



November - 07

TNPSC BITS

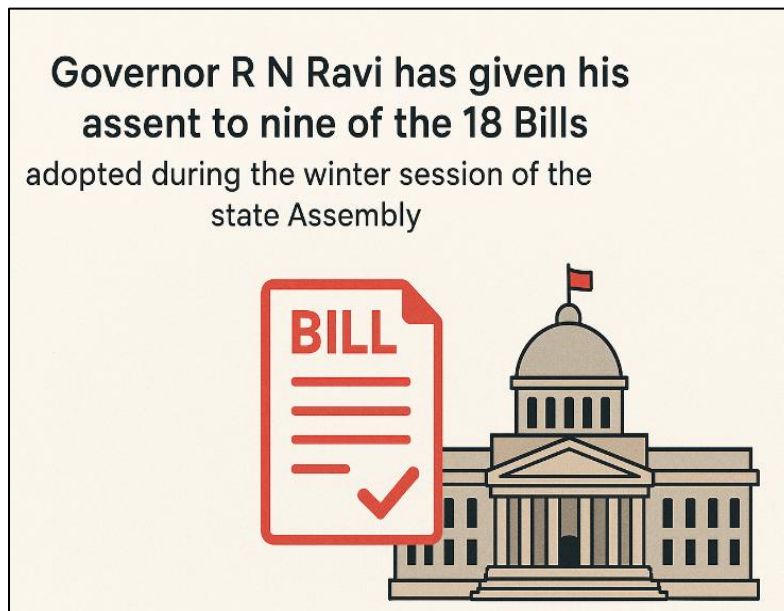
- ❖ The traditional Sirumugai Menpattu Pudavaigal sarees from the Coimbatore region of Tamil Nadu have applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ❖ Gopichand Parmanand Hinduja, chairman of the Hinduja Group, passed away in London.
- ❖ NLC Tamil Nadu Power Limited (NTPL) has organised a walkathon and Fit India Freedom Run 6.0 in Thoothukudi.
- ❖ The Government of Bangladesh, with support from UNICEF, Gavi, and WHO, officially launched the nationwide Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TCV) campaign as the eighth country in the world.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Governor's Assent to nine of the 18 Bills

- ❖ Governor R N Ravi has given his assent to nine of the 18 Bills adopted during the winter session of the state Assembly.
- ❖ The nine Bills which received the governor's assent include the Tamil Nadu Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- ❖ The governor had returned this Bill, originally adopted by the House in February 2024.
- ❖ It was readopted during this session.
- ❖ This marks the first time Governor Ravi has approved a Bill that had been sent back to the House.
- ❖ It was signalling compliance with his constitutional obligations after years of friction with the State government.
- ❖ The governor's decision follows the Supreme Court's observation that governors must not delay or withhold assent indefinitely and that such inaction undermines the principles of responsible governance.
- ❖ As of October 31, eight Bills are still under the consideration of the governor including the Tamil Nadu Siddha Medical University Bill, 2025.
- ❖ It was originally adopted by the House in 2022 but returned by the governor with suggestions for amending the Bill.

- ❖ Of the 18 Bills adopted during the winter session of the Assembly, the state government has withdrawn the Tamil Nadu Private Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2025, after widespread criticism from legislators and educationists.
- ❖ The other Bills cleared by the governor are: The Tamil Nadu Payment of Salaries (Amendment) Bill; the Tamil Nadu Repealing Bill; the Tamil Nadu Repealing (Second) Bill; the Tamil Nadu Highways (Amendment) Bill; the Tamil Nadu Maritime Board (Amendment) Bill; the Tamil Nadu Tax on Consumption or Sale of Electricity (Amendment) Bill; the Tamil Nadu Private Colleges (Regulation) Amendment Bill; and the Tamil Nadu Appropriation (no.6) Bill.



NATIONAL NEWS

Know Your Vehicle process

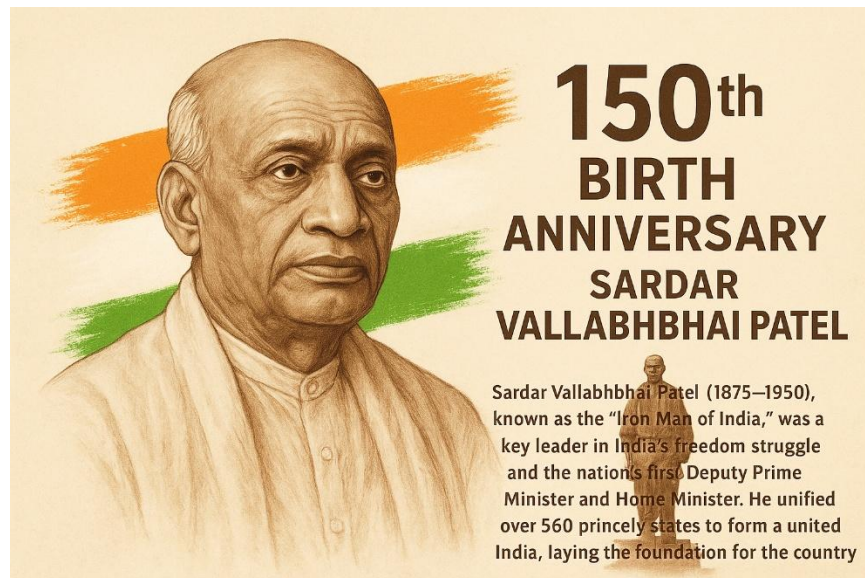
- ❖ NHAI has simplified the Know Your Vehicle (KYV) process to make FASTag verification easier.
- ❖ Users now need to upload only a front photo showing the number plate and FASTag.
- ❖ Registration Certificate (RC) details will be automatically fetched from the VAHAN database using the vehicle or mobile number.
- ❖ FASTags issued before the KYV policy will remain active unless misuse is reported.
- ❖ The move aims to strengthen the FASTag system ahead of the Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling rollout.



WHAT IS KYV?

- Rolled out in **October 2024**, A National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) initiative
- Requires all FASTag users to submit images of their vehicle and registration certificate to **verify that the tag is linked to the correct vehicle**
- The verification must be **repeated every three years** so that the database stays always updated

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2025



- ❖ Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) is celebrated every year on October 31.
- ❖ It commemorates the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister.
- ❖ The 2025 celebration marks his 150th birth anniversary.

- ❖ The main national event was held at Ekta Nagar, Narmada District, Gujarat.
- ❖ The “Run for Unity” marathon took place nationwide, including a major event in Delhi.
- ❖ The “Sardar@150 Unity March (Yatra)”, launched by the Ministry of Youth Affairs on the My Bharat platform, promotes patriotism and civic responsibility among youth.

India's Advanced Manufacturing Roadmap



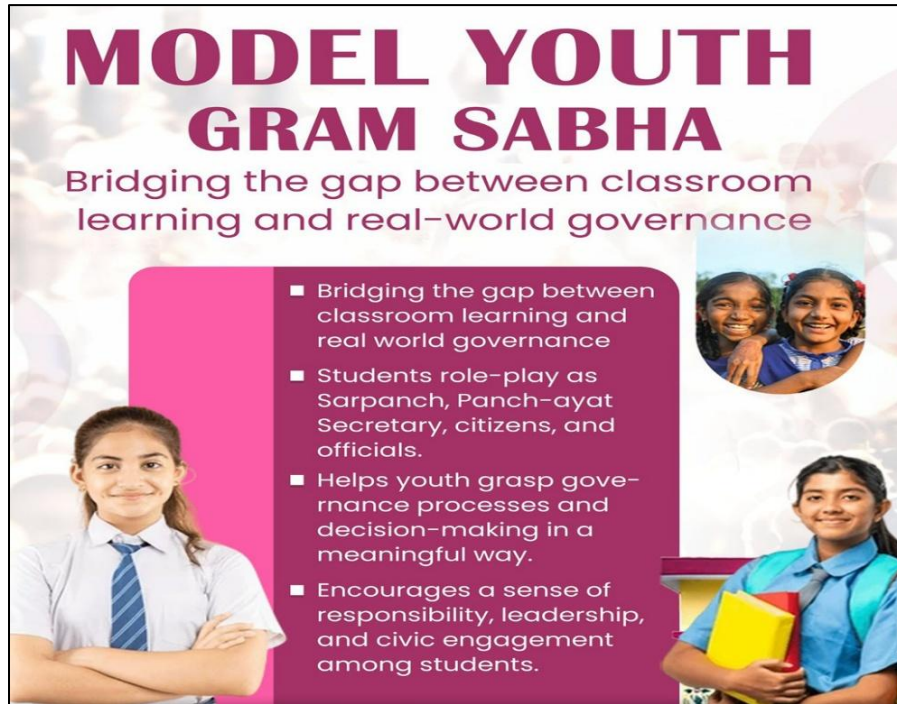
- ❖ NITI Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub unveiled the roadmap “Reimagining Manufacturing: India's Roadmap to Global Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing”.
- ❖ The roadmap identifies Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Advanced Materials, Digital Twins, and Robotics as key technologies.
- ❖ It focuses on 13 priority manufacturing sectors to increase India's manufacturing contribution to over 25% of GDP by 2035.
- ❖ The plan aims to create more than 100 million jobs and position India among the top three global hubs for advanced manufacturing by 2035.
- ❖ Failure to adopt these frontier technologies could result in a loss of US\$270 billion by 2035 and US\$1 trillion by 2047 in manufacturing GDP.
- ❖ The roadmap was developed in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Deloitte.

Samriddh Gram Phygital Services



- ❖ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) launched the Samriddh Gram Phygital Services Pilot Project to bridge the digital divide in rural India.
- ❖ Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCoE) of India has signed agreements with implementation partners to roll out the pilot in three villages: Ari & Umri in Madhya Pradesh, Chaurawala in Uttar Pradesh, and Narakoduru in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Each village will host a Samriddhi Kendra, serving as an integrated hub for education, healthcare, agriculture, e-governance, e-commerce, and financial inclusion.
- ❖ The project leverages BharatNet connectivity, including fiber-to-the-home (FTTH), Village Area Networks, and public Wi-Fi hotspots.
- ❖ Education services will include smart classrooms, augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) based learning, and digital skilling aligned with government initiatives.
- ❖ Agriculture support will feature Internet of Things (IoT) based soil testing, drone assistance, and smart irrigation systems, while healthcare will include teleconsultations and Health ATMs.
- ❖ The initiative aims to create a scalable and replicable model for nationwide implementation, empowering rural citizens through seamless physical and digital integration.

Model Youth Gram Sabha – Loktantra Ki Pathshala



- ❖ The Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS) provides students with hands-on experience in grassroots democracy by simulating real Gram Sabha processes.
- ❖ It strengthens youth understanding of the Panchayati Raj System and promotes transparency, inclusion, and accountability in local governance.
- ❖ The initiative aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 by nurturing constitutional values, social responsibility, and civic consciousness among students.
- ❖ Students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) participate in role-play, debates, and decision-making exercises to understand participatory governance.
- ❖ MYGS modules follow the MLJP framework: Meaning, Learning, Joy, and Pride (MLJP) and include National Level Master Trainer guides, facilitation modules for teachers, and an evaluation framework.
- ❖ Participating schools receive financial support, and students are awarded certificates of appreciation.
- ❖ MYGS aims to create empowered, informed, and responsible young citizens committed to democratic participation and sustainable local development.

Maritime India 2030–2047

- ❖ Nearly 95% of India's trade by volume and around 70% by value moves through maritime routes.
- ❖ Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030) includes over 150 initiatives with projected investments of ₹3–3.5 lakh crore.
- ❖ Major ports handled approximately 855 million tonnes of cargo in FY 2024–25, up from 819 million tonnes in FY 2023–24.
- ❖ India's port capacity increased from 1,400 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) to 2,762 MMTPA, with improved efficiency.
- ❖ The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) reported cargo movement of 146 million metric tonnes in 2025, up from 18 million metric tonnes in 2014.
- ❖ The Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 projects investments of nearly ₹80 lakh crore in ports, coastal shipping, inland waterways, and shipbuilding.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World's First Generational Tobacco Ban - Maldives

- ❖ The Maldives became the first country to ban tobacco for anyone born after January 1, 2007.
- ❖ The law prohibits the sale and use of all tobacco products, including cigarettes, for the affected generation.
- ❖ Vaping and electronic cigarettes are banned for all ages in the country.

- ❖ Retailers selling tobacco to underage buyers face fines of 50,000 Maldivian rufiyaa (about Rs 2.9 lakh).
- ❖ Individuals using vaping devices can be fined 5,000 rufiyaa (about Rs 29,000).
- ❖ The policy is part of the Tobacco-Free Generation approach under the global Tobacco Endgame movement.

**Maldives tobacco ban:
Maldives becomes first
country to impose
generational smoking ban**



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

AI Framework for Drug Discovery

- ❖ Researchers at the Wadhvani School of AI and Data Science, Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M), and The Ohio State University developed an AI framework named PURE.
- ❖ PURE stands for Policy-guided Unbiased Representations for Structure Constrained Molecular Generation.
- ❖ The framework generates drug-like molecules that are easier to synthesise in a laboratory.
- ❖ PURE promises to reduce early-stage drug development timelines, which can take decades and cost millions of dollars.
- ❖ The system grounds molecular generation in real synthesis pathways and automatically learns chemical similarity to suggest viable synthetic routes.



IIT Madras' Wadhvani School of Data Science & AI advances Responsible AI governance through its Conclave on AI Governance, launching groundbreaking tools, datasets, and reports.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Menar - India's Bird Village



- ❖ Menar is a village in Rajasthan known for hosting over 100 rare bird species.
- ❖ The village has been officially recognized as a Ramsar Site for wetland conservation.



- ❖ Local residents, called Pakshi Mitras (friends of birds), actively protect and monitor bird populations.
- ❖ Menar's ponds, including Brahm Talab, Dhand Talab, and Kheroda Talab, serve as key habitats for migratory and resident birds.
- ❖ The village was honored as India's Best Tourism Village in 2023.
- ❖ Indigenous conservation practices in Menar have helped safeguard endangered species such as the Indian skimmer and Egyptian vulture.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Air Quality Index 2025

AIR QUALITY INDEX 2025

Indian cities occupied the top 40 spots in the world's worst air-quality rankings in 2025

Rank	City & State	AQI Value (2025)	Category
1	Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan	840	Severe
2	Siwani, Haryana	644	Severe
3	Abohar, Punjab	634	Severe
4	Delhi	433	Severe
5	Hisar, Haryana	425	Very Poor
6	Churu, Rajasthan	404	Very Poor
7	Charkhi Dadri, Haryana	394	Very Poor
8	Rohtak, Haryana	392	Very Poor
9	HSI, Haryana	392	Very Poor

- ❖ Indian cities occupied the top 40 spots in the world's worst air-quality rankings in 2025.
- ❖ Sri Ganganagar in Rajasthan recorded the worst air quality, with an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 840.
- ❖ Siwani in Haryana had the second highest AQI at 644, followed by Abohar in Punjab at 634.
- ❖ Delhi was ranked 13th globally, with an AQI of 433, categorized as 'Severe'.



- ❖ Other major cities in the list include Hisar, Churu, Charkhi Dadri, and Rohtak in northern India.
- ❖ AQI categories are defined as Good (0–50), Satisfactory (51–100), Moderately Polluted (101–200), Poor (201–300), Very Poor (301–400), and Severe (401–500).

QS Asia Rankings 2026

- ❖ In the QS Asia Rankings 2026, nine of India's top 10 institutions, including seven IITs, saw a sharp fall in their ranks despite improved scores.
- ❖ The top Indian institutes listed are IIT Delhi, IISc Bangalore, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, and IIT Kharagpur.
- ❖ Universities in China, Singapore, Malaysia, and South Korea outperformed Indian institutions, reflecting stronger competition in East and Southeast Asia.

QS Asia University Rankings 2026 - Top 10					
Rank	Institution	Country	Academic Rep.	Intl Students	Faculty/Student
1	University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	High	High	Strong
2	Peking University	China	High	Moderate	Strong
3	National University of Singapore	Singapore	High	High	Strong
3	Nanyang Technological University	Singapore	High	High	Strong
5	Fudan University	China	High	Moderate	Strong
6	HK Univ. of Science and Technology	Hong Kong	High	High	Strong
7	Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	Strong	High	Strong
7	City University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	Strong	High	Excellent
9	Tsinghua University	China	High	Moderate	Strong
10	Hong Kong Polytechnic University	Hong Kong	Strong	High	Strong

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

World Food Prize Agri-Food Pioneers

- ❖ Sanjeev Kapoor, Padma Shri awardee and renowned Indian chef, has been honoured as one of the 2025 Top Agri-Food Pioneers by the World Food Prize Foundation.
- ❖ The recognition was for his efforts in combining culinary innovation with sustainable agriculture, nutrition advocacy, and social welfare.

- ❖ He launched Nutri Pathshala, a program that connects schools, farmers, and nutrition initiatives to improve child nutrition.
- ❖ Kapoor has facilitated the delivery of over 2.5 million nutrient-rich meals to schoolchildren across India.
- ❖ He has promoted bio-fortified crops, including iron-rich pearl millet and zinc-rich wheat, to enhance nutritional quality.
- ❖ The World Food Prize Foundation was founded in 1986 by Dr. Norman Borlaug and is headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa, United States.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for Biosphere Reserves 2025 – November 3

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about the importance, conservation, and sustainable management of biosphere reserves.
- ❖ It was adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 2021.
- ❖ The proposal for this day was jointly submitted by Spain and Uruguay.
- ❖ There are 759 biosphere reserves in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) spread across 136 countries.
- ❖ India has 18 biosphere reserves, of which 13 are included in UNESCO's WNBR.



- ❖ The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, spread across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala, was the first biosphere reserve in India.
- ❖ In 2025, the Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve in Himachal Pradesh became the latest Indian inclusion in the WNBR.

International Day of Biosphere Reserves

3rd November

Celebrating **regions** where
nature and **communities**
coexist in **harmony**

