

October - 07

TNPSC BITS


- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a cyclone alert for Maharashtra due to Cyclone 'Shakti' forming in the Arabian Sea.
- ❖ Grandmaster P. Iniyan from Tamil Nadu won the 62nd National Chess Championship held in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won silver in the 48kg category at the 2025 World Weightlifting Championships in Forde, Norway.
- ❖ The traditional Bhavani jamakkalam was featured at London Fashion Week, earning international recognition.
 - Dubai-based designer Vino Supraja's collection 'WEAVE: A Bhavani Tribute' included luxury handbags and accessories made from jamakkalam.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Samba Paddy Coverage in Cauvery Delta

A compilation of Samba coverage in Cauvery delta (in acres)

District	2022-23* (Direct-sown)	2022-23* (Total)***	2023-24** (Direct-sown)	2023-24** (Total)***
Cuddalore	9,428	27,916	28,311	33,263
Tiruchi	-	12	-	89
Karur	-	1,420	-	-
Ariyalur	-	1,200	-	420
Pudukottai	1,608	3,213	2,631	2,631
Thanjavur	5,511	30,060	2,806	23,882
Nagapattinam	79,534	88,922	49,163	49,731
Mayiladuthurai	3,754	9,994	5,281	5,928
Tiruvarur	1,08,789	1,68,521	32,540	60,732
Total	2,08,624	3,31,258	1,20,732	1,76,676



- ❖ Only 1 lakh acres have been covered under Samba cultivation in the Cauvery delta this year, compared to 3.2 lakh acres during the same period last year.
- ❖ The shortfall is mainly due to delayed sowing in the Kuruvai season caused by unseasonal rains between February and April.
- ❖ Paddy coverage during the Kuruvai season rose to over 6 lakh acres this year, exceeding the usual 4.4 lakh acres and the previous year's 3.9 lakh acres.



- ❖ The harvest delay in Kuruvai is affecting the timely sowing of Samba, with around 25% of fields in Mayiladuthurai district still unharvested by the end of September.
- ❖ The Cauvery delta accounted for 26.9 lakh tonnes or 38% of Tamil Nadu's 70.5 lakh tonnes paddy output in 2023–24.

NATIONAL NEWS

MSP for Rabi Crops

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the hike in Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Rabi crops for the 2026–27 marketing season.
- ❖ The highest MSP hike is for safflower at ₹600 per quintal.
- ❖ It is followed by lentil (masur) at ₹300, rapeseed and mustard at ₹250, gram at ₹225, barley at ₹170, and wheat at ₹160 per quintal.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet also approved the Mission for Aatmanirbharta (self-reliance) in Pulses with an outlay of ₹11,440 crore for 2025–26 to 2030–31 to raise domestic production to 350 lakh tonnes.
- ❖ The Pulses Mission will benefit two crore farmers through improved seeds, post-harvest infrastructure, and assured procurement of climate-resilient varieties.

S. No.	Crops	MSP RMS 2026-27	Cost of Production RMS 2026-27	Margin over cost (in percent)	MSP RMS 2025-26	Increase in MSP (Absolute)
1	Wheat	2585	1239	109	2425	160
2	Barley	2150	1361	58	1980	170
3	Gram	5875	3699	59	5650	225
4	Lentil (Masur)	7000	3705	89	6700	300
5	Rapeseed & Mustard	6200	3210	93	5950	250
6	Safflower	6540	4360	50	5940	600

Aspirational Agricultural Districts

- ❖ The government launched the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) to develop 100 aspirational agricultural districts.
- ❖ The scheme covers 29 states and union territories, with Uttar Pradesh having the most districts at 12.

- ❖ The program aims to improve agricultural productivity, crop diversification, irrigation, and credit access.
- ❖ PMDDKY will use 36 existing schemes from 11 government departments without a separate budget.
- ❖ The districts were chosen based on low productivity, moderate crop intensity, and poor access to credit.

#ViksitBharatBudget2025

PRIME MINISTER DHAN-DHAANYA KRISHI YOJANA

Govt will undertake 'Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' in partnership with states to help around **1.7 crore farmers**

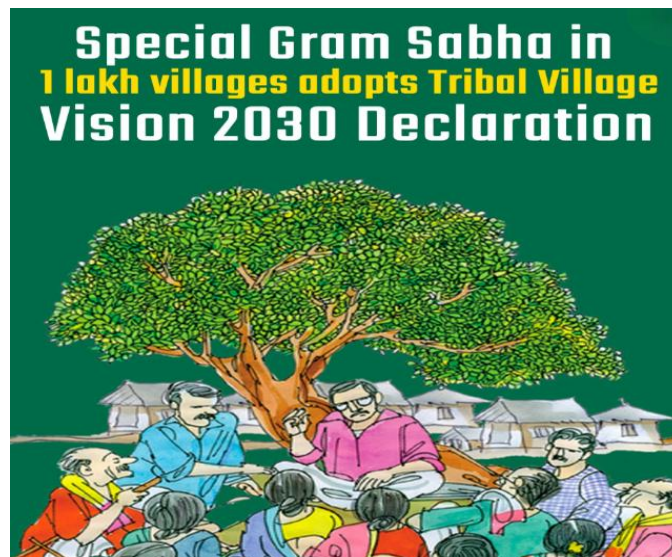
It will cover **100 districts** with low productivity, moderate crop intensity and below-average credit parameters

It aims to:

- Enhance agricultural productivity
- Adopt crop diversification & sustainable agriculture practices
- Augment post-harvest storage at Panchayat & Block level
- Improve Irrigation facilities
- Facilitate availability of long-term & short-term credit



Tribal Village Vision 2030 declaration



- ❖ The Tribal Village Vision 2030 declaration was passed in special Gram Sabhas on October 2, 2025.

- ❖ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan, the world's largest tribal grassroots leadership mission.
- ❖ The mission reached over 11.5 crore tribal citizens across 1 lakh villages and tolas in 30 states and union territories.
- ❖ One lakh Adi Sewa Kendras, or citizen service centres, are being established with weekly voluntary service from villagers.
- ❖ The AI-powered Adi Vaani application connects government officers with tribal communities in native languages for real-time communication.
- ❖ Since July 2025, 20 lakh officials, self-help group women, and tribal youth have been trained as Adi Karmayogis to ensure last-mile delivery of government schemes.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

MLAT – Singapore



- ❖ Zubeen Garg, a famous Indian singer and cultural icon from Assam, died in Singapore.
- ❖ The island where he was found unconscious has been renamed “Zubeen Garg Island” on Google Maps as a tribute.
- ❖ The Assam Government has formed a 10-member Special Investigation Team (SIT).

- ❖ The Centre has invoked the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) with Singapore to seek cooperation in the investigation.

Poland in NATO Pipeline



- ❖ Poland announced a 4.7-billion-euro plan to join the NATO Pipeline System (NPS).
- ❖ The NATO Pipeline System is a 10,000-kilometre network supplying fuel and lubricants for military operations across Europe.
- ❖ During the Cold War, Poland was part of the Warsaw Pact, so NATO pipelines did not reach its bases near Russia and Belarus.
- ❖ Poland plans to build a 300-kilometre pipeline from Germany to its military base in Bydgoszcz, home to NATO's joint force training centre.
- ❖ The project will be built and operated by Poland and PERN, pending approval from all 32 NATO allies.
- ❖ Poland is NATO's top military spender relative to GDP and a key ally of Ukraine amid ongoing tensions with Russia.

Net-Zero Banking Alliance

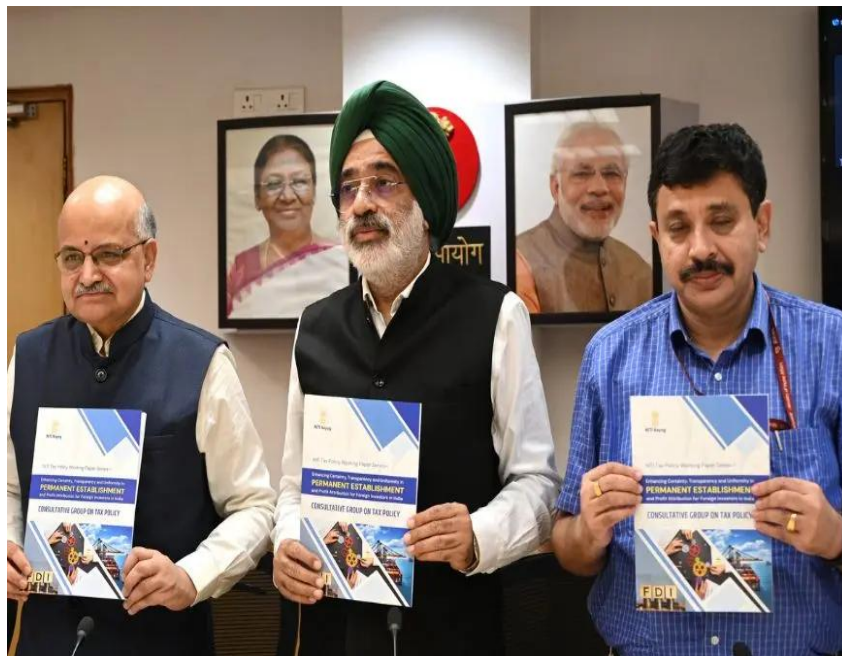
- ❖ The Net-Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA), launched in 2021 to drive banking sector decarbonisation, is ending its operations.
- ❖ The closure follows a mass exit of banks amid U.S. political pressure and antitrust concerns.

- ❖ NZBA's climate target-setting guidance will remain available for banks to use.
- ❖ This shutdown is similar to recent closures of climate initiatives in the insurance and asset management industries.



ECONOMY NEWS

Working Paper on Enhancing Tax Certainty



- ❖ NITI Aayog introduced its first Tax Policy Working Paper titled “Enhancing Tax Certainty in Permanent Establishment and Profit Attribution for Foreign Investors in India”.
- ❖ It aims to boost transparency and predictability in tax regulations.

- ❖ The paper addresses long-standing issues faced by foreign investors related to Permanent Establishment (PE) rules, profit attribution, and dispute resolution to improve India's investment climate.
- ❖ It proposes an optional, industry-specific Presumptive Taxation Scheme for foreign companies to reduce litigation, simplify compliance, and enhance administrative efficiency.

Global Use of Rupee



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed Indian banks to lend in rupees to non-residents from Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka for cross-border trade.
- ❖ RBI proposed transparent reference rates for major foreign currencies to promote rupee-based transactions.
- ❖ RBI permitted Special Rupee Vostro Account (SRVA) balances to be invested in corporate bonds and commercial papers.
- ❖ India's current account deficit was \$2.4 billion or 0.2% of GDP in Q1 2025–26, down from \$8.6 billion or 0.9% in Q1 2024–25.
- ❖ As of September 26, 2025, India's foreign exchange reserves stood at \$700.2 billion, covering over 11 months of imports.

SRO Status to FIDC

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted self-regulatory organisation (SRO) status to the Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC) on October 3, 2025.
- ❖ The FIDC represents non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) registered with the RBI across India.



- ❖ SROs help develop industry standards, monitor compliance, and support early detection of risks in the financial system.
- ❖ This move follows the RBI's 2023 framework for recognising SROs in financial markets.
- ❖ FIDC will now work with RBI to ensure regulatory compliance and enhance transparency in the non-bank lending sector.

**RBI GRANTS FINAL SRO RECOGNITION TO FINANCE
INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (FIDC)**

Mumbai, October 3, 2025

Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), the representative body of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), has been granted **final recognition by the Reserve Bank of India as the Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for the NBFC sector.**

This recognition is a **landmark moment** for the NBFC sector, underscoring its critical role in India's financial system and its growing contribution to financial inclusion.

"We are honoured by this recognition, which reflects the regulator's trust in FIDC as the representative body of the NBFC sector. This is both a celebration and a responsibility, and we are committed to further strengthening our role in building a more robust and resilient NBFC sector so as to enhance its role in the financial ecosystem," said

Mahesh Thakkar, Chairman, FIDC

The recognition places NBFCs at the forefront of India's financial inclusion journey and aligns strongly with the vision of a **Viksit Bharat**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

SARAL tool



- ❖ The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), India's newest science funding agency, has developed a tool called SARAL.
- ❖ SARAL stands for Simplified and Automated Research Amplification and Learning

- ❖ It uses artificial intelligence (AI) to generate layperson summaries of complex scientific research papers.
- ❖ The tool can create videos, podcasts, posters, and presentations to make research more accessible.
- ❖ ANRF aims to support deep science and engineering to foster deep tech products and startups in areas like drug discovery, aerospace, climate, and advanced materials.

Complex Organics in Enceladus

- ❖ The Cassini spacecraft found new complex organic molecules in fresh ice grains ejected from Saturn's moon Enceladus.
- ❖ It also detected compounds include aliphatic, cyclic esters, ethers, and possible nitrogen- and oxygen-bearing molecules.
- ❖ These molecules originate from Enceladus's subsurface ocean, not from long-term radiation exposure in Saturn's E ring.
- ❖ The findings confirm active complex chemistry in Enceladus's Ocean, strengthening the case for a future ESA (European Space Agency) mission to the moon.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Snow Leopard Population in Himachal Pradesh

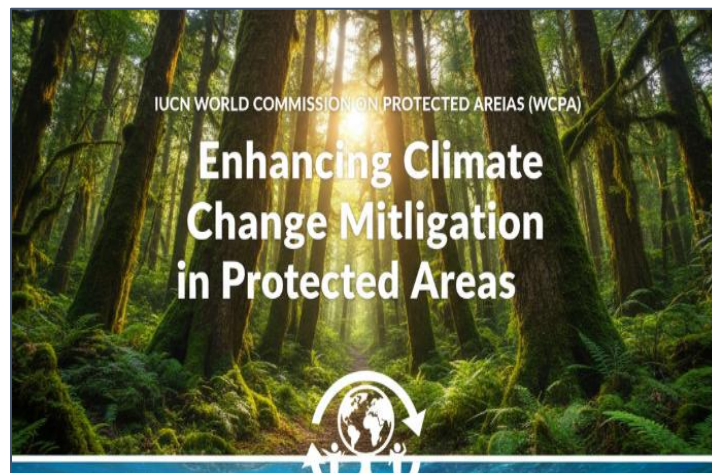
- ❖ The snow leopard population in Himachal Pradesh has risen by 62 percent in four years, reaching 83 in 2025.

- ❖ The Forest Department's Wildlife Wing surveyed between 2021 and 2025.
- ❖ The population increased from 51 in 2021 to 83 in 2025, exceeding earlier estimates.
- ❖ Snow leopards were observed in the tribal districts of Lahaul-Spiti, Kinnaur, and Pangi Valley.



REPORTS AND INDICES

IUCN WCPA Report 2025



- ❖ The IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) released the report named “Enhancing Climate Change Mitigation in Protected Areas.”
- ❖ Protected and Conserved Areas (PCAs) safeguard biodiversity, cultural resources, and support sustainable development.

- ❖ PCAs help remove carbon dioxide, prevent carbon release, and may enable large-scale carbon removal depending on their type.
- ❖ Protecting 30% of land could lock in 500 billion tonnes of carbon, and protecting 30% of oceans could reduce 20% of emissions needed for the Paris Agreement.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Inspire Award MANAK Scheme

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh recorded 2,80,747 nominations under the Inspire Award MANAK scheme in 2025, the highest since the scheme began.
- ❖ The scheme, run by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, encourages innovation among students of classes 6 to 12.
- ❖ Among the top 50 districts in India by nomination count, 22 are from Uttar Pradesh, including Pratapgarh (7,085) and Prayagraj (6,929).
- ❖ UP surpassed Rajasthan (1,41,142 nominations) and Karnataka (1,01,656), with a margin of 1.39 lakh and 1.79 lakh nominations, respectively.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Mud Volcano in Andaman

- ❖ India's only mud volcano at Baratang in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands erupted on October 2, 2025.



- ❖ The volcano had remained dormant since its last major eruption in 2005.
- ❖ Mud volcanoes are formed by gases like methane pushing mud to the surface, unlike lava-based volcanoes.
- ❖ This event is separate from recent minor eruptions at Barren Island, which is India's only active lava volcano.

