



September - 26

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India's Anandkumar Velkumar won gold in the men's 42 km marathon at the 2025 World Speed Skating Championships in China.
- ❖ The first India-Greece bilateral naval exercise was held in the Mediterranean Sea with INS Trikand representing India.
- ❖ Ahmednagar railway station in Maharashtra was officially renamed Ahilyanagar to honor the legacy of Ahilya Bai Holkar.
- ❖ Anish Raj won bronze in the Junior Men's One-Lap Road Sprint at the 73rd Inline Speed World Championships 2025 in China.
 - He is the first Indian to win a medal in this category, clocking 39.714 seconds.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Mangrove Restoration

World Bank Clears ₹1,675 Cr TN SHORE Project

The World Bank has cleared the ₹1,675 crore SHORE project to enhance Tamil Nadu's coastal resilience by combining ecosystem restoration with livelihood opportunities. Of the total outlay, ₹1,172.5 crore will come from the World Bank and ₹502.5 crore from the state. Covering 30,000 hectares, it will restore mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass while protecting endangered species. Implemented under the TN-SHORE Mission, the project will also tackle pollution, encourage eco-tourism, and create a blue carbon framework.

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission called Tamil Nadu-Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency (TN-SHORE) is a ₹1,675 crore project.
- ❖ The World Bank will contribute ₹1,000 crore, and the remaining funds will be provided by the Tamil Nadu government.
- ❖ Under TN-SHORE, 1,000 hectares of mangroves will be restored, including 300 hectares of new plantations and 700 hectares of degraded areas.

- ❖ An initial amount of ₹38 crore has been allocated specifically for mangrove restoration.
- ❖ World Bank funds will be sent directly to village mangrove councils to enable local financial decision-making.

NATIONAL NEWS

Infrastructure Status for Large Ships



- ❖ The Indian government has granted infrastructure status to large commercial ships under the Harmonized Master List of Infrastructure.
- ❖ Commercial vessels with a gross tonnage of 10,000 or more under Indian ownership and flag now qualify for this status.
- ❖ Ships built in India with a gross tonnage of 1,500 or more also qualify.
- ❖ Infrastructure status offers benefits such as easier overseas borrowing, tax-free bonds, and access to dedicated lenders like the India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL).
- ❖ Large ships are included as a transport and logistics sub-sector in the harmonized master list, which now contains 38 sub-sectors.
- ❖ The 2025-26 Budget announced a ₹25,000 crore Maritime Development Fund to support ship acquisition and industry growth.

AI-powered audit system

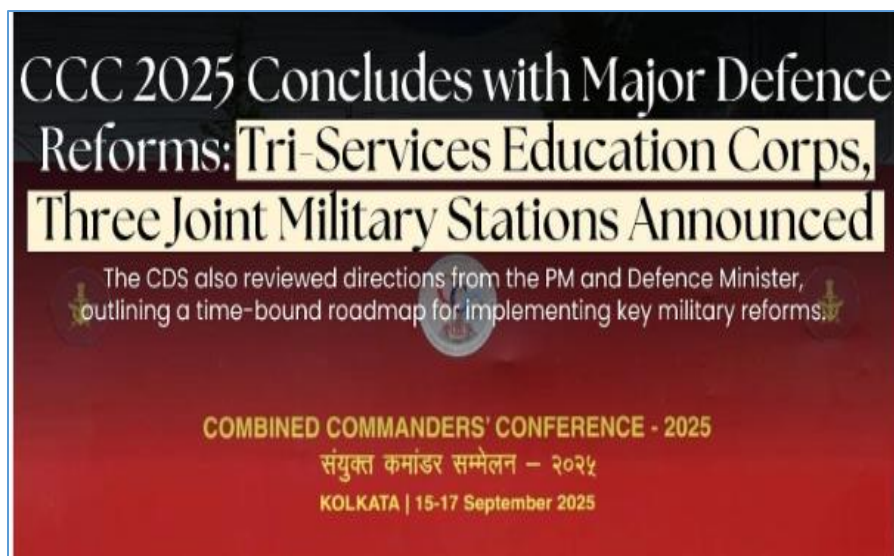
- ❖ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) is developing a Large Language Model (LLM) powered by artificial intelligence to improve audit efficiency.

- ❖ The AI system will help auditors access decades of institutional knowledge and enhance consistency in audit analysis.
- ❖ The first version of this system is expected to be ready by November 2025.



Combined Commanders' Conference 2025

- ❖ India merges the education branches of the Army, Navy, and Air Force into a single tri-services education corps.
- ❖ The decision was announced at the Combined Commanders' Conference 2025 held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Three new joint military stations will be established under this reform.
- ❖ The Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) will manage the merged education organisation.
- ❖ These steps aim to improve jointness and integration among the armed forces.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Global Tropical Forest Fund



- ❖ Brazil will be the first country to announce an investment in the Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF).
- ❖ It is a multilateral fund supporting conservation of endangered tropical forests worldwide.
- ❖ President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva plans to announce the investment at the United Nations in New York ahead of COP30, which Brazil will host in November.
- ❖ The Brazilian government aims to set a benchmark with a “considerable” initial contribution to encourage other countries and private investors to join.
- ❖ The TFFF targets raising \$125 billion, combining sovereign and private-sector funds to pay countries annual stipends based on their remaining tropical forests.
- ❖ Initial support for the fund has come from China, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Norway, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ Brazil hopes its investment will catalyze further commitments, signalling trust in the fund and promoting global climate finance cooperation.

Recognition of Palestine 2025

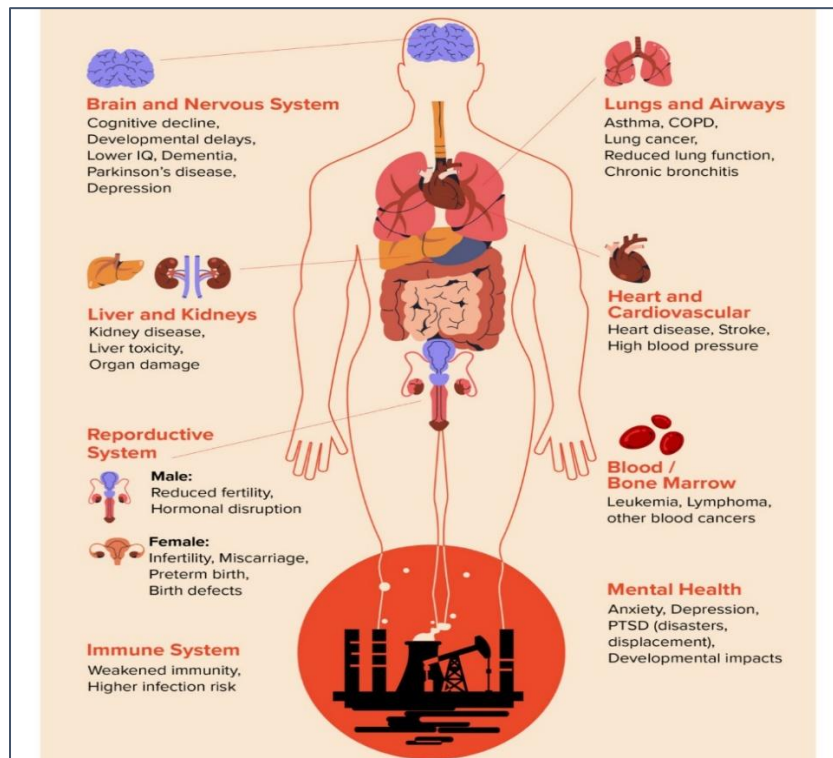
- ❖ Britain, Canada, Australia, and Portugal officially recognized the State of Palestine.
- ❖ The move aims to promote a two-state solution amid frustration over the Gaza war.

- ❖ Palestinian leaders welcomed the decision, seeing it as a step toward peaceful coexistence with Israel.
- ❖ This recognition aligns these Western nations with over 140 countries supporting Palestinian statehood.



REPORTS AND INDICES

GCHA Report 2025



- ❖ The Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA) released a report titled "Cradle to Grave: The Health Toll of Fossil Fuels and the Imperative for a Just Transition."
- ❖ The report warns that fossil fuels cause a public health emergency, affecting humans from the womb to old age.
- ❖ It highlights health impacts in India's coal belt, including childhood asthma, tuberculosis, and congenital disorders linked to pollution.
- ❖ Exposure to fossil fuel pollutants raises risks of miscarriage, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, and neurological disorders across all age groups.
- ❖ Toxic chemicals from fossil fuel operations persist in the environment for decades, causing intergenerational health damage.
- ❖ Marginalized communities near mines and refineries suffer disproportionately from disease, poverty, and displacement.
- ❖ The report calls for urgent policy changes, including ending new fossil fuel projects and enforcing the polluter pays principle.

Hurun India Wealth Report 2025

Rank	City	No. of Millionaire Households 2025
1	Mumbai	1,42,000
2	New Delhi	68,200
3	Bengaluru	31,600
4	Ahmedabad	26,800
5	Kolkata	26,600
6	Chennai	22,800
7	Pune	22,500
8	Hyderabad	19,800
9	Gurugram	10,100
10	Surat	5,700
11	Jaipur	4,800
12	Vadodara	4,600
13	Nagpur	3,700
14	Visakhapatnam	2,900
14	Lucknow	2,900

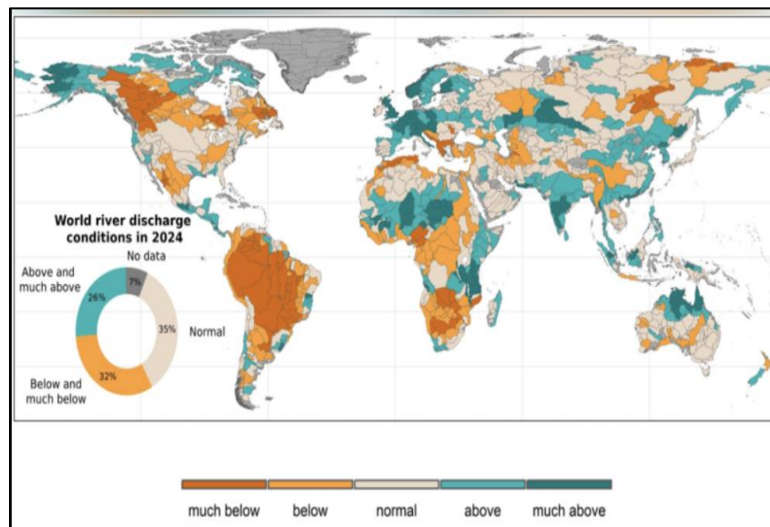
Source: Hurun Research Institute; Mercedes-Benz Hurun India Wealth Report 2025

- ❖ Seven Tier II cities rank among India's top ten millionaire hubs, says Mercedes-Benz Hurun India Wealth Report 2025.
- ❖ They are Ahmedabad, Surat, Jaipur, Vadodara, Nagpur, Visakhapatnam, and Lucknow, with rapidly growing millionaire households.

- ❖ The top ten states host over 79 percent of India's millionaire households, highlighting wealth concentration in specific regions.
- ❖ Mumbai, New Delhi, and Bengaluru lead as the top three cities with the highest number of millionaire households.
- ❖ Wealth management startups report that around 30 percent of new clients now come from outside the top 18 state capitals.
- ❖ Digital stockbroking platforms like Zerodha and Groww see over 80 percent of new users from non-metro cities.

State of Global Water Resources 2024

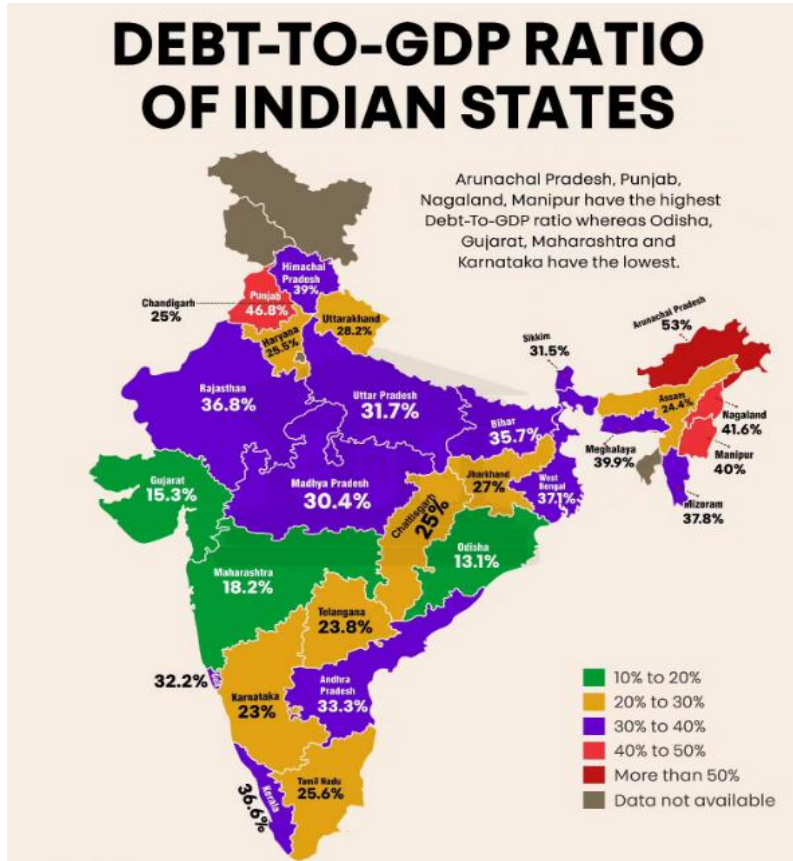
- ❖ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released its "State of Global Water Resources 2024" report.
- ❖ In 2024, nearly 60 percent of global river basins saw either drought or flood conditions, while only one-third recorded normal hydrology.
- ❖ The Asia-Pacific region was the most affected by weather, climate, and water-related disasters in 2024.
- ❖ Typhoon Yagi killed over 850 people and caused 16 billion US dollars in damage across Vietnam, Myanmar, China, Thailand, the Philippines, and Laos.
- ❖ Global glaciers lost 450 gigatonnes of ice in 2024, enough to fill 180 million Olympic-sized swimming pools, contributing 1.2 millimetres to sea level rise.



State Finances 2022-23 Report

- ❖ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) released the State Finances 2022-23 report on 20 September 2025.

- ❖ The report is the first of its kind, providing comprehensive data, analysis, and trends on fiscal parameters for all 28 states over 10 years (2013–14 to 2022–23).
- ❖ In 2022–23, states' total debt was 22.17 percent of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).



- ❖ The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act (2003) sets a benchmark of 20 percent of GDP for state government debt by 2024–25.
- ❖ Punjab had the highest debt-to-GSDP (Gross State Domestic Product) ratio at 40.35 percent.
- ❖ It is followed by Nagaland (37.15 percent) and West Bengal (33.70 percent).
- ❖ All 28 states reported a fiscal deficit, ranging from 0.76 percent (Gujarat) to 6.46 percent (Himachal Pradesh) of GSDP in 2022–23.
- ❖ The FRBM Act recommends that states limit fiscal deficit to 3.5 percent of GSDP for FY 2022–23.
- ❖ States' Own Tax Revenue (SOTR) as a share of total revenue varied widely—from 70 percent in Haryana to just 9 percent in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ High public debt is attributed to subsidy schemes, such as farm loan waivers, free or subsidised electricity, and cash transfers.



- ❖ Committed expenditures (e.g., salaries, pensions, interest payments) made up over 42 percent of revenue expenditure and stayed above 6 percent of GSDP in most years.
- ❖ Many states continue to show low revenue mobilisation and heavy dependence on Goods and Services Tax (GST).

STATES' NEWS

Mana Mitra

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government launched Mana Mitra, a WhatsApp-based governance platform.
- ❖ The official WhatsApp number for availing the services is 9552300009.
- ❖ Mana Mitra will deliver 161 public services in the first phase across 36 departments.
- ❖ An additional 360 services will be added in the second phase of Mana Mitra.
- ❖ Certificates issued through the platform will carry a QR code linked to the Andhra Pradesh government website.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh is the first state in the world to implement full-scale WhatsApp governance.

WHATSAPP GOVERNANCE

➤ **Andhra govt's civic service initiative, Mana Mitra, gets Meta-backed WhatsApp onboard as a tool for digital services delivery**

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➤ **161 civic services available now; 2 million users have already logged in**

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➤ **Security, fraudulent documentation still a worry**

Kurmi Agitation

- ❖ The Adivasi Kurmi Samaj will resume protests in Purulia, West Bengal.
- ❖ The Kurmi community is demanding Scheduled Tribe status across parts of West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Odisha.

- ❖ Kurmis were included among the communities classified as STs in the 1931 Census and were excluded from the ST list in 1950.
- ❖ In 2004, the Jharkhand government recommended that the community be added to the ST list rather than be categorised as OBCs.
- ❖ Kurmis are mainly a peasant community, with their population concentrated in the Jungle mahal areas or the Chota Nagpur plateau of West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Odisha, and a few bordering areas of Bihar.
- ❖ After 1950, when the Scheduled Tribe list was prepared in independent India, Kudmis did not find a place on it.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Stanford-Elsevier Ranking 2025

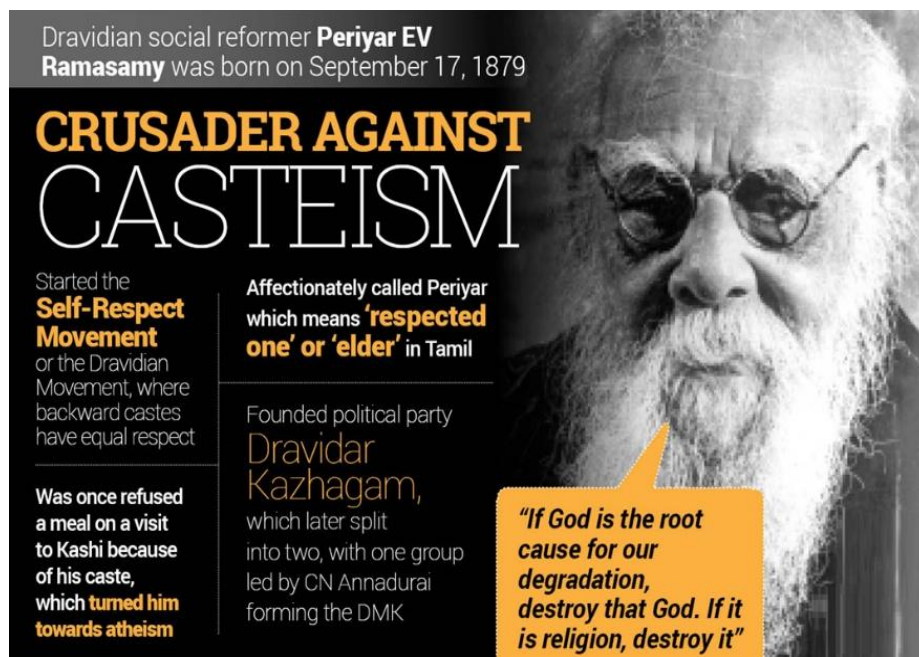


- ❖ Dr. V. Mohan has been listed in the 2025 Stanford–Elsevier list of the top 2% of global scientists.
- ❖ He is chairman of Madras Diabetes Research Foundation and chief diabetologist at Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre.
- ❖ In India, he ranks first in the Clinical Medicine/Endocrinology and Metabolism category.
- ❖ His global ranking is 3,087 among top scientists listed in the 2025 edition.
- ❖ Other Indian scientists in the top 10 include Anoop Misra, C. S. Yajnik, A. Ramachandran, and Vijay Viswanathan.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Day of Social Justice 2025 - September 17

- ❖ This day mark the birth anniversary of E.V. Ramasamy (Periyar).
- ❖ He was an Indian social activist and politician who started the Dravidar Kazhagam.
- ❖ He is known as the 'Father of the Dravidian movement'.
- ❖ He is known the most for his Self-respect Movement, that aimed at generating pride in lower castes.
- ❖ He promoted the principles of rationalism, self-respect, women's rights, and the eradication of caste.
- ❖ World Day of Social Justice is observed annually on 20 February.





International Day of Peace 2025 - September 21

- ❖ UN established this day to emphasize the importance of non-violence, unity, and harmony in building sustainable societies.
- ❖ Each year, the Peace Bell (a gift from Japan) is rung at the UN Headquarters in New York as a gesture of global solidarity and non-violence.
- ❖ Theme for 2025 is “Act Now for a Peaceful World”.

