



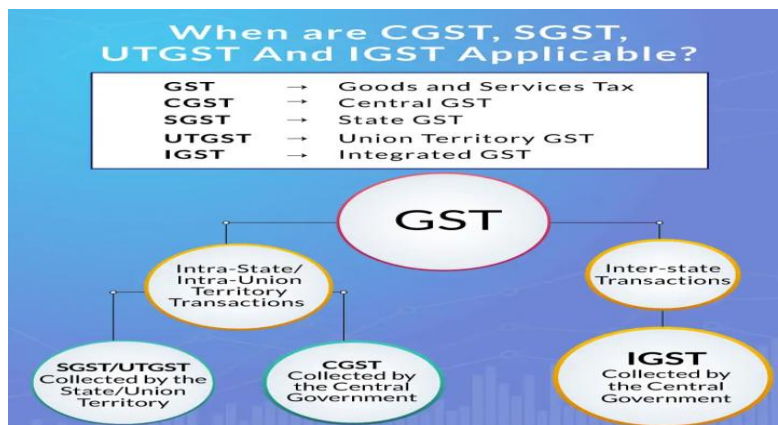
September - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin unveiled a portrait of Periyar at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom on September 4, 2025.
- ❖ India's first port-based green hydrogen pilot project was inaugurated at V.O. Chidambaranar Port in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

IGST settlement report

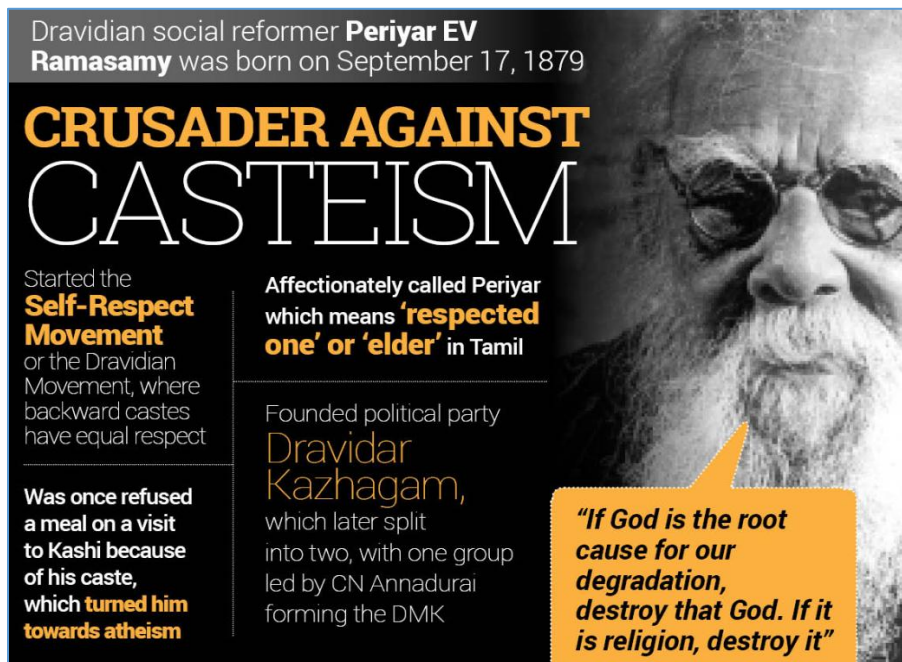


- ❖ Tamil Nadu participated in the 56th meeting of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu highlighted the need to implement the Committee of Officers' report on Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) settlement.
- ❖ The GST Council agreed to implement the IGST settlement report in full before the end of December 2025.
- ❖ The Council has also recommended to extend the period of levy of compensation cess on sin goods for two to three months beginning October 31 this year.

100 years of the Self-Respect Movement

- ❖ The year 2025 marks the centenary of the Self-Respect Movement, which began in 1925 in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Social reformer E.V. Ramasamy formally launched the movement through the Tamil weekly Kudi Arasu.

- ❖ It aims to eradicate the caste system, encourage rational thinking, and oppose the dominance of Brahminical traditions.
- ❖ Its objectives were outlined in two pamphlets - Namathu Kurikkol and Tiravitak Kalaka Lateiyam.
- ❖ Two prominent female leaders of the movement were Annai Meenambal and Veeramal.
- ❖ The Self-Respect Movement introduced reforms like self-respect marriages, widow remarriage, women's right to property, and inter-caste marriages.
- ❖ Periyar promoted rationalism, women's rights, and social equality over political independence.
- ❖ The movement empowered non-Brahmin masses and created ideological space for future Dravidian politics.
- ❖ The Justice Party, launched in 1916, laid the groundwork but remained confined to the elite until Periyar mobilised the broader population.
- ❖ The Self-Respect Movement is recognised for pushing major structural reforms in Tamil society and questioning entrenched hierarchies.

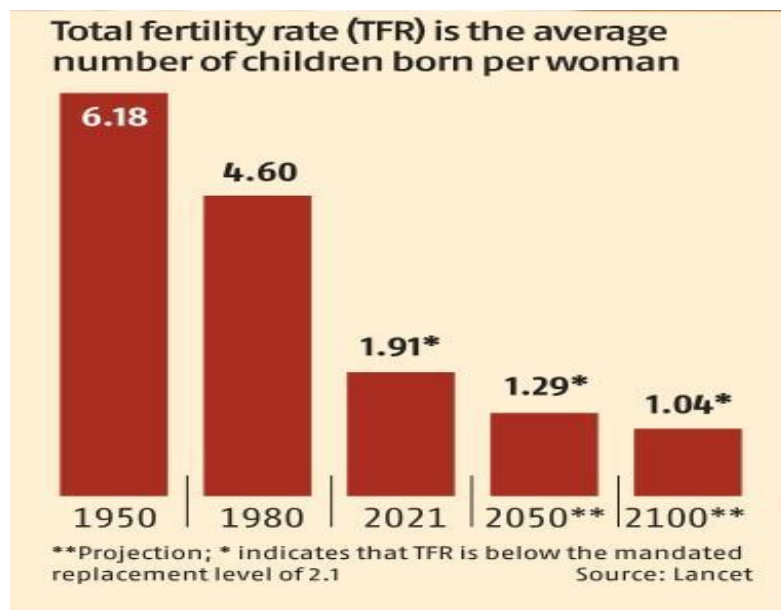


NATIONAL NEWS

SRS 2023 report

- ❖ As per the Sample Registration Survey (SRS) Statistical Report 2023, India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) dropped to 1.9 in 2023.

- ❖ It is falling below the replacement level of 2.1 for the first time in two years.
- ❖ The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) declined from 19.1 in 2022 to 18.4 in 2023.
- ❖ Bihar recorded the highest CBR at 25.8 and the highest TFR at 2.8 among larger States, while Tamil Nadu had the lowest CBR at 12.
- ❖ Delhi reported the lowest TFR at 1.2, followed by West Bengal (1.3), Tamil Nadu (1.3), and Maharashtra (1.4).
- ❖ A total of 18 States and Union Territories had TFRs below the replacement level of 2.1 in 2023.
- ❖ The Crude Death Rate declined to 6.4 in 2023, down by 0.4 points from the previous year.
- ❖ The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) dropped by 1 point in 2023 to 25 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- ❖ The Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) improved to 917 girls per 1,000 boys, with Kerala and Chhattisgarh reporting the highest SRB at 971 and 974, respectively.
- ❖ Uttarakhand had the lowest SRB at 868, and Bihar's SRB rose slightly to 897 after falling from 964 in 2020.
- ❖ The elderly population (60 years and above) increased to 9.7% nationally, with Kerala recording the highest proportion at 15%.



Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) exempted Sri Lankan Tamil refugees who entered India before January 9, 2015, from penal action under the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025.

- ❖ The exemption applies to refugees without valid passports, travel documents, or visas, covering their stay in and exit from India.
- ❖ Registered Sri Lankan Tamil refugees will not be treated as illegal migrants under the new Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025 notified on September 02.
- ❖ The 2025 Act penalises undocumented foreigners with a fine of ₹5 lakh or imprisonment for up to five years or both.
- ❖ Earlier in 2015, the Union government had waived visa fees and overstay penalties for Sri Lankan Tamils returning voluntarily.
- ❖ The Centre also exempted six minority communities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan who entered India before December 31, 2024.
- ❖ These six communities include Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians facing religious persecution or fear of it.
- ❖ The exemption enables them to apply for long-term visas (LTV), a required step before applying for Indian citizenship.
- ❖ The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, allows citizenship to these communities only if they entered India on or before December 31, 2014.
- ❖ The exemption does not extend the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) cut-off date beyond December 31, 2014.
- ❖ According to officials, the exemption prevents criminal proceedings against the undocumented migrants and facilitates their stay.
- ❖ The Citizenship Act, 1955, allows naturalisation after 11 years of residence, while the CAA reduces this to 5 years for eligible communities.
- ❖ The exemption order applies to persons who entered without valid documents or whose documents have expired.



The Environment Audit Rules 2025



**ENVIRONMENT
AUDIT RULES, 2025**

Shaping India's Green Future

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified the Environment Audit Rules, 2025

★ **What's new?**

- Annual environmental audits now mandatory
- Sector-specific protocols for chemicals, mining & metallurgy
- Third-party certification by MoEF&CC-approved auditors
- Digital portal for transparent reporting
- Focus on resource efficiency, pollution control & climate resilience
- Stronger penalties – even suspension of clearances
- Aligned with ESG & sustainability frameworks

- ❖ The Environment Audit Rules 2025 have been notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ❖ These rules allow environmental audits to go beyond the jurisdiction of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs).
- ❖ Private agencies can now be accredited as licensed environment auditors under the new framework.
- ❖ Auditors will assess compliance with environmental laws and pollution control standards.
- ❖ This measure addresses manpower and infrastructure shortages in existing regulatory bodies like the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and SPCBs.

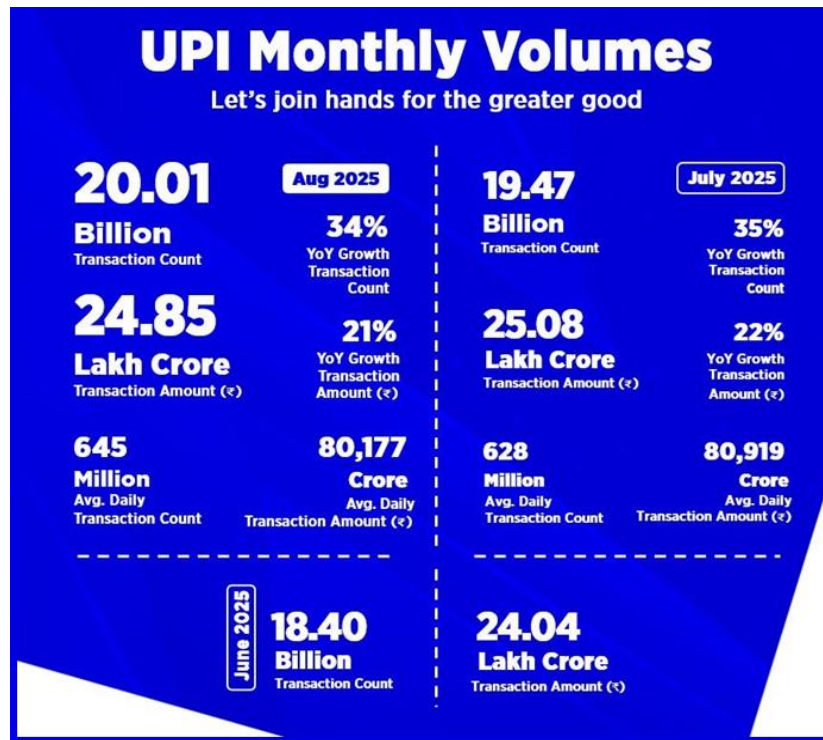
ECONOMY NEWS

UPI Transactions in August 2025

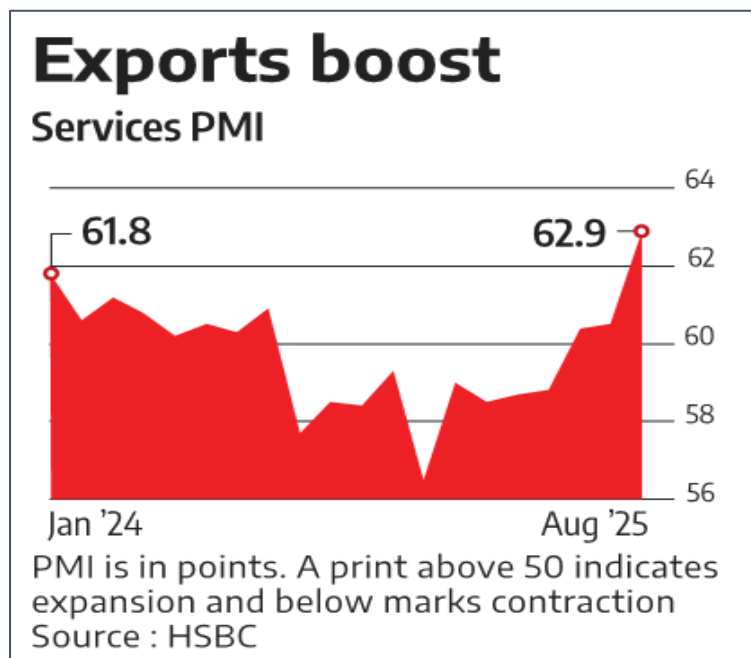
- ❖ Unified Payments Interface (UPI) processed 20.01 billion transactions in August 2025.
- ❖ This marks a 34 percent increase from 14.9 billion transactions in August 2024.
- ❖ The total transaction value in August 2025 was ₹24.85 lakh crore.
- ❖ This value is 21 percent higher than the ₹20.60 lakh crore recorded in August 2024.



- ❖ The highest monthly transaction value so far was ₹25.14 lakh crore in May 2025.



Services Sector Growth - August 2025



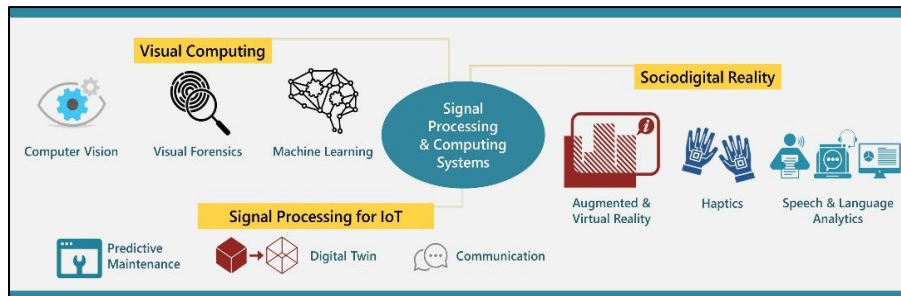
- ❖ India's services sector growth accelerated to a 15-year high in August on robust demand.

- ❖ The sector grew at a much-higher-than-expected 7.8% rate last quarter.
- ❖ The HSBC India Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 62.9 in August 2025 from 60.5 in July 2025.
- ❖ This marks the highest services sector PMI in 15 years, according to S&P Global.
- ❖ It is the third consecutive month with the index above 60, driven by strong new orders and global sales.
- ❖ The Composite PMI, which combines services and manufacturing sectors, rose to a 17-year high of 63.2 in August from 61.1 in July.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Vision, Language and Learning Group

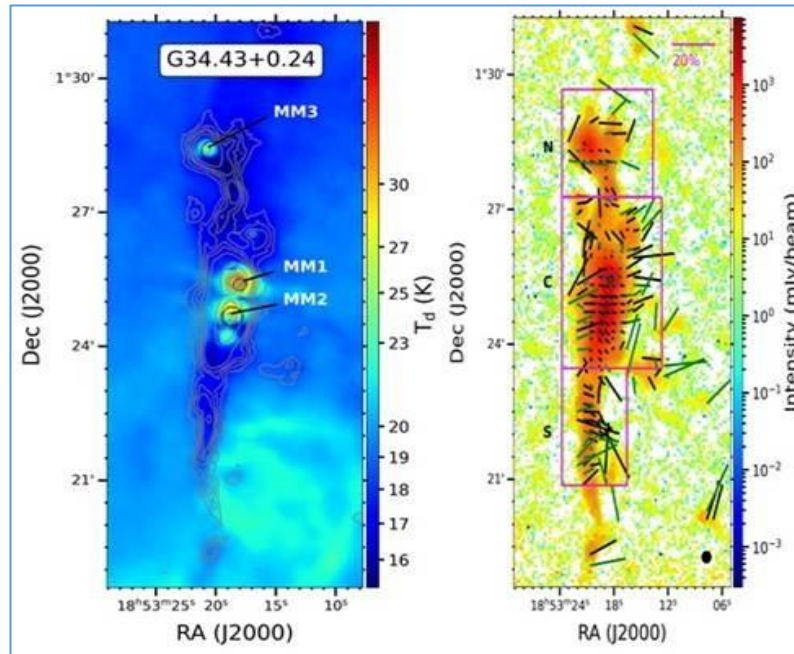
- ❖ The Vision, Language and Learning Group (VL2G) at the IIT Jodhpur develops artificial intelligence (AI) models for 13 Indian languages.
- ❖ These models read and translate text in images to support multilingual navigation and real-time translation.
- ❖ VL2G collaborates with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) to digitally restore ancient manuscripts using deep learning.



Dust Grains with Magnetic Fields

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) led a study confirming dust grain alignment with magnetic fields in the Milky Way.
- ❖ The team studied the infrared dark cloud G34.43+0.24, located 12,000 light-years away.
- ❖ Dust grains are a few micrometres in size, made of silicates and carbonaceous material, and exist throughout the interstellar medium.
- ❖ They play a key role in star and planet formation and cause starlight polarization detected since 1949.

- ❖ Polarization data revealed how dust traces magnetic field structures and varies in dense star-forming cores.
- ❖ Scientists found that dust behaves differently depending on conditions.
- ❖ In some cases, grains align neatly with magnetic fields.
- ❖ In others, they spin so fast under strong starlight that they break apart into smaller fragments, weakening the alignment.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Marine Animal Helpline

- ❖ A new marine telemedicine helpline named Matsya has been launched by ReefWatch Marine Conservation in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The initiative aims to support the rescue of stranded or injured marine animals along the State's coastline.
- ❖ A marine animal stranding occurs when an animal washes ashore and cannot return to the sea due to injury, illness, or disorientation.
- ❖ In early 2025, ReefWatch assisted the Forest Department in conducting post-mortems on Olive Ridley turtles to identify causes of death.
- ❖ Matsya provides remote veterinary advice and technical support to fisherfolk and local responders through a helpline number +91 6360249764.
- ❖ Matsya builds on earlier work in Goa and Karnataka, where ReefWatch responded to 494 marine stranding cases between June and September 2024.

MATSYA

MARINE TELEMEDICINE HELPLINE & RESOURCE CENTRE

Marine megafauna stranding incident is when a sea animal such as sea turtles, sea birds, dolphins or whales washes up from the sea on to land either dead or alive (usually due to injury/illness) and is unable to return to the water.)

1386

Stranding cases attended from 2021-2024



We rescue and rehabilitate marine wildlife, including seabirds, turtles, and cetaceans such as dolphins and whales.



Found a Stranded Marine Animal on your beach?

Live animals need urgent rescue but both live and dead strandings help us understand threats like pollution, entanglement, or disease — your reporting can help us!




PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

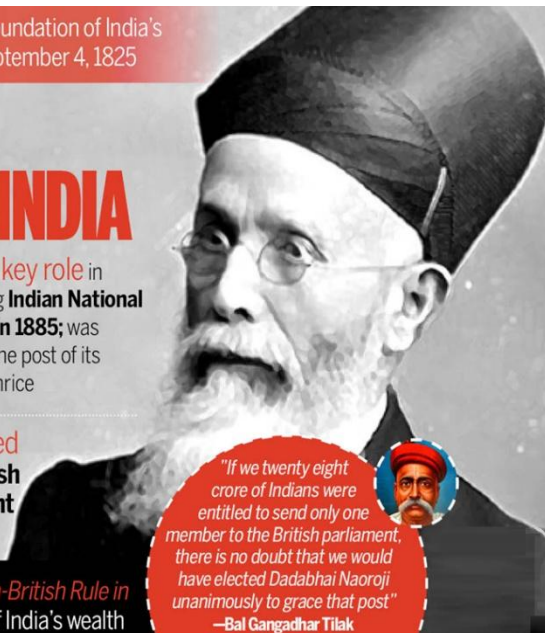
200th birth anniversary of Dadabhai Naoroji

Dadabhai Naoroji, who laid the foundation of India's freedom struggle, was born on September 4, 1825

THE GRAND OLD MAN OF INDIA

<p>Was a professor of mathematics at Mumbai's Elphinstone College before entering political fray</p> <p>Was first to raise the demand for Swaraj in his presidential address in 1906</p>	<p>Played a key role in establishing Indian National Congress in 1885; was elected to the post of its president thrice</p> <p>Was elected to the British parliament in 1892</p>
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Authored the book *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India*, which focused on draining of India's wealth



"If we twenty eight crore of Indians were entitled to send only one member to the British parliament, there is no doubt that we would have elected Dadabhai Naoroji unanimously to grace that post"

—Bal Gangadhar Tilak

- ❖ Dadabhai Naoroji was born on 4 September 1825.
- ❖ He was the first Indian to be elected to the British Parliament in 1892 from the Finsbury Central constituency in London.



- ❖ He founded the Rahnumai Mazdayasan Sabha in 1851 to reform the Parsi community.
- ❖ He launched the Gujarati newspaper Rast Goftar (The Truth-Teller) in 1854.
- ❖ He was the first Indian graduate of Elphinstone College in 1845 and became its first Indian professor in 1854.
- ❖ He founded the Literary and Scientific Society in 1848 and by 1849 started six schools for women in Bombay.
- ❖ Naoroji served briefly as Dewan (chief minister) of Baroda in August 1874 but resigned within a month.
- ❖ He established Dadabhai Naoroji and Company, a cotton trading firm in England, after working at Cama and Company.
- ❖ He founded the East India Association in London in 1867 to present India's case before British lawmakers.
- ❖ His economic critique, called the Drain Theory, used official data to show how British rule drained India's wealth.
- ❖ Naoroji authored "Poverty of India" in 1876 and "Poverty and Un-British Rule in India" in 1901.
- ❖ He was three times president of the Indian National Congress in 1886, 1893, and 1906.
- ❖ Naoroji attended the Socialist International Conference in Amsterdam in 1905 at the age of 80.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Silver Hallmarking

- ❖ Hallmarking Unique Identification-based (HUID) silver hallmarking was launched on a voluntary basis from 1 September 2025.
- ❖ Consumers can verify silver purity and trace article details using the BIS Care App.
- ❖ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has issued IS 2112:2025, replacing IS 2112:2014 for silver hallmarking.
- ❖ The new hallmark includes the BIS Standard Mark with the word "SILVER", purity grade, and a HUID code.
- ❖ Two new purity grades, 958 and 999, have been added, raising the total number of silver grades to seven.
- ❖ Currently, 230 BIS-recognised assaying and hallmarking centres operate across 87 districts.



- ❖ Over 32 lakh silver jewellery articles were hallmarked in the financial year 2024–25.

