

May - 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL) has successfully launched India's Longest (110.5-metre) Rail Flyover over existing railway tracks at Kalamboli in Raigad district, Maharashtra.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Tamilnadu achievements in the Agri, dairy, and fisheries sectors



முட்டை உற்பத்தியில் சாதனை

அரசு கோழிப் பண்ணைகளுக்கு அளித்துவரும் அக்கத்தின் பயனாக 2018-19-இல் உற்பத்தியான 1884.22 கோடி முட்டைகளைவிட 2023-2024-ஆம் ஆண்டில் 2233.25 கோடி முட்டைகள், ஏறத்தாழ 350 கோடி முட்டைகள் கூடுதலாக உற்பத்தியான.

(PRD - 18/05/2025)



பால் உற்பத்தியில் சாதனை

பால் ஒரு முக்கியமான சமூக உணவாகவும், கால்நடை வளர்ப்பு உழவுகளின் துணைத் தொழிலாகவும் கருதப்படுகிறது. தமிழ்நாட்டில் பால் உற்பத்தியை மேம்படுத்தும் நோக்கில் தமிழ்நாடு அரசு பல்வேறு முயற்சிகளை மேற்கொண்டு வருகிறது.

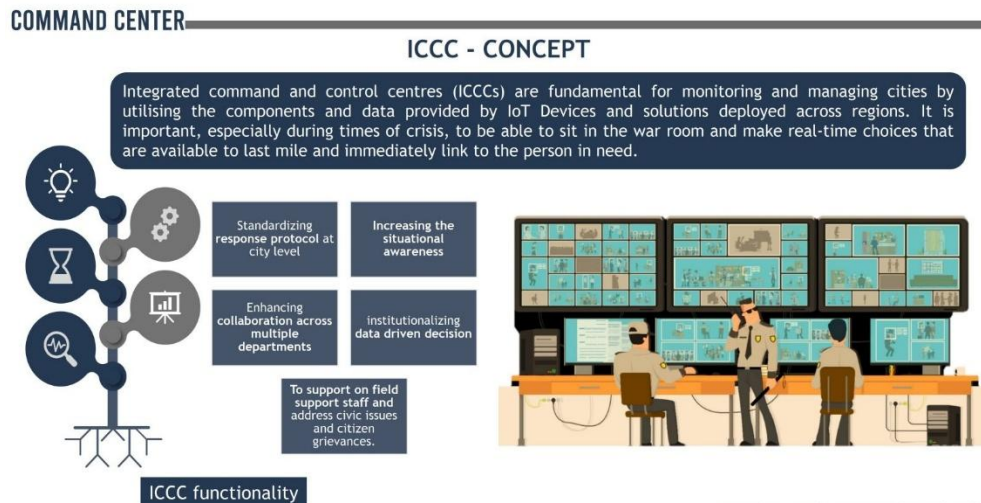
இந்த முயற்சிகளின் விளைவாக, 2018-19ஆம் ஆண்டில் 8,362 மெட்ரிக் டன் அளவிலிருந்து பால் உற்பத்தி, 2023-24ஆம் ஆண்டில் 10,808 மெட்ரிக் டன் என அதிகரித்துச் சாதனை படைத்துள்ளது.

(PRD - 18/05/2025)

- ❖ The State's average agricultural growth has achieved a record average of 5.66% from 2021 to 2024.
- ❖ It stood at 1.36% between 2012-13 and 2020-21.
- ❖ The area under irrigation in the State, which was 36.07 lakh hectares in 2020-21, increased to 38.33 lakh hectares in 2023-24.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranked first in India in the productivity of finger millet (ragi) and guava.
- ❖ The state held the second position in the country in the productivity of maize, sugarcane, tamarind, tapioca, jasmine, and oilseeds.
- ❖ Under the Kalaigiar All Village Integrated Agricultural Development Scheme, 47,286 acres of fallow land have been brought under cultivation in 10,187 village panchayats.

- ❖ Under the Agricultural Mechanisation scheme, the agricultural machinery and implements worth ₹499.45 crore were distributed to 62,820 farmers with a subsidy.
- ❖ A total of 1,652 new farm machineries have been procured and, through e-hiring (e-vaadagai) mobile service, about 69,000 farmers have benefited.
- ❖ Over 900 tanks across 27 districts were renovated at a cost of ₹1,212 crore.
- ❖ 814 minor irrigation tanks were renovated, and over 88 check dams have been constructed in 24 districts.
- ❖ Milk production has been raised to 10,808 metric tonnes in 2023-24 from 8,362 metric tonnes in 2018-19.
- ❖ The annual egg production has risen from ₹1,884.22 crore in 2018–2019 to ₹2,233.25 crore in 2023–24.
- ❖ In the fisheries sector, the State government has established 72 new fish landing centres at a cost of ₹1,428 crore.

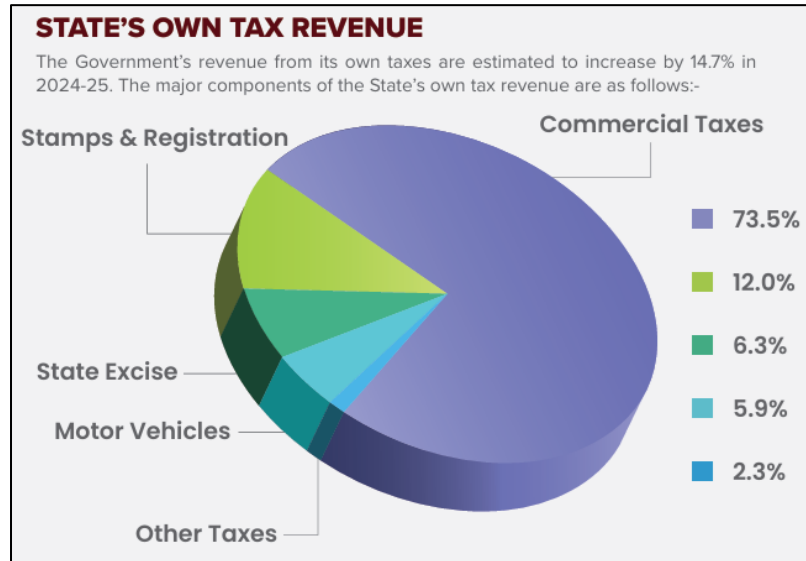
Regional Integrated Command and Control Centres



- ❖ The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) will soon set up the Regional Integrated Command and Control Centres (RICCCs) at the Regional Deputy Commissioner (RDC) offices.
- ❖ The RICCCs will effectively mirror the core functionalities of the central Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) already operational at the Ripon Buildings complex.
- ❖ This is for real-time surveillance, incident monitoring, and dashboard analytics.
- ❖ The system will process data from environmental and civic sensors such as water level, air quality, and rainfall, triggering alerts for localised emergencies.

- ❖ This will also link Public Grievance Redressal (PGR) software with RICCC systems, ensuring public concerns are addressed effectively.

Tamil Nadu's own tax revenue in 2024-25



- ❖ Tamil Nadu's own tax revenue grew by 7.6% in 2024-25.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's own tax revenue stood at ₹1,80,225.53 crore in fiscal 2024-25.
- ❖ This is an increase of about 7.6% from ₹1,67,105.18 crore in fiscal 2023-24.
- ❖ State's Own Tax Revenue (SOTR) was estimated at ₹1,92,752.43 crore in Revised Estimates.
- ❖ It was projected around ₹1,95,173 crore in the 2025- 26 Budget Estimates.
- ❖ The SOTR contributes 75.3% of Tamil Nadu's total revenue receipts.
- ❖ Among its components, the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) increased by 14.4% from ₹61,960.29 crore in 2023-24 to ₹70,886.65 crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ The State also saw its revenue from Stamps and Registration Fees increase to about 15% from ₹19,013.36 crore in 2023-24 to ₹21,878.27 crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ Land revenue increased from ₹255.87 crore in 2023-24 to ₹277.72 crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ Revenue from Taxes on Sales, Trade, etc., (which includes VAT on petrol, diesel, and liquor) increased from ₹60,026.96 crore in 2023-24 to ₹62,335.08 crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ The State Excise Duties (which reflect liquor revenue) increased from ₹10,774.29 crore in 2023-24 to ₹11,055.41 crore in 2024-25.

- ❖ Revenue from other taxes and duties declined from ₹15,074.41 crore in 2023-24 to ₹13,792.40 crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ The balance of Tamil Nadu's total revenue receipts comes from non-tax revenue, the Share in Central taxes, and grants-in-aid from the Union government.
- ❖ The Share in Central taxes for 2024-25 was ₹52,491.88 crore.
- ❖ This is in line with what was projected in the revised estimates for 2024-25.
- ❖ Grants-in-aid from the Union government were ₹16,509.38 crore for 2024-25, when compared to ₹20,538.40 crore in the revised estimates for 2024-25.
- ❖ Non-Tax Revenue was ₹31,388.70 crore in 2024-25, when compared to ₹28,124 crore in Revised Estimates.
- ❖ Including these components, the State's total revenue receipts has also stood at ₹2,80,615.49 crore in 2024-25, as per the preliminary figures from the CAG.
- ❖ The total revenue receipts estimate for 2024-25 was revised to ₹2,93,906.41 crore.

Tamil Nadu's power demand in 2025



- ❖ Tamil Nadu's power demand is lower this summer compared to last year, due to rains in parts of the State.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu reached an all-time high peak power demand of 20,830 MW on May 2, 2024

- ❖ It records a high daily consumption of 454.32 million units on April 30, 2024.
- ❖ The State's peak demand was 19,864 MW, and the overall energy requirement was 11,705 million units in April 2025.
- ❖ The maximum demand met on May 16 was 18,868 MW, as per data from the Southern Regional Load Despatch Centre.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sagarmatha Sambaad



- ❖ The inaugural Sagarmatha Sambaad was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ The theme of the high-level global dialogue is Climate Change, Mountains, and the Future of Humanity.
- ❖ In the event, India put forth a five-point global action plan to protect fragile mountain ecosystems.
- ❖ They are
 - Enhanced Scientific Cooperation
 - Building Climate Resilience
 - Empowering Mountain Communities
 - Providing Green Finance

- Recognising Mountain Perspectives

First Direct Talks - Russia and Ukraine



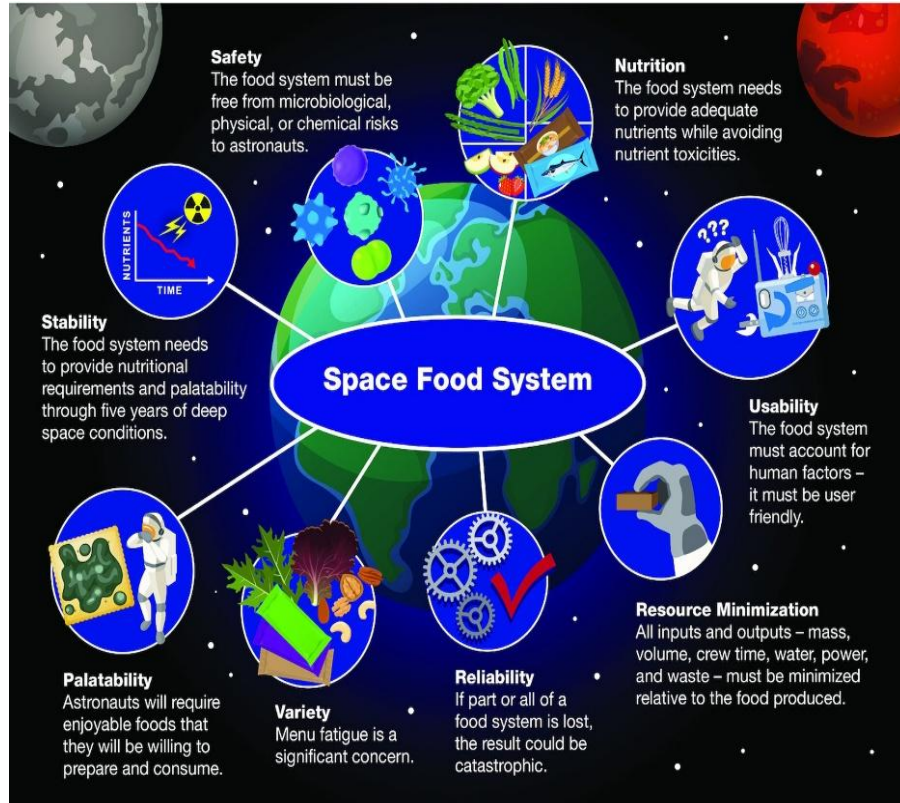
- ❖ Russian and Ukrainian negotiators met in Istanbul at their first direct peace talks in more than three years.
- ❖ Both countries agreed to exchange 1,000 prisoners of war each.
- ❖ But Russia declined Ukraine's call for an unconditional ceasefire.
- ❖ Russia primarily demanded to cede the territory and abandon Ukraine's NATO membership ambitions and become a neutral country.
- ❖ Russia claims Crimea (2014), and Donetsk, Lugansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia (since 2022).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

India's Space Nutrition Experiments

- ❖ India is set to conduct its first-ever biological experiments in the International Space Station (ISS) to study the sustainability of human life in space.
- ❖ Under the BioE3 initiative, these unique experiments, spearheaded by the ISRO in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology.
- ❖ They will examine the impact of microgravity and space radiation on the growth of edible microalgae, a nutrient-rich potential food source for long-duration space missions.
- ❖ The results will help identify the most suitable microalgal species for use in space environments.

- ❖ Microalgae offer several key advantages that make them ideal candidates for sustaining life in space.
- ❖ They have an extremely short life cycle, with some species growing in as little as 26 hours.

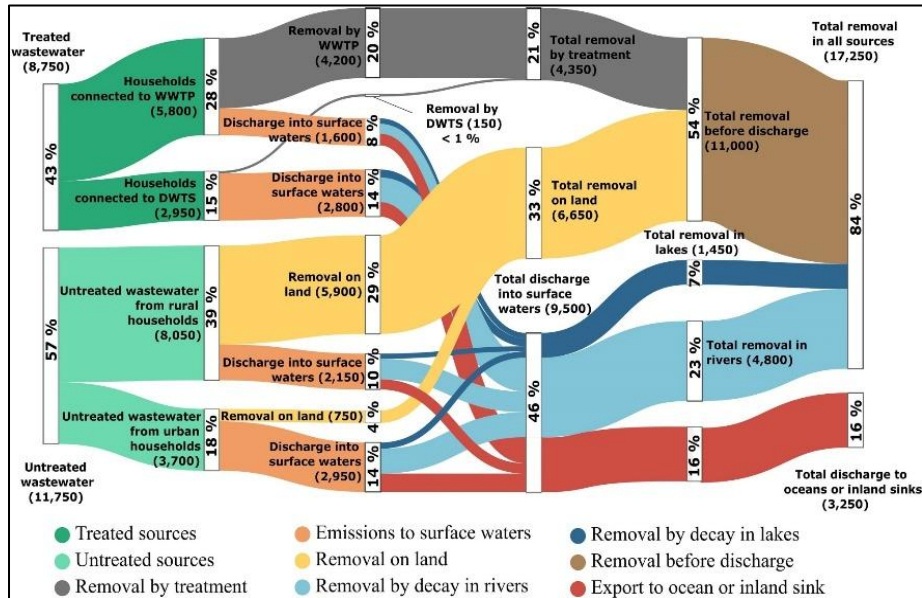


ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Antibiotic Contamination in Global Rivers

- ❖ The study has estimated the scale of global river contamination from human antibiotic use.
- ❖ From 2012-2015, people consumed about 29,200 metric tons of the 40 most-used antibiotics each year.
- ❖ Nearly a third of those antibiotics, about 8,500 metric tons, were released into rivers globally.
- ❖ Amoxicillin, the world's most-used antibiotic, is the most likely to be present at risky levels, especially in Southeast Asia.
- ❖ Antibiotics are critical for treating various bacterial infections.
- ❖ They are widely consumed by people, livestock and aquaculture fish, but the drugs are only partially absorbed by the body.

- ❖ Much is excreted, entering the environment, especially water bodies.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Report on Food Crises, 2025

Phase	Phase description and priority response objectives
Phase 1 None/Minimal	Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income. Action required to build resilience and for disaster risk reduction.
Phase 2 Stressed	Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies. Action required for disaster risk reduction and to protect livelihoods.
Phase 3 Crisis	Households either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or • are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies. URGENT ACTION required to protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.
Phase 4 Emergency	Households either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have large food consumption gaps which are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; or • are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation. URGENT ACTION required to save lives and livelihoods.
Phase 5 Catastrophe/ Famine	Households have an extreme lack of food and/or cannot meet other basic needs even after full employment of coping strategies. Starvation, death, destitution and extremely critical acute malnutrition levels are evident. (For Famine classification, area needs to have extreme critical levels of acute malnutrition and mortality.)* URGENT ACTION required to revert/prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods.

- ❖ The 2025 Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) was released by the Food Security Information Network (FSIN).



- ❖ 295 million people around the world are now experiencing acute hunger.
- ❖ This is twice as many as in 2020 and marks the sixth consecutive annual increase.
- ❖ Deteriorating acute food insecurity prevails in 19 countries, mainly in conflict-driven crises such as Nigeria, the Sudan and Myanmar.
- ❖ In the 26 countries/territories with nutrition crises, an estimated 37.7 million children aged 6–59 months suffered from acute malnutrition.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Kantar Brandz 2025 report

- ❖ Kantar, the world's leading marketing data and analytics company, launches its 20th edition of BrandZ Most Valuable Global Brands.
- ❖ Apple retains its top position for the fourth year with a brand value of \$1.3 trillion.
- ❖ It is followed by Google, Microsoft, Amazon and Nvidia.
- ❖ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) from India has been named one of the 100 most valuable brands (45th) globally.

Rank 2025	Brand	Brand Value 2025 (US\$ m)	YoY Change (%)
1	Apple	1,299,655	28%
2	Google	944,137	25%
3	Microsoft	884,816	24%
4	Amazon	866,118	50%
5	NVIDIA	509,442	152%
6	Facebook	300,662	80%
7	Instagram	228,947	101%
8	McDonald's	221,079	0%
9	Oracle	215,354	48%
10	Visa	213,348	13%

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