTEC nations.
- ❖ The Setting up a BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce is to strengthen engagement amongst the grouping's members.
- ❖ He also proposed the BIMSTEC for Organized Development of Human Resource Infrastructure initiative (BODHI).
- ❖ It aims to train 300 youths from BIMSTEC countries in India every year.
- ❖ He has offered to build nano-satellites for the BIMSTEC member nations and also explore the setting up of ground stations and promote the use of remote sensing data.
- ❖ He proposed the establishment of a Sustainable Maritime Transport Centre in India.

- ❖ He also announced the scholarships to BIMSTEC students at the Forest Research Institute of India and Nalanda University for a training program every year for young diplomats from BIMSTEC countries.
- ❖ Tata Memorial Centre will support training and capacity building in cancer care in BIMSTEC countries.
- ❖ To boost connectivity and culture, BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival will be held in India this year, according to the plan.
- ❖ He also proposed faster work on electric grid interconnection.
- ❖ India will host a BIMSTEC Athletics Meet this year and proposed organizing the BIMSTEC Games in 2027 to commemorate the 30th anniversary of BIMSTEC.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World's Only Research Centre on Mycetoma

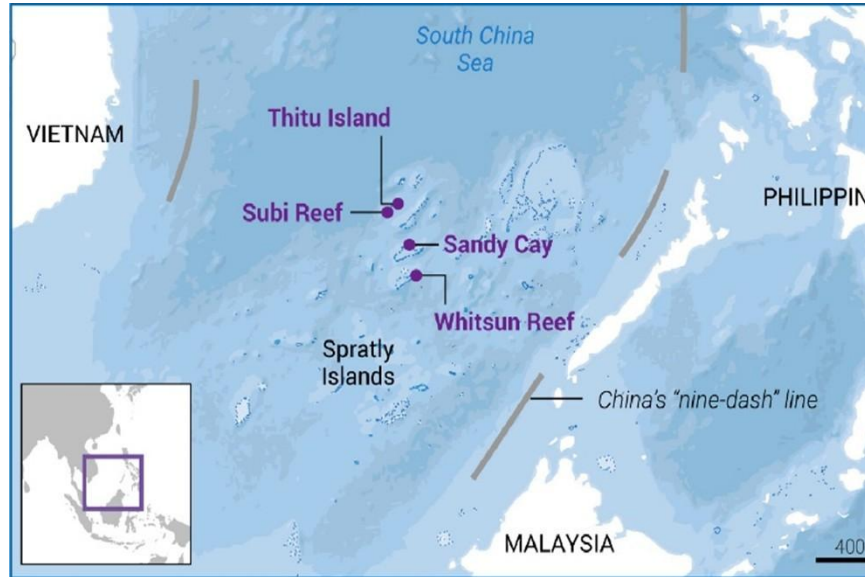
- ❖ The world's only research centre on mycetoma has been destroyed in Sudan's two-year war.
- ❖ The centre had grown to include 50 researchers and treat 12,000 patients each year.
- ❖ Mycetoma is a neglected tropical disease common among farmers.
- ❖ Mycetoma is caused by bacteria or fungus and usually enters the body through cuts.
- ❖ It is a progressively destructive infectious disease of the body tissue, affecting skin, muscle and even bone.



Tiexian reef

- ❖ China claims that the country's coast guard had "implemented maritime control" over Tiexian Reef.

- ❖ China and the Philippines have each unfurled their national flags on tiny sand bars in the South China Sea.
- ❖ The Sandy Cay reef lies near Thitu Island, or Pag-asa, where the Philippines stations troops and maintains a coast guard monitoring base.



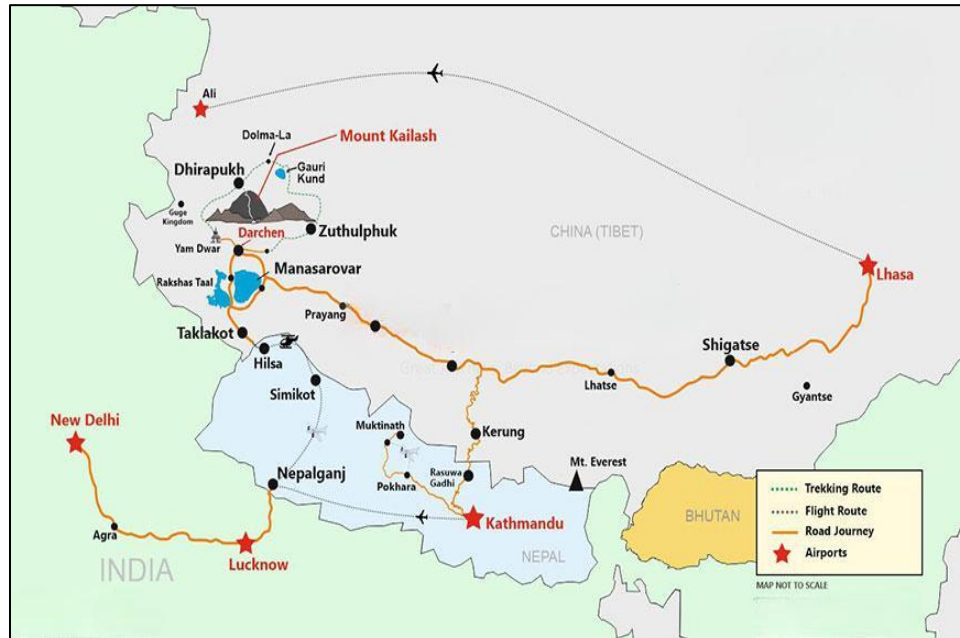
Israel - Morag Axis



- ❖ Israel has taken control of the “Morag axis” expanding its control over southern Gaza.
- ❖ It is a strategic corridor linking Rafah and Khan Yunis.

- ❖ The Morag corridor joins the other key zones under Israeli control, including the Philadelphi and Netzarim corridors.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra 2025



- ❖ It is set to resume in 2025 after a five-year gap, with possible routes via Lipulekh and Demchok.
- ❖ It has been on hold since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent tensions in Eastern Ladakh.
- ❖ The resumption of the Yatra coincides with the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and China.
- ❖ It was organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) every year between June and September.
- ❖ It was through two official routes of Lipulekh Pass (since 1981) in Uttarakhand and Nathu La Pass (since 2015) in Sikkim.
- ❖ Demchok is a village and the military encampment in the Indian-administered Demchok sector, that is disputed between India and China.
- ❖ It is administered as part of the Nyoma tehsil in the Leh district of Ladakh by India and claimed by China as part of the Tibet Autonomous Region
- ❖ The holy mountain Kailash and the sacred lake Mansarovar are located in Tibet.
- ❖ It is believed to be the abode of Lord Shiva and Mata Parvati.
- ❖ It is considered a sacred peak by Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Bons (indigenous religion of Tibet)

- ❖ Mount Kailash is considered the spiritual center of the Earth, with the Sutlej, Brahmaputra, Kamali, and Indus rivers originating from it.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Red-crowned Roofed Turtles

- ❖ After more than 30 years, 20 critically endangered red-crowned roofed turtles were reintroduced to the Ganga.
- ❖ Known by its biological name *Batagur kachuga*, the turtle is marked critically endangered in the IUCN.
- ❖ It is one of the 50 species in the list of Asia's most-endangered tortoises and freshwater turtles.
- ❖ In India, red-crowned roofed turtles survive only in the Chambal River, with no evidence of their presence elsewhere in the world for the past 30 years.
- ❖ In Chambal, the population of red-crowned roofed turtles is less than 300.



Golden Tiger in Assam



- ❖ A rare golden tiger has been spotted in the very famous Kaziranga National Park, Assam.

- ❖ This Golden tiger, also known as “Golden Tabby”, is not a distinct species but a result of genetic rarity.
- ❖ A rare condition called pseudomelanism is a genetic mutation that affects body pigmentation.

Meghayan 25

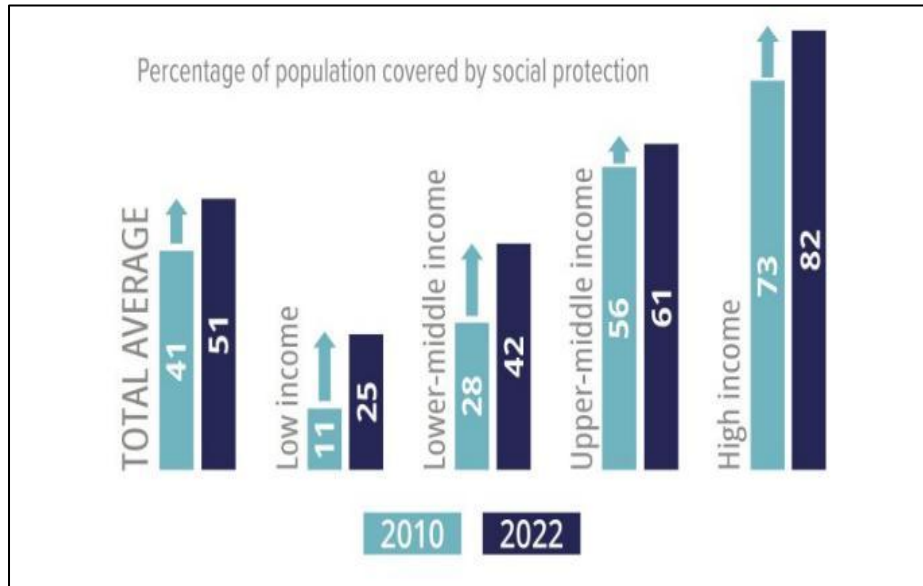


- ❖ The Indian Navy hosted the 3rd edition of the Meteorological and Oceanological Symposium - Meghayan 25.
- ❖ Meghayan-25 is an important flagship climate monitoring and data-sharing initiative launched under the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) for the year 2025.
- ❖ It is to commemorate the formation of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and celebrate WMO Day 2025 (celebrated annually on 23rd March).
- ❖ The seminar was organized in alignment with the 2025 WMO day theme - ‘Closing the Early Warning Gap Together’.
- ❖ MOSDAC-IN Web Services were launched, a joint initiative of the Directorate of Naval Oceanology and Meteorology (DNOM) and SAC-ISRO.
- ❖ The Navy also relaunched its professional journal, “Sagarmanthan”, with the 10th edition being published after a decade-long gap.
- ❖ The WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).
- ❖ It is focused on meteorology, operational hydrology, climate, and related sciences.
- ❖ The WMO evolved from the International Meteorological Organisation (IMO), which was established in 1873 Vienna International Meteorological Congress.

- ❖ WMO was officially established on 23rd March 1950 with headquarters located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ It became a specialized agency of the UN in 1951.

REPORTS AND INDICES

State of Social Protection Report 2025



- ❖ The World Bank released the ‘State of Social Protection Report 2025: The 2-Billion-Person Challenge’.
- ❖ Over the last decade, 4.7 billion people across low- and middle-income countries gained access to social protection.
- ❖ However, two billion people in those countries remain uncovered or inadequately covered by social protection.
- ❖ Three out of four people in the low-income countries receive no form of social protection.
- ❖ Even in lower-middle-income countries, more than half of the population remains uncovered.
- ❖ At current growth rates, it will take 18 years to achieve full coverage for those living in extreme poverty and 20 years to cover the poorest 20% of households in low- and middle-income countries.
- ❖ In the low-income countries, social assistance transfers represent just 11% of the income of poor households.

- ❖ Gender disparities persist with women receiving 81 cents for every \$1 received by men on social protection benefits, on average, across a sample of 27 countries.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

BRICS Labour & Employment Minister's Meeting



- ❖ The BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting 2025 held in Brasilia.
- ❖ It adopted a declaration addressing two themes
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Future of Work
 - The Impacts of Climate Change on the World of Work and a Just Transition.
- ❖ It aims to promote inclusive AI policies that balance the innovation with worker protection and advance social dialogue to ensure fair climate transitions

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Hyena Day 2025 - April 27

- ❖ There are four distinct species of hyena.
- ❖ These include the striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*) which is also found in the Middle East and Asia as well as the brown hyena (*Parahyaena brunnea*), the aardwolf (*Proteles cristatus*) and the spotted hyena (*Crocutta crocutta*).
- ❖ The spotted hyena is the most widespread and well-studied of the four species, found throughout sub-Saharan Africa.
- ❖ These animals live in complex groups led by females (larger and stronger than males) called 'clans'.
- ❖ The striped hyenas, found in North and East Africa, are primarily nocturnal and solitary.
- ❖ It is the most common species found in India.

- ❖ The brown hyena is found mainly in southern Africa's arid deserts and savannas. It is predominantly a scavenger.
- ❖ The smallest and most specialised hyaenid is the aardwolf.
- ❖ They are not wolves or related to them.



MEET THE STRIPED HYENA

20% of the world's hyena population is found in India.

Threats to hyenas— man-animal conflict, poisoning, habitat destruction, hunting and poaching for body parts.

Striped Hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*) is native to the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia, the Middle East, and North & East Africa.

The estimated population of the striped hyena is under **10,000** and they are classified as 'Near Threatened' in the IUCN Red List.

Hyenas have extremely **POWERFUL JAWS AND STRONG TEETH** which is quite useful in crushing bones as they mostly feed on carrion.

Striped hyenas are known to live in **MONOGAMOUS** pairs and the males play an **EQUAL ROLE** in rearing and nurturing of the cubs.

Their average lifespan in the wild is approximately 12 years but in captivity they can live upto 20-25 years.

They are nature's **PEST CONTROL** and help in maintaining a healthy, disease free ecosystem.

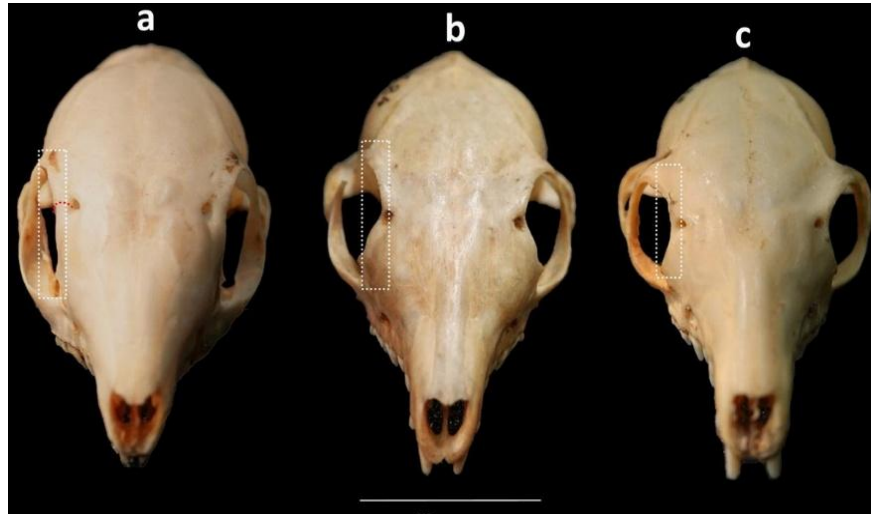
THE LION KING
From time immemorial, hyenas have been widely misrepresented as malicious and evil in culture, folklore and even in movies.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

South Asian tree shrews

- ❖ The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have revealed new insights into the taxonomy of.
- ❖ Historically misclassified as primates, the tree shrews – some arboreal, some semi-arboreal, and others terrestrial.
- ❖ They are now recognised as an ancient lineage of mammals' endemic to South and Southeast Asia.

- ❖ Tree shrews are not true shrews or squirrels, but the members of a distinct order called Scandentia.
- ❖ The analysis reveals that it is the largest in South Asia and the third-largest of all 23 known tree shrew species globally.



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