

May - 06

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Bharti Enterprises Chairperson Sunil Bharti Mittal has joined the World Bank's Private Sector Investment Lab (PSIL) initiative.
- ❖ The Coal production from captive and commercial mines in India stood at 14.01 million tonnes (MT) in April 2025, while coal dispatch was recorded at 16.81 million tonnes (MT).
- ❖ The Maharashtra state cabinet approved the Shipbuilding, Ship Repair and Ship Recycling Policy, 2025, with a targeted investment of Rs 6,600 crore by 2030.
- ❖ Babuji Vanam, the world's first energy transmission garden, was inaugurated at Kanha Shanti Vanam near Hyderabad to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Babuji Maharaj.
- ❖ Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has been chosen by the international scientific community to take up a submarine cable initiative for undertaking long-term observations of the Indian Ocean.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### First-ever shipbuilding policy



- ❖ TN finance minister unveiled the state's first 'maritime transport manufacturing policy 2025'.



- ❖ This policy aims to promote investment and innovation in ship and boat design, ship hull fabrication and ship engine production.
- ❖ The state aims to capture a sizable share of the pie in India's shipbuilding market, which is projected to cross \$8 billion by 2033.
- ❖ Shipbuilding Industries will be established soon in Cuddalore and Tuticorin.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### India's Record-Breaking Warm Year 2024

| <b>HEAT RECORD</b> (All India figures for 2024) |          |                     |       |           |                     |
|---|----------|---------------------|-------|-----------|---------------------|
| Rank*   | Month    | Mean temp anomaly** | Rank* | Month     | Mean temp anomaly** |
| 24  | January  | 0.34                | 4     | August    | 0.45                |
| 16  | February | 0.40                | 2     | September | 0.76                |
| 26  | March    | 0.22                | 1     | October   | 1.23                |
| 8   | April    | 0.76                | 3     | November  | 0.84                |
| 4   | May      | 0.69                | 6     | December  | 0.42                |
| 8   | June     | 0.91                | 1     | Annual    | 0.65                |
| 2   | July     | 0.70                |       |           |                     |

- ❖ The annual average land surface air temperature during 2024 was +0.65 degrees Celsius higher than the long-term average (1991-2020).
- ❖ This was the hottest year since the nationwide records began in 1901.
- ❖ It surpasses the previous highest recorded temperature of +0.54 degrees in 2016.
- ❖ In most parts of the eastern coast, heatwave conditions were observed in April, while in May, they were widespread across northwestern India.
- ❖ In June, most of northern and central India experienced heatwaves.
- ❖ In 2024, November's maximum monthly temperature was the second highest ever recorded across the country since 1901.

### Three New Voter-Centric Reforms

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced a measure aimed at enhancing the accuracy of electoral rolls and increasing transparency.
- ❖ The Key initiatives include
  - The digital integration of death certificates,

- Issuance of photo ID cards for booth-level officers, and
- A redesigned voter information slip for better clarity.
- ❖ These steps are intended to strengthen the credibility of the electoral rolls and promote greater transparency throughout the election process.

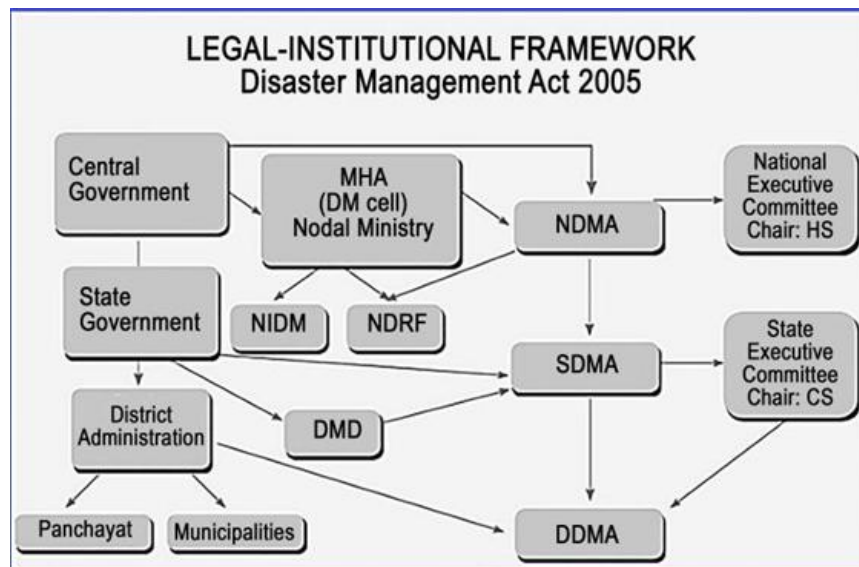
# ECI

## Unveils Three Reforms to Strengthen Electoral Process

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- ✓ Electronic obtaining data of Death registration for updation of electoral rolls
- ✓ BLOs to get standard photo ID
- ✓ Voter Information Slips to be made more elector friendly

### High-Level Committee for Disaster Management Oversight



- ❖ The Central has constituted a High-Level Committee under the chairmanship of the union home minister and three others as its members to oversee matters related to the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

- ❖ The committee has been constituted exercising the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 8B of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (53 of 2005).
- ❖ This will guide the policy decisions and ensure coordinated efforts among various ministries and agencies during times of disaster.

### **Bacterial Infections in India in 2019**

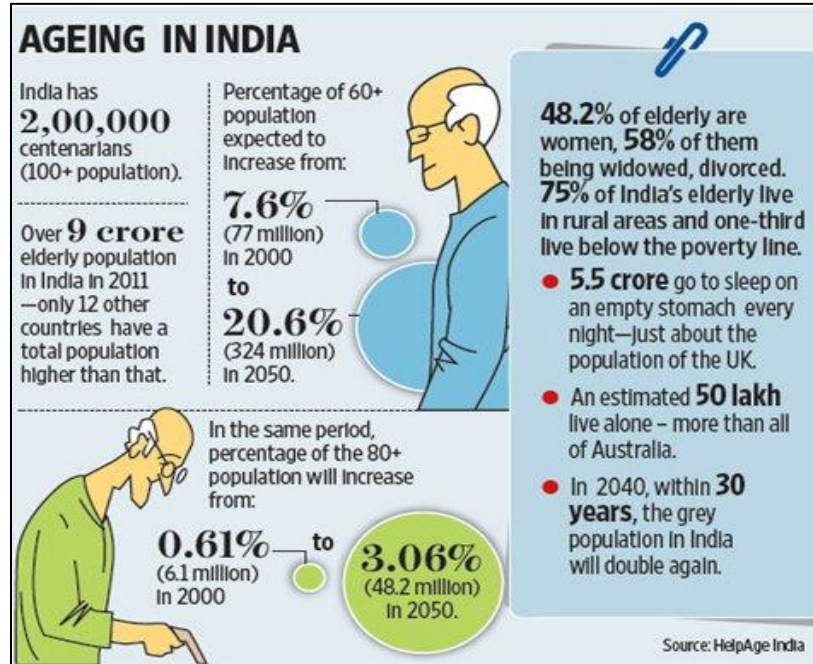
| <b>TOP FIVE DEATH CAUSING BACTERIA IN INDIA</b> |                      |   |
|---|----------------------|---|
| Pathogen  | Death counts in 2019 | Death rate per 100,000 population, 2019 |
| E.Coli  | 1.6 lakh             | 16.1                                    |
| S-Pneumoniae                                    | 1.4 lakh             | 14.4                                    |
| K-Pneumoniae                                    | 1.3 lakh             | 13.2                                    |
| S-Aureus  | 1.2 lakh             | 12.8                                    |
| A-Baumannii                                     | 1.1 lakh             | 11                                      |

- ❖ Only eight per cent of bacterial infections reported in India in 2019 were treated appropriately.
- ❖ Nearly 15 lakh bacterial infections were resistant to carbapenems in eight countries where the study was conducted.
- ❖ Carbapenems is a common antibiotic agent used to treat very severe bacterial infections.
- ❖ India procured most of the treatment courses (80.5 per cent; 83,468 courses), with 7.8 per cent of infections treated appropriately.
- ❖ Nearly 1.1 million deaths annually are a direct result of AMR.
- ❖ This is more than the combined deaths from HIV/AIDS and malaria in 2022.

### **'Ageing with Dignity' event**

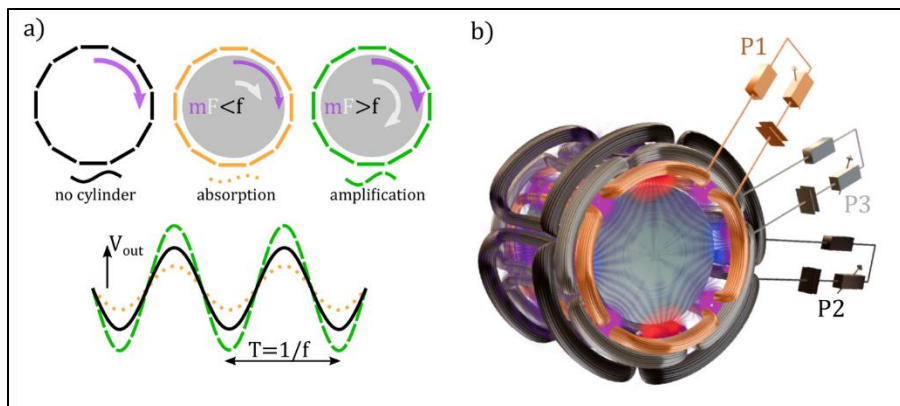
- ❖ 'The Ageing with Dignity - Initiatives for the Welfare of Senior Citizens' event was organised by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- ❖ During the event, it launched several key initiatives aimed at the welfare of senior citizens.
- ❖ It has witnessed the launch of the senior citizen's welfare portal, the virtual inauguration of senior citizens' homes, and the distribution of Aids and Assistive devices.

- ❖ An MoU was also signed between the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Brahma Kumaris organization for the inter-generational bonding and, the overall wellbeing of the senior citizens.
- ❖ It has brought together senior citizens, social organisations, school children, and spiritual leaders to reaffirm India's traditional ethos of respecting and honouring the elderly.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### First-ever 'Black Hole Bomb' Analogue

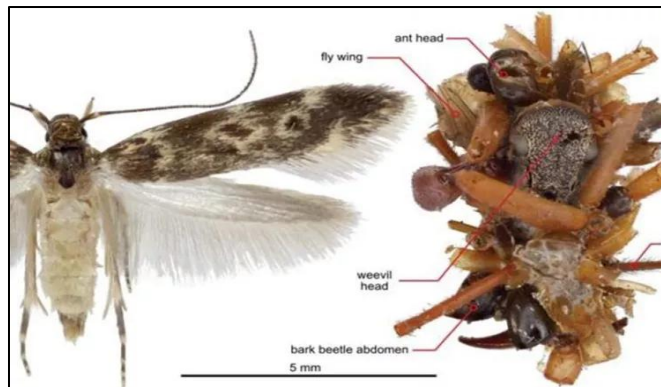


- ❖ Researchers have created the first laboratory analogue of the 'black hole bomb'.
- ❖ It consists of a rotating aluminium cylinder, placed inside the layers of coils that generate magnetic fields that rotate around it, at controllable speeds.

- ❖ In 1972, physicists William Press and Saul Teukolsky has described a theoretical phenomenon called a black hole bomb.
- ❖ In 1969, the British mathematical physicist and Nobel laureate Sir Roger Penrose proposed a way to extract energy from a rotating black hole.
- ❖ It became known as black hole super radiance.

## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### Bone Collector Caterpillar



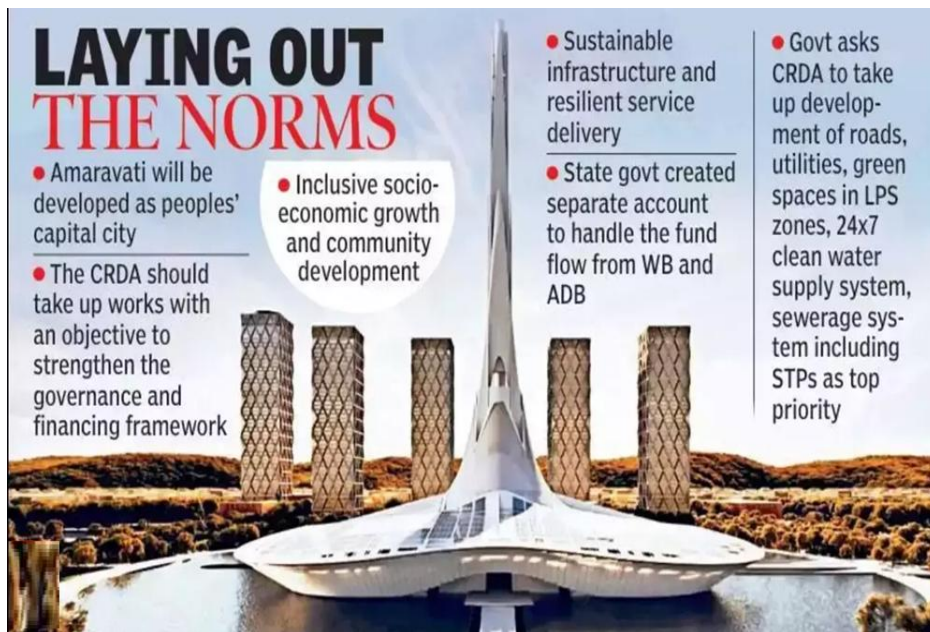
- ❖ A new carnivorous caterpillar that wears the remains of its prey has been dubbed the “bone collector”.
- ❖ The odd insect is only found on the Hawaiian island of Oahu.
- ❖ It creeps along the spider webs, feeding on trapped insects and decorating its silk case with their body parts.
- ❖ They use silk glands to spin protective cases studded with lichen, sand, and other materials.
- ❖ This one is the first to use ant heads and fly wings.
- ❖ The bone collectors found in Hawaii will even eat each other.
- ❖ The bone collector’s origins date back at least 6 million years, making the caterpillars more ancient than the Hawaiian Islands themselves.

## STATES’ NEWS

### Relaunch of Amravati Project 2025

- ❖ The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth ₹58,000 crore in Andhra Pradesh, including the revival of construction work on the greenfield capital city of Amaravati.


- ❖ Amaravati was designated as the new capital of Andhra Pradesh following the state's bifurcation in 2014.
- ❖ To be known as 'Praja Rajadhani' or the "people's capital", Amaravati will consist of nine themed sub-cities, including one dedicated to governance.
- ❖ Amaravati aims to generate 2,700 MW of renewable energy from solar, wind, and hydro sources, to become the world's first fully renewable energy-powered city.
- ❖ Rooftop solar systems will be mandatory for all government housing and major buildings.
- ❖ The Public transport, including metro lines and electric buses, will run on clean energy.
- ❖ Amaravati is envisioned as a smart city, with smart grids, traffic management, and IoT-based services integrated into its infrastructure.



### **Ancient Civilisation in Maharashtra**

- ❖ Nagpur University researchers discovered what they thought were the remains of a virtually 3,000-year-old civilization in Maharashtra's Yavatmal district.
- ❖ The artefacts and environment indicate around 3,000-year-old age.
- ❖ The team found structural remains of circular houses with limestone floors with wooden posts at their periphery.
- ❖ The cultural sequence of the findings starts with the Iron Age on the basis of pottery and artefact remains found.

- ❖ It was followed by the Satavahana period, the Medieval period, and then it was used as a watch tower during the Nizam era.



**Ancient 3,000-year-old civilisation uncovered in Maharashtra, offering new insight into early history**

In a find that could potentially rewrite our knowledge of early human habitation in central India altogether, Nagpur University researchers discovered what they thought was the remains of a virtually 3,000-year-old civilization in Maharashtra's Yavatmal district.

### **Vizhinjam International Seaport**



**EXPLAINED**

What Is Kerala's **Vizhinjam Seaport** And How India Can Save \$220 Million Every Year

The Vizhinjam International Seaport in Kerala - India's first mega transshipment container terminal - is the answer to a shipping problem that costs up to \$220 million in revenue annually

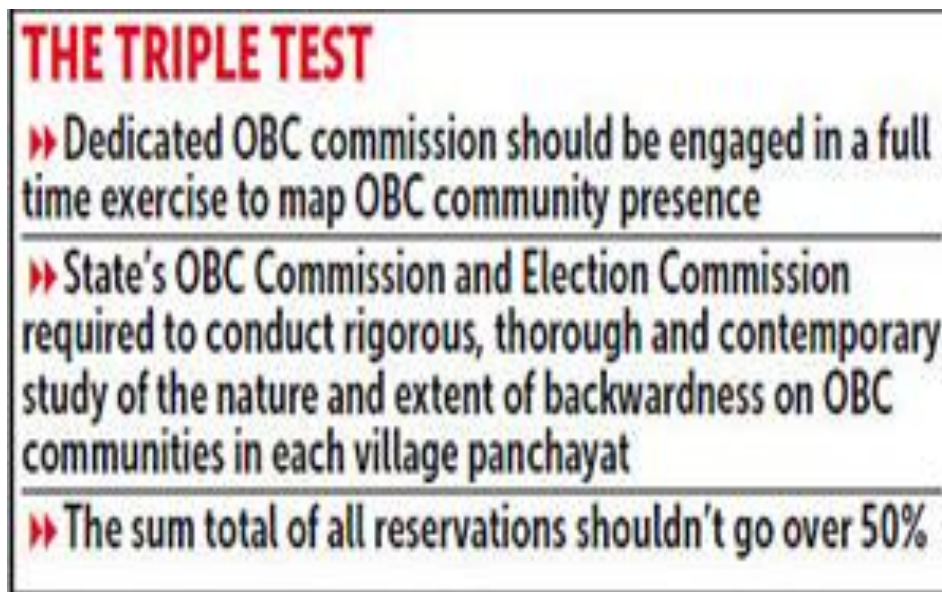
- ❖ Prime Minister has commissioned India's first deep-sea transshipment port at Vizhinjam in Kerala.





- ❖ It is the India's first deepwater container transshipment port.
- ❖ It is also India's first Greenfield and semi-automated port.
- ❖ Here cargo containers are transferred from one vessel to another before reaching their final destination.
- ❖ India did not have a deepwater container transshipment port until now.
- ❖ India reportedly spends an estimated \$200–220 million (Rs 1,682-1,850 crore) annually on transshipment.
- ❖ This port has employed nine women, particularly from the local fishing community, to operate large automated CRMG (Cantilever Rail Mounted Gantry) cranes.
- ❖ This is the first time in any Indian port that the women are operating such machinery.

### **Jharkhand's OBC Data Collection**

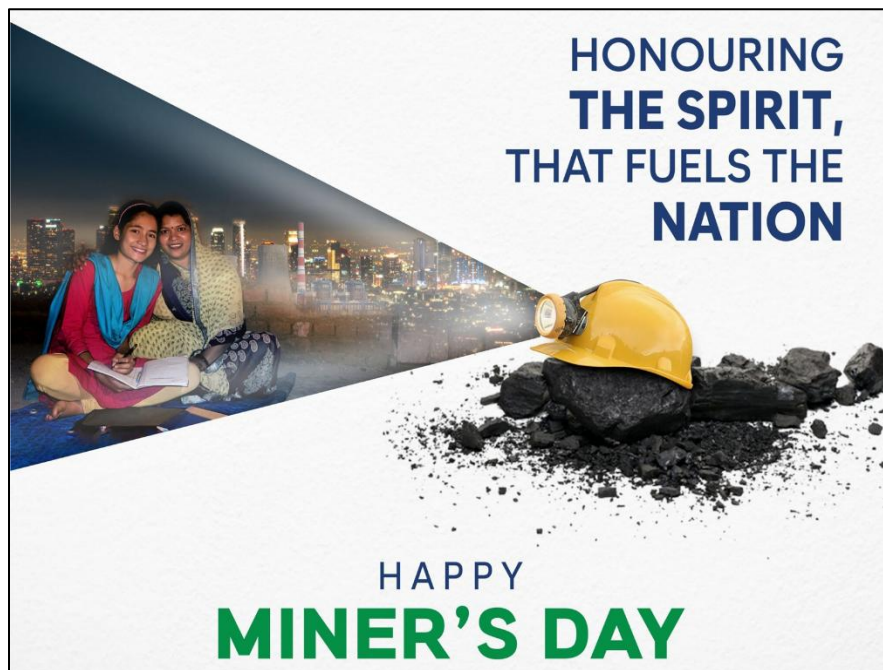


- ❖ Jharkhand has finished collecting data on the population of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) from all districts of the state.
- ❖ The data collection is a part of the first step of the “triple test”.
- ❖ The Triple test is a three-step guideline laid down by the Supreme Court to ensure OBC quotas in local bodies are determined in a fair and constitutional manner.
- ❖ The following are the three steps of the so-called “triple test”.
  - Setting up a dedicated commission to conduct a rigorous empirical inquiry into the nature and implications of the backwardness in local bodies;

- Specifying the proportion of reservation required in local bodies in light of recommendations of the commission, so as not to fall foul of overbreadth; and
- To ensure reservation for SCs/STs/OBCs taken together does not exceed an aggregate of 50 per cent of the total seats.
- ❖ In Jharkhand, OBCs are subdivided into more socially and educationally backward BC-I (Backward Class I), and the relatively better-off BC-II (Backward Class II) categories.
- ❖ Currently, there are 127 castes under the BC-I category, and around 45 under BC-II.
- ❖ The Kudmi community, a subgroup of the Mahato/Mahto caste, is the largest OBC community.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Coal Miners Day 2025 - May 04



- ❖ It aims to recognise the sacrifices and hard work of the coal miners.
- ❖ The day highlights the crucial role of coal miners in providing energy to cities, businesses, and households.
- ❖ It also raises awareness about the health, safety, and other challenges faced by people in the coal mining industry.
- ❖ This day was established with the passage of the Mines Act in 1952.

- ❖ In 1774, John Summer and Suetonius Grant Heatly established India's first coal mine.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### 11 Satavahana-era inscriptions

- ❖ The Epigraphy Branch of ASI has documented eleven inscriptions from the Gundaram Reserve Forest, Peddapalli district, Telangana.
- ❖ It was spanning a period from the 1st century BCE to the 6th century CE.
- ❖ These inscriptions provide the critical insights into the early cultural and political landscape of the Deccan, with particular reference to the Satavahana period.
- ❖ Two inscriptions from the Gundaram rock shelter stand out for their historical.
- ❖ One inscription, written in early Brahmi script, records that a person of the Hāritiputra lineage (possibly of the Chuṭu dynasty) excavated a cave for Buddhist monks.
- ❖ This is the first known occurrence of such religious iconography accompanying early inscriptions in South India.

#### CHUTU (CUTU) DYNASTY

- **Time Period:** Circa 200–300 CE
- **Region Ruled:** Kuntala Rajya (modern-day Karnataka)
- **Capital:** Banavasi
- **Political Status:** Subordinate to Satavahanas and some scholars consider them independent due to use of royal title "Rājño" on coins.
- **Notable Kings:** Cuṭukulānanda  
Sātakarṇi I & II, Muḍānanda,  
Śivalānanda
- The dynasty was eventually absorbed by the Kadambas.
- Despite rich archaeological evidence, historical details remain scarce.



### Inscription from Vikramaditya I Era

- ❖ A rare inscription dating back to the time of Vikramaditya I of the Badami Chalukya dynasty has been unearthed at Madapura Lake in Nyamati taluk of Davangere district, Karnataka.

- ❖ The inscription measures approximately five feet in length and comprises 17 lines inscribed in Old Kannada script.
- ❖ This inscription dates to the 7th century AD, specifically during the reign of Vikramaditya I of the Badami Chalukyas, who ruled between 654 and 681 AD.
- ❖ The inscription describes the Vikramaditya I's officer, Singhavenna, who had governed the region of Ballavi, waived certain taxes on the local villagers.

