



October - 11

TNPSC BITS

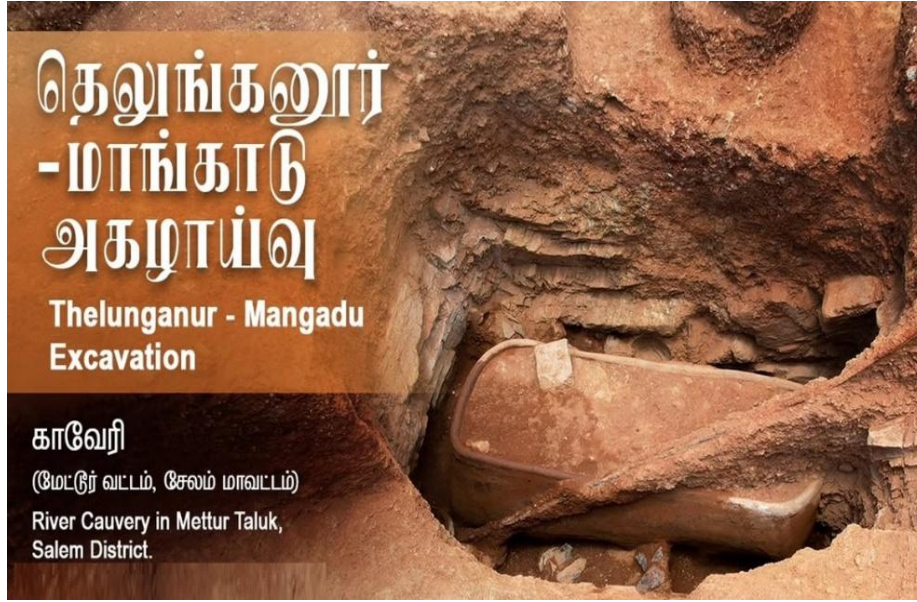
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) project for Delhi at a cost of ₹1,789.52 crore.
 - It will use Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled adaptive traffic signals, automated traffic enforcement and real-time traffic information.
- ❖ Delaware became the first U.S. state to ban marriage before the age of 18.
- ❖ The US Department of War launched Project Meridian, a 120-day initiative led by Elon Musk and other experts to identify technologies for future military dominance.
 - It will study future battlefields, from underground environments to cislunar space (the region between Earth and the Moon).
- ❖ The DRDO successfully tested an indigenous High-Altitude Platform (HAPS), a lighter-than-air system designed for long-endurance surveillance in the stratosphere.
- ❖ World Post Day is observed every year on 9 October to raise awareness of the importance of postal services in people's daily lives and their contribution to social and economic development.
 - The theme for the year 2026 is "World Post Day: One Postal Network, Infinite Possibilities."

TAMIL NADU NEWS

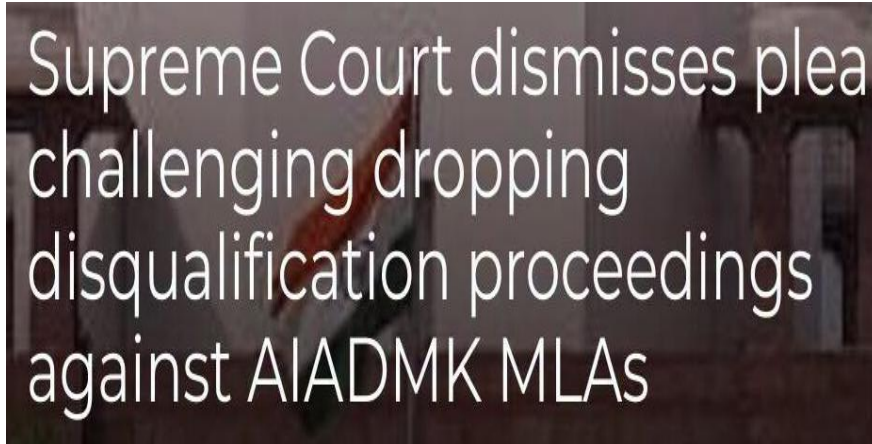
Thelunganur Archaeological Discovery

- ❖ A possible 3,000-year-old writing system was discovered at Thelunganur, near the Mettur Dam in Salem district, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ An intact black-and-red ware bowl was found with five graffiti symbols arranged from left to right, the longest such sequence recorded in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ A second bowl carries the same five symbols in a different order, suggesting a possible early writing system.
- ❖ The symbols may represent a precursor to Tamil-Brahmi, which dates to the 6th century BCE.
- ❖ Thelunganur and nearby Mangadu are Iron Age sites dated to 1600–1200 BCE; graffiti marks from Tamil Nadu sites show around 90% similarity to those found at Indus Valley sites.

- ❖ Other findings include iron weapons, a possible ancient steel sword, a 1.9-metre iron spear and skeletal remains of two individuals.
- ❖ Four burial types were identified: pit, cist, urn and sarcophagus.



AIADMK Disqualification Case



- ❖ The Supreme Court dismissed a plea challenging the Tamil Nadu Speaker's decision to drop disqualification proceedings against All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) legislators.
- ❖ The case involved AIADMK legislators who supported the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK)-led government during the confidence vote on 13 May 2026.
- ❖ The Speaker dropped the proceedings on 9 June 2026 after the AIADMK general secretary condoned the legislators' conduct.



- ❖ The Supreme Court held that a third party could not challenge the Speaker's decision in this case.
- ❖ The case involved the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, which contains India's anti-defection law.

NATIONAL NEWS

Sagarmanthan 2026

- ❖ The third edition of Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue was held in New Delhi, with participants from nearly 75 countries.
- ❖ Sagarmanthan is an annual global maritime dialogue launched in 2024 and co-hosted by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) and the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).
- ❖ The theme of the 2026 edition is "Blue Geographies, New Aspirations: Trade, Technology, and Trust at Sea."
- ❖ The dialogue focuses on the blue economy, maritime trade, port connectivity, shipping, ocean governance and sustainable development.
- ❖ Its five thematic pillars cover maritime security and trade routes, green shipping and shipbuilding, trade connectivity, coastal communities and livelihoods, and links between ports and inland regions.

SAGARMANTHAN
— THE GREAT OCEANS DIALOGUE —
OCTOBER 7-9, 2026
NEW DELHI, INDIA

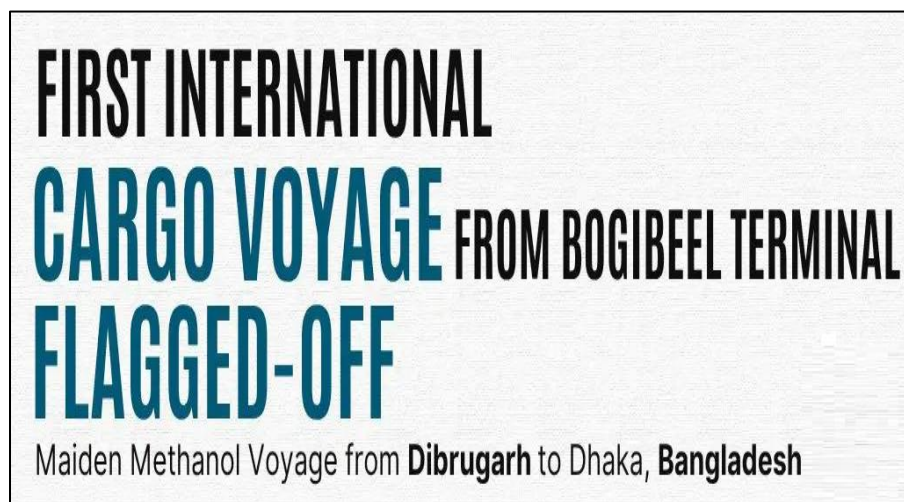
Supreme Court on OBC Quota

- ❖ The Supreme Court rejected the Andhra Pradesh government's plea to restore 34% reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in local bodies.
- ❖ The Court upheld the Andhra Pradesh High Court's decision that the enhanced quota exceeded the 50% reservation ceiling without sufficient empirical data.

- ❖ The State relied on a unified family survey that estimated BCs at 50.42% of the population in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ In *Vikas Kishanrao Gawali v. State of Maharashtra* (2021), the Supreme Court required a detailed empirical study of backwardness and representation in local bodies.
- ❖ The High Court stated that the State could reconsider the higher quota after conducting the required data-based assessment.



First International Cargo Voyage on National Waterway-2

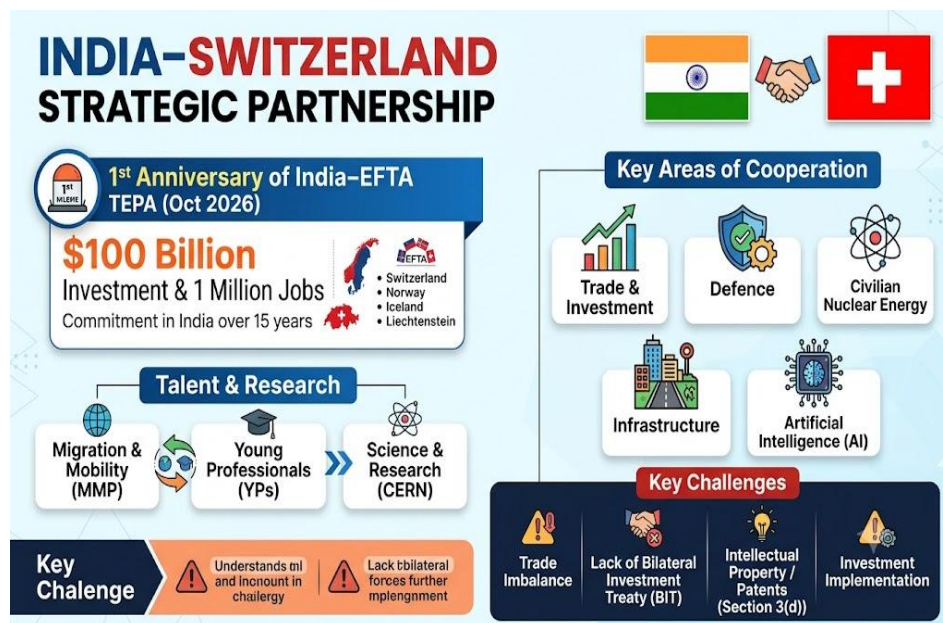


- ❖ Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off the first international cargo voyage from Dibrugarh, Assam, to Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- ❖ The maiden voyage carried methanol produced by Assam Petro-Chemicals Limited (APCL) from Bogibeel Terminal to Pangaon Port in Dhaka.

- ❖ The cargo travelled through National Waterway-2 (NW-2), along the Brahmaputra River, and the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBPR).
- ❖ It marked the first time since India's Independence that a cargo consignment sailed from Dibrugarh to a foreign port.
- ❖ The initiative aims to promote cheaper, greener and more efficient inland waterway transport in Northeast India.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India-Switzerland Strategic Partnership

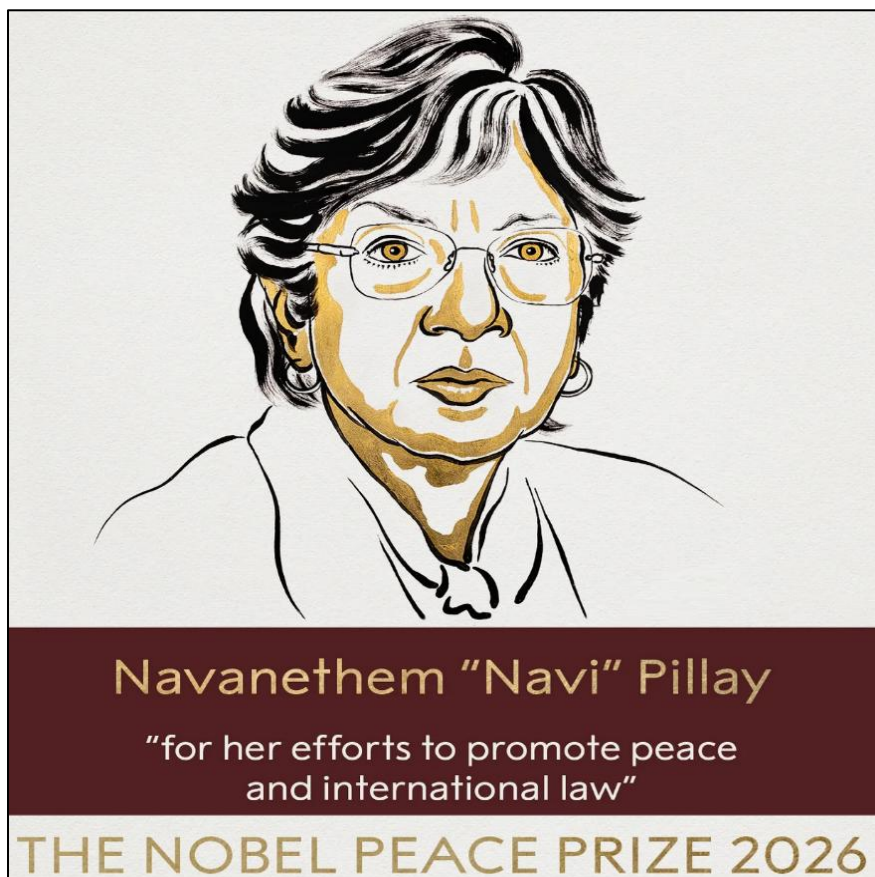


- ❖ The President of the Swiss Confederation held bilateral talks with the Indian Prime Minister in New Delhi in October 2026, marking the first anniversary of the India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).
- ❖ India and Switzerland agreed to strengthen cooperation in trade, investment, defence, civilian nuclear energy, infrastructure and artificial intelligence (AI).
- ❖ The Migration and Mobility Partnership (MMP) and Exchange of Young Professionals (YPS) agreements aim to promote legal migration, skill development and professional exchanges.
- ❖ The India-EFTA TEPA, implemented in October 2025, includes an investment commitment of USD 100 billion and one million direct jobs in India over 15 years.

- ❖ EFTA has four members: Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein; India and Switzerland also cooperate in science and research through the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).
- ❖ Key challenges include the trade imbalance, lack of a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT), pharmaceutical patent concerns under Section 3(d) of India's Patents Act, 1970, and implementation of the investment commitment.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Nobel Peace Prize 2026



- ❖ South African jurist Navanethem "Navi" Pillay was awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts to promote peace and international law.
- ❖ Navi Pillay was born in Durban, South Africa, into a family of Indian Tamil origin during the apartheid era.
- ❖ She served as a judge of the South African High Court, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

- ❖ She served as the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights from 2008 to 2014.
- ❖ She chaired the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
- ❖ She serves as a judge in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) case in which Myanmar is accused of genocide against the Rohingya.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Migratory Day 2026 - October 10



- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about migratory birds, the threats they face, and the importance of protecting their habitats through international cooperation and public participation.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Every Bird Counts – Your Observations Matter!”.
- ❖ The 2026 campaign highlights community science in tracking bird migration patterns, monitoring populations and identifying threats.
- ❖ The campaign is organized by four partners: the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA), the East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and Environment for the Americas (EFTA).
- ❖ The 2026 campaign coincides with the 60th anniversary of the International Waterbird Census (IWC), which monitors waterbird populations through volunteer participation.



- ❖ The campaign encourages international cooperation to protect migratory birds and the habitats they depend on.

