



September - 19

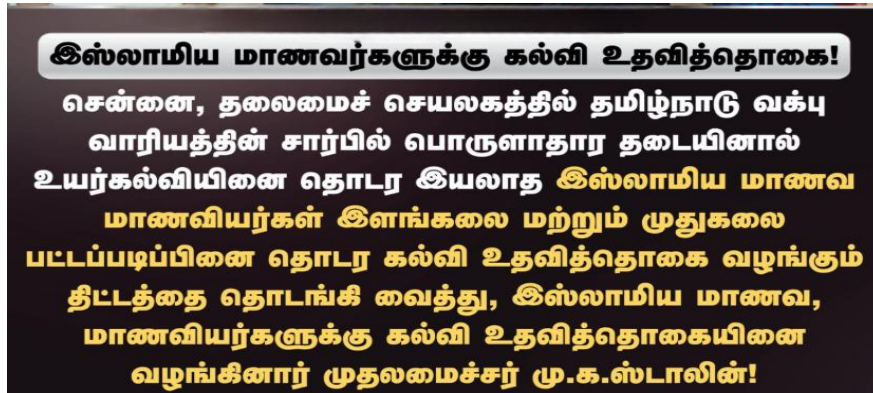
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's CM virtually inaugurated four industrial estates established by the Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation (SIDCO) at Kaverirajapuram in Tiruvallur district, Muthur in Tirunelveli district, Kadambadi in Chengalpattu district and Korukkai in Tiruvarur district.
- ❖ South Korea, the United States, and Japan are conducting the five-day trilateral military exercise "Freedom Edge" in international waters near Jeju Island.
- ❖ The 16th edition of the Combined Commanders' Conference was held at the Eastern Command Headquarters in Kolkata.
 - The theme of the event is "Year of Reforms – Transforming for the Future."

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Scholarship Program for Muslim Students

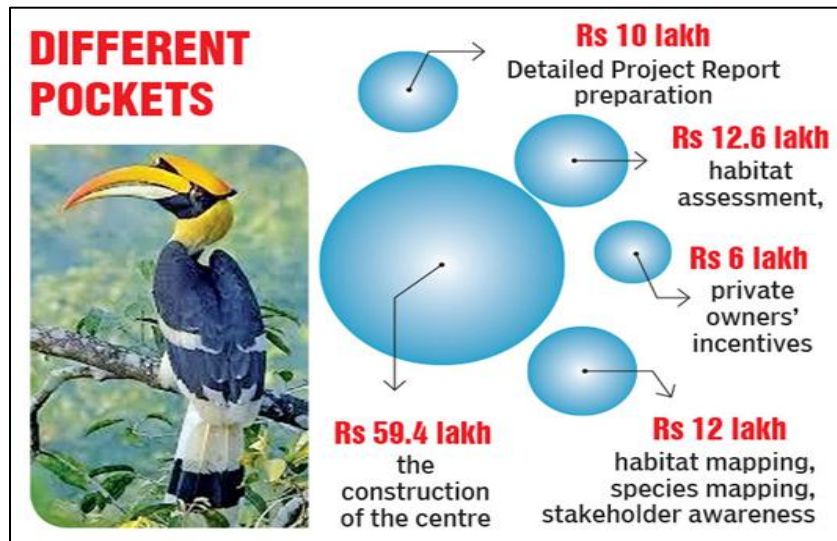
- ❖ Tamil Nadu CM launched a scholarship programme on September 16, 2025.
- ❖ It will benefit 2,000 Muslim students annually to help pursue their higher education.
- ❖ ₹10,000 will be provided to each beneficiary through the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board for undergraduate and post-graduate education.



Hornbill Conservation Centre

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Forest Department selected Attakatti in the Valparai plateau to establish India's first Centre of Excellence for Hornbill Conservation.

- ❖ The centre will be located on the Forest Department campus near the Pollachi–Valparai Road within the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR).
- ❖ An amount of ₹1 crore has been allocated for the project under the Endangered Species Conservation Corpus Fund.
- ❖ The centre will focus on four hornbill species found in the Western Ghats: great hornbill, Malabar grey hornbill, Malabar pied hornbill, and Indian grey hornbill.
- ❖ The centre will work with national and international organisations, including IUCN and Wildlife Institute of India.



AC Usage in Metro Cities



- ❖ Chennai records the highest air conditioner (AC) usage among seven metro cities, with an average of 4.4 hours per day.

- ❖ Nearly 23% of households in Chennai own more than two ACs, almost double the national average.
- ❖ Chennai has the highest refrigerant refill rate, with over 50% of AC units refilled annually, against the national average of 41%.
- ❖ Each refill costs an average of ₹2,300 in Chennai, the highest in the country.
- ❖ The most common refrigerant, HFC-32 (hydrofluorocarbon-32), has a global warming potential 675 times greater than carbon dioxide.
- ❖ Refrigerant leakage contributed to 52 million tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions in 2024.

NATIONAL NEWS

National Conference on Empowerment of Women

- ❖ The two-day national conference of parliamentary and legislative committees on the Empowerment of Women was held in Tirupati.
- ❖ This event adopted the 'Tirupati Resolution'.
- ❖ The resolution outlines a roadmap for advancing women's empowerment, focusing on gender-responsive budgeting, strengthening women's technical capacities at all levels, and applying a gender lens across all ministries and departments.
- ❖ Despite progress, women make up only 14% of Lok Sabha members, below the global average of 26.5%.
- ❖ India is celebrated as the "Mother of Democracy".



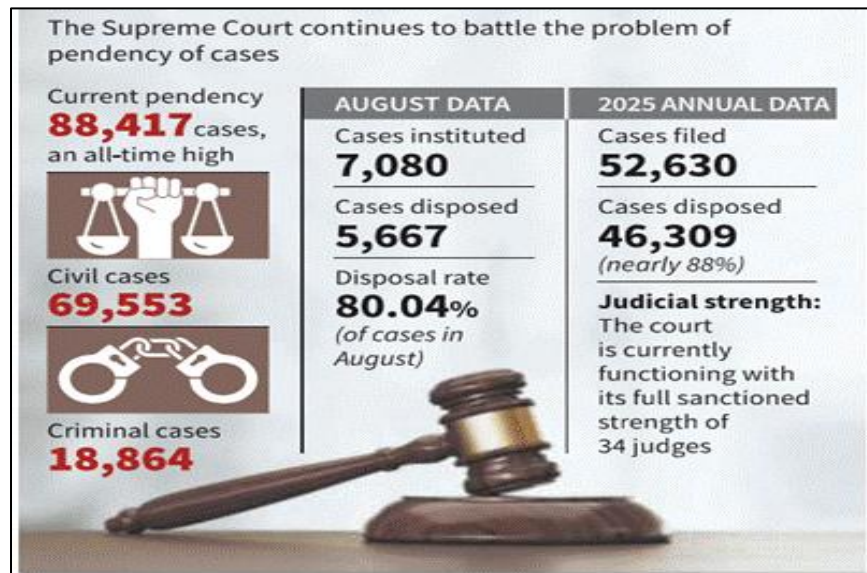
National Agricultural Conference-Rabi Abhiyan 2025

- ❖ The two-day National Agricultural Conference-Rabi Abhiyan 2025 was held in New Delhi.

- ❖ The event is part of the second phase of Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan to plan strategies for the 2025-26 Rabi season.
- ❖ The conference aims to increase farmers' income, promote sustainable agriculture, and ensure national food security.



Supreme Court Pendency in August 2025



- ❖ As of August 2025, the Supreme Court of India has a total backlog of 88,417 cases, the highest ever recorded.
- ❖ The court is functioning with its full sanctioned judicial strength of 34 judges.
- ❖ The National Judicial Data Grid shows 69,553 civil and 18,864 criminal cases pending.
- ❖ In August, 7,080 new cases were filed, while only 5,667 were disposed of, marking a disposal rate of 80.04%.

- ❖ CJI has directed 21 benches to sit during the summer recess from May to July to reduce pendency.
- ❖ Despite efforts by three Chief Justices in 2025 and zero vacancies in the court, pendency continues to rise steadily.

Guidelines on DNA Evidence in Criminal Cases



- ❖ In Kattavellai @ Devakar v. State of Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court issued guidelines to ensure proper handling of DNA samples in criminal investigations.
- ❖ The court acted after finding delays and lapses in the chain of custody in a rape and murder case, raising concerns of sample contamination.
- ❖ The court directed all State DGP to prepare and distribute standardised forms for documentation and chain of custody.
- ❖ DNA sample collection must include proper packaging, FIR details, officer names, and signatures of medical staff, police, and witnesses.
- ❖ Investigating officers must ensure DNA samples reach the Forensic Science Laboratory within 48 hours; delays must be explained in writing.
- ❖ Samples stored during trial or appeal must not be opened or altered without court permission.
- ❖ A Chain of Custody Register must be maintained from sample collection until the case concludes and must be part of the court records.
- ❖ In past cases, such as Manoj v. State of Madhya Pradesh and Rahul Vs State of Delhi, the court rejected DNA reports due to contamination risks.

- ❖ The court clarified that DNA evidence is considered opinion evidence under Section 45 of the Indian Evidence Act and must meet scientific and legal standards.
- ❖ DNA alone is not substantive proof; its evidentiary value depends on proper collection, handling, and expert analysis.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Trilateral Meeting in Tehran



- ❖ India, Iran, and Uzbekistan held their first trilateral foreign ministers' meeting on September 9, 2025, in Tehran, Iran.
- ❖ These countries agreed to enhance cooperation in combating extremism and terrorism.
- ❖ Focus was placed on increasing trade and connectivity, notably through greater utilization of the Chabahar Port and the International North-South Transit Corridor (INSTC).
- ❖ Kazakhstan and Tajikistan also expressed interest in using Chabahar Port to boost trade with India and access the Indian Ocean region.

- ❖ India is pursuing an early harvest Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the Eurasian Economic Union to expand market access and source critical goods, including rare earth minerals.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Chlamydia vaccine

- ❖ Australia has approved the world's first single-dose vaccine to protect koalas from chlamydia, a disease that causes infertility and death in endangered populations.
- ❖ The vaccine reduces symptoms in breeding-age koalas and cuts mortality from chlamydia by at least 65% in the wild.
- ❖ Koala populations in southeast Queensland and New South Wales face infection rates up to 70%, threatening local extinctions.
- ❖ Koalas are endangered in several Australian states and without intervention, extinction by 2050 is possible.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Exotic Eustoma Blooms in Odisha

- ❖ Exotic Eustoma flowers have bloomed for the first time in Odisha in a polyhouse developed by the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI).

- ❖ Eustoma, previously imported, has now been cultivated locally, providing new opportunities for farmers to grow this exotic plant.
- ❖ NBRI successfully grew Eustoma in hot conditions in Sambalpur district, showing the plant can thrive in Odisha's climate.
- ❖ Eustoma is native to Mexico and America and can be grown twice a year in Odisha.



Bamboo-Based Ethanol Plant

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the ₹5,000-crore bamboo-based ethanol plant at Numaligarh Refinery in Golaghat district, Assam, on September 14, 2025.
- ❖ The plant uses balco (Bambusa balcooa) and tulda (Bambusa tulda) varieties of bamboo, chosen for their high cellulose content ideal for ethanol production.

- ❖ The facility is designed to produce 48,900 metric tonnes of ethanol annually, along with acetic acid, furfural, and food-grade liquid carbon dioxide.



STATES' NEWS

'Grey Rhino' Event - Kerala

Grey Rhino

A highly probable, yet neglected risk with significant consequences.

The grey rhino is big and slow, easy to spot yet often ignored.

When it charges, its power catches you off guard.

This mirrors obvious risks we overlook until they strike unexpectedly.

- ❖ The Mundakkai-Chooralmala landslide in Wayanad was identified as a 'grey rhino' event.
- ❖ This means, it was a highly probable disaster ignored despite clear warning signs.
- ❖ The landslide occurred in an area known to be landslide-prone, where extensive human interference and environmental degradation in the Western Ghats.

- ❖ The report calls for strict environmental regulations, eco-friendly development, and active involvement of local communities to prevent future landslides.
- ❖ Long-term measures include Kerala's commitment to full decarbonisation by 2045-50 and implementation of prior expert panel recommendations on ecological protection.

Wildlife and Forest Amendment Bill, 2025

'FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND' AMENDMENT		
<p>➤ If someone suffers serious injuries from a wildlife attack, the district collector or chief forest conservator can report the matter to the chief wildlife warden, who can then take action, including killing the animal</p>		<p>➤ The bill also includes provisions for controlling the population of animals listed in Schedule Two of the Wildlife Protection Act</p> <p>➤ The bill proposes to reserve the authority to declare any wild animal as vermin at the disposal of the state govt</p>

- ❖ Kerala Cabinet approved the draft Wildlife Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
- ❖ It empowers the Chief Wildlife Warden to order the immediate killing of wild animals that attack and injure people in residential areas.
- ❖ It was first such amendment by any State in India to speed up action during wild animal attacks.
- ❖ It removes time-consuming procedures under the existing Central Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ❖ Provides for birth control and translocation of Schedule II wild animals if their population rises, without needing Union Government permission.
- ❖ Empowers the State Government to declare any Schedule II wild animal as vermin, a power previously held only by the Union Government.
- ❖ Once declared vermin, such animals can be killed by anyone, and their meat can be consumed.
- ❖ Despite repeated requests, the Centre has not declared wild boars' vermin; the State Government appointed local self-government chairpersons as honorary wildlife wardens to control them.

- ❖ It proposes shifting Bonnet macaques (monkeys) from Schedule I to Schedule II.
- ❖ It also approved the draft Kerala Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2025, allowing the sale of sandalwood trees on private land through Forest Department outlets.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

5th All India Rajbhasha Sammelan



- ❖ The 5th All India Rajbhasha Sammelan was held at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ The event marked the observance of Hindi Day and focused on promoting Hindi alongside regional languages.
- ❖ The Central Government has introduced the Sarathi Platform and Hindi Shabd Sindhu Kosh to improve access to Hindi.
- ❖ Plans are in place for Hindi Shabd Sindhu Kosh to become the world's largest encyclopaedia by 2029.
- ❖ The sammelan emphasized the use of Hindi in science, technology, justice, and policing.

SPORTS NEWS

World Boxing Championships 2025

- ❖ India won four medals at the 2025 World Boxing Championships, including two golds, one silver, and one bronze.
- ❖ Jaismine Lamboria and Minakshi Hooda won gold in the women's 57kg and 48kg categories, respectively.

- ❖ Nupur Sheoran secured silver in the women's +80kg division.
- ❖ Olympian Pooja Rani won bronze in the women's 80kg category.
- ❖ Kazakhstan topped the medal table with seven golds, one silver, and two bronze medals.
- ❖ The 2025 World Boxing Championships were at the Liverpool Arena in Liverpool, England.
- ❖ Hosted by World Boxing, it was the first edition of the World Boxing Championships.
- ❖ It featured both men's and women's events.

World Boxing Championships						
Medal table						Total
1.		KAZAKHSTAN	7	1	2	10
2.		UZBEKISTAN	6	2	3	11
3.		INDIA	2	1	1	4
4.		BRAZIL	1	3		4
5.		POLAND	1	2		3
6.		AUSTRALIA	1	1	1	3
7.		IRELAND	1		2	3
8.		CHINESE TAIPEI	1		1	2
9.		ENGLAND		2	3	5
10.		TURKIYE		2	1	3
11.		JAPAN		1	2	3
12.		BULGARIA		1	1	2

IMPORTANT DAYS

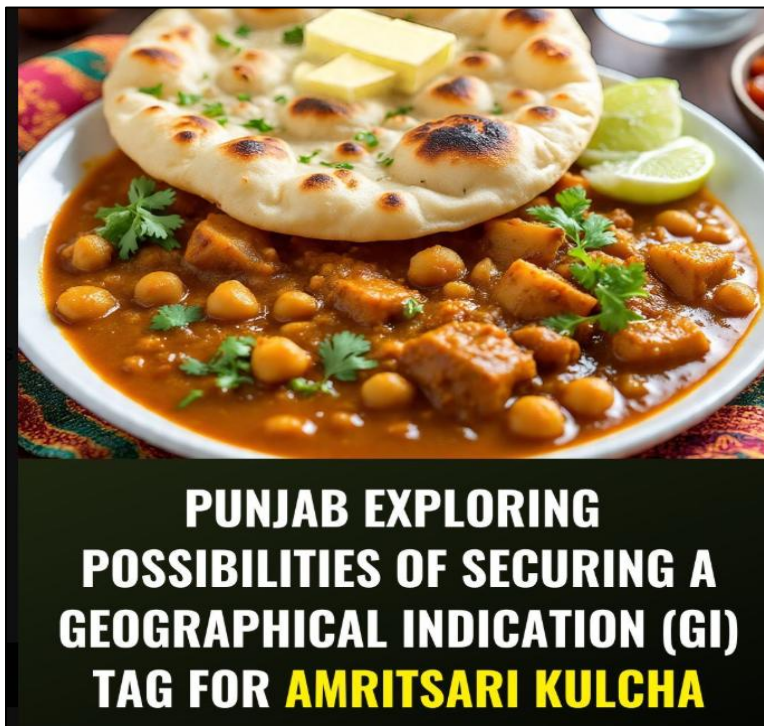
International Day of Democracy 2025 - September 15



- ❖ It commemorates the Universal Declaration on Democracy, adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 1997.
- ❖ This declaration outlines the essential principles of democracy, emphasizing key values, and the right of all individuals to participate in public life.
- ❖ The theme of 2025 is 'Achieving gender equality, action by action'.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

GI Tag for Amritsari Kulcha



- ❖ The Punjab government is exploring the GI tag for Amritsari kulcha and plans to promote it at World Food India 2025 in New Delhi.
- ❖ Amritsari kulcha is about six inches in diameter and is known for its dough, stuffing, cooking method, serving style, and double-fermented aroma.
- ❖ The dish is believed to have roots in the Mughal era, with a legend linking its creation to Emperor Shah Jahan's royal kitchen.

