

November - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ A rare Atlas Moth, one of the largest in the world with a 25–27 cm wingspan, was recently spotted in Karwar, Karnataka, in the Western Ghats.
- ❖ India-born Ghazala Hashmi has won the Virginia Lieutenant Governor's election, becoming the first South Asian American and Indian-origin woman to hold the post.
- ❖ As per Hurun Philanthropy List 2025, For the fourth time in five years, Shiv Nadar and his family have topped the list as India's Most Generous, with annual donations worth Rs 2,708 crore.
- ❖ The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has dismantled a multi-state drug network in Valsad, Gujarat under "Operation White Cauldron".
- ❖ The Taliban government will post its first diplomat in India this month, marking the first official Afghan diplomatic appointment since the group took control of Kabul in August 2021.
- ❖ The US government shutdown has reached 36 days, broken the record and affected 1.4 million workers with \$14 billion in losses.
- ❖ Former US Vice President Dick Cheney, key architect of the Iraq War and post-9/11 "war on terror" who served under President George W. Bush passed away recently.
- ❖ A magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck northern Afghanistan near Mazar-e-Sharif on November 3, 2025, killing at least 20 people.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

2nd edition of Vyapar Tamil Nadu

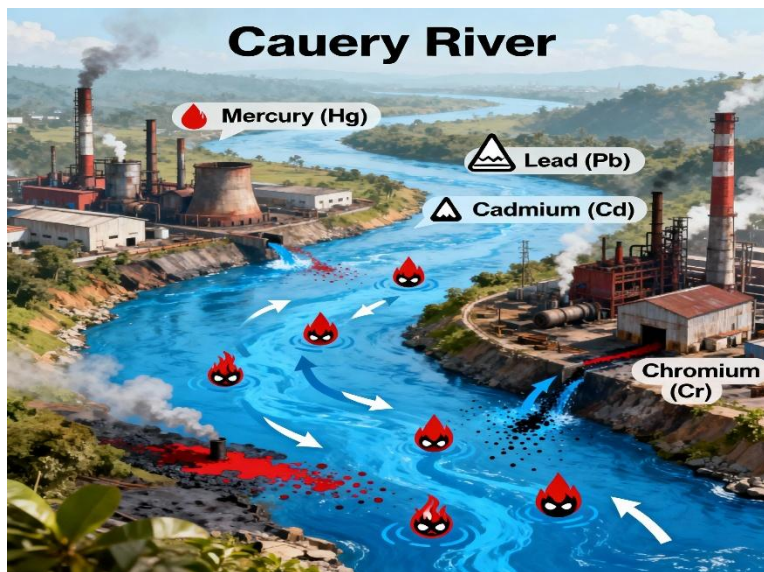


- ❖ The 19th edition of the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) Vyapar and the 2nd edition of Vyapar Tamil Nadu was held recently.

- ❖ Theme of the event is 'From India's Detroit to Its Digital Destiny'.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu accounts for 42 percent of India's auto component production.

Heavy Metal Contamination in the Cauvery River

- ❖ Heavy metals were detected in fish and sediments from the Cauvery River.
- ❖ The study was conducted between August 2023 and February 2024.
- ❖ It found high levels of cadmium and lead exceeding safety thresholds in several fish species.
- ❖ The research covered 18 sediment sites and 10 fish sampling sites along the river.
- ❖ Industrial effluents, agricultural runoff, and urban wastewater were identified as major sources of contamination.
- ❖ The study warned that regular fish consumption from the river could cause health risks due to heavy metal accumulation.



NATIONAL NEWS

Doctrine of Party Autonomy

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that the Doctrine of Party Autonomy is not limitless and the same is the bedrock of arbitration.
- ❖ The freedom of the parties to choose the process of resolving disputes is known as party autonomy.
- ❖ It confers on the parties the freedom to determine laws, place of arbitration, selection of arbitrators, etc.

- ❖ In 2021, SC ruled that “Party autonomy is the guiding spirit of arbitration”.
- ❖ The concept is recognized under the New York Convention, and the Indian Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

Decision On Limitation Made On Demurrer Not Final; Party Autonomy In Arbitration Cannot Override Statute: Supreme Court



Global Solar Initiatives at ISA 2025

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- India launched SUNRISE (Solar Upcycling Network for Recycling, Innovation and Stakeholder Engagement) to recycle and upcycle solar waste into green industry opportunities



- India unveiled OSOWOG (One Sun One World One Grid) to promote cross-border solar grid connections across Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and Af-

- The Global Capability Centre (GCC) was launched as a hub for solar research, innovation, and training in India



- ISA Academy, an AI-driven platform, will provide personalized learning in solar technology worldwide

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- ❖ India and the World Bank developed the SIDS (Small Island Developing States) Procurement Platform to streamline solar procurement and financing for island nations.
- ❖ The International Solar Alliance now has 125 member and signatory countries working on solar deployment, mini-grids, and rural electrification.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus 2025



- ❖ The 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ❖ The Indian Defence Minister addressed the forum on "Reflection on 15 Years of ADMM-Plus and Charting the Way Forward."
- ❖ An ASEAN-India Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting also took place under Malaysia's chairmanship.
- ❖ The meeting focused on strengthening defence and security cooperation between ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and India.

- ❖ ADMM-Plus included 10 ASEAN members and eight dialogue partners — India, the United States, China, Russia, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand.
- ❖ India co-chaired the Experts Working Group on Counter Terrorism with Malaysia for the 2024–2027 cycle.

G2 Summit 2025



- ❖ Chinese President Xi Jinping and United States President Donald Trump met in Busan, South Korea for the G2 Summit.
- ❖ Both leaders agreed to de-escalate the trade war and strengthen strategic stability between the two countries.
- ❖ The United States agreed to cut tariffs on Chinese goods, including those on fentanyl, from 20% to 10%.
- ❖ China agreed to resume large-scale purchases of American soybeans and to remove export restrictions on rare earth minerals.
- ❖ A White House fact sheet stated that China would issue general export licences for rare earths, gallium, germanium, antimony, and graphite.

US Sanctions Waiver for Chabahar Port

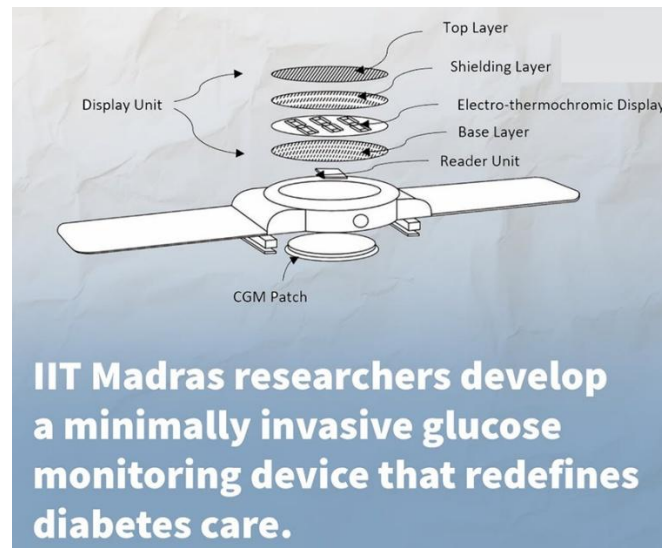
- ❖ The United States granted India a six-month sanctions waiver on October 30, 2025, to operate Iran's Chabahar Port.
- ❖ The waiver allows India to enhance trade with Afghanistan and Central Asia by bypassing Pakistan.

- ❖ India had signed a ten-year agreement with Iran in 2024 to develop and manage the port on the Gulf of Oman.
- ❖ The Chabahar Port project supports regional connectivity and reduces Afghanistan's reliance on Pakistan's Karachi Port.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Glucose Monitoring Device



- ❖ IIT Madras Researchers have developed a low-cost, minimally invasive continuous glucose monitoring device.
- ❖ The device displays glucose readings directly on a skin patch without needing an external monitor.

- ❖ It uses reusable electronics, a low-power display, and a disposable microneedle sensor patch.
- ❖ The system's low-power design increases battery life and reduces charging frequency.

SMART-CROP



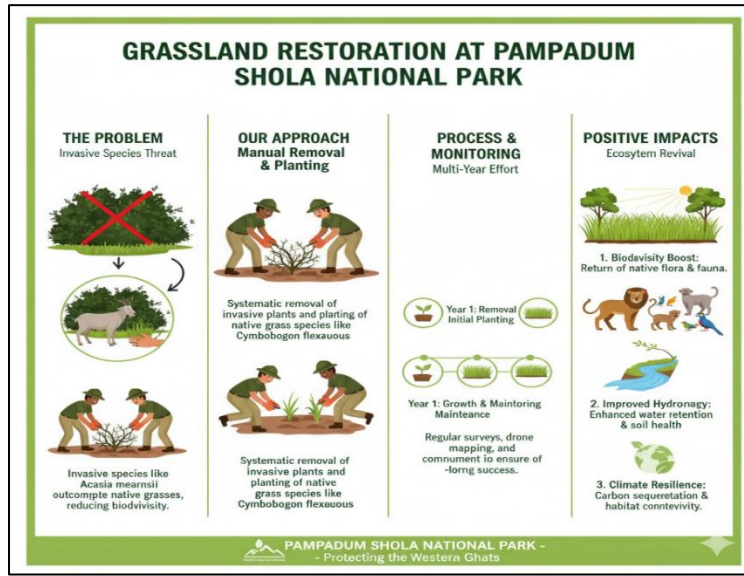
- ❖ The SMART-CROP project was launched through a partnership between SBI Foundation, the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Raichur, the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), and Agri bridge.
- ❖ SMART-CROP stands for Sustainable Monitoring and Real-time Tracking for Crop Resilience and Optimal Practices.
- ❖ The three-year project aims to strengthen the resilience and productivity of over 8,000 smallholder farmers in Karnataka (Bidar, Kalaburagi, Raichur) and Telangana (Sanga reddy, Vikarabad).
- ❖ The project employs advanced technologies such as satellite imaging, remote sensing, and artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML) analytics to provide real-time monitoring of crop stress.
- ❖ The project focuses on pulse crops, particularly chickpea and pigeon pea.
- ❖ It also involves digital inclusion, farmer-participatory approaches, and socio-economic assessments to evaluate yield gaps and agroecological benefits.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

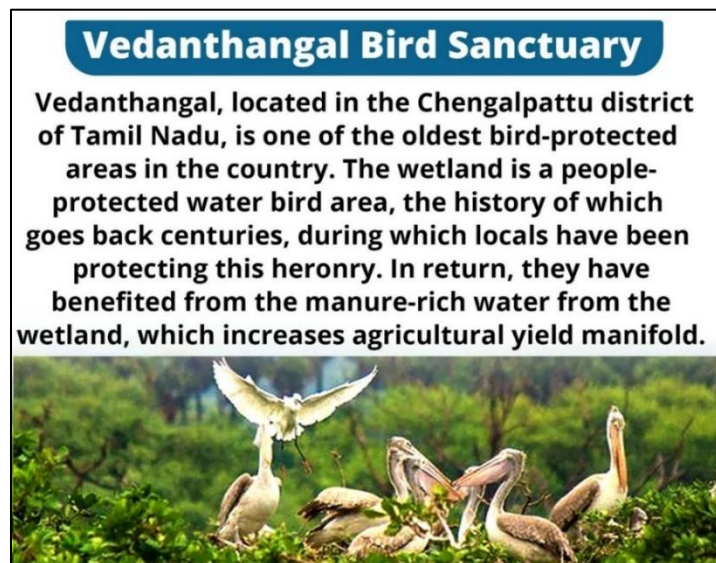
Grassland Restoration at Pampadum Shola National Park

- ❖ Pampadum Shola National Park in Kerala is restoring its native grasslands by removing invasive Australian wattle trees.

- ❖ The Park lies in the Western Ghats at elevations between 1,900 and 2,300 metres and covers over 1,300 hectares.
- ❖ Kerala's 2021 Eco-Restoration Policy prioritises the removal of invasive species, with plans to restore another 600 hectares.
- ❖ The project is being studied as a model for tropical montane ecosystem restoration in other regions of the Western Ghats and beyond.



Migratory birds in Vedanthangal Sanctuary



- ❖ Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu has recorded the arrival of over 20 migratory bird species for the annual nesting season.

- ❖ The sanctuary, located about 90 kilometres from Chennai, currently hosts more than 15,000 birds.
- ❖ Species such as open-billed storks, white ibis, grey herons, egrets, and pelicans have been spotted.

Umngot River issue - Meghalaya



- ❖ The Shillong-Dawki corridor construction project caused the poor quality of Umngot River water.
- ❖ Construction and demolition waste was dumped into tributaries of the Umngot River.
- ❖ The river turned murky, affecting tourism and local livelihoods.
- ❖ The river flows through the West Jaintia Hills district and attracts tourists to locations like Dawki and Shnongpdeng.
- ❖ This river is famous for its crystal-clear waters.

STATES' NEWS

India's Most Populated District

- ❖ North 24 Parganas in West Bengal is now the most populated district in India.
- ❖ It has an estimated population of about 10.9 million as of 2025.
- ❖ The district covers an area of around 4,094 square kilometres with a population density of 2,469 people per square kilometre.

- ❖ It is part of the Kolkata Metropolitan Area and includes cities such as Barrackpore and Bidhan Nagar.
- ❖ Rapid urbanisation, industrial growth, and refugee settlements after the Partition of 1947 contributed to the rise in population.
- ❖ As per the 2011 census, the district recorded a literacy rate of about 84 percent.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

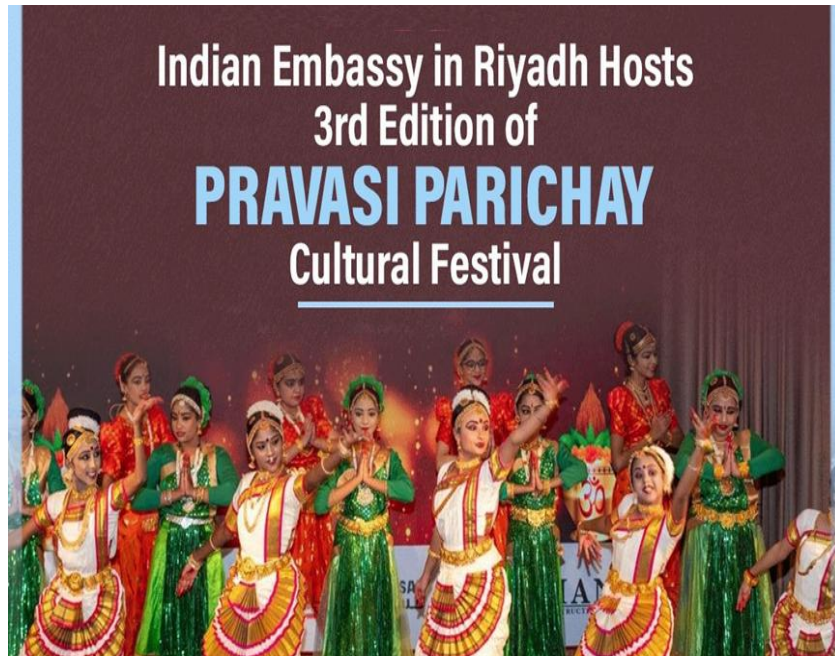
World's Oldest Olympic Champion - Charles Coste



- ❖ France's oldest living Olympic gold medallist, Charles Coste, passed away.
- ❖ He won gold in team cycling at the 1948 London Olympics, the first Games after World War II.

- ❖ In 1949, he won the Grand Prix des Nations, defeating Italian cyclist Fausto Coppi.
- ❖ At age 99, he carried the Olympic torch for the Paris 2024 Games.

Pravasi Parichay Festival



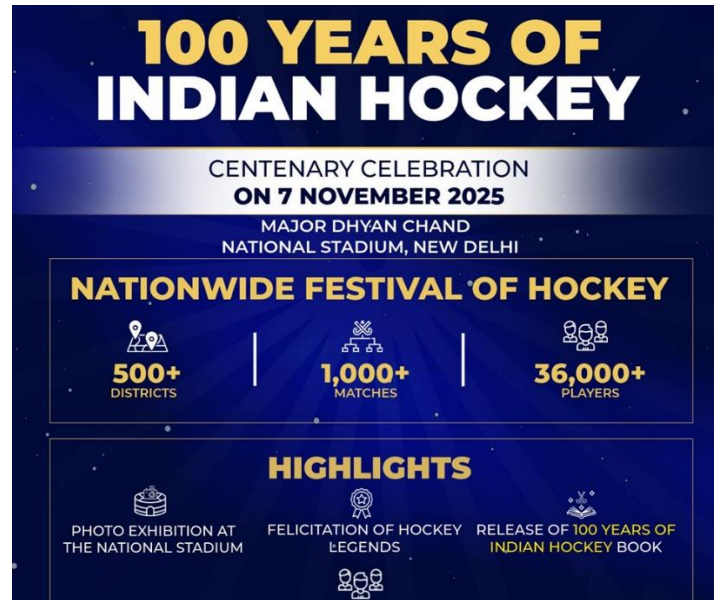
- ❖ The Embassy of India in Riyadh has launched the third edition of Pravasi Parichay, a week-long cultural festival.
- ❖ The festival was first established in 2023 in partnership with Indian diaspora associations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ Pravasi Parichay features state-themed days showcasing Indian classical dance, music, folk art, and culinary traditions.
- ❖ The festival coincides with National Unity Day on October 31, highlighting India's values of unity in diversity.

SPORTS NEWS

Century of Indian Hockey

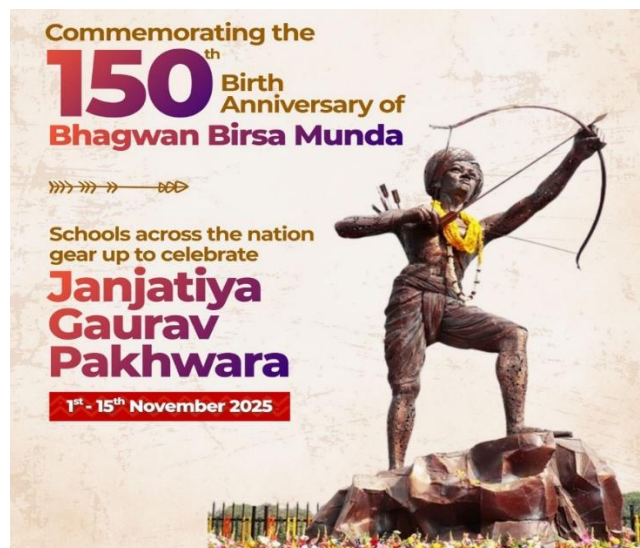
- ❖ India celebrated 100 years of hockey with special events across the country.
- ❖ Over 1400 matches were held in 550 districts as part of the centenary celebrations.
- ❖ The main event took place at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.

- ❖ Hockey legends were honoured, and a commemorative book titled “100 Years of Indian Hockey” was released.
- ❖ Indian hockey’s journey began in 1925, when the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) was formed to govern and promote the sport nationally.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada



- ❖ The Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh Pakhwada (November 1–15, 2025) began nationwide to honour tribal heroes and their contributions.

- ❖ The celebration marks the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, a leading tribal freedom fighter.
- ❖ The Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas observed on November 15 every year to commemorate tribal heritage.

Guru Nanak Jayanti 2025



- ❖ Guru Nanak Jayanti 2025, also called GURPURAB, marked the 556th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of Sikhism.
- ❖ The day is celebrated on November 5, which coincides with Kartik Purnima and symbolized peace, equality, and devotion to one God.
- ❖ He was born in 1469 at Rai Bhoi Ki Talwandi (now Nankana Sahib, Pakistan).
- ❖ Guru Nanak spread messages of truth, compassion, and service across Asia.
- ❖ Major celebrations took place at the Golden Temple (Amritsar), Bangla Sahib (Delhi), and Kartarpur Sahib (Pakistan).
- ❖ Guru Nanak's teachings of Naam Japna (meditation), Kirat Karni (honest work), and Vand Chakna (sharing) continue to inspire universal harmony.

