



November - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Vanambadi poetry movement Poet and Sahitya Akademi award-winner Erode Tamilanban passed away recently.
 - He won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2004 for Vanakkam Valluva, a collection of poems based on the Tirukkural.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has appointed Justice R. Hemalatha, a retired Madras High Court judge, as the judicial member of the Tamil Nadu Lokayukta.
- ❖ The Meerut bugle from Uttar Pradesh, an instrument used in military drills, parades, and ceremonies, has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ❖ Punjab State Scheduled Castes (SC) Commission has opened India's first separate courtroom to ensure faster hearings and protect the rights and dignity of the Scheduled Caste community.
- ❖ Nagaland has officially named Switzerland and Ireland as country partners for the Hornbill Festival 2025.
- ❖ Google co-founder Larry Page became the world's third-richest person with a net worth of \$238.5 billion, surpassing Jeff Bezos, after Alphabet's Gemini 3 AI launch.
- ❖ Kerala has recently declared snakebite envenomation as a notifiable disease.
- ❖ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) held the Culmination Ceremony of the 75th Anniversary of the National Sample Survey (NSS) on 18 November 2025 in Udaipur.
- ❖ International Men's Day, observed on 19 November 2025, recognises men's contributions and raises awareness about their emotional, physical, and mental well-being.
 - The 2025's theme is "Celebrating Men and Boys".

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Comprehensive Mobility Plan for Chennai

- ❖ The Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) for Chennai identified future corridors for Metro Rail, LRT (Light Rail Transit), RRTS (Regional Rapid Transit System), and a tram line.
- ❖ The CMP has proposed a 15.4 km tram network connecting T Nagar, Nungambakkam, Nandanam, and Light House.



- ❖ The plan listed 12 Metro Rail corridors, 6 LRT corridors, 1 tram corridor, and 4 RRTS corridors for long-term development.
- ❖ The CMP included new Metro Rail routes such as SIPCOT II-Kalaingar Convention Centre and Assisi Nagar–Wimco Nagar.
- ❖ A Water Metro route from Central to Kovalam (with extension to Mamallapuram) and another towards Ennore and Pulicat was included.

Chennai Set To Bring Trams Back Again

Chennai's 25-year Comprehensive Mobility Plan proposes reviving trams after seven decades, with a 15.4-km electric corridor from T Nagar through Nungambakkam and Nandanam to Lighthouse. Designed as a street-level system, the tramway aims to ease congestion in dense commercial zones and boost pedestrian-friendly, last-mile mobility. Officials say the project will complement Metro and LRT expansions, marking a major shift toward cleaner, people-centric transport under CUMTA's CMP 2023-2048.

DigiArivu Initiative

Samsung Brings DigiArivu To Boost TN Schools

Samsung has launched DigiArivu, a digital and STEM learning initiative aimed at upgrading classrooms in Tamil Nadu. Developed with UN Global Compact Network India, it will begin in 10 government schools across Kancheepuram and Ranipet, benefiting over 3,000 government school students. The programme will modernise classrooms, enhance STEM teaching, set up libraries and train teachers, with strong backing from School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi.

- ❖ Samsung and the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) have launched the DigiArivu programme in Chennai.
- ❖ It aims to improve the digital and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education.

- ❖ The DigiArivu program aims to strengthen digital and STEM education in government schools.
- ❖ Samsung will upgrade the infrastructure in 10 government schools in Kancheepuram and Ranipet districts.
- ❖ The programme includes teacher training, setting up libraries, providing sports kits and giving career guidance to Class XII students.

New Heat Resilience Hub

- ❖ The Centre for Heat Resilience in Tamil Nadu was launched under the U.K. Government's Climate Action for a Resilient Asia Programme.
- ❖ The Centre will create high-resolution heat maps for all cities in Tamil Nadu to guide targeted heat-related interventions.
- ❖ The Centre aims to build technical capacity by training climate scientists, urban heat engineers, Geographic Information System (GIS) specialists and planners.
- ❖ Heat-risk zones will be included in city master plans by working with the Housing and Urban Development Department.
- ❖ Future plans include sponge cities, water-cooling infrastructure, mangrove corridors and a biodiversity index for major cities.
- ❖ The initiative involves collaboration between Tamil Nadu, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Resources Institute (WRI).

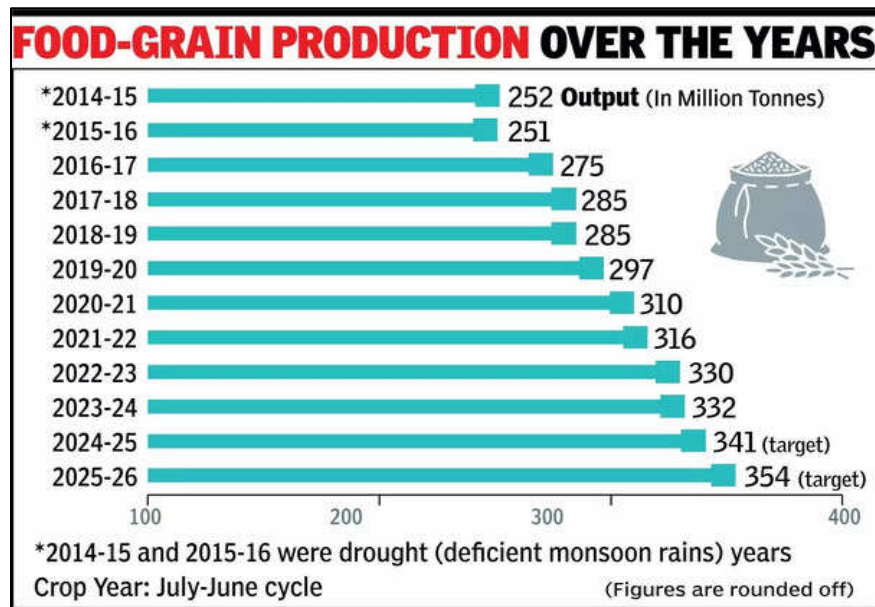


NATIONAL NEWS

Foodgrain and Oilseed Production 2024-25

- ❖ India's total foodgrain production reached a record 357.73 million tonnes in 2024-25, up from 332.30 million tonnes in 2023-24.
- ❖ Over the last 10 years, total foodgrain output increased by 106 million tonnes from 251.54 million tonnes in 2015-16.

- ❖ Rice production rose to 150.18 million tonnes and wheat to 117.95 million tonnes, both record highs.
- ❖ Total pulses output reached 25.68 million tonnes and oilseeds 42.99 million tonnes, with soybean at 15.27 million tonnes and groundnut at 11.94 million tonnes.
- ❖ Maize output was 43.41 million tonnes and millet ('Shri Anna') 18.59 million tonnes.
- ❖ Sugarcane production reached 454.61 million tonnes, cotton 29.72 million bales, and jute/mesta 8.80 million bales.



Natural Farming Summit 2025

- ❖ The Prime Minister inaugurated the South India Natural Farming Summit 2025 in Coimbatore.
- ❖ He also released the 21st PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi) instalment of ₹18,000 crore for 9 crore farmers.
- ❖ The event highlighted government schemes, including KCC (Kisan Credit Card) support and GST reduction on bio-fertilisers.
- ❖ The "One Acre, One Season" plan was announced to promote trying natural farming on one acre for one crop season.
- ❖ Model natural farming clusters were proposed in every district to improve soil structure, reduce chemical use, and maintain stable yields.



- ❖ Resolutions also proposed village vegetable self-sufficiency, organic seed networks, agroforestry, compost schemes, groundwater recharge, and a National Natural Farming Board.

South India
NATURAL FARMING Summit

19TH NOVEMBER 2025
COIMBATORE, TAMIL NADU

Release of the 21st instalment of PM-KISAN:
₹18,000 crore to 9 crore farmers nationwide

Hamara Shauchalaya, Hamara Bhavishya Campaign

WORLD TOILET DAY

**Hamara Shauchalay,
Hamara Bhavishya**

19th Nov. to 10th Dec. 2025

#HamaraShauchalayHamaraBhavishya

- ❖ The Ministry of Jal Shakti launched the Hamara Shauchalaya, Hamara Bhavishya campaign on World Toilet Day 2025 (November 19).
- ❖ The campaign aims to upgrade rural toilets and improve their maintenance across Gram Panchayats.
- ❖ It focuses on repairing Community Sanitary Complexes and Individual Household Latrines.

- ❖ It includes painting, cleaning, and beautifying rural toilet facilities.


Labour Codes Implementation

- ❖ From 21 Nov 2025, India's four Labour Codes—Code on Wages (2019), Industrial Relations Code (2020), Code on Social Security (2020), and Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code (2020)—replace 29 existing labour laws.
- ❖ Codes ensure minimum wages for all, social security for gig, platform, contract, and migrant workers, and mandatory appointment letters for formal employment.
- ❖ Women can work on night shifts and in all occupations with safety measures; gender pay equality and anti-discrimination laws have been strengthened.
- ❖ Employers must provide free annual health check-ups, timely wage payments, and social security benefits nationwide.
- ❖ Single registration, licence, and return simplify compliance, while national standards improve occupational safety and industrial welfare.
- ❖ Codes expand protections to youth, MSME, plantation, audio-visual, IT, dock, export, hazardous, and textile sector workers, boosting employment, social security, and worker dignity.

Consolidated Codes

An overview of the four Codes notified by the Centre and their scope

<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Code on Wages (2019) unifies four labour laws related to wages and bonuses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Code on Social Security (2020) extends social security benefits to all employees and workers, covering both the organised and unorganised sectors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Industrial Relations Code (2020) consolidates laws governing trade unions, conditions of employment in industrial establishments, and the settlement of industrial disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020) consolidates and modernises 13 existing central labour laws related to workplace safety, health, and working conditions

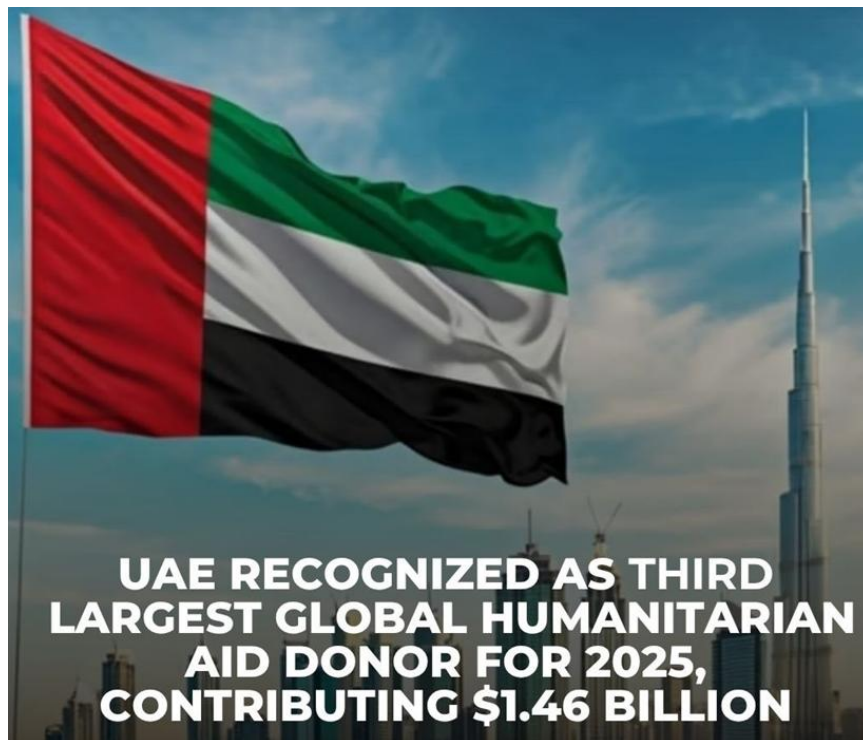


INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World's Largest Humanitarian Donor 2025

- ❖ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) contributed \$1.46 billion in humanitarian aid in 2025.

- ❖ This made the UAE the world's third-largest donor, after the United States and the European Union.
- ❖ The ranking was confirmed by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA).
- ❖ UAE's aid represented 7.2% of total global contributions tracked by the UN, which reached \$20.28 billion.
- ❖ Key recipients of UAE aid included Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and Afghanistan.
- ❖ The aid covered immediate relief like food, medicine, and shelter, as well as long-term development in healthcare, education, energy, and infrastructure.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

African Grey Parrot Trade

- ❖ The recent RTI replies showed that States have no registered breeders or authorised pet shops for African grey parrots.
- ❖ The bird is listed under CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) Appendix I, so it needs special trade and import permits.
- ❖ It is listed Endangered by the IUCN.

- ❖ Out of 19 States, only Kerala received 17 breeder licence applications on the PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub) portal.
- ❖ Owners must register the bird under the Living Animal Species Registration Rules, 2024, and the species is protected under Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ To breed this species, people need a breeding licence, a CITES import permit, a DGFT (Directorate General of Foreign Trade) import licence, and an NOC (No Objection Certificate) from the Chief Wildlife Warden.

PET OWNER? HERE'S WHAT TO DO



➤ Register by **Aug 31**. Keeping unregistered CITES-listed animals after this deadline will be illegal, leading to severe penalties

➤ Check CITES portal to see if your pet must be registered



➤ Many aren't aware that 'lovebirds', African grey parrots, sun conures, red-footed tortoises and reptiles like ball pythons must be registered

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Visit your nearest forest division office or contact State CITES Cell, Van Bhawan, Bhopal:

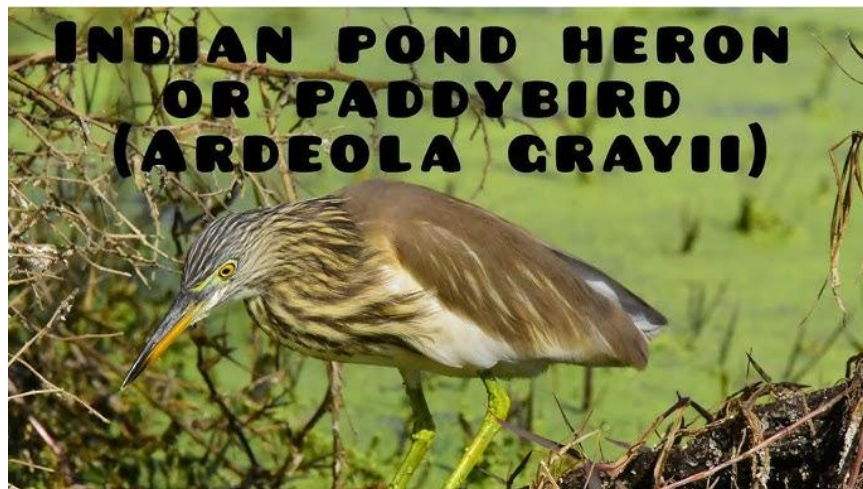
Mobile: 9424797059-60-61

➤ Record and report birth, death or transfer of pet on **Parivesh 2.0 portal**

➤ If pet dies, you need to submit a **post-mortem report**

➤ Don't let your love for exotic pets turn into a crime. Register today

Migration of Pond Herons



- ❖ Scientists in Visakhapatnam observed yearly night flights of pond herons and cattle egrets moving from the northeast to the southwest.
- ❖ Similar disappearances and southward flights were first recorded in the 1980s by naturalist V. Santharam in Chennai and later in Puducherry.

- ❖ It is also known as the Indian pond heron or the paddy bird (*Ardeola grayii*).
- ❖ It belongs to the family Ardeidae (herons, egrets and bitterns).
- ❖ It lives in wetlands, ponds, paddy fields and areas close to human settlements.
- ❖ Its IUCN Red List status is Least Concern and the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, listed it in Schedule IV.

ColoNoX and BARC B1401

- ❖ The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) announced two new technologies.
- ❖ ColoNoX Wound Dressing is India's first nitric-oxide wound dressing developed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).
- ❖ The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved ColoNoX for treating Diabetic Foot Ulcers (DFU).
- ❖ Ferrocyanatite (BARC B1401) is India's first Certified Reference Material (CRM) for Rare Earth Elements (REE).
- ❖ This CRM was developed by the National Centre for Compositional Characterization of Materials (NCCCM)-BARC and the Atomic Minerals Directorate (AMD), Hyderabad.
- ❖ BARC B1401 contains certified values for 13 Rare Earth Elements (REE) and 6 major elements and follows International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards.



Joint Crediting Mechanism

- ❖ India highlighted that the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) is an important tool for fair and scalable global climate action at COP30 in Belém, Brazil.
- ❖ Japan has informed that the JCM now includes 31 partner countries and 280+ projects under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.
- ❖ India and Japan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on the JCM.

- ❖ The mechanism will support sectors like renewable energy with storage, green hydrogen, green ammonia, sustainable aviation fuel, and technologies for the steel and cement industries.
- ❖ India is preparing the Rules of Implementation for the JCM and creating a dedicated section on the Indian Carbon Market portal.

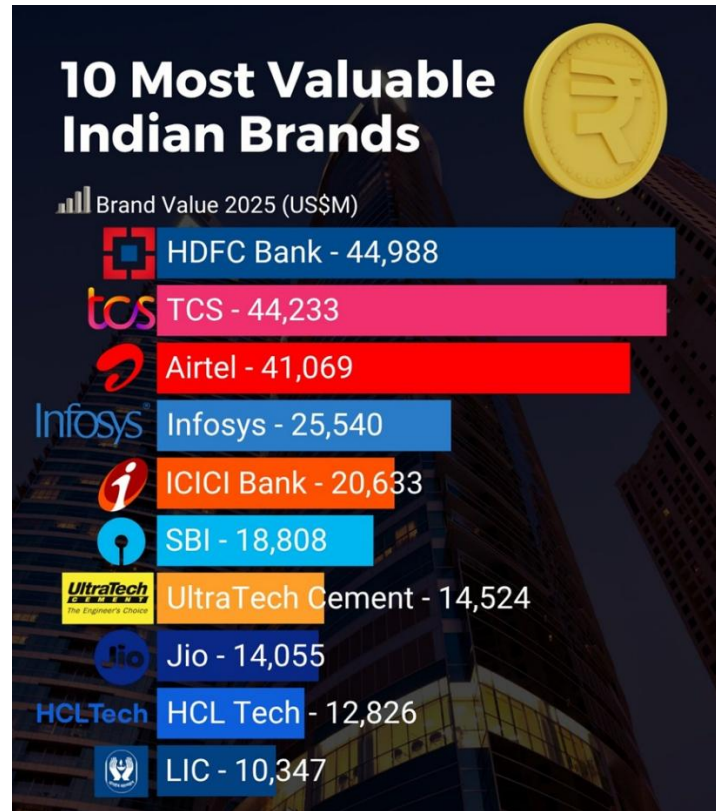


REPORTS AND INDICES

Brand Value Rankings 2025

- ❖ HDFC Bank is India's most valuable brand in 2025 with an estimated brand value of \$45 billion.
- ❖ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is the second most valuable brand at \$44.2 billion.
- ❖ Airtel, Infosys, and ICICI Bank are the next top three brands in India.
- ❖ The combined value of the top 100 Indian brands is \$523.5 billion, about 13% of India's GDP.
- ❖ Zomato is the fastest-growing brand for the second consecutive year, valued at \$6 billion.

- ❖ Travel brands like Taj, IndiGo, and MakeMyTrip recorded over 40% growth in brand value.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Children's Day 2025 - November 20



- ❖ It aims to promote and protect children's rights and well-being.
- ❖ It was first celebrated in 1954 by the United Nations (UN).



- ❖ The day marks the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- ❖ The 2025's themes are "My Day, My Rights" and "For Every Child, Every Right".

National Philosophy Day 2025 - November 20

- ❖ It is observed on the third Thursday of November every year.
- ❖ It aims to promote critical thinking, dialogue, and understanding across cultures.
- ❖ It was first celebrated in 2002 by UNESCO.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Philosophy and Global Dialogue in the Digital Era".

