



October - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ First-ever Indian Scops Owl was spotted near Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary in Vijayanagara, Karnataka.
- ❖ Thimphu, Bhutan, hosts the Global Peace Prayer Festival (GPPF) to promote world peace, compassion, and unity amid global conflicts.
- ❖ Padma Shri awardee Piyush Pandey advertising legend, passed away at 70.
- ❖ Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, recommended Justice Surya Kant, the senior-most Supreme Court judge, as his successor and the 53rd Chief Justice of India.
- ❖ Ningol Chakouba Festival is celebrated every year on the second day of the lunar month of Hiyangei in the Meitei calendar, primarily in Manipur.
 - Ningol means 'married woman' and Chakouba means 'invitation for a feast', as married women are invited to their parental homes.
- ❖ Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 will be observed from 27th October to 2nd November with the theme, "Vigilance: Our Shared Responsibility."
- ❖ The International Animation Day is observed every year on October 28 to commemorate the first public performance of animation by Charles-Émile Reynaud in Paris in 1892.

NATIONAL NEWS

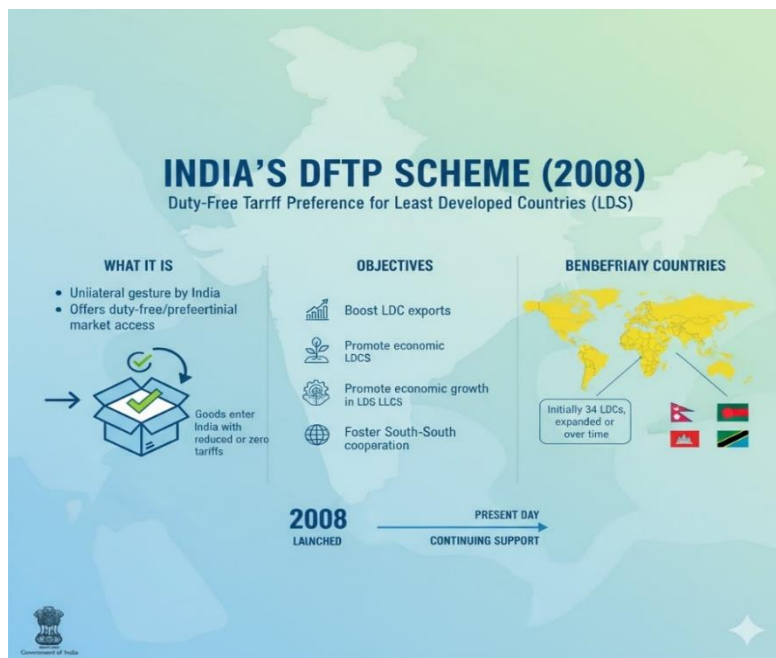
Comprehensive Standards for Navigation

- ❖ The government introduced comprehensive standards for Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) receivers.
- ❖ NavIC, developed by the ISRO, is India's indigenous satellite navigation system, ensuring regional accuracy.
- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) issued guidelines for signal quality, positioning accuracy, and timing precision in NavIC-enabled devices.
- ❖ NavIC provides Standard Positioning Service (SPS) signals in L1, L5, and S bands, ensuring 1.5-metre accuracy and 50-nanosecond timing precision.
- ❖ NavIC will provide two levels of service, the "standard positioning service", which will be open for civilian use, and a "restricted service" (an encrypted one) for authorised users (including the military).

- ❖ By standardising NavIC technology, India joins global powers like the United States (GPS), the European Union (Galileo), Russia (GLONASS), and China (BeiDou) in operating its own satellite navigation system.
- ❖ Unlike GPS, which is controlled by the US Department of Defense, NavIC is managed by civilian authorities in India.



Duty-Free Tariff Preference Scheme



- ❖ India's Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme, launched in 2008.



- ❖ It provides Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with preferential access to the Indian market.
- ❖ The scheme aims to boost economic growth, diversify exports, and strengthen trade relations with around 48 United Nations-recognized LDCs.
- ❖ Products eligible for duty-free access include agricultural goods, textiles, handicrafts, leather items, and minerals.

Special Campaign 5.0

- ❖ The Special Campaign 5.0 was launched by the Government of India with the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances as the nodal department.
- ❖ The campaign aimed to institutionalize cleanliness drives and reduce pendency in government offices across the country.
- ❖ As of 24th October 2025, 4.95 lakh cleanliness campaign sites were covered under the Swachhata (cleanliness) campaign.
- ❖ Ministries and Departments freed 130.54 lakh square feet of office space and earned Rs. 377.8 crore revenue through scrap disposal.
- ❖ A total of 5.45 lakh public grievance cases were redressed, and 17.48 lakh physical files were reviewed, out of which 7.25 lakh files were weeded out.
- ❖ The campaign reviewed 12.99 lakh electronic files and gained significant social media traction with over 13,000 tweets, 200 infographics, and a reach of 36.7 million people.



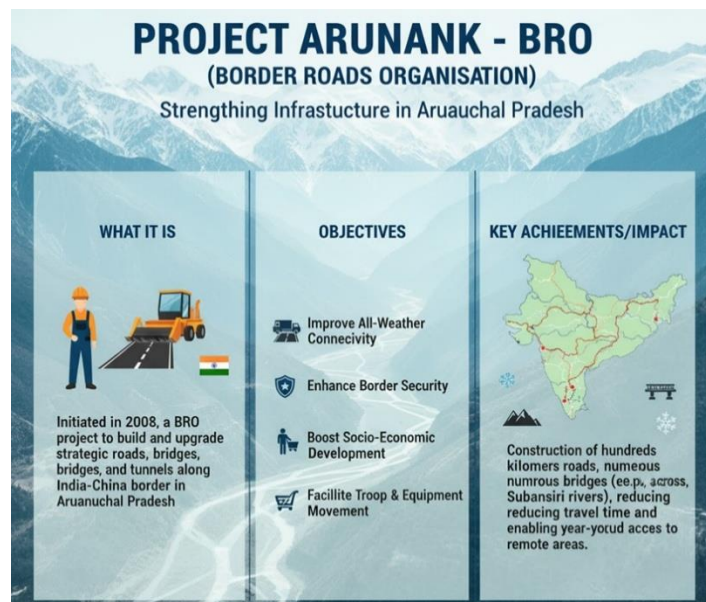
VOPPA Order 2025

- ❖ The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has amended the Vegetable Oil Products, Production and Availability (Regulation) Order, 2011.

- ❖ The amended VOPPA Order, 2025, mandates registration for all edible oil manufacturers, processors, blenders, re-packers, and other stakeholders.
- ❖ Monthly production and stock returns must now be submitted through the designated online portal.
- ❖ The amendment aims to enhance regulatory oversight, transparency, and real-time monitoring of the edible oil sector.
- ❖ Non-compliance with the amended order will be treated as a violation under the VOPPA Order and the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008.



Project Arunank



- ❖ Project Arunank is a Border Roads Organisation (BRO) initiative for strategic road development in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It was established in 2008 under the Ministry of Defence.

- ❖ The project has built over 696 km of motorable roads and 1.18 km of major bridges.
- ❖ The 278 km Hapoli–Sarli–Huri Road was blacktopped for the first time since Independence.

Cryptocurrency as Property

- ❖ The Madras High Court ruled that cryptocurrency is considered property under Indian law.
- ❖ The court explained that cryptocurrencies are identifiable, transferable, and controlled through private keys.
- ❖ Cryptocurrencies can be owned and held in trust like other forms of property.
- ❖ The case arose after a cyberattack on the WazirX exchange, operated by Zangmai Labs Private Limited.
- ❖ The court clarified that the investor's XRP coins were separate from the Ethereum tokens stolen in the hack.
- ❖ Section 2(47A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, recognises cryptocurrencies as virtual digital assets.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Vice-Chair of COP10 – India

- ❖ India participated in the 10th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the International Convention against Doping in Sport at UNESCO, Paris.

- ❖ India was re-elected Vice-Chairperson of the COP10 Bureau for the Asia-Pacific Group (Group IV) for 2025–2027.
- ❖ India proposed amendments to integrate the Values Education through Sport (VETS) approach to promote ethics and integrity in sport.



KL Peace Accord



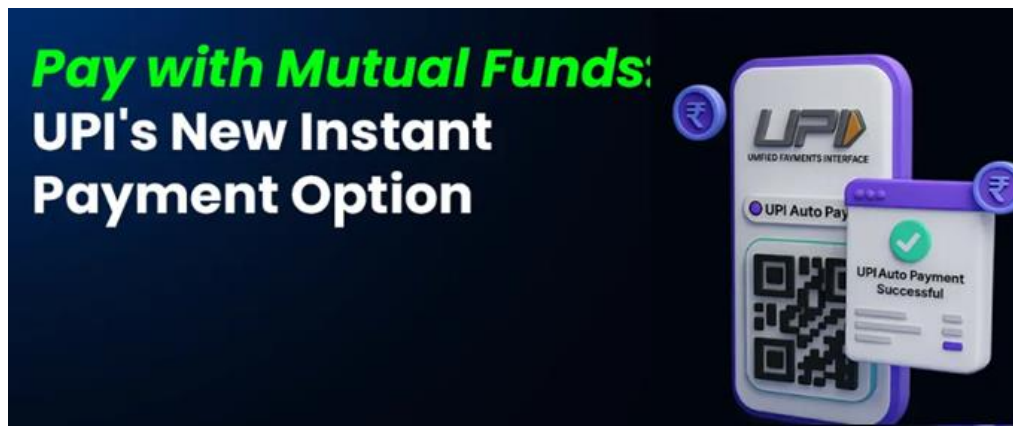
- ❖ Thailand and Cambodia signed a joint declaration called the KL Peace Accord to end their border conflict.
- ❖ The signing took place on the sidelines of the 47th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- ❖ The accord aims to halt hostilities, restore peace along the disputed border, and promote regional stability.
- ❖ Alongside the peace treaty, a trade deal with Cambodia and a critical minerals agreement with Thailand were facilitated.

ECONOMY NEWS

Pay With Mutual Fund

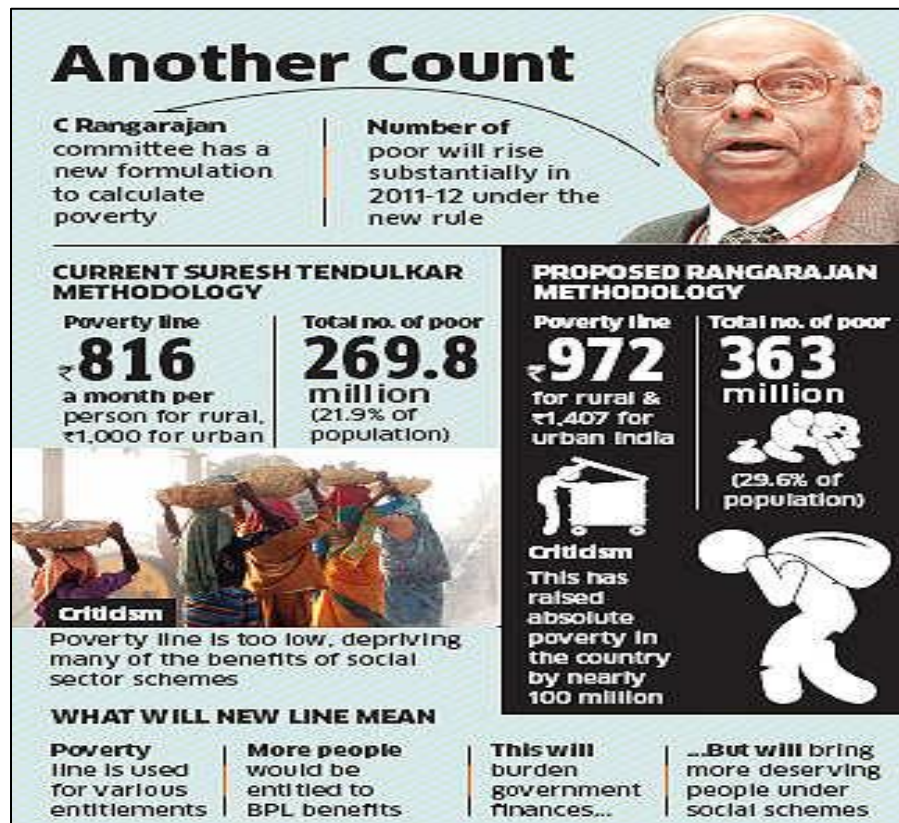
- ❖ India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) now allows users to pay directly using liquid mutual fund holdings.
- ❖ Users can link their mutual fund accounts to their UPI identification (ID) and choose the new payment option at checkout.
- ❖ Payments are deducted instantly from the mutual fund without needing to be redeemed into a bank account.
- ❖ The feature is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and integrated with UPI's secure system.
- ❖ Currently, it supports selected merchants, online platforms, and utility bill payments, with plans to expand further.



Poverty in India

- ❖ In 2014, the Rangarajan Committee set poverty lines at ₹972 per month for rural areas and ₹1,407 per month for urban areas.
- ❖ About 29.5 percent of Indians were below the poverty line according to this measure in 2014.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India updated poverty estimates for 20 major states using Household Consumption Expenditure Survey data for 2022-23.

- ❖ Rural poverty in Odisha fell from 47.8 percent to 8.6 percent, and urban poverty in Bihar fell from 50.8 percent to 9.1 percent.
- ❖ The government now also measures multidimensional poverty using 12 indicators, including nutrition, schooling, sanitation, electricity, and bank accounts.
- ❖ Multidimensional poverty in India declined from 29.17 percent in 2013–14 to 11.28 percent in 2022–23.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Nanometre Processor

- ❖ India has announced the development of an indigenous 7-nanometre processor, marking its entry into advanced semiconductor design.
- ❖ The processor is being developed by the IIT Madras, under the SHAKTI initiative, based on open-source RISC-V architecture.
- ❖ The initiative is led by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and aligns with the India Semiconductor Mission to build end-to-end semiconductor capabilities.

- ❖ It targets high-performance, energy-efficient applications in finance, communications, defence, 5G, artificial intelligence, and supercomputing.



Burevestnik Missile



- ❖ Russia successfully tested its nuclear-powered Burevestnik (9M730) cruise missile.
- ❖ This missile flew 14,000 km (8,700 miles) over 15 hours.
- ❖ The missile, also known as SSC-X-9 Skyfall by NATO, is claimed to have an almost unlimited range and an unpredictable flight path.

- ❖ The missile is capable of piercing any current or future missile defense systems.
- ❖ The test was accompanied by a nuclear drill, demonstrating Russia's strategic nuclear forces readiness on land, sea, and air.

Jellyfish-Shaped Bionic Robot

- ❖ China has developed a transparent, jellyfish-shaped bionic robot for stealth underwater exploration.
- ❖ The device mimics jellyfish movements using soft hydrogel and low-energy actuators, enabling silent gliding.
- ❖ It is equipped with an AI chip and a camera, and it can observe marine life and identify underwater objects.
- ❖ The 120 mm, 56-gram robot operates with minimal energy and disturbance, making it suitable for long-duration monitoring.



REPORTS AND INDICES

Coffee Deforestation in Brazil

- ❖ “Wake Up and Smell the Deforestation: Coffee’s Destruction of Brazilian Forests and its Future” was released by Coffee Watch, a non-profit organization focused on the environmental and social impacts of coffee production.
- ❖ Coffee cultivation directly caused the loss of 312,803 hectares of Brazil’s Atlantic Forest between 2001 and 2023.

- ❖ The Atlantic Forest once covered 1.2 million square kilometres, but today less than 10 percent remains.
- ❖ Brazil supplies around 40 percent of the world's coffee, but forest loss threatens the long-term viability of the industry.
- ❖ Less than 1 percent of coffee areas use agroforestry, though it retains moisture better, and two-thirds of Brazil's Arabica land could be lost by 2050.



STATES' NEWS

Great Green Wall Initiative



- ❖ Andhra Pradesh faces severe coastal erosion, with 32% of its 1,053-kilometre-long coastline actively eroding.
- ❖ The Department of Environment, Forests, Science and Technology has launched the Great Green Wall (GGW) project to mitigate cyclone and environmental risks.

- ❖ The GGW will span five kilometres and feature mangroves, shelterbelt plantations, inland vegetation, and sand dunes.
- ❖ It aims to protect over three million coastal residents while promoting biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods.
- ❖ The project plans to restore 100,000 hectares of green cover, targeting vulnerable areas like the Krishna and Godavari estuaries.

Green Tax on Vehicles

- ❖ Uttarakhand will implement a green tax on vehicles entering from other states starting December 1, 2025.
- ❖ Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras will monitor vehicle entry at border checkpoints.
- ❖ The measure aims to reduce traffic pollution, protect the Himalayan environment, and promote cleanliness in the state.
- ❖ Other Indian states with green tax include Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

K. Mathangi Ramakrishnan's demise

- ❖ Dr. K. Mathangi Ramakrishnan, a renowned plastic and reconstructive surgeon and pioneer of burn care in South India, passed away in Chennai.
- ❖ She established the Department of Plastic Surgery and the Burns Unit at Government Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai.

- ❖ She developed a collagen membrane for burn wounds in collaboration with the Central Leather Research Institute, a technique widely adopted across India.
- ❖ Dr. Mathangi received several honours, including the Padma Shri in 2002, the Dr. B.C. Roy National Award, the Avvaiyar Award in 2014, and the G. Whitaker International Burns Prize in 2009.



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