

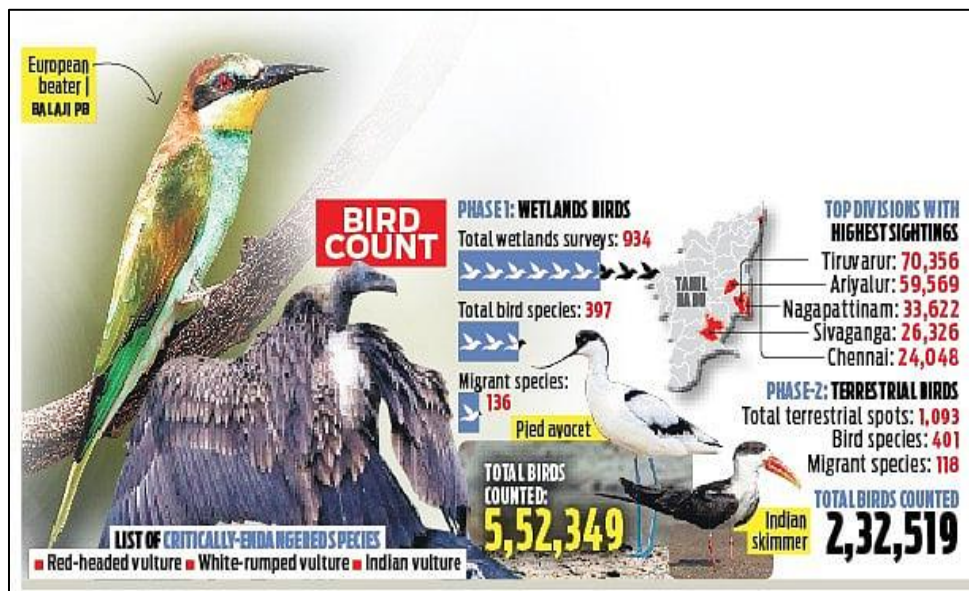
May - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has inaugurated, three new 'Thozhi' working women's hostels at St. Thomas Mount, Hosur, and Tiruvannamalai.
- ❖ The documentary film named 'Saving the Bhimanama: Ayushi Jain and a Giant Turtle', directed by Bahar Dutt and Vijay Bedi, recently received the award for the best documentary at the 15th Dadasaheb Phalke Film Festival 2025.
- ❖ The 78th World Health Assembly is held in Geneva, Switzerland under the theme of 'One World for Health'.
- ❖ The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is observed annually on May 21 to celebrate the cultural richness and the crucial role of an intercultural dialogue in fostering peace and sustainable development globally.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Synchronized bird survey report 2025 - Tamilnadu



- ❖ 7.8 lakh wetland and terrestrial birds are recorded across 798 diverse species.
- ❖ Phase 1 recorded 397 bird species with a total count of 5,52,349 birds, including 1,13,606 migratory birds from 136 species.
- ❖ Phase 2 recorded 401 terrestrial species with a direct count of 2,32,519 birds, of which 1,13,606 were migratory.

- ❖ It has also documented 26 endangered and 17 nocturnal bird species across both phases.
- ❖ Out of 37 endangered bird species present in Tamil Nadu, 26 were recorded.

Appointment of vice-chancellors

- ❖ The Madras High Court has issued an interim stay on the recently enacted Acts regarding appointment of vice-chancellors.
- ❖ These acts were automatically passed after the Supreme Court's ruling on the Governor's powers.
- ❖ They gave the CM the power to appoint vice-chancellors to state-run universities, effectively seizing that power from the Governor.
- ❖ The petitioner contended that the amended Acts conflict with UGC norms and lacked transparency.

துணைவேந்தர் நியமனம்- சட்டப்பிரிவுக்கு இடைக்கால தடை
பல்கலை துணைவேந்தர் நியமிக்கும் அதிகாரத்தை
அரசுக்கு வழங்கிய சட்டப்பிரிவுக்கு இடைக்கால தடை
நெல்லையை சேர்ந்த வெங்கடாசலபதி தாக்கல் செய்த
வழக்கில் சென்னை உயர் நீதிமன்றம் உத்தரவு
அரசின் கடும் எதிர்ப்புக்கு மத்தியில்
தடை விதித்து நீதிபதிகள் ஜி.ஆர்.சுவாமிநாதன்,
வி.லட்சுமி நாராயணன் அமர்வு உத்தரவு

Aadhaar data for identity an unknown body

இறந்தவரின் ஆதார் விவரங்களைப் பகிர முடியாது
இறந்துபோன அடையாளம் தெரியாத நபரின்
கைரேகையை ஆதார் தரவுகளுடன் ஒப்பிட்டு
பரிசோதிக்க இயலாது என சென்னை
உயர்நீதிமன்றத்தில் ஆதார் ஆணையம் தகவல்.
உச்சநீதிமன்றம் அல்லது உயர்நீதிமன்றம் உத்தரவிட்டாலும் சவுட தனி நபரின்
கருத்தைக் கேட்டறிந்த பின்னரே அவர் தொடர்பான தகவல்களைப் பகிர முடியும் என
விழுப்புரம் காவல்துறை தொடர்ந்த வழக்கில் ஆதார் ஆணையம் விளக்கம்.

- ❖ The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has told that there is no possibility to compare the fingerprints of a deceased with the Aadhaar database

and provide demographic information to the police for the purpose of ascertaining the identity of an unknown body.

- ❖ The Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 imposes severe restrictions on sharing information.
- ❖ The prime object of the Aadhaar Act was to ensure the targeted delivery of the government subsidies, benefits and services to the beneficiaries.
- ❖ The Chapter VI of the Aadhaar Act requires the UIDAI to maintain the very strict confidentiality with respect to individual records.
- ❖ Section 29(1) of the Act categorically states that no core biometric information, collected or created under the Act, should be shared with anyone for any reason whatsoever.
- ❖ Section 33 (1) states only the identity information or authentication records (but not core biometric information) could be disclosed that too if a High Court or the Supreme Court passes a specific order for such disclosure after hearing the individual concerned as well as the UIDAI.

NATIONAL NEWS

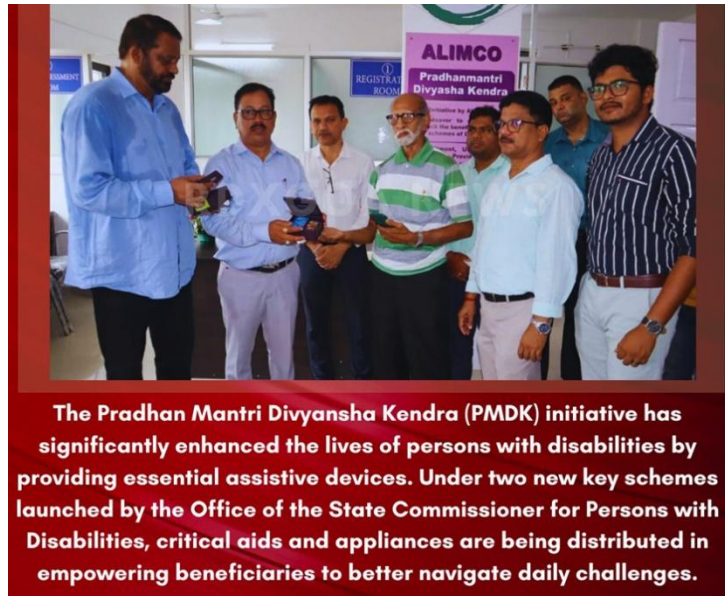
New initiatives in PDS



- ❖ The Centre has launched three digital initiatives — the Depot Darpan Portal, digital platforms Anna Mitra, and Anna Sahayata.
- ❖ These initiatives aim to transforming India's Public Distribution System (PDS).
- ❖ Depot Darpan is a digital self-assessment and monitoring portal.
- ❖ It is aimed at empowering depot officials to systematically evaluate and enhance their operations.
- ❖ Anna Mitra is designed to meet the specific operational needs of key stakeholders in the public distribution system.
- ❖ Anna Sahayata is a citizen-first grievance redressal platform.

- ❖ It is designed to serve over 81 crore beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).
- ❖ In its current rollout, Anna Mitra covers the four states—Assam, Uttarakhand, Tripura, and Punjab.
- ❖ Anna Sahayata now covers the five states in a pilot phase—Gujarat, Jharkhand, Telangana, Tripura, and Uttar Pradesh.

Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendra (PMDK)



- ❖ Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendra (PMDK) in Rajasthan's Kota.
- ❖ It aims to deliver high-quality, affordable assistive devices to senior citizens and persons with disabilities.
- ❖ As of now, 45 PMDK centres are operational across various states and Union Territories.
- ❖ This initiative is led by the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), unit of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Sagar Mein Samman

- ❖ Centre has unveiled the Sagar Mein Samman's policy initiative on International Day for Women in Maritime.
- ❖ It aims to increase the participation of women in the maritime sector.

- ❖ This policy will mainly address the empowerment, leadership, inclusivity, safety, skill development, and the dismantling of gender-based barriers in the maritime profession.
- ❖ India has ambitious target of 12 per cent female representation in the technical maritime roles by 2030.
- ❖ India's maritime sector has witnessed a surge of women seafarers from a mere 341 in 2014 to as many as 2,557 in 2024.



Sansad Ratna awards 2025

11 ஆண்டுகளுக்குப் பிறகு..

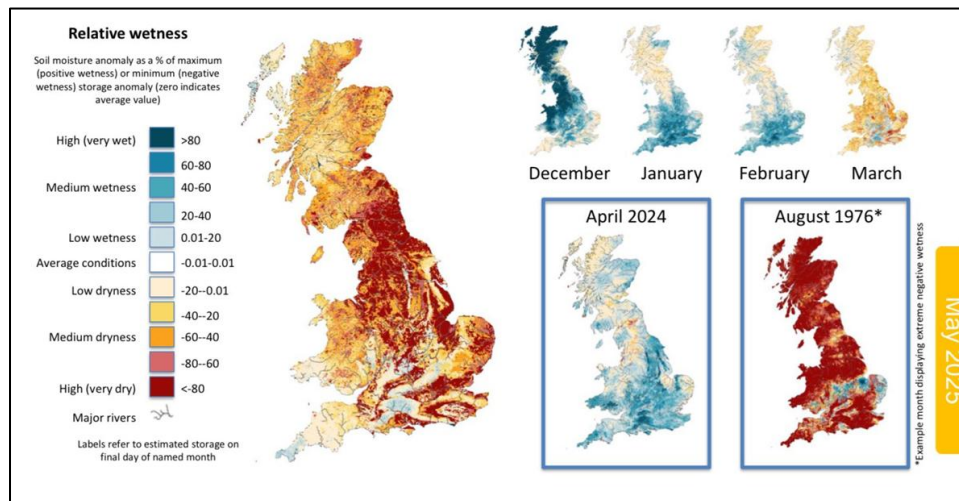
**நாடாளுமன்றத்தில் சிறந்த பங்களிப்பை
அளித்தமைக்காக, திருவண்ணாமலை நாடாளுமன்ற
உறுப்பினர் C.N.அண்ணாதுரைக்கு சன்சத் ரத்னா
தேசிய விருது அறிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.
11 ஆண்டுகளுக்குப் பிறகு தமிழ்நாட்டிற்கு இந்த
விருது கிடைத்துள்ளது குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது.**

- ❖ Seventeen Members of Parliament, and two Parliamentary Standing Committees, have been selected for the Sansad Ratna Award 2025.
- ❖ The awards, instituted by the Prime Point Foundation, are given to MPs for their contribution to Parliament.

- ❖ The awardees were selected by the Jury Committee, chaired by Hansraj Ahir, Chairman of the National Commission for Backwards Classes (NCBC).
- ❖ Mr. Mahtab, Supriya Sule (NCP-SP), N K Premachandran (RSP) and Shrirang Appa Barne will receive the awards for 'outstanding and consistent contribution to parliamentary democracy'.
- ❖ C.N. Annadurai (DMK) from Tamil Nadu also selected for this award.
- ❖ After 11 years of gap, Member from Tamil Nadu chosen for this honour.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Driest Spring in a Century – UK



- ❖ The Britain Meteorological Office has termed the ongoing spring season to be the 'driest' in a century.
- ❖ UK's average rainfall this spring stands at just 80 mm, compared to the usual 229 mm.
- ❖ This was marking the driest spring in more than 100 years.
- ❖ The UK last faced an official drought in summer 2022.
- ❖ The Spring of 2022 saw about 78 per cent of expected rainfall, while this year has recorded just 35 per cent so far.

ECONOMY NEWS

US crude oil supply

- ❖ The United States of America has become the world's fourth largest supplier of crude oil to India, overtaking the UAE.

- ❖ The US achieved a 7.3% share of India's crude imports in April, exceeding the UAE's 6.4%.
- ❖ However, it has remained behind Saudi Arabia (10.4%), Iraq (19.1%), and Russia (37.8%).

Suppliers' share in India's crude imports (%)		
	April-24	April 25
Russia	40.5	37.8
Saudi Arabia	13.2	10.4
Iraq	17.9	19.1
UAE	7.7	6.4
US	3.6	7.3
Africa	7	12.2
Others	10	6.7

REPORTS AND INDICES

Strongest Currencies in the World – 2025

Rank	Currency	Symbol	Value in INR	Value in USD
1.	Kuwaiti Dinar	KWD	278.41	3.26
2.	Bahraini Dinar	BHD	226.43	2.65
3.	Omani Rial	OMR	221.65	2.60
4.	Jordanian Dinar	JOD	120.33	1.41
5.	Gibraltar Pound	GIP)	113.53	1.33
6.	British Pound	GBP	113.53	1.33
7.	Cayman Islands Dollar	KYD	102.49	1.20
8.	Swiss Franc	CHF	103.34	1.21
9.	Euro	EUR	97.01	1.14
10.	United States Dollar	USD	85.34	1.00

- ❖ The Kuwaiti Dinar (KWD) remains the most valuable currency globally.
- ❖ The Bahraini Dinar (BHD) standing as the second most valuable currency in the world.
- ❖ The Omani Rial holds its position as the third highest-valued currency globally.

- ❖ Before adopting the Rial, Oman used Indian rupee for its monetary needs.
- ❖ The Jordanian Dinar (JOD) ranking as the fourth highest-valued currency in the world.
- ❖ They are followed by Gibraltar Pound, British Pound, Cayman Islands Dollar, Swiss Franc, Euro and USD.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Metrology Day 2025 - May 20

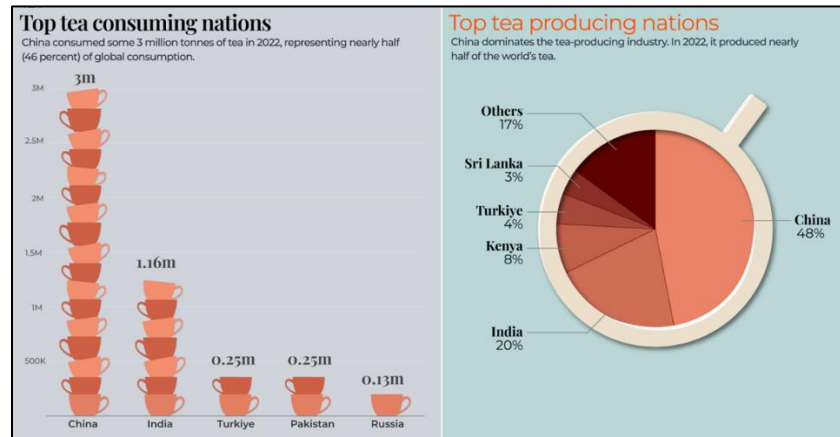
- ❖ The day commemorates the Metre Convention signed in Paris on May 20, 1875.
- ❖ 2025 marks the 150th anniversary of the Metre Convention.
- ❖ It is an international agreement that formally established the metric system to ensure consistency and fairness in the research measurements and the unit standardisation worldwide.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'Measurements for all times, for all people.'



International Tea Day 2025 - May 21

- ❖ Tea, produced from the Camellia sinensis plant, is the world's most popular drink after water.
- ❖ Tea is believed to have originated in China around 2737 BC.
- ❖ The British introduced commercial tea cultivation in India in 1824.
- ❖ Since then, India has emerged as a major producer, with regions like Darjeeling, Nilgiri, and Assam becoming renowned for their tea.

- ❖ Today, India produces around 900,000 tonnes of tea annually.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'Tea for Better Lives'.



International Day for Biological Diversity 2025 - May 22

- ❖ It serves as a global call to all people to play their part in protecting the planet's incredible variety of life.
- ❖ Initially, it was celebrated on December 29 to mark the day the Convention on Biological Diversity came into effect.
- ❖ However, on December 20, 2000, the date was changed to May 22 mainly to commemorate the adoption of the Convention at the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development."

