



November - 18

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) cracked down on a major gold-smuggling and melting syndicate in Mumbai under the code name "Operation Bullion Blaze."
- ❖ India's first modern river ferry terminal was inaugurated at Guwahati to improve and make river transport on the Brahmaputra River more efficient.
- ❖ The India - France bilateral air exercise Garuda-2025 was held in France.
- ❖ The United States has launched Operation Southern Spear, a military campaign in the Caribbean and South America to target narco-terrorists and disrupt cocaine trafficking networks.
- ❖ The General Conference of UNESCO elected Egypt's Khaled El-Enany as Director-General of the Organisation.
  - He succeeded Audrey Azoulay, who has held this position since 2017.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Site Clearance for Hosur Airport

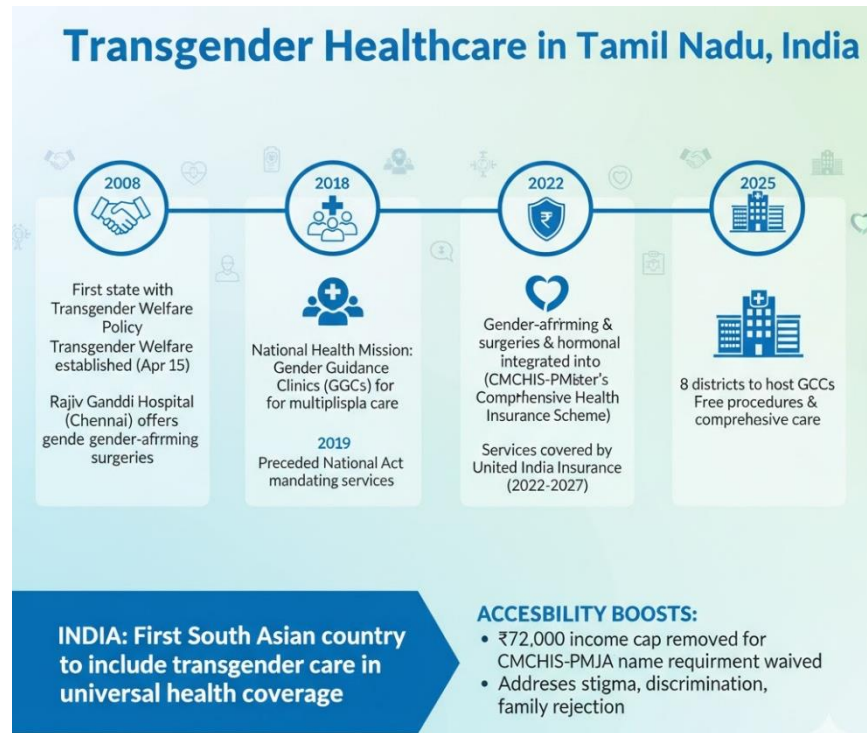
#### State Seeks Site Approval For Hosur Airport

The Tamil Nadu government has moved to secure site clearance from the Union Civil Aviation Ministry for the proposed airport in Hosur, near Bengaluru. The approval marks the first of several needed to build the green-field airport, designed to handle three crore passengers annually. The industrial town in Krishnagiri district aims to ease pressure on Chennai and Bengaluru airports while boosting local manufacturing. Competition from Karnataka's second-airport plans adds urgency to Tamil Nadu's push.

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has submitted a site clearance application to the Ministry of Civil Aviation for establishing an airport at Hosur.
- ❖ The airport is planned in Shoolagiri taluk, between Berigai and Bagalur.
- ❖ Initially, the airport will feature one terminal and two runways, with provisions for future expansion.

- ❖ The State has requested the Defence Ministry to relax airspace restrictions as the area falls under HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited) control.
- ❖ Site clearance is expected in six to eight months, with passenger operations possible only after eight years.

## Transgender Healthcare



- ❖ Tamil Nadu was the first state in India to introduce a transgender welfare policy and established the Transgender Welfare Board on April 15, 2008.
- ❖ The Board is headed by the Minister of Social Welfare.
- ❖ April 15 is now observed as Transgender Welfare Day in the state.
- ❖ The Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital in Chennai began offering gender-affirming surgeries in 2008, supported by the Transgender Welfare Board.
- ❖ This initiative preceded the 2019 Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, which mandated at least one government hospital per state to provide such services.
- ❖ In 2018, the National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu, established Gender Guidance Clinics (GGCs) to provide multidisciplinary care under one roof.
- ❖ By 2025, eight districts will host GGCs, offering free gender-affirming procedures and comprehensive transgender healthcare.

- ❖ In 2022, gender-affirming surgeries and hormonal therapy were integrated into the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS-PMJAY).
- ❖ Services previously funded through hospital budgets are now covered under a five-year policy (2022–2027) with United India Insurance Company.
- ❖ This makes India the first South Asian country to include transgender care in universal health coverage.
- ❖ To enhance accessibility, the state removed the ₹72,000 annual income cap for CMCHIS-PMJAY enrollment.
- ❖ The state also waived the requirement for a ration card bearing the transgender person's name.
- ❖ The policy recognizes that barriers to healthcare extend beyond income, including stigma, discrimination, and family rejection.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Family Pension Rules



**Pension Rights for Daughters of Central Government Employees**

Key Clarifications from Dept. of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare

Permanent Record	Purpose & Protection	Eligibility & Claims
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Daughter's name must remain permanently in family records.</li><li>• Applies to Central Government Employees.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prevents disputes regarding pension eligibility.</li><li>• Protects eligibility after retirement or daughter's marriage</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eligibility for family pension examined ONLY after death of pensioner/existing family pensioner.</li><li>• Rule 50 of CCS (Pension) Rules 2021 requires updated family particulars children, parents, disabled siblings).</li><li>• Claims CANNOT be denied if name not recorded earlier, provided of onerwise established.</li></ul>

**Ensuring Fair & Clear Pension Claims for Daughters**

- ❖ The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare clarified that a daughter's name must remain permanently in the family records of central government employees.
- ❖ The clarification was issued to prevent disputes regarding pension eligibility after retirement or the marriage of the daughter.
- ❖ Eligibility for family pension will be examined only after the death of the pensioner or existing family pensioner under applicable rules.

- ❖ Rule 50 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules 2021 requires complete and updated family particulars, including spouse, children, parents, and disabled siblings.
- ❖ Pension claims cannot be denied solely because a family member's name was not recorded earlier if eligibility is otherwise established.

### **India's Patent filing status**

- ❖ India is the world's 6th largest patent filer with over 64,000 patents.
- ❖ More than 55% of these patents are filed by resident Indian innovators.
- ❖ This represents a shift from earlier dependence on foreign institutions for research and project completion.
- ❖ India has climbed from Rank 81 to Rank 38 in the Global Innovation Index over the last decade.



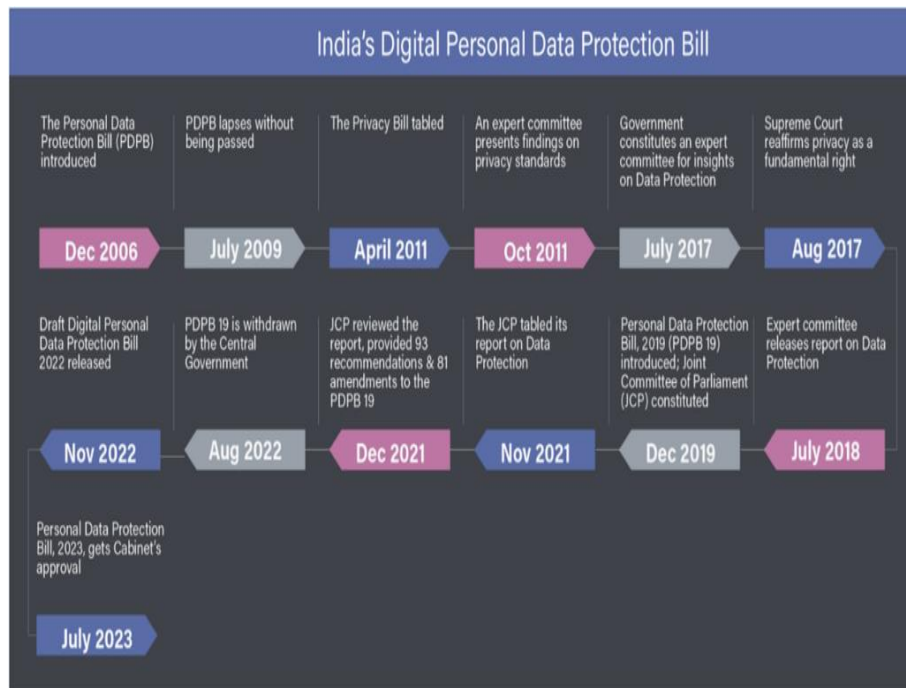
### **Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025**

- ❖ The Government of India notified the DPDP Rules, 2025, completing the operationalisation of the DPDP Act, 2023.





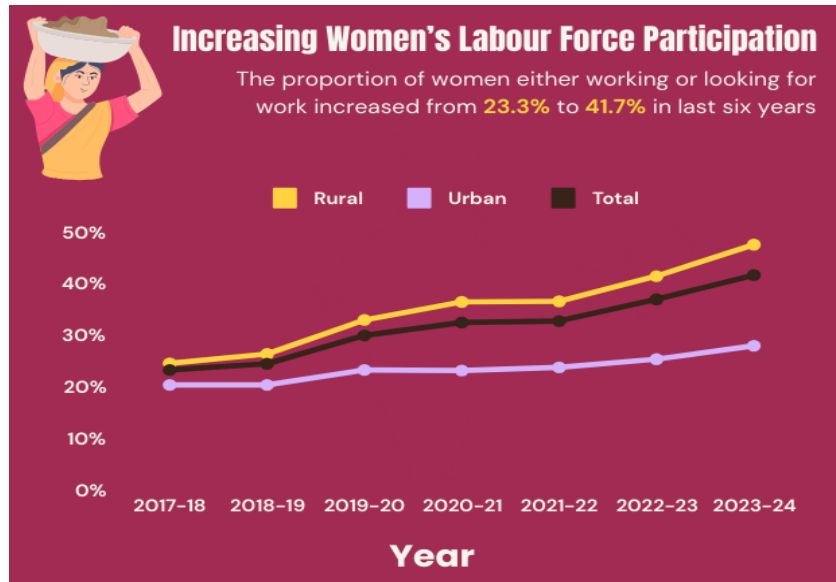
- ❖ The Act and Rules create a citizen-focused and innovation-friendly framework for the responsible use of digital personal data.
- ❖ It establishes obligations for Data Fiduciaries and rights for individuals (Data Principals), following the SARAL design—Simple, Accessible, Rational, and Actionable.
- ❖ Seven core principles guide the framework: consent & transparency, purpose limitation, data minimisation, accuracy, storage limitation, security safeguards, and accountability.
- ❖ The Rules strengthen the rights of individuals to access, correct, update, or erase personal data, and allow nomination of representatives.



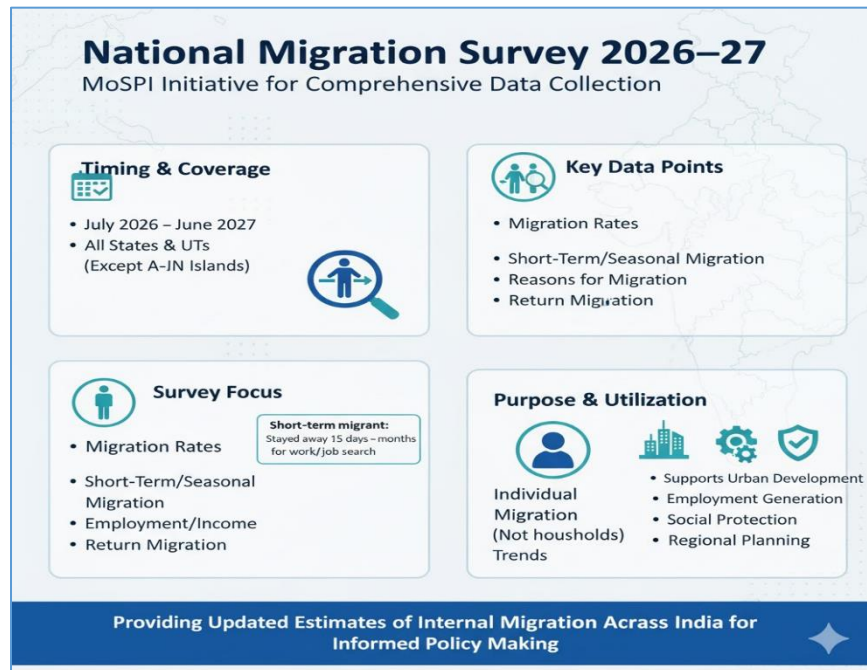
## Women Workforce Target – 2030

- ❖ India aims to increase the female labour force participation rate (FLFPR) from 41.7% in FY24 to 55% by 2030.
- ❖ Measures include flexible and remote work, equal pay, safer workplaces, affordable childcare, and formal recognition of unpaid care work.
- ❖ The care economy is being formalised, potentially creating millions of jobs, mostly for women.
- ❖ Investing 2% of GDP in the sector could generate 11 million jobs.
- ❖ Latest data shows FLFPR at 34.1% (Sept 2025 weekly status) and 33.4% (April–June 2025 quarter).

- ❖ The Shram Shakti Niti 2025 draft highlights expanding women's access to decent employment to harness India's demographic advantage.



## National Migration Survey 2026–27



- ❖ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) will conduct the National Migration Survey from July 2026 to June 2027.
- ❖ The survey will cover all states and union territories except the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- ❖ It will collect data on migration rates, short-term and seasonal migration, reasons for migration, employment and income profiles of migrants, and return migration.
- ❖ A short-term migrant is defined as a person who has stayed away from their usual residence for fifteen days to six months in the last year for employment or job search.
- ❖ The survey will focus on individual migration rather than entire households to capture modern migration trends more accurately.
- ❖ The data will support urban development, employment generation, social protection, and regional planning by providing updated estimates of internal migration across India.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

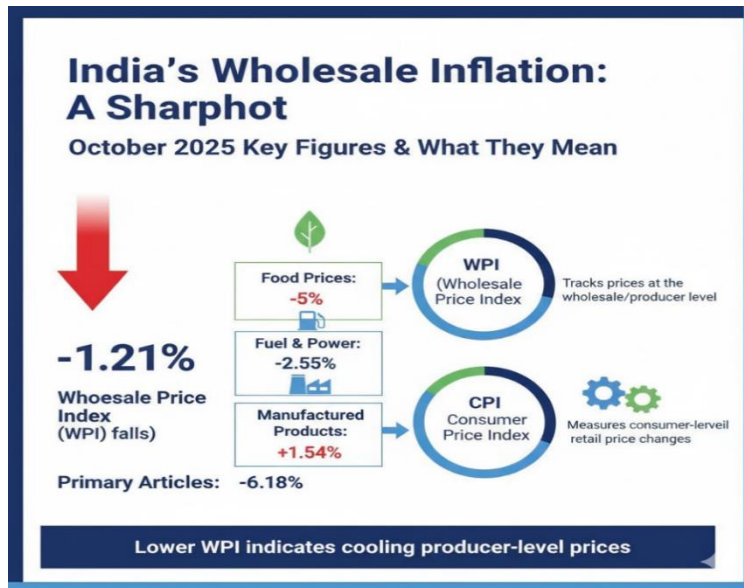
### One-Stop Travel System



- ❖ The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) approved a one-stop travel system to streamline movement across member states.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain will pilot the initiative starting in December 2025.
- ❖ The system allows citizens to complete immigration, customs, and security checks at a single checkpoint.
- ❖ Passengers will land, collect baggage, and exit without further formalities.
- ❖ A shared electronic platform enables member states to coordinate procedures and share data.
- ❖ If successful, the system will expand to all six GCC nations, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar.

## ECONOMY NEWS

### Wholesale Inflation



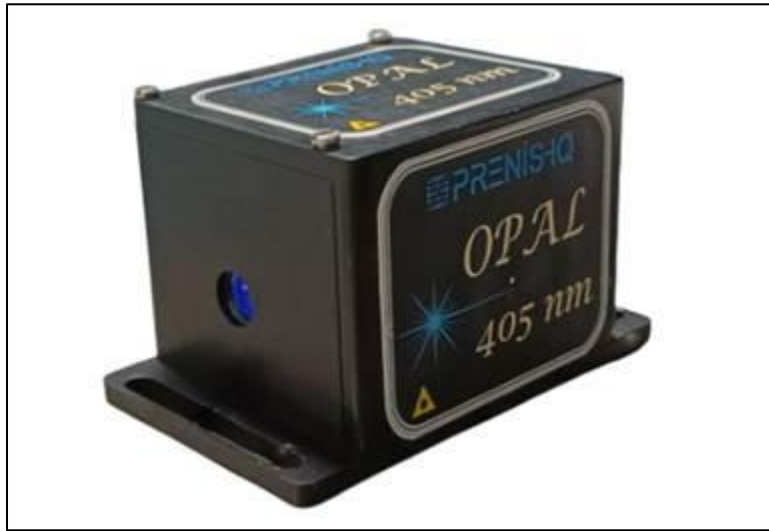
- ❖ India's wholesale price index (WPI) fell to -1.21% in October 2025.
- ❖ Food prices dropped by 5%, primary articles by 6.18%, and fuel and power by 2.55%.
- ❖ Inflation in manufactured products decreased to 1.54%.
- ❖ WPI tracks wholesale prices, unlike CPI, which measures consumer-level price changes.
- ❖ Retail inflation also eased to 0.25% in October.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### India's Indigenous Quantum Laser

- ❖ India's first compact high-precision diode laser was developed by Prenishq Pvt Ltd, supported by the National Quantum Mission (NQM).
- ❖ The laser is designed for quantum encrypted communication, quantum computing, and advanced scientific research.
- ❖ It offers stable output, a wide wavelength range, low power consumption, and easy integration into labs and industrial systems.
- ❖ The innovation was supported by DST-Nidhi Prayas, NMICPS, I-HUB Quantum Technology Foundation, IISER Pune, IIT Delhi, BITS BioCyTiH, and TBI-KIET.



## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

## Japanese Sparrowhawk



- ❖ A Japanese sparrowhawk (*Tachyspiza gularis*) was spotted at Adyar Estuary, Chennai.
- ❖ The Japanese sparrowhawk breeds in East Asia, including China, Japan, Korea, and Siberia, and winters in South-east Asia.
- ❖ Within India, it has been previously recorded mainly from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a migrant and winter visitor.

## Global Climate-Health Adaptation Plan

- ❖ The Belem Health Action Plan (BHAP) was launched at COP30.
- ❖ It is the first international climate adaptation framework dedicated specifically to health.
- ❖ The plan outlines 60 action items covering surveillance systems, evidence-based policies, and health innovation.
- ❖ A US\$300 million investment was announced to support BHAP implementation.
- ❖ The framework addresses climate-related health risks, including heatwaves, vector-borne diseases, and disruption of food and water systems.
- ❖ BHAP is part of the COP30 Action Agenda, Objective 16, promoting resilient health systems.
- ❖ Health impacts of climate change have accelerated, potentially causing 14.5–15.6 million deaths by 2050 (World Bank).
- ❖ Global climate adaptation finance for health is limited, with only 0.5–4% of funds allocated to health.
- ❖ BHAP has been endorsed by over 80 countries and institutions, mostly civil society and UN agencies.

- ❖ The plan aims to build climate-resilient health systems, mobilise finance and technology, and reduce emissions in healthcare.

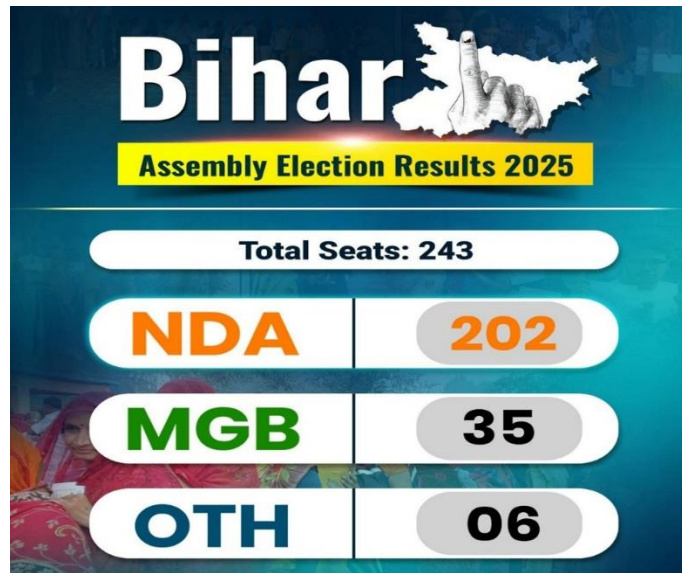
**THE BELÉM HEALTH  
ACTION PLAN FOR THE  
ADAPTATION OF THE HEALTH  
SECTOR TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Albino Water Snake in Assam**

- ❖ The first albino Asian water snake (*Fowlea piscator*) was spotted in the Assam State Zoo and Botanical Garden.
- ❖ Albinism is an extremely rare genetic trait in wild snakes.
- ❖ It is characterised by the absence of melanin pigment, leading to pale coloration and often red eyes.
- ❖ Earlier cases of hypopigmentation, including albinism or leucism (partial loss of pigmentation), were reported in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Mizoram, West Bengal, and Dhanusha district in Nepal.



## Bihar Assembly Election Results 2025



- ❖ The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) secured a decisive majority with 202 of 243 seats.
- ❖ BJP won 89 seats, while Janata Dal (United) claimed 85 seats under the NDA banner.
- ❖ Congress won just 6 seats.
- ❖ NDA received 46.52% of the total vote share, while the Mahagathbandhan had secured 37.64%.
- ❖ Voter turnout reached a record 66.9%, the highest in Bihar's history.
- ❖ Nitish Kumar is expected to continue as Chief Minister for the next term.
- ❖ Maithili Thakur is set to make history as Bihar's youngest-ever MLA at 25 years old.
- ❖ Radha Charan Shah of the Sandesh seat in Bhojpur district winning by a margin of just 27 votes.



## **FRBM Act Amendment - Meghalaya**



- ❖ Meghalaya raised its fiscal deficit ceiling from 3% to 3.5% of GSDP under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act.
- ❖ The change allows greater borrowing for infrastructure, welfare, and development projects.
- ❖ A 50% reservation for Regular Casual Workers in Group D posts has been approved.
- ❖ Rule 6(D) of the Meghalaya Ministerial District Establishment Service Rules, 2017, implements the quota.
- ❖ New Service Rules for the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission allow autonomous staff recruitment.

## **MISCELLANEOUS NEWS**

## GI Tag - Lepcha Musical Instruments



- ❖ Geographical Indication (GI) were granted to two traditional Lepcha musical instruments, Tungbuk and Pumtong Pulit of Sikkim.
- ❖ The GI certificates were presented during the 1st Tribal Business Conclave in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Tungbuk is a three-string instrument, and the Pumtong Pulit is a bamboo flute.
- ❖ Both instruments are integral to Lepcha folk music and hold cultural and spiritual significance.

