

May - 05

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Centre has approved the proposal for the Development, Maintenance and Management of 4-lane Greenfield Access Controlled 166.80 km of National Highway No. 06 from Mawlyngkhung (near Shillong) in Meghalaya to Panchgram (near Silchar) in Assam on Hybrid Annuity Mode.
- ❖ Ms. Sujata Chaturvedi, the Former Secretary of Department of Sports, has been appointed as a Member of Union Public Service Commission.
- ❖ The statue of Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma is inaugurated in New Delhi and a road in Delhi's Kailash Colony officially renamed as 'Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma Marg' in honour of the Bodo leader.
- ❖ Olympians Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty received the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award from the Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports and Labour & Employment.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Nammazhvar awards 2025







- ❖ Three farmers, one each from Coimbatore, Tiruppur, and Nagapattinam districts, received the Tamil Nadu government's Nammazhvar award for excellence in organic farming for this year.
- ❖ G. Sampathkumar from Coimbatore district secured the first prize.

- ❖ T. Jagadeesh from the Tiruppur district and V. Kalidoss from the Nagapattinam district received the second and third prizes, respectively.
- ❖ The Nammazhvar award encourages and honours the farmers who practice and promote organic farming and handhold fellow organic farmers.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### 11 heatwave-prone states - NHRC guidelines


Heat wave Scenario		40°C	30°C
Maximum Temperature		Plains	Hills
<b>Heat wave conditions prevail when:</b>		<b>Severe heat wave conditions prevail when:</b>	
Normal maximum temperature	Deviation from normal	Normal maximum temperature	Deviation from normal
▲		▲	
Above	<b>4-5°C</b> or more	Above	<b>6°C</b> or more
<b>40°C</b>		<b>40°C</b>	<b>6°C</b> or more
▼		▼	
At or below	<b>5-6°C</b> or more	At or below	<b>7°C</b> or more
<b>40°C</b>		<b>40°C</b>	<b>7°C</b> or more

- ❖ The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked 11 States to take an immediate pre-emptive measure to protect the vulnerable people, especially those from poorer communities.
- ❖ The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported 3,798 deaths between 2018 and 2022 due to heat and sun strokes.
- ❖ These 11 states are Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.
- ❖ The NHRC called for the provisioning of shelters and relief materials, changes in working hours, and standard procedures to treat heat-related illnesses.

### Limited power to modify arbitral awards

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that appellate courts can modify arbitral awards while exercising powers under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.
- ❖ These courts have “limited power” under Section 34 and 37 of the Act to modify arbitral awards.
- ❖ Modifications by a court were allowed to amputate the invalid portion of an award from its valid part or to get rid of obvious typographical, computational, clerical errors in the award or if the interest post the award needed to be changed.

- ❖ The court does not possess the power to correct errors of fact, reconsider costs or engage in a review of the merits of the arbitral award.

<p>➤ Top court said, “This interpretation is practical and pragmatic. It would be incongruous to hold that power to set aside would only mean power to set aside the award in its entirety and not in part. A contrary interpretation would not only be inconsistent with the statutory framework but may also result in valid determinations being unnecessarily nullified”</p>	 <p>➤ Verdict answered the questions referred to it previously and held “court has a limited power under Sections 34 and 37 of the 1996 Act to modify the arbitral award”</p>
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### Digital Access - Fundamental Right

**“Digital Access is a Fundamental Right” : SC Issues 20 KYC Guidelines for Visually Impaired & Acid Attack Victims**



 Know Your Customer

- ❖ The SC has ruled that the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution must be reinterpreted in light of Digital Access realities.
- ❖ The Digital access is a fundamental right and the State must ensure the digital accessibility for everyone, including those from rural areas and the society's marginalised sections.
- ❖ Bridging the digital divide is no longer merely a matter of policy discretion but has become a constitutional imperative to ensure a life of dignity, autonomy, equal participation in public life.

- ❖ The state has an obligation under Articles 21 [right to a dignified life], 14 [equality], 15 [right against discrimination], 38 [DPSP] of the Constitution.
- ❖ They must encompass the responsibility to ensure that digital infrastructure, government portals, online learning platforms and financial technology are universally accessible and responsive to all vulnerable and marginalised sections.

## **Drugs and Cosmetics Compounding Rules 2025**

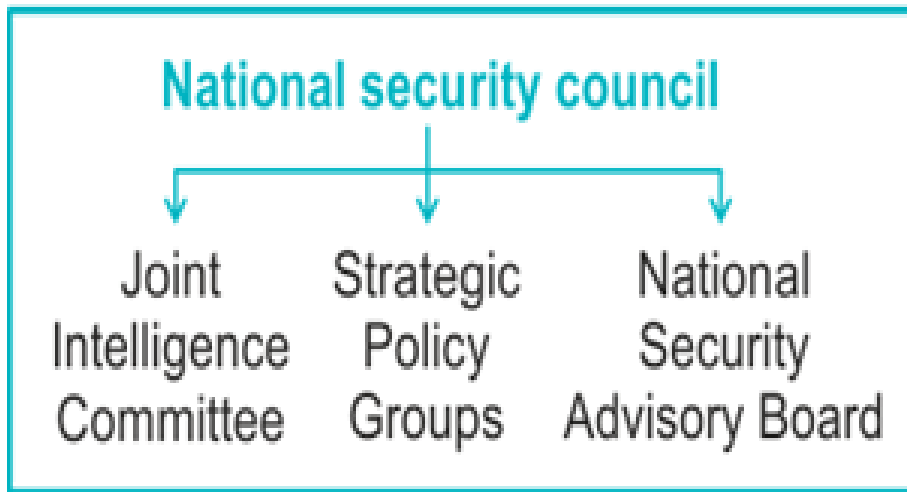


- ❖ The union health ministry has notified the Drugs & Cosmetics (Compounding of Offences) Rules 2025 to allow minor offences to be settled by fine or penalties.
- ❖ This initiative aims to streamline the resolution of the minor offences under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940.
- ❖ The rules allow offenders to settle the cases through fines, bypassing the lengthy prosecution processes.
- ❖ However, only a first-time offenders will be considered for penalty, and the repeat offenders have to pay a fine and face imprisonment.
- ❖ The Central Government will appoint a compounding authority at a senior level.
- ❖ Immunity from prosecution is not automatic.
- ❖ The compounding authority retains discretion over whether to grant it.

## **NSAB and its functions**

- ❖ The National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) was constituted in December 1998.

- ❖ It is an advisory body of eminent persons outside the government to render advice on national security issues referred to it by the National Security Council.
- ❖ The principal function of the NSAB is to undertake the long-term analysis and provide perspectives on national security issues to the National Security Council (NSC) and to recommend measures/solutions and policy options on the issues referred to it by the National Security Council.
- ❖ It draws people of diverse domains including industry, media and civil society, among others.
- ❖ The National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) assist the NSC, NSAB and the Strategic Policy Group.
- ❖ In 2011, the government appointed a task force, headed by the then Chairman of the NSAB, Naresh Chandra.
- ❖ It was to review the system and suggest course corrections as may be required.
- ❖ The report, submitted in 2012, made the recommendations for the Permanent Chairman of Chief of Staff Committee.
- ❖ It later became the Chief of Defence Staff.



## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **“Victory of Faith” - Vietnam**

- ❖ Vietnam celebrated the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War and said it was a “victory of faith”.
- ❖ The anniversary commemorates the first act of the country’s reunification on April 30, 1975.

- ❖ On this day, the Communist-run North Vietnam seized Saigon, the capital of the U.S.-backed South and renamed Ho Chi Minh City.
- ❖ Vietnam and the United States had normalised diplomatic relations in 1995 and deepened ties in 2023.



### USA Ukraine minerals deal 2025



- ❖ The US and Ukraine have signed a deal that will give USA access to some of the war-torn country's natural resources.
- ❖ The agreement also includes the provisions for oil, natural gas and the other hydrocarbons.

- ❖ The fund is being created on 50-50 basis, reflecting an equal partnership between Washington and Kyiv.

### **Global Media Dialogue 2025**

- ❖ The 13-point Global Media Dialogue Declaration (the WAVES Declaration) was adopted on the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Mumbai.
- ❖ This event had a participation from over 60 countries, including Russia, Japan, UK, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and several others.
- ❖ To Promote diverse voices and inclusive media ecosystems & preserve cultural heritage and support public interest content are among the 13 points.
- ❖ It encourages innovation, data privacy, and digital security & Support ethical AI use and global content partnerships.
- ❖ The declaration has also reiterated the need for ethical awareness among content creators and consumers, whose roles have become increasingly interchangeable due to the democratisation of digital media.



## **ECONOMY NEWS**

### **Annual Survey of Services Sector Enterprises (ASSSE) 2025**

- ❖ The first pilot study on the Annual Survey of Services Sector Enterprises (ASSSE) conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme
- ❖ The Services sector enterprises with less than Rs 500 crore output accounted for 63.03 per cent of the total employment in the segment.

- ❖ Larger enterprises with output Rs 500 crore and above dominate in terms of asset ownership (62.77 per cent), net fixed capital formation (62.73 per cent), gross value added (69.47 per cent) and total compensation (63.17 per cent).



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Top 10 largest economies in the world 2025

Rank	Country	GDP (USD)	2025 Projected Real GDP (% Change)	GDP Per Capita (Current Prices) (USD)
1	USA	\$30.34 trillion	2.70%	30.51 thousand
2	China	\$19.53 trillion	4.60%	19.23 thousand
3	Germany	\$4.92 trillion	0.80%	4.74 thousand
4	<b>India</b>	<b>\$4.39 trillion</b>	<b>1.10%</b>	<b>4.19 thousand</b>
5	Japan	\$4.27 trillion	6.50%	4.19 thousand
6	UK	\$3.73 trillion	1.60%	3.84 thousand
7	France	\$3.28 trillion	0.80%	3.21 thousand
8	Italy	\$2.46 trillion	0.70%	2.42 thousand
9	Canada	\$2.33 trillion	2.00%	2.23 thousand
10	Brazil	\$2.31 trillion	2.20%	2.13 thousand

- ❖ Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a significant metric for determining the total value of a country's economy.
- ❖ United States of America topped in the list with \$30.34 trillion GDP.



- ❖ It is followed by China (\$19.53 trillion) and Germany (\$4.92 trillion).
- ❖ India has been ranked at 4<sup>th</sup> with a GDP of USD 4.39 trillion and is expected to continue growing at 6.2%.
- ❖ India is anticipated to surpass Germany to become the third-largest economy by 2030.

### **Top 10 countries with the highest debt-to-GDP in 2025**

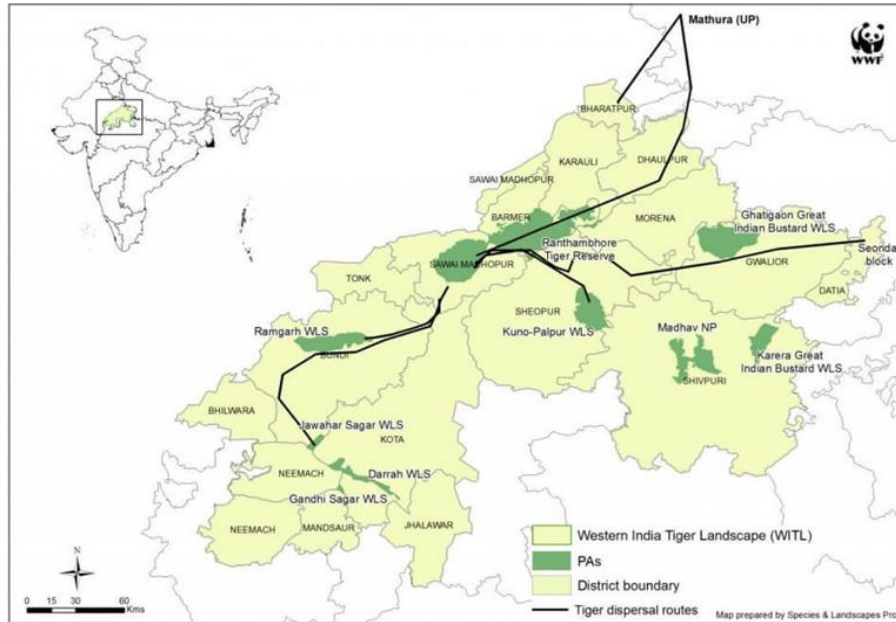
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>General government gross debt (% of GDP)</b>
<b>1</b>	Sudan	252%
<b>2</b>	Japan	234.9%
<b>3</b>	Singapore	174.9%
<b>4</b>	Greece	142.2%
<b>5</b>	Bahrain	141.4%
<b>6</b>	Maldives	140.8%
<b>7</b>	Italy	137.3%
<b>8</b>	United States	122.5%
<b>9</b>	France	116.3%
<b>10</b>	Canada	112.5%

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) recent projections indicate that global public debt could surpass levels from the COVID-19 pandemic era, which reached 98.9% of GDP in 2020.
- ❖ Worldwide public debt might exceed 117% of GDP by 2027.
- ❖ The global public debt may reach nearly 100% (99.6%) of global GDP by the end of this decade (2030).
- ❖ Sudan surpassed Japan, having the highest debt-to-GDP ratio in the world, at 252%.
- ❖ Among developed and advanced economies, Japan has the highest debt-to-GDP ratio at 234.9%.
- ❖ The United States, the world's largest economy, ranks eighth globally with a high debt-to-GDP ratio of 123% in 2025.
- ❖ France follows closely at 9<sup>th</sup> with a public debt ratio of 116.3%, and Canada rounds up the top ten.
- ❖ China is ranked 21<sup>st</sup> and has a public debt ratio of 96%.

- ❖ India's debt-to-GDP ratio of 80% places it 31st globally.

## STATES' NEWS

### Jaigir village relocation



- ❖ Jaigir, located inside the Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR), Jharkhand is becoming the first village to be entirely relocated outside the core area.
- ❖ Jaigir's new location is near Polpol village, just outside the core area.
- ❖ The original Jaigir will become a grassland to attract tigers' prey.
- ❖ Eight more villages have been identified for relocation.
- ❖ The reserve covers 1129.93 square km of land, with a core area of 414.08 square km, where these villages are currently located.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Press Freedom Day 2025 - May 03

- ❖ This day highlights the very importance of a free and independent press in the safeguarding democracy and human rights.
- ❖ It also honours those of media professionals who have lost their lives or risked everything to find the truth.
- ❖ In 2024, 82 lost their lives in the course of their work, compared to 74 in 2023.

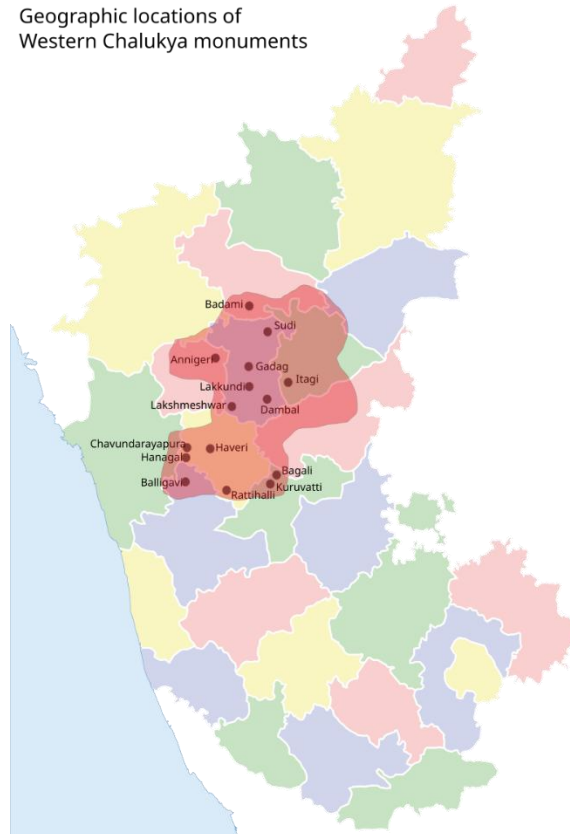
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Reporting in the Brave New World – The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Press Freedom and the Media.”



## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### UNESCO tentative listing of World Heritage Site 2025

Geographic locations of  
Western Chalukya monuments



- ❖ The group of monuments at Lakkundi, Karnataka and temples from surrounding places, are in the process of being finalised for inclusion in the UNESCO’s tentative list of World Heritage Sites.



- ❖ They are dating from the early the 10th to 12th centuries CE and built during the period of Kalyana Chaluykas or Western Chalukyas.
- ❖ The Lakkundi group of monuments include the 11th century Kasi Visvesvara temple, the Manikesvara temple, the Nanneswara temple, the Brahma Jinalaya [the oldest temple in Lakkundi and dated to 1007 CE], and Musukina Bavi.
- ❖ The other heritage sites already under the tentative list include monuments and forts of the Deccan Sultanate, monuments of Srirangapatana island town, Hire Benkal megalithic site, and Badami and Aihole group of monuments.

