

September - 29

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ France's Ousmane Dembele won the 2025 Ballon d'Or, finishing over 300 points ahead of Spain's teenage star Lamine Yamal of Barcelona.
- ❖ Indian-origin Amita Chaudhury has been appointed chair of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI).
  - She is the first woman of Indian origin to hold this global position.
- ❖ World Food India 2025 will be held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, and inaugurated by Prime Minister.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Tidal Mangrove Nursery



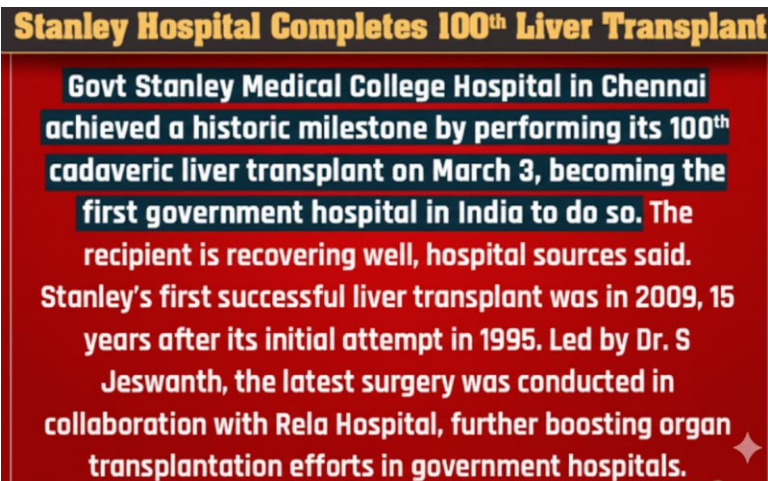
- ❖ A tidal mangrove nursery has been established at Killai near Pichavaram in Cuddalore district.
- ❖ The nursery holds around three lakh saplings and is the first of its kind in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Four species are raised here — *Avicennia marina*, *Avicennia officinalis*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, and *Rhizophora apiculata*.
- ❖ This initiative supports the Green Tamil Nadu Mission and Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (Tamil Nadu - Sustainable Coastal and Habitat Restoration for Resilience - TN-SHORE).



- ❖ Pichavaram is home to thirteen true mangrove species, benefiting long-term restoration plans.

### **1000 plus Kidney Transplantation**

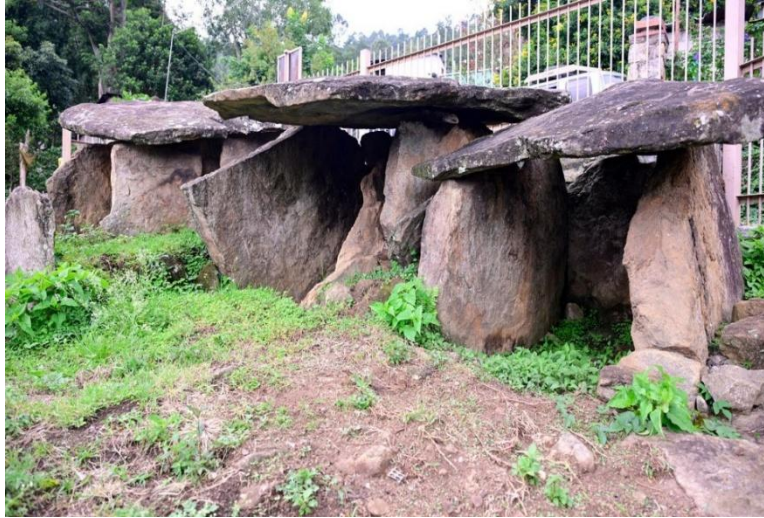
- ❖ Government Stanley Medical College Hospital (SMCH) in Chennai has completed 1,006 kidney transplants.
- ❖ The first renal transplant using a living donor was performed in April 1986 at SMCH.
- ❖ Out of the total, 837 transplants were from live related donors and 169 from deceased donors.



### **Megalithic Dolmens of Kodaikanal**

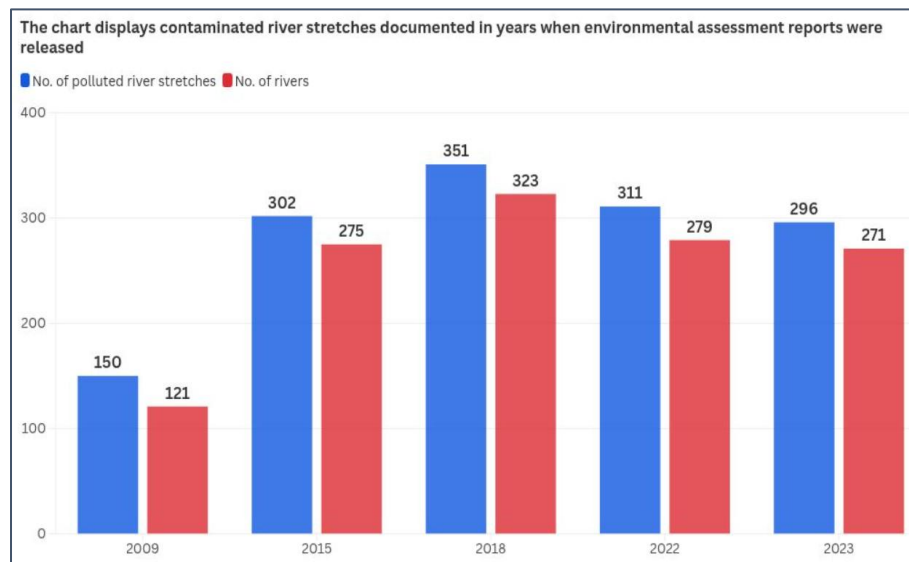
- ❖ Dolmens in Kodaikanal, dating back over 5,000 years, were first surveyed by Jesuit priests in the early 1900s.
- ❖ Dolmens were mostly built using undressed stones on rocky ridges or slopes near natural rock formations.
- ❖ Less than 50% of the dolmens recorded by the Jesuit Fathers are currently visible and intact.
- ❖ At Pethuparai near Perumal Malai, some dolmens have been fenced by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- ❖ At Thandikudi, several dolmens have disappeared under vegetation or been damaged over time.
- ❖ Excavations near the Marudanadhi river revealed continuous occupation from the pre-Iron Age.

- ❖ Artefacts such as black and red ware and carnelian beads were found in burial sites spanning 40 hectares.



## NATIONAL NEWS

### Polluted River Sites in India



- ❖ The number of river locations unfit for bathing in India decreased to 807 in 2023 from 815 in 2022, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- ❖ The count of 'most polluted' river stretches, classified as Priority 1 with biological oxygen demand (BOD) over 30 mg/L, dropped from 45 in 2022 to 37 in 2023.
- ❖ Maharashtra had the highest number of polluted rivers stretches (54) in 2023, followed by Kerala (31), Madhya Pradesh (18), and Manipur (18).

- ❖ Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand recorded the highest number (five each) of Priority 1 river stretches needing urgent remediation.
- ❖ The CPCB monitors water quality at 4,736 locations including rivers, lakes, canals, and drains across India.

### **LPG Connections 2025-26**

- ❖ The Union Government has approved 25 lakh new LPG connections under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) for the financial year 2025-26.
- ❖ Since its launch in 2016, PMUY aims to provide LPG connections to women from poor households without charging for installation or the first refill.
- ❖ Total LPG connections provided under PMUY will reach 10.58 crore after the latest disbursement.



### **Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025**

- ❖ Union Education Ministry launched the Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025, a nationwide innovation challenge for school students.
- ❖ The event is organised in collaboration with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, and AICTE.
- ❖ The Buildathon encourages students to innovate around four themes: Vocal for Local, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Swadeshi, and Samridhi.
- ❖ It aims to foster a culture of grassroots innovation and empower youth as drivers of a self-reliant and prosperous India.





## Oju hydroelectric project



- ❖ The Union Environment Ministry's expert committee has recommended environmental clearance for the 2,220 MW Oju hydroelectric project.
- ❖ It is planned on the Subansiri river in Taksing, near the China border.

- ❖ The project is the largest in capacity among hydroelectric projects in the Subansiri basin.
- ❖ It is located 5 km downstream of Redi village in Upper Subansiri district.

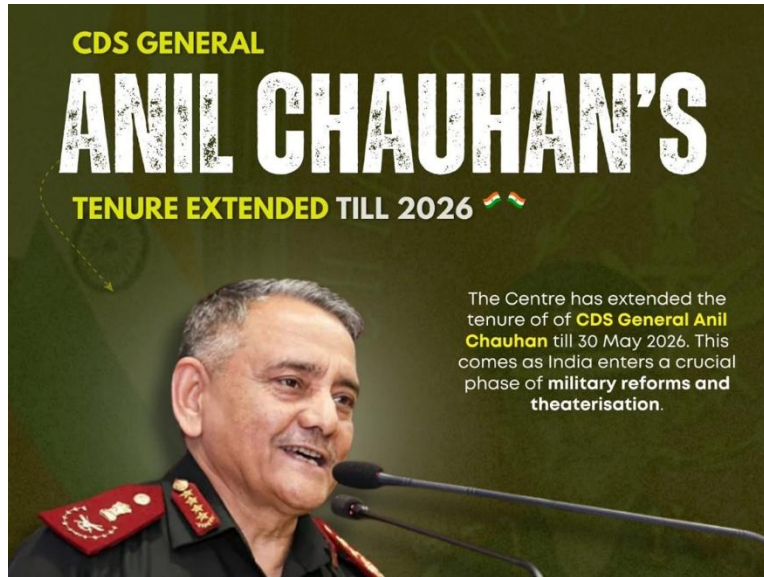
### **DRAVYA Portal**

- ❖ The DRAVYA portal was launched on National Ayurveda Day, September 23, 2025.
- ❖ This is the largest database of Ayurvedic ingredients and products.
- ❖ DRAVYA stands for Digitized Retrieval Application for Versatile Yardstick of AYUSH Substances
- ❖ It provides easy access to data from classical Ayurveda textbooks, contemporary scientific literature, and field studies.
- ❖ It is developed under the Ministry of AYUSH, it serves as a comprehensive resource for students, practitioners, and researchers in the field.



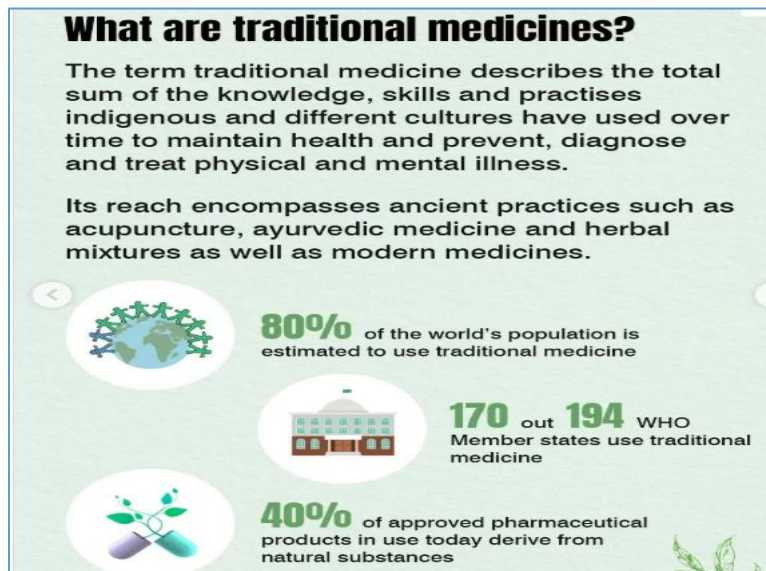
### **CDS Tenure Extension**

- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the extension of General Anil Chauhan's service as Chief of Defence Staff.
- ❖ He was also continued to function as Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Military Affairs until May 30, 2026, or until further orders.
- ❖ General Chauhan was initially appointed as Chief of Defence Staff on September 28, 2022.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Global Reach of Traditional Medicine



- ❖ Traditional medicine is practiced in 170 of 194 WHO member-states, serving as primary health care for billions.
- ❖ The global traditional medicine market is projected to reach \$583 billion by 2025, with annual growth between 10% and 20%.
- ❖ India exports AYUSH and herbal products worth \$1.54 billion to more than 150 countries, with Ayurveda recognised as a medical system in several nations.



- ❖ The National Sample Survey (2022–23) showed 95% rural and 96% urban awareness of AYUSH, with over half the population using it in the preceding year.
- ❖ India has signed 25 bilateral AYUSH agreements and set up 43 AYUSH Information Cells in 39 countries and 15 academic chairs abroad.

## **ECONOMY NEWS**

### **GST Appellate Tribunal**



- ❖ Union Finance Ministry launched the Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) in New Delhi.
- ❖ GSTAT aimed to deliver jargon-free decisions, simplified formats, digital filings, virtual hearings, and strict timelines for case handling.
- ❖ The tribunal sought to reduce legal frictions, simplify processes, and address litigation delays to improve cash flow and boost MSME and exporter confidence.
- ❖ The GSTAT e-Courts Portal was unveiled, enabling online appeal filing, case tracking, and digital hearings.

## **ENVIRONMENT NEWS**

### **Achanakmar Tiger Reserve**

- ❖ The tiger population in Achanakmar Tiger Reserve (Chhattisgarh) rose from 5 in 2022 to 18 in 2025 after the arrival of tigress Jhumri from Bandhavgarh.
- ❖ Achanakmar Tiger Reserve, located in Bilaspur, was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1975 and became a tiger reserve in 2009.
- ❖ It is part of the Achanakmar–Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve.
- ❖ It serves as a key corridor between Kanha and Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserves.



- ❖ The reserve is inhabited by tribal communities such as Baiga (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group), Gond, and Yadav.



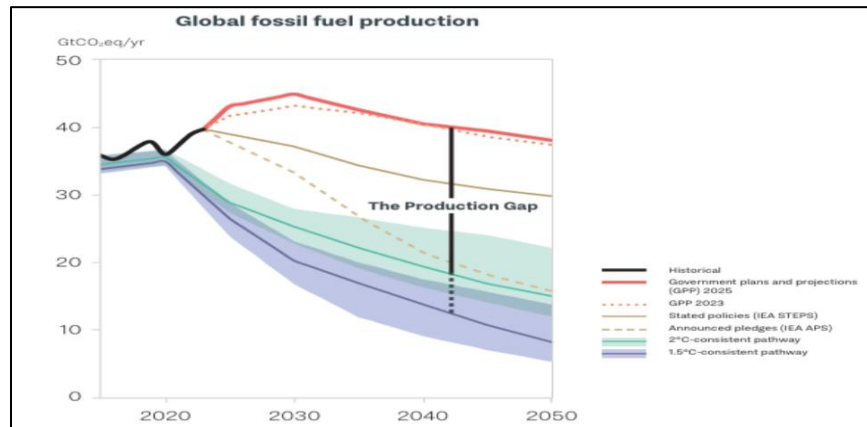
### ***Impatiens selvasinghii***



- ❖ Researchers discovered a new plant species in Kudremukh range of the Western Ghats, Karnataka.
- ❖ It was named '*Impatiens selvasinghii*' in honour of Professor P Selva Singh Richard for his contributions to reproductive biology of endemic plants.
- ❖ India hosts over 280 *Impatiens* taxa, with 130 endemics to the Western Ghats, and about 80% of these are classified as endangered.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Production Gap Report 2025



- ❖ The report 2025 was released by Stockholm Environment Institute, Climate Analytics, and the International Institute for Sustainable Development.
- ❖ The report highlights that governments worldwide plan to produce far more fossil fuels by 2030 than is compatible with limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ Governments plan to produce 120% more fossil fuels by 2030 than consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C.
- ❖ Planned coal production will be 500% higher than climate-compatible levels by 2030, while oil production exceeds by 31% and gas by 92%.
- ❖ Coal production is expected to rise through 2035, and gas production is projected to increase until 2050.
- ❖ Of 20 major fossil-fuel-producing countries profiled, 17 plan to increase production of at least one fossil fuel by 2030.
- ❖ 13 countries anticipate significant increases in gas production despite climate goals.
- ❖ Only 6 countries are developing production scenarios aligned with net zero targets; most continue inconsistent expansion plans.

## STATES' NEWS

### Visakhapatnam Declaration

- ❖ The 28th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) was concluded in Visakhapatnam with the adoption of the Visakhapatnam Declaration.

- ❖ The conference was jointly organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), and Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ It called for AI-driven, citizen-centric, and multilingual digital service delivery using platforms like BHASHINI and Digi Yatra.
- ❖ Proven models like SAMPADA 2.0, eKhata, and DAMS were proposed for nationwide replication under a whole-of-government approach.



### **Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana**

<b>KEY IMPACT</b> DIRECT CASH TRANSFER	<b>SCHEME GOAL</b> ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT
₹7,500 crore Transferred Today	One woman per family in Bihar
75 lakh Women Beneficiaries (The initial tranche)	Financial aid up to ₹2 lakh** (starts with ₹10,000 grant)
₹10,000 Directly Transferred To Each Woman's Bank Account (Initial Grant)	Boosts self-employment & aatmanirbhar livelihood

- ❖ Prime Minister has launched the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana of Bihar.
- ❖ The scheme aimed to empower women by providing seed capital to start self-employment ventures and livelihood activities of their choice.



- ❖ ₹10,000 each was directly transferred into the bank accounts of 75 lakh women across Bihar.
- ❖ They will get potential additional support up to ₹2 lakh in later phases.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Asia Cup 2025

- ❖ India defeated Pakistan to lift the Asia Cup 2025 trophy.
- ❖ This is the ninth time in the history of the tournament that India has won the trophy.
- ❖ Sri Lanka has won 6 trophies and Pakistan has clinched two trophies.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Maritime Day 2025 - September 25

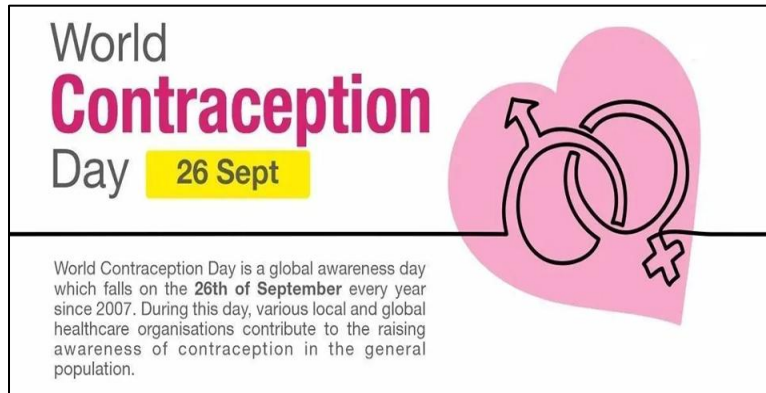


- ❖ It is observed every year on the last Thursday September.

- ❖ It provides an opportunity to recognise the indispensable role shipping plays in global trade, cultural exchange, and environmental stewardship.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Our Ocean, Our Obligation, Our Opportunity".

### **World Contraception Day 2025 - September 26**

- ❖ It aims to spread awareness of various contraceptive options to individuals, especially young men and women, regarding Family Planning and Reproductive Health.
- ❖ In 2024, contraceptives supported by UNFPA prevented 18 million unintended pregnancies, 7.5 million unsafe abortions and 39,000 maternal deaths.
- ❖ This year's theme is "A choice for all. Freedom to plan, power to choose."



### **World Environmental Health Day 2025 - September 26**



- ❖ This day serves as a powerful reminder of the deep interconnection between human health and the environment.
- ❖ It was launched in 2011 by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) at a Council meeting held in Indonesia.

- ❖ The theme of 2025 is "Clean Air, Healthy People".

### **International Week of the Deaf 2025 - September 22/28**

- ❖ The World Federation of the Deaf and is celebrated annually in the 3rd or the last week of September.
- ❖ It fosters better deaf people's rights advocacy activities and strengthens the bonds of solidarity between deaf people and those who support them.
- ❖ The Theme for 2025 is 'No Human Rights Without Sign Language Rights'.



### **World Tourism Day 2025 - September 27**



- ❖ It highlights the vital role travel plays in shaping societies, cultures, and economies.
- ❖ The day commemorates the adoption of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation statutes in 1970.
- ❖ It was celebrated for the first time in the year 1980.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Tourism and Sustainable Transformation'.