

TNPSC THERVUPETTAGAM

CURRENT AFFAIRS JUNE 2025

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TNPSC BITS

- ❖ S.S. Priyavadhana, a visually impaired woman has been appointed as odhuvar of the Pamban Swamy temple at Thiruvanmiyur in Chennai.
- ❖ The first-ever Plantation Show was inaugurated as part of the final event of the annual summer festival in the Nilgiris at Kattery Park near Coonoor.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has announced the establishment of State-run arts and science colleges in four more districts -K.V. Kuppam in Vellore district, Thuraiyur in Tiruchi district, Ulundurpet in Kallakurichi district and Chengam in Tiruvannamalai district.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister unveiled the foundation stone for the construction of the Kalaignar Convention Centre in Muttukadu.
- ❖ The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), the Government of Bihar, APEDA, and the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI), conducted the first-ever International Buyer-Seller Meet (IBSM) in Patna, Bihar.
- ❖ The Department of Science and Technology (DST) launched the country's first cluster of five Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) testbeds specifically aimed at the cement sector.
- ❖ A Joint Expedition Team comprising the instructors from the country's premier mountaineering institutes successfully scaled Mount Everest (8,848.86 m).
 - The mountaineering institutes are Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering & Winter Sports (JIM&WS) Pahalgam, Nehru Institute of Mountaineering (NIM) Uttarkashi, and Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI) Darjeeling.
- ❖ The Ministry of Railways has approved the launch of a new train service between Agartala (Tripura) and Guwahati (Assam).
- ❖ The Two Indian peacekeepers - Brigadier General Amitabh Jha and Havildar Sanjay Singh were posthumously awarded the prestigious Dag Hammarskjöld Medal of UNGA.
- ❖ Kami Rita Sherpa, aged 55 and a Nepali mountain guide, completed his 31st climb of Mount Everest and broke his record for the most successful trips to the mountain's peak.
- ❖ World Vape Day was observed on May 30th to raise awareness about the potential benefits of vaping as a harm-reduction tool for smokers.
 - This year's theme is "20 Years of Facts".
- ❖ The Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) of Chennai has commissioned its translation into four medium and minor Dravidian languages — Kurukh, Gondi, Malto and Brahui.



- ❖ Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti (16) from Hyderabad has become the youngest Indian and the second youngest person in the world to complete the legendary 7 Summits challenge - scaling the highest peak on each continent.
- ❖ Diu, a Union Territory district, has become the first in India to meet 100% of its electricity needs with solar energy, achieving a generation capacity of 11.88 MW.
- ❖ The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested six alleged members of a transnational cybercrime syndicate that mainly targeted Japanese citizens under the Operation Chakra-V.
- ❖ State-owned telecom operator BSNL posted a ₹280 crore net profit in the quarter ending March 2025, marking two consecutive quarters of positive cash flows in 18 years.
- ❖ Airbus and Tata Group's aerospace arm Tata Advanced Systems (TASL) will set up India's first privately-led Final Assembly Line (FAL) for the H125 helicopters in Karnataka's Kolar.
- ❖ Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary to the Departments of Environment, Climate Change, and Forests, Tamil Nadu, has been recognised for her immense contributions to the fight against financial crimes.
- ❖ Agnikul Cosmos, the Chennai-based private space startup, has achieved a very significant milestone by successfully test-firing India's first electric motor-driven semi-cryogenic rocket engine.
- ❖ DRDO inaugurated the Quantum Technology Research Centre (QTRC) in Delhi, to strengthen the indigenous quantum capabilities for the strategic and defence applications.
- ❖ The President of India conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2025 on 15 outstanding nursing professionals for the exceptional service and very unwavering commitment of nurses from across India.
- ❖ The Chief Minister of Goa officially declared the State of Goa to be fully literate under the ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram (the New India Literacy Programme) with a 99.7% literacy rate.
- ❖ Serena Williams has been awarded Spain's Princess of Asturias Prize 2025 for Sports for her stellar tennis career.
- ❖ India's Mahendra Gurjar set a world record in the men's javelin F42 category with a throw of 61.17m at the Nottwil World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Switzerland.
- ❖ Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo became the first player in the world to score 800 club goals in his career.
- ❖ Indian-origin singer and songwriter Raja Kumari became the first Indian-origin musician to win an American Music Award (AMA).
- ❖ June 2 is observed annually as International Sex Workers' Day to shed light on the exploitative conditions endured by sex workers and to honour their resilience.



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government celebrated the “Semmozhi festival” on June 3rd, the birth anniversary of Former CM – M Karunanidhi.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has accorded in-principal approval to build Chennai Metro Rail’s Poonamallee-Sunguvarchatram-Parandur project.
- ❖ The Telangana declared the tiger corridor area connecting the Kawal Tiger Reserve in the State with the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra as ‘Kumram Bheem Conservation Reserve’, as per the provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- ❖ Under the Operation Spider Web, a swarm of Ukrainian drones attacked military airbases deep inside Russia’s borders.
- ❖ Award winning wildlife photographer and veteran journalist Sunjoy Monga passed away recently.
 - In 2005, Monga launched Mumbai’s first-ever bird race—an event that has since become an annual tradition known as ‘Wings – Birds of India.’
- ❖ The World Bicycle Day is celebrated annually on June 3rd to highlight the bicycle’s role in development, sustainability, and health.
- ❖ “The International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression” is observed annually on June 04th to raise awareness and acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world due to Aggression.
- ❖ The Royal Challengers Bengaluru won their maiden IPL title by defeating Punjab Kings in the 2025 season finale held at Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ❖ Prime Minister flagged off India’s first D9 – 9000 HP electric locomotive, one of the most powerful freight locomotives in the world at Dahod, Gujarat.
- ❖ The new unified headquarters of the Quality Council of India (QCI) was inaugurated at the World Trade Centre in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Indian Army has launched its first FM radio station, ‘Panchshul Pulse,’ in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, under ‘Operation Sadbhavana.’
- ❖ The 17th edition of India- Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant is to be conducted in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ❖ India will set up its first artificial intelligence-focused Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ Royal Challengers Bengaluru won their maiden IPL title by victory over Punjab Kings in the final.
- ❖ The 2026 Asian Weightlifting Championships will be held in Ahmedabad, India.
- ❖ ‘Bharat Gen’, India’s first-of-its-kind, indigenously developed, AI-based and Multi modal Large Language Model (LLM) for the Indian languages was launched at “BharatGen Summit”.



- ❖ Étienne-Émile Baulieu, a French scientist who created the abortion pill, has died recently.
- ❖ World Day Against Speciesism is observed on June 05th to denounce speciesism, which is discrimination against non-human animals based on their species.
- ❖ India won the presidency of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) for the 2025-2028 term during the General Assembly Meeting in Brussels, Belgium.
- ❖ China has recently unveiled its plan to construct the world's first hybrid fusion-fission nuclear plant, named Xinghuo, meaning "spark" in Mandarin.
- ❖ Indian Oil Corporation is setting up India's largest green hydrogen plant at its Panipat refinery in Haryana, aiming to produce 10,000 tonnes annually by 2027.
- ❖ India and Norway signed an MoU to build its first ever Polar Research Vessel (PRV) indigenously.
- ❖ The 3rd Lavender Festival was held in Bhaderwah, Jammu and Kashmir which celebrates the region's growing role in India's Purple Revolution.
- ❖ Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of the Aditya Birla Group, has been conferred with the Global Leadership Award by the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) at its 8th annual Leadership Summit.
- ❖ A. Rajeshwari, a girl from the tribal community in Kalvarayan Hills earns her seat in IIT and became the first student from Tamil Nadu to be selected for IIT after studying in a government tribal boarding school.
- ❖ Chennai Metro water launched a smart water ATMs at 50 key locations across the city.
- ❖ Economist S. Mahendra Dev has been named the new chairperson of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- ❖ Flipkart, the Walmart-owned e-commerce company, has secured a non-banking financial company (NBFC) licence from RBI, the first one in India.
- ❖ TVS Motor appoints Sudarshan Venu as the Chairman and Managing Director, succeeding Sir Ralf Speth, effective August 25, 2025.
- ❖ The Tamil translation of the eminent ecologist Prof. Madhav Gadgil's auto biography 'A Walk Up the Hill: Living with People and Nature' has been launched in Chennai.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has officially declared a Greater Flamingo sanctuary at Dhanushkodi in Ramanathapuram district.
- ❖ The Greater Chennai Corporation Mayor launched the Thooimai Mission, for sustainable waste management in the city.
- ❖ Nicaragua became the 101st member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to formally accept the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.



- ❖ Italy's Mount Etna, the largest volcano in Europe, erupted recently.
- ❖ The National Plastic Waste Reporting Portal was launched to capture a complete plastic waste management ecosystem from waste pickers to waste processing to disposal.
- ❖ The Prime Minister of India has launched the second phase of the nationwide tree plantation campaign 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0' with a target of planting 10 crore trees across the country.
- ❖ India and Kyrgyzstan have signed the Protocol and exchanged the Instrument of Ratification of the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT).
 - The new Treaty replaces the earlier agreement enforced on 12th May 2000, ensuring continuity in the protection of investments between the two nations.
- ❖ For the first time, 24 tonnes of fresh cherries from the Kashmir valley were sent by train from Katra (Jammu) to Mumbai.
- ❖ Elon Musk has introduced XChat, a revamped direct messaging (DM) interface within the X app (formerly Twitter).
- ❖ The Canara Bank has become the first major public sector bank to announce a complete waiver of the average monthly balance (AMB) requirement for all types of savings bank accounts.
- ❖ The Russian Language Day is celebrated on 6 June, the birthdate of Alexander Sergeyevich Pushkin, who is considered by many to be the greatest Russian poet, as well as the founder of modern Russian literature.
- ❖ S Bharath, a tribal student from the Pachamalai hills near Trichy became the first tribal student from the region to clear the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) and secure admission to the National Law University in Trichy.
- ❖ India's first Variable Speed Pumped Storage Plant (PSP) has started commercial operations at Tehri in Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The Squadron Leader Manisha became India's first woman Indian Armed Forces officer to be appointed as Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the Governor (Mizoram) in the country.
- ❖ Under the RBI's revised norms, the Loan-to-Value (LTV) ratio limit for gold loans below ₹2.5 lakh has been increased to 85% from 75%.
- ❖ The UNESCO Regional Office for South Asia, in partnership with the IndiaAI Mission under MeitY and Ikigai Law, had hosted the fifth and final stakeholder consultation on the AI Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM).
- ❖ Elon Musk's Starlink firm has received the licence from the Department of Telecommunications and became the third firm, after Eutelsat OneWeb and the Jio Satellite Communications, to provide satellite internet services in the country.



- ❖ The SEBI has introduced an operational framework for Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) debt securities, including the social, sustainability, and sustainability-linked bonds, to facilitate funding for sustainable projects and bridge the gap for SDG.
- ❖ Bahrain, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Latvia, and Liberia were elected to serve as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council, with two-year terms beginning in January 2026.
- ❖ The interim government of Bangladesh changed a 2022 Act and removed the mention of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the 'Father of the Nation'.
- ❖ Actor-politician Kamal Haasan and five others, including three nominees of the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu, are all set to be elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha.
- ❖ The CM of Tamil Nadu along with other World Bank officials has inaugurated the modernized global business centre (GBC) of the World Bank Group (WBG) in Taramani, Chennai.
- ❖ The Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla of the Indian Air Force became the first Indian in over four decades to travel to space and board the International Space Station (ISS), as part of Axiom Space's Ax-4 mission.
- ❖ The National Highway Authority of India has for the first time outlined its strategy to monetize assets to unlock value and increase public-private participation for developing infrastructure in India.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister inaugurated the 'Chennai Book Park' set up at the Central Metro station's concourse.
- ❖ Puducherry becomes the 19th legislature in the country to adopt the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) platform.
- ❖ The world's biggest container ship, MSC IRINA, recently docked at Vizhinjam International Seaport in Kerala.
- ❖ The Indian government announced a viability gap funding (VGF) worth Rs 5,400 crore for developing 30-gigawatt hour (GWh) of the new battery energy storage systems (BESS) to ensure round-the-clock renewable energy capacities in the country.
- ❖ The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs chairs 29th meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC), in Mumbai.
- ❖ The Researchers from the Centre of Excellence in the Disaster Mitigation and the Management (CoEDMM) at IIT Roorkee have unveiled a novel framework aimed at strengthening early warning systems for landslides triggered by rainfall in the Himalayas.
- ❖ Bengaluru has officially become the 'Leopard Capital' of India, surpassing Mumbai in terms of the highest number (80-85) of free-ranging wild leopards living on the fringes of a major metropolis.



- ❖ The Israeli navy conducted its first direct naval attack on the Yemeni port city of Hodeidah, targeting docks that are a crucial entry point for humanitarian aid.
- ❖ Russia will construct eight nuclear power plants in Iran under a previously signed contract between the two countries.
- ❖ In a global first, China has begun the large-scale application of the non-binary AI chips with deploying them across sectors as critical as the aviation, intelligent displays, and industrial control systems.
- ❖ The SIMS Hospital, Chennai, has successfully performed India's first combined transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) and Frozen Elephant Trunk (FET) graft procedure on a 61-year-old patient from Mumbai.
- ❖ Union Minister for Finance chaired the 6th meeting of the Governing Council (GC) of the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIF) in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Full Bench of Lokpal of India has adopted a new Motto "Empower Citizens, Expose Corruption".
- ❖ The Indian Navy and UK Royal Navy conducted a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) in the North Arabian Sea.
- ❖ The Indian Army is participating in the multinational military exercise named as 22nd edition of Khaan Quest in Mongolia.
- ❖ India's first underwater museum and artificial coral reef will be developed around the decommissioned warship INS Guldar near the Nivati Rocks at Vengurla in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra.
- ❖ India has hosted the 3rd International Telecommunication Union (ITU-T) Focus Group on AI-Native for Telecommunication Networks (FG-AINN) in New Delhi
- ❖ India, as the Vice President of the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA), participated in the 2nd Session of the IALA Council, held in Nice, France.
- ❖ The Quality Council of India (QCI) has launched the revamped NABL Portal and Gunvatta Samarpan Initiative to enhance digital accreditation access for MSMEs and promote public commitment to quality standards.
- ❖ India has been elected to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for the period from 2026-28.
- ❖ The 4th meeting of India-Central Asia Dialogue was held in New Delhi with the Participation of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
- ❖ Every Year, June 6 is observed as World Pest Day, or World Pest Awareness Day to highlight the importance of pest management that affects public health, food safety, and the environment.



- ❖ As per the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) report, India recorded 5.4 million displacements in 2024 due to floods, storms and other disasters, the highest figure in 12 years.
- ❖ The Delhi government has announced plans to develop India's first integrated E-Waste Eco Park at Holambi Kalan in north-west Delhi.
- ❖ The 'Volcan de Fuego', Central America's most active volcano in Guatemala, has erupted recently.
- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer.
- ❖ India's first agentic AI, Kruti, was launched by Ola Krutrim, a cloud service firm.
 - It can help to book cabs, pay bills, and perform other tasks.
- ❖ The Singapore-flagged cargo ship M V Wan Hai 503 had exploded 44 nautical miles off the coast of Beypore in the Kerala coast.
 - It was en route from Colombo to Mumbai.
- ❖ The Delhi government has undertaken a project to develop India's first electronic waste (e-waste) eco park in north Delhi's Holambi Kalan.
 - It will be designed to process up to 51,000 tonnes of e-waste, including all 106 categories of waste listed under the E-Waste Management Rules, 2022.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has filed applications seeking the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Kollimalai Coffee and Kollimalai Palappazham.
- ❖ India's First Agri-Drone Indigenization Facility, which was built by Garuda Aero space, was inaugurated at Chennai.
- ❖ The Lieutenant Commander Yashasvi Solanki has been appointed as an Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to President of India and becoming the first woman officer from the Indian Navy to hold the position.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force and US Air Force have conducted their first-ever joint special operations exercise, "Tiger Claw" in Chandinagar, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The 8th edition of Exercise Shakti-2025, a joint military exercise between India and France, will be held in France.
- ❖ South Africa have clinched their first ICC title in 27 years by beating Australia in the World Test Championship (WTC) final 2025, held at London.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Government has sent a team of forest personnel, mahouts, and cavadies to undergo training at the Thai Elephant Conservation Centre (TECC) in Lampang, Thailand.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Government has launched the New Comprehensive Mini-bus Scheme which extends mini bus services to 25,708 kilometres of the unserved areas in the State.



- ❖ An Indian Rat Snake (*Ptyas mucosa*), regionally known as Chera, may be notified as the Official Reptile of Kerala.
- ❖ The Indian Army has successfully conducted trials of the Rudrastra, a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) UAV designed for deep-strike missions.
- ❖ Mumbai ranks 6th globally in the under-construction Data Center capacity by surpassing global hubs like London, Dublin.
- ❖ The Cherrapunji Eastern Craft Gin from Meghalaya has become the first alcohol label from the northeastern part of India to be exported.
- ❖ Father's Day is celebrated on the third Sunday (June 15/2025) of June month every year celebrated in this year.
- ❖ The TN forest department Thermal imaging drones were deployed at the Gudalur forest division of Nilgiris to monitor elephants
- ❖ The DRDO and the IIT Delhi has demonstrated the free-space quantum secure communication using quantum entanglement over a distance of more than one km via an optical link.
- ❖ Lucknow has been nominated for UNESCO's Creative City of Gastronomy title.
- ❖ India's heavy largest automobile Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal was inaugurated at Maruti Suzuki's facility in Haryana's Manesar.
- ❖ The Defence Cyber Agency has conducted Cyber Suraksha, a very comprehensive cyber security exercise recently.
- ❖ The Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KeSCPCR) launched Radio Nellikka, an exclusive internet radio station for children.
- ❖ Russia's Rosatom has been selected as the leader of an international consortium to build Kazakhstan's first planned nuclear power plant.
- ❖ Brazil has announced that Vietnam has officially joined BRICS as a 10th partner country.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu government announced that, the paddy procurement price would be ₹2,500 a quintal of ordinary variety and ₹2,545 for fine variety.
 - Currently Bihar is providing ₹3,500 for a quintal of paddy.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu state health department launched a special scheme to offer a protein-rich diet, including milk, eggs, and chickpeas, to dialysis the patients in state-run hospitals.
- ❖ 'Achal', the fifth Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) in a series of eight, being constructed by Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL) for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) was launched recently.
- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush hosted the global summit 'Yoga Connect' in New Delhi on "Yoga for One Earth, One Health" theme.



- ❖ India launched 'Operation Sindhu' to evacuate Indian nationals from Iran as fears of an all-out Israeli-American military strikes.
- ❖ City Union Bank was selected as one of the winners for overall digital payment performance during the financial year 2024-25.
- ❖ James Beard Awards, one of the most coveted culinary awards in the US, has honoured Chef Vijay Kumar of Semma restaurant as the Best Chef in New York State, USA.
- ❖ International Picnic Day is celebrated every year on June 18th.
- ❖ Google has launched its first Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) in the Asia-Pacific region in Hyderabad.
- ❖ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned, among others, Sanjiv Bhasin, the Director of IIFL Securities, from securities trading due to front running.
- ❖ To commemorate the completion of 11 years of the Union Government with the Empowerment, Inclusion, and Cultural Pride, the Ministry of Minority Affairs is organised the Lok Samvardhan Parv in New Delhi.
- ❖ NATO's annual large-scale multinational military exercise, the Baltic Operations 2025 (BALTOPS 25), is held in Latvia.
- ❖ Ustad Ghulam Nabi Shah, a highly renowned Kashmiri singer, popularly known as Hamle Bulbul, passed away.
- ❖ Audrey Truschke, the U.S.-based historian authored a book titled, "India: 5000 Years of History on the Subcontinent".
- ❖ The 2025 U.S. Military Parade was held on June 14 in Washington, D.C., marking the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army.
- ❖ The Madras High Court, declared that it is not necessary for a woman to get the permission of her husband and take his signature before applying for a passport.
- ❖ The DRDO will soon begin the manufacturing of new variants of the Pinaka rocket system with extended ranges of 120 km and 300 km.
- ❖ One of the largest in history, Cyber security leakage has been observed by cyber security experts which steals up to 3.5 billion user records.
- ❖ The telecom subscriber base in India has crossed the 1.2 billion user mark for the second time, reaching base of 1,201.22 million at the end of April 2025.
- ❖ India's first 3-nanometre (3nm) chip design centres were launched in Noida and Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Hindu magazine was named Champion of Digital Media Awards South Asia 2025, picking up 10 awards across various award categories, at the WAN-IFRA Digital Media Awards 2025 South Asia.



- ❖ Gujarat's Rajkot has converted a decades-long dumping ground into a 20-acre green urban forest under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs "the Lakshya Zero Dumpsite" program.
- ❖ During the recent United Nations Oceans Conference (UNOC) held at France, 56 countries in the earth had ratified the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement.
 - It requires 60 ratifications to become legally binding.
- ❖ Neeraj Chopra has won the Paris Diamond League 2025 with an 88.16m long throw, by defeating Julian Weber.
- ❖ India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) received the Digital Payments Award 2024-25 from the Department of Financial Services for its role in expanding digital payments and financial inclusion.
- ❖ The Union Education Ministry has constituted a panel, headed by the Higher Education Secretary Vineet Joshi, to suggest measures to reduce the dependency of students on the coaching centres and assess the effectiveness and fairness of the competitive entrance examinations.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has topped in public procurement through the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), clocking the orders worth Rs 65,227.68 crore over five years, from FY 2020–21 to FY 2024–25.
- ❖ Lenacapavir, marketed as Sunlenca, has been approved by the U.S.A Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of HIV.
- ❖ Desi Oon, an animation film by Suresh Eriyat, has won the Jury Award for the Best Commissioned Film at the Annecy International Animation Festival 2025 in France.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board (TNSAMB) has sought Geographical Indication (GI) tag for five agricultural products.
 - They are Nallur Varagu (Cuddalore); Vedaranyam Mullai poo (Nagapattinam); Natham Puli (Dindigul); Ayakudi Koyya fruit (Dindigul), and Kappalpatti Karumbu Murungai (Dindigul).
- ❖ NTPC has launched India's first fleet of hydrogen fuel cell buses in Leh, Ladakh.
 - This project is the world's highest-altitude hydrogen mobility pilot at 3,650 meters.
- ❖ The Karnataka government has increased housing reservation for the religious minorities from 10% to 15%.
 - The revised quota applies to all urban and rural housing schemes under the state's Housing Department.
- ❖ N Muthamizh Selvi has become the first person from Tamil Nadu to conquer the highest peaks on all seven continents.



- ❖ N Jency became Tamil Nadu's first transgender woman to earn a PhD and secure Assistant Professor position at Loyola College, Chennai.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has reduced the overall priority sector lending norms mandate for the small finance banks from 75% to 60% of total credit, effective financial year 2025-26.
- ❖ Black Independence Day or Juneteenth National Independence Day has observed on June 19 to commemorates the enslaved Black people in Texas of the US and finally found out they were free in 1865.
- ❖ The U.S. has launched the Operation Midnight Hammer and hitting Iran's key nuclear sites—Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan—using the stealth bombers and the Tomahawk missiles.
- ❖ World Music Day, celebrated on June 21, promotes cultural unity and inclusivity through free public performances worldwide.
 - The theme for 2025 is "Healing Through Harmony".
- ❖ The World Rainforest Day, celebrated annually on June 22, raises awareness about the importance of rainforests.
 - The theme for 2025 is "Forests and Foods".
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister released two volumes of a book titled Varalaru Koorum Tamil Nattu Kaasugal (Coins that speak Tamil Nadu History) written by Minister for Finance Thangam Thennarasu and the numismatic researcher Mr. Arumuga Sitharaman.
- ❖ Writer Vishnu Puram Saravanan has been awarded the Bal Sahitya Puraskar of the Sahitya Akademi for 2025 in the Tamil language category for his children's novel Otrai Siragu Oviya.
- ❖ The Sahitya Akademi has announced the Yuva Puraskar 2025 in Tamil to writer Latshmihar for the short story Koothondru Kooditru.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh declares 2025-2035 as 'Decade of Hydropower' to generate 58000 MW electricity.
- ❖ The central government has approved a third electronics manufacturing cluster in Tamil Nadu, adding to the two already approved in March 2025.
- ❖ The World Health Assembly has unanimously and officially recognised the skin diseases—including scabies—as a global public health priority.
- ❖ Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki, located on the island of Flores, Indonesia has erupted recently.
- ❖ The UN General Assembly has adopted a resolution declaring December 4 every year as the International Day Against Unilateral Coercive Measures.
- ❖ World Gin Day 2025, observed on the second Saturday of June, falls on June 14 this year.



- ❖ International Day for Countering Hate Speech is observed on June 18th to combat hatred, discrimination, racism and inequality.
 - The theme for 2025- “Hate Speech and Artificial Intelligence Nexus: Building coalitions to reclaim inclusive and secure environments free of hatred.”
- ❖ Hockey India (HI) and the Tamil Nadu Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for hosting the FIH Hockey Men’s Junior World Cup 2025 in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Jasprit Bumrah became the first Asian player to claim 150 Test Cricket wickets in the SENA countries (South Africa, England, New Zealand, and Australia), surpassing Wasim Akram.
- ❖ ‘Woman! Life! Freedom!’ a book written by Chowra Makaremi, is originally published in French which documented the 2022 uprising in Iran.
- ❖ Delhi is set to launch its first artificial rain pilot project using cloud seeding technology, in collaboration with IIT-Kanpur and IMD.
- ❖ The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) is setting up its first overseas nano fertiliser plant in Brazil.
- ❖ India became the world’s third-largest producer of electricity from the wind and solar energy in 2024, overtaking Germany.
- ❖ Prime Minister of India’s visit to Croatia marked a historic moment and he is becoming the first Indian PM to visit the country since diplomatic ties were established in 1992.
- ❖ G Sampath Kumar was appointed as Nippon Koei India’s first-ever Indian Managing Director.
- ❖ For the first time, a high-tech locomotive built in Bihar is being exported to the West African nation of New Guinea.
- ❖ Japan’s second-biggest auto carmaker Honda has successfully tested an experimental reusable rocket.
- ❖ The union home minister chaired the 25th meeting of the Central Zonal Council in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The four-day-long Beej Utsav (Seed Festival) 2025 held in the tribal tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat.
- ❖ Iran has launched Operation Bashayer Al-Fath, targeting the Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar.
- ❖ The International Paris Air Show, the largest gathering of aerospace professionals from 48 countries, was held in France.
- ❖ International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is conducted ConvEx-3, the largest-ever international nuclear emergency exercise in Romania.
- ❖ The Centre launched Gharial Species Conservation Programme at Katarniaghat wildlife sanctuary in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh.



- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government launched 'Vidya Shakti', a tech-based program to help weaker students in government schools improve in Maths, Science, and English.
- ❖ The East Coast Railway launched the 'ECoR Yatra' app to provide real-time, easy-to-access railway services for Rath Yatra pilgrims.
- ❖ The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) celebrated Passport Seva Divas on 24 June 2025 to mark the enactment of the Passports Act on 24 June 1967.
- ❖ International Widows Day is annually observed on June 23 to spotlight the challenges faced by millions of widows worldwide.
 - The theme for 2025 is 'Invisible Women, Invisible Problems'.
- ❖ To mark the 50th anniversary of the imposition of the Emergency in India, 'Samvidhan Hatya Divas' was observed on 25th June.
- ❖ Adani Group has set up India's first off-grid 5 MW green hydrogen plant in Kutch, Gujarat.
- ❖ The union home minister released the book 'The Emergency Diaries – Years that Forged a Leader', detailing the PM Modi's experiences during the anti-Emergency movement.
- ❖ Kirsty Coventry became the first female and African president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on its 131st anniversary.
- ❖ Gujarat launched Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) Phase-3 to provide a high-speed broadband to over 14,000 Gram Panchayats and nearly 4,000 villages.
- ❖ Maharashtra cabinet approved ₹20,787 crore for land acquisition for the 802 km Shaktipeeth Expressway from Pavnar (Wardha) to Patradevi (Sindhudurg) on the Maharashtra-Goa border.
- ❖ India launched its first AI-powered Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) on the Dwarka Expressway in Delhi.
- ❖ Tata Power-DDL and Japan's Nissin Electric commissioned India's first micro substation with power voltage transformer in Delhi outskirts.
- ❖ The union government has approved setting up the International Potato Center's South Asia Regional Centre in Singna, Agra, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The Centre has approved the procurement of moong and urad in Madhya Pradesh and urad in Uttar Pradesh under the Price Support Scheme (PSS).
- ❖ India is set to establish its first Quantum Computing Valley in Amaravati of Andhra Pradesh by January 2026.
- ❖ The Naadhabrahmam United Gyan Academy has conferred the Naadha Vinodhini title on Carnatic vocal-violinist Jyothi Kalai, a visually disabled artiste.
- ❖ The Tata Group has become India's most valuable brand, crossing \$30 billion in brand value with, as per Brand Finance's India 100 report.



- ❖ Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan has released his autobiography titled “The One: Cricket, My Life and More”.
- ❖ India will host the very prestigious ‘Year 2029 World Police & Fire Games’ across Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, and Ekta Nagar in Gujarat.
- ❖ India’s Shubhanshu Shukla became the 634th astronaut to enter space, joining with other Indians Rakesh Sharma (138th) and Kalpana Chawla (366th).
- ❖ The Global oil prices recorded their sharpest single-day decline (6%) in five years following Iran’s attack on the Al Udeid US airbase in Qatar.
- ❖ Scientists have discovered 20 new bat viruses in China, including two linked to the deadly Nipah and Hendra viruses.
- ❖ The first International Day of Deaf blindness was observed on June 27 by the United Nations in honour of the birth of Helen Keller.
- ❖ International Mud Day is observed on June 29 every year.
- ❖ Every year on June 30th, the social media Day is observed to recognise and appreciate the significance of social media on our lives.
- ❖ International Pineapple Day is observed on 27th June each year.
- ❖ The Kerala State Wildlife Board has renamed the Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary in Kannur as the Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary.
 - With this, it became India’s first protected forest dedicated entirely to the butterflies.

TAMIL NADU

Alaigal Scheme

- ❖ Tamil Nadu CM launched the ‘Alaigal’ project at a capital outlay of Rs.25 crore.
- ❖ It aims to provide the micro-Loans to the fisherwomen groups for their economic upliftment.
- ❖ The new Tuna Fishing Harbour was also inaugurated at Thiruvottiyur.
- ❖ This Fishing Harbour is the first of its kind in India exclusively for Tuna fishing.

Eliya Aalumai Scheme

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has launched two schemes – ‘Uzhavarai Thedi and Eliya Aalumai (SimpleGov).
- ❖ The Uzhavarai Thedi Velanmai Thittam will be implemented in all 17,116 revenue villages of Tamil Nadu within a year.



- ❖ The team will include Block Level Officers of all departments, animal husbandry, co-operation and Krishi Vigyan Kendra.
- ❖ The team will meet the farmers and explain the field protection, area, cultivation and yield.
- ❖ It is planned to conduct this camp twice a month in selected villages.
- ❖ Similarly, through the Eliya Aalumai scheme, the government will also be able to effectively improve the functioning of the government and provide the required services to the citizens online.
- ❖ Under this scheme, the Sanitary certificates, General Building licenses, Hostel licenses for working women, the licenses for women's homes, the property value certificates, the old age home licenses, the conduct certificates, and no objection certificates for government employees to get passports can be obtained.

7th State Finance Commission

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu state government has constituted the Seventh State Finance Commission.
- ❖ The Sixth Commission submitted its report in February 2022 to the Governor.
- ❖ The present panel will review the financial position of various urban and rural local bodies and make appropriate recommendations on the distribution of funds to be provided by the State government.
- ❖ Retired IAS officer K. Allaudin was appointed as its chairperson.
- ❖ The Commission will submit its report by August 31, 2026, covering five years, beginning on April 1, 2027.
- ❖ Tiruppur Mayor N. Dinesh Kumar will be the non-official member of the panel.
- ❖ Director of Municipal Administration, Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, and the Commissioner of Town Panchayats will be the ex-officio members.
- ❖ IAS officer Pratik Tayal will be the Member-Secretary of the panel.

Three major shows in Nilgiris

- ❖ Three major shows are organised as part of the summer festival in the Nilgiris every year — the flower show, the vegetable show, and the fruit show.
- ❖ The annual fruit show has completed its 65th edition this year.
- ❖ The first flower show was held in the late 1800s.
- ❖ The first “official” flower show was held in 1896.
- ❖ Since then, the flower show has been organised 127 times.
- ❖ This year, the first-ever Plantation Crops Show was from May 30 to June 1.



Tamil Nadu GSDP vs Pakistan GDP in 2025

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's GDP for 2025, estimated at around \$341 billion, has reportedly surpassed that of Pakistan's GDP.
- ❖ In 2004-05, Pakistan's economy was around USD 132 billion.
- ❖ It currently hovers around USD 338 billion to USD 373.08 billion.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's economy has gone up to USD 329 billion in the same period from USD 48 billion.
- ❖ Maharashtra's economy has also grown from USD 92 billion in 2004-05 to USD 490 billion in 2023-24.

Top heat-risk States

- ❖ Tamil Nadu is increasingly at risk from extreme heat events, as 2024 was the hottest year on record globally.
- ❖ India suffered its longest heatwave since 2010.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranks fifth among Indian States with high to very high heat risk.
- ❖ None of Tamil Nadu's districts falls under the very low or low heat risk categories.
- ❖ About 11% of the districts face moderate heat risk, while 43% are classified as high risk, and 46% of districts fall into the very high heat risk category.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh ranks first place in this index released by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW).
- ❖ Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa also shared first place with Andhra Pradesh.

Microfinance gross loan in 2025

- ❖ The Gross Loan Portfolio (GLP) of the microfinance industry in Tamil Nadu has declined in fiscal 2025.
- ❖ The GLP in Tamil Nadu declined by 19.6% to ₹46,800 crore in fiscal 2025, from ₹58,200 crore in fiscal 2024.
- ❖ On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the GLP fell 7.7%, from ₹50,700 crore.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu (-7.7%, quarter-on-quarter basis) is followed by Karnataka (-7.0% quarter-on-quarter basis), recorded steep GLP decline.

Mangrove Plantations

- ❖ The Forest Department has carried out the mangrove plantations in two coastal villages in Pudukottai district.



- ❖ It aims to create the bio-shields in order to protect the villages from the natural calamities.
- ❖ The task was carried out with support from the local community in 2024-25 at Muthukuda.
- ❖ The mangrove plantations were carried out on 20 hectares at Mumpalai coastal village in Manamelkudi block.
- ❖ These tasks have been carried out under the Rehabilitation of Coastal through the Formation of Bio-Shields with funds provided under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission.

Night Ban on Online Games

- ❖ The Madras High Court upheld the validity of a ban imposed by the Tamil Nadu Online Gaming Authority (TNOGA) on playing Real Money Games (RMG) between 12 midnight and 5 a.m.
- ❖ It has also refused to interfere with requirements such as mandatory Aadhaar verification for playing the RMG.
- ❖ The Division Bench held the State legislature was fully competent to enact a law governing online games by invoking Entry 6 (public health and sanitation) and Entry 26 (trade and commerce within the State) of List II (State list) in the seventh schedule to the Constitution.
- ❖ The court concluded that the 2025 Regulations were a necessary response to a growing public health crisis and aligned with Article 39 of the DPSP.
- ❖ The government also argued that the restrictions brought in were reasonable restrictions and were protected under Articles 19(2) and 19(6) of the Constitution.

Achievements of the manufacturing sector

- ❖ Tamil Nadu aims to become a \$1 trillion economy by 2030.
- ❖ The 'Make in India' initiative was launched in 2014.
- ❖ The goal was to raise the share of the manufacturing sector as a share of GDP to 25% by 2025.
- ❖ While the national average has reached only 16%, Tamil Nadu has already achieved 25% in its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)
- ❖ Tamilnadu has over 31,000 active factories—India's highest—and leads in non-oil exports.
- ❖ The state contributes 15% of India's total exports despite having under 6% of the population.



- ❖ Tamil Nadu accounts for 41% of India’s electronic exports, 38% of footwear, and 45% of automobile components exports.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has set targets to boost electronics exports from \$14 billion to \$ 100 billion.

Six years of gender clinics

- ❖ In 2019, Tamil Nadu became the second State in the country, after Kerala, to set up a clinic exclusively for the transgender people at the RGGGH (Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital), Chennai.
- ❖ Later, at Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai, it offered free gender affirmation surgeries.
- ❖ In addition to the clinics in Chennai and Madurai, 10 other gender clinics have also been established in various districts across the State — including Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchi, Villupuram, Vellore, Dharmapuri, and Thanjavur.
- ❖ As of 2024, the hospital has performed 171 gender affirmation surgeries for the transmen and women.
- ❖ Trans people aged 18 and above are eligible for surgery.

Scientists Awards for 2022 and 2023

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology has announced the awardees of the Tamil Nadu Scientist Award for 2022 and 2023.
- ❖ The award is given to scientists from various disciplines including agriculture, biology, chemical sciences; environmental sciences; engineering and technology; mathematics; medicine; physics; social sciences and veterinary sciences.
- ❖ The advisory committee has selected 12 scientists, one from each discipline.

Revitalization of the Toda language

- ❖ More than 20 members of the indigenous Toda community took part in a project aimed at the “Revitalisation of the Toda language in prose, song and the cultural ecology.”
- ❖ This event was held with the involvement of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department of Tamil Nadu’s Tholkudi scheme.
- ❖ Their embroidery techniques used in traditional garments such as embroidered cloaks, known as pothkull(zh)y and kefehnaarr in the Toda tongue.
- ❖ Even their second names comprise a mountain, peak, temple, stream or other facet that comprises Toda life.



Invasive-free Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary

- ❖ The Department of Posts released a special cover on invasive-free Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary situated in Tiruvarur district.
- ❖ The Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary was identified as an area of national importance and declared as a Ramsar site in 2022.
- ❖ The sanctuary provides habitat for around 118 bird species.
- ❖ Invasive species, which tend to out-compete native flora, have been removed from the sanctuary making this Ramsar site invasive-free now.

Malai Koothu

- ❖ 'Malai koothu', a form of 'therukoothu', is culturally moored in the lives of the Malayali tribes of Dharmapuri and the Javadhu and Yelagiri Hills in Tirupathur.
- ❖ The 'koothu' centres around The Mahabharata and the Puranas.
- ❖ The story-telling revolves around Draupathi.
- ❖ The Puritan style of performance has been seen in Krishnagiri, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, and Cuddalore districts.
- ❖ The Therkathiya Bani (the southern style) is different from the Vadakathiya Bani (the northern style) seen in Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu districts.
- ❖ The Vanniya Puranam can be performed by anyone here; but in Tiruvannamalai, troupes comprising only Vanniyars perform it.

State Consumer Protection Council 2025

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has reconstituted the State Consumer Protection Council with the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies as its chairperson.
- ❖ There are 22 members in the panel, including elected representatives Vellore MP D.M. Kathir Anand, Thanjavur MP S. Murasoli, Tambaram MLA S.R. Raja and Vikravandi MLA Anniyur Siva.
- ❖ Some of other members in the panel are
 - The Secretary of Co-operation Department,
 - Secretary of Food and Consumer Protection Department,
 - The Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department,
 - The Registrar of State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission,
 - The Chairman and Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Generation Distribution Corporation Limited.



Kalaigñar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award 2025

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has presented the Kalaigñar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award for 2025 to eminent Tamil scholar Thayammal Aravanan.
- ❖ The CM also released two works published by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil
 - Tamil Vinayadigal - Varalatra Mozhiyiyal Ayvu by Rajendran Sankara Velayudhan and
 - Sanga Ilakkiya Solvalam by P.R. Subramanian.

Waiting time for Kidney transplant

- ❖ Kidney transplant in Tamil Nadu sets record for shortest wait time.
- ❖ The Patient had undergone successful transplantation just nine days after being registered on the State's organ transplantation wait-list.
- ❖ The procedure is facilitated through the Indian Organ Transplant Associates (iORTA).

Kuruvai coverage 2025

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has set an enhanced target of over 5 lakh acres in the delta for the ongoing Kuruvai cultivation season.
- ❖ Last year, the achievement was around 3.88 lakh acres, which was about 1.7 lakh acres short of what was covered during 2023-24.
- ❖ Since the current situation is better, the government has decided to open the Mettur dam on June 12.
- ❖ This time, the achievement in Kuruvai coverage can be as high as 5.6 lakh acres.
- ❖ The government has also decided to continue with a special Kuruvai package with an allocation of ₹58 crore for farmers in the delta.
- ❖ The scheme contains the provision of subsidies for the mechanised paddy transplantation, certified quality seeds, bio-fertilizers, and micronutrient mixtures.

Planning Commission reports 2025

- ❖ A total of four reports by the State Planning Commission were submitted to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.
- ❖ One of it is named as the report on 'Rural Non-Farm Employment in Tamil Nadu' (RNFE).
- ❖ It was undertaken in 12 villages of six districts with higher and lower RNFE reveals.



- ❖ It highlighted a very significant shift away from agriculture.
- ❖ It was an increasing number of workers engaging in non-farm sectors, such as construction and manufacturing.
- ❖ The report indicated that over 75% of male workers and 50% of female workers are now employed in non-agricultural activities.
- ❖ Construction has emerged as the dominant sector for male workers, particularly among the youth.
- ❖ Manufacturing remains the primary employer for women across all age groups.
- ❖ 20% decline happened in the dependence on agriculture for the employment opportunities since 2012.
- ❖ Younger workers (aged 15–34) leading this transition, preferring non-farm jobs due to better wages and more stability.
- ❖ Three other reports —
 - Tamil Nadu’s vision for sustainable development goals,
 - Tamil Nadu’s automotive future’ and
 - Reimagining Tamil Nadu – Path to knowledge economy.

MGNREGS data 2025

- ❖ Around 88 lakh beneficiaries of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Tamil Nadu have to be accommodated.
- ❖ The labour budget is reduced to 12 crore person-days during 2025-26.
- ❖ During 2024-25 too, Tamil Nadu was allotted only 20 crore person-days only.
- ❖ Eventually, the Centre also gave approval for around 10 crores more person-days, taking the total number of person-days generated to 30.61 crore.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government notified the revised schedule of wage, which has been increased from ₹319 to ₹336.

Electricity consumption by Public EV charging stations

- ❖ Tamil Nadu’s public electric vehicle charging stations (EV-PCS) have used 16.17 million units (MU) of electricity in financial year 2024-2025.
- ❖ This is increased about 20.8% from 13.383 MU in 2023-2024.
- ❖ Delhi had the maximum EV-PCS electricity consumption at 328.03 MU.
- ❖ It is followed by Maharashtra (216.82 MU), Karnataka (79.61 MU) and Gujarat (64.11 MU).



Lounges for gig workers

- ❖ Lounges for gig workers in Chennai, built by the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) in its first phase, was inaugurated at Anna Nagar and K.K. Nagar.
- ❖ The civic body is planning to monitor the lounges by the real-time surveillance through the Integrated Command and Command Centre.
- ❖ The gig workers who are involved in food delivery and e-commerce delivery work will be permitted to utilise the facilities free of cost.
- ❖ Each of the lounges will be able to seat 25 gig workers.

Madras High Court Verdict 2025 on RTE

- ❖ The Madras High Court ordered the central government to immediately allocate the funds required to admit the students in private schools under the Right to Compulsory Education Act to the Tamil Nadu Government.
- ❖ The Central Government did not allocate funds from 2021 to 2023.
- ❖ The Central Government stated that the tuition fee has not been allocated since the state government did not sign a MoU with the Central Government regarding the implementation of the new education policy.
- ❖ Under RTE Act, the tuition fee for the 25 percent reservation for the poor students will be paid by Central Government.
- ❖ The court has also stated that, the Samagra Shiksha scheme under the RTE Act is indeed similar to the implementation of the New Education Policy, 2020, but the duties under the RTE are independent.
- ❖ In the financial year 2024-25, an estimated Rs 3,586 crore was to be allocated under the Samagra Shiksha scheme by both the state and central governments.
- ❖ Of this, the central government's share is Rs 2,151 crore.

TN and Europe in SDG performance

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has made major progress in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ❖ It now performs better than the average of many European countries, according to the NITI Aayog's latest report.
- ❖ In the 2023-24 SDG India Index, Tamil Nadu scored 78 points, up from 66 in 2018.
- ❖ This puts the state in third place across the nationwide, just behind Kerala and Uttarakhand.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu achieved 'front-runner' status in 13 out of 17 SDG goals.



- ❖ It has topped areas like ending poverty and hunger, ensuring good health, quality education, clean energy, and decent jobs.
- ❖ The state also ranked first in climate action, showing strong efforts in dealing with climate change.
- ❖ Its score is higher than the average SDG score of many European Union countries, which is around 72%.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Vision for Sustainable Development Goals was a report submitted by the state planning commission.
- ❖ It aims at eliminating the extreme poverty and reduce the population below the poverty line in TN to zero by 2030.

Mettur Dam open 2025

- ❖ In the 92-year history of the Mettur Dam, this year marks the 20th time that water has been released for delta irrigation on its customary date, June 12.
- ❖ In 61 years, water was released after the scheduled date, and in 11 years, it was not released on time.
- ❖ For the Kuruvai cultivation, from June 12 to September 15, a total of 135.52 TMC of water is required for 5.22 lakh acres in the delta region.
- ❖ From September 15 to January 28, for Samba and Thaladi cultivation, 268.47 TMC of water is needed for 12.10 lakh acres.
- ❖ The water release will also facilitate the generation of 460 megawatts of the hydro-electric power.
- ❖ It is essentially for drinking water requirements of Chennai that receives water from the Veeranam tank, which, in turn, is fed by the Cauvery water through the Vadavar channel, branching off from the Lower Anicut on the Coleroon.
- ❖ Last year in 2024, there was no opening occurred in June and that was the first time in the last five years the date has been missed.
- ❖ The last time the dam missed its opening date was in 2019.
- ❖ Its capacity is 120 feet and the storage level will be 93.47 TMC.

'No Caste, No Community' Certificates

- ❖ The Madras High Court has called upon the Tamil Nadu government to issue a Government Order (G.O.) empowering the revenue officials to issue 'no caste, no community' certificates to individuals who prefer not to be identified with any religion or caste.



- ❖ Earlier in February 2024, HC refused to direct the Tirupattur Tahsildar to issue 'no caste, no community' certificate to an applicant since the revenue officials had not been empowered to issue such a certificate.
- ❖ Previously the 'no caste, no community' certificates were issued by the Tirupattur Tahsildar on February 5, 2019; Coimbatore Tahsildar on May 27, 2022; and Ambattur Tahsildar on August 18, 2022.

Tamil Nadu's share for Central schemes

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government contributes more monetarily compared to the Union government for the implementation of at least six Central schemes.
- ❖ These include three schemes under the umbrella of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) — Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), and the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS).
- ❖ These also include the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-Rural, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), and the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
- ❖ Fully funded by the Centre, the NSAP was launched in August 1995.
- ❖ However, the State government has been a pioneer in this area and it started implementing an old age pension scheme since January 1962.
- ❖ It has extended the scope of the welfare measure to four categories of destitute persons — persons with disabilities, widows, agricultural labourers, and destitute or deserted women following marriage — between 1974 and 1984.
- ❖ All of which were subsumed into the all-India programme after November 2007.

'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' scheme

- ❖ Chief Minister would soon launch a 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' scheme.
- ❖ Under this, as many as 1,256 special medical camps will be held across the State.
- ❖ It will be facilitating master health check-ups for the needy and diff-abled nearer to their homes.
- ❖ At the camps, the differently-abled people can get the certificates with disability percentages, and the identity cards under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.
- ❖ Cancer tests will also be performed at these camps to be held by December-end.

Coercive recovery of micro-loans

- ❖ The Tamilnadu State government has notified the Tamil Nadu Money Lending Entities (Prevention of Coercive Actions) Act, 2025.
- ❖ It aims to prevent coercive recovery of micro-loans by money-lending entities.



- ❖ The Assembly has passed the legislation in April, and it received the Governor's assent on June 9.
- ❖ The Act is aimed at protecting the weaker and vulnerable groups and individuals - especially farmers, women, and self-help groups.
- ❖ It will be protecting from the coercive recovery of loans by money-lending entities such as the micro-finance institutions and money-lending agencies operating in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The provisions of the Act relating to coercive action against the borrower shall apply to the non-banking financial companies registered with the RBI and co-operative banks and societies.
- ❖ The Micro-loan means a loan given to a household having an annual household income of up to ₹3 lakh.
- ❖ A household means an individual family unit including the husband, wife, and their unmarried son and daughter.
- ❖ Borrower means an individual or group of individuals or a self-help group or joint liability group.
- ❖ Section 20 of the Act also lists what constitutes coercive action.

Restored mangroves in Adyar Estuary

- ❖ The restored mangroves in the Adyar estuary have stored a significant amount of carbon.
- ❖ These mangroves have achieved an annual carbon sequestration rate of 1,195 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent.
- ❖ An afforestation drive has been undertaken by the Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust between 2008 and 2016.
- ❖ So far, the mangrove ecosystem comprising six species has stored 2,288 tonnes of carbon (or 8,397 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent).
- ❖ Further the mangrove ecosystem has showed carbon sequestration rate of 325.71 Mg C per year.

CM's health insurance data

- ❖ Over the past four years, more than 81 lakh beneficiaries received free treatment worth Rs 5,878 crore under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.
- ❖ The emergency 'Innuvayir Kaappom Nammai Kaappom' initiative has saved 7.4 lakh accident victims at a cost of Rs 648.12 crore.



- ❖ The government has distributed nutrition kits worth Rs 1,149.24 crore to 54 lakh pregnant women and 31.75 lakh mothers.
- ❖ Five new hospitals were established at Rs 1,046 crore in the state, alongside Rs 151 crore spent on India's second National Centre for Ageing in Guindy.
- ❖ The Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam scheme delivered doorstep healthcare to over 200 lakh people.
- ❖ School-based vision screenings provided free spectacles to 13.11 lakh children.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu reduced Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) of 8 per 1,000 live births, against the national average of 28.
- ❖ The state has clinched 545 awards for the medical excellence, including in rural medicine, TB elimination, and organ transplantation.

SIRF in Tamil Nadu

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has provided in-principal approval for establishing a State Institutional Ranking Framework (SIRF).
- ❖ It is a ranking list for higher education institutions in the State.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Council for the Higher Education (TANSCHÉ) under the department of higher education will be the implementing authority of the ranking.

G.M. Akbar Ali panel

- ❖ The State government has constituted a panel, headed by the Justice (retd.) G.M. Akbar Ali.
- ❖ It will examine the impact of the Supreme Court's verdict on its recruitment process and propose legal options to overcome issues arising out of the ruling.
- ❖ Traditionally, the State government had been preparing rank lists for government appointments, following a 200-point roster system.
- ❖ As part of the system, reservations were provided to candidates belonging to BC, BCM, MBC and DNC, SC, and ST.
- ❖ The system determined seniority and merit within the categories, giving regard for equitable treatment in promotion for all government employees.
- ❖ However, the practice was sought to be scrapped through the Supreme Court's direction on April 18, 2023.
- ❖ The State government had been asked by the Court to revise the seniority of the candidates directly recruited through the TNPSC after March 10, 2003 on the basis of merit, as determined by the TNPSC in the selection process itself and not on the basis of roster point.



- ❖ In July and November 2023, the office of Commissioner of Treasuries and the Accounts, issued orders revising the entry level seniority as per merit list sent by the TNPSC in respect of Accounts Officers who were directly recruited in the Tamil Nadu State Treasuries and Accounts Services (2007-2008).

Outstanding loan in microfinance 2025

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has the highest average outstanding loan amount per account in the micro finance sector.
- ❖ Among the top 10 states, Tamil Nadu has the highest average loan outstanding per account of ₹31,131 followed by West Bengal at ₹30,488.
- ❖ Bihar continues to be the largest state in terms of portfolio outstanding followed by Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh in the microfinance sector.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is one of the oldest states with microfinance presence.
- ❖ The loan size and loan outstanding in the past was generally a factor of the client vintage and their repayment performance and with every new cycle a borrower would get a higher loan amount.
- ❖ So naturally, the client vintage in Tamil Nadu is higher than other states and which explains the higher average loan outstanding.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) for the financial year 2024-25 is estimated at ₹17.23 lakh crore.
- ❖ Per Capita Income of Tamil Nadu in 2022-23 was ₹2.78 lakh.
- ❖ It is 1.6 times the national average of ₹1.69 lakh and was ranked as the fourth-largest state in terms of per capita income.
- ❖ This also shows a higher loan absorption capacity of microfinance borrowers in the state, which reflects in the high average loan outstanding per account.
- ❖ Still then it is only marginally higher than the All-India average loan outstanding of ₹28,285.
- ❖ Among the top 10 states with the highest outstanding loans, four—Bihar, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Karnataka have above average outstanding loan amount.
- ❖ This is largely driven by a consistent trend of higher disbursements in larger loan sizes in recent months.
- ❖ Additionally, the growing credit maturity of the Microfinance Institution (MFI) borrowers in Tamil Nadu has further contributed to this trend.
- ❖ The Gross Loan Portfolio (GLP) of the microfinance industry in Tamil Nadu stood at ₹46,689 Crore as on March 31, 2025.



Wind power generation in Tamilnadu 2025

- ❖ The Wind power generation in the state crossed the 100-million-unit (Mu) mark (113.09) for the sixth time this year.
- ❖ The maximum daily generation of 111.174 Mu was recorded on July 18, 2024.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has an installed capacity of 11,361 MW of wind power and produces 13,000 Mu of power annually.

Soil testing in delta region of Tamilnadu

- ❖ Low farmer awareness continues to affect soil health and crop productivity across this crucial agricultural belt.
- ❖ Both the Union government's Soil Health Card (SHC) programme and Tamil Nadu's Tamil Mann Valam portal promotes testing.
- ❖ But, just 7,900 cards were only generated in Nagapattinam and only 7,350 in Mayiladuthurai for 2024-25.
- ❖ The last State-wide mass soil sampling was conducted in 2018-19.
- ❖ While the Tamil Mann Valam portal includes soil data for each village, most of it is not precise.
- ❖ Mayiladuthurai district has no lab of its own and must rely on Nagapattinam.

133-year-old Madras High Court building

- ❖ The Madras High Court is all set to complete 163 years since its establishment on June 26, 1862.
- ❖ It was inaugurated on July 12, 1892.
- ❖ Now a dedicated committee has been formed under Justices R. Subramanian, R. Suresh Kumar, P.T. Asha, and N. Mala to renovate some parts.
- ❖ Madras High Court in Chennai is the second-largest judicial structure in the world, after the one in London.

Three-wheeler EV adoption

- ❖ The Three-wheeler electric vehicle (EV) penetration in Tamil Nadu so far in the calendar year 2025 has already surpassed the numbers for 2024.
- ❖ Total of 2,802 electric three-wheelers have been registered in 2025 till May.
- ❖ The EV adoption which measured in terms of EV sales as a percentage of the total vehicle sales stood at 16.07% in 2025.
- ❖ It was 3.92% for the entire 2024.



TPS 5 rice variety

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai in Thanjavur District, have urged farmers to plan ahead for samba and Thaladi seasons using region-specific, low-input paddy varieties.
- ❖ TPS 5, a commonly used variety in delta, matures in 100 days elsewhere, it takes 125 days in the delta.
- ❖ It was causing delayed harvests, higher pest incidence, and increased costs.
- ❖ TRRI recommended kuruvai varieties such as ADT 53, 55, 56, and 57.
- ❖ ADT 57 is suitable for direct sowing and ADT 55 offers Bacterial Leaf Blight (BLB) tolerance.
- ❖ ADT 53 is a good alternative to ADT 43 for parboiled rice, and ADT 59 is preferred for idly rice.
- ❖ For saline and coastal tail-end areas, TRY (Tiruchi Rice) varieties 1 to 5 are ideal.
- ❖ For flood-prone delta areas, he recommended CR1009 Sub 1.

Tamil Nadu Road Infrastructure Development Highlights

- ❖ ₹3,858 crores are allocated for 448 km of four-lane roads under Chief Minister's Road Development Scheme.
- ❖ ₹2,207 crores are allocated for 1,681 km of the two-lane roads under the same scheme.
- ❖ Totally ₹17,154 crores are allocated for 9,620 km of road projects under the Comprehensive Road Infrastructure Development.
- ❖ The Chief Minister's Road Development Scheme was launched in 2021.

Mercury contamination in Cuddalore district

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) has constituted a four-member technical expert committee.
- ❖ It aims to carry out the detailed inspection and analyse water and soil samples to identify source of mercury contamination in ground water samples in Neyveli and Parangipettai in Cuddalore district.
- ❖ The earlier report showed that the level of mercury exceeded the acceptable limit of 0.0001 mg/L in some of the locations at Neyveli and Parangipettai.

Tamil Nadu economic statistics 2025

- ❖ The DMK government has allocated funds to the tune of ₹6,626 crore for the MSME sector in the last year.



- ❖ It is almost twice the ₹3,617.62 crore allocated for the sector during the 10 years of the previous AIADMK regime.
- ❖ Considering the contribution of the MSMEs to the economy of Tamil Nadu, this financial year, ₹1,918.22 crores have been allocated to this sector.
- ❖ With more than 35 lakhs registered MSMEs, Tamil Nadu ranks third in India.
- ❖ Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh ranked ahead of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ It has created employment opportunities for 2.47 crore people.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is ranked third in India with exports of US\$30.50 billion.
- ❖ In manufacturing sector, Tamil Nadu's contribution to India's total production is 11.90%.
- ❖ The present Government created 14 industrial parks.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranks first in the production of motor vehicles, readymade textiles and leather goods.
- ❖ It ranks second in the production of textile machinery and electronic goods.
- ❖ Out of 14.9 lakh women workers in India, Tamil Nadu alone has 6.3 lakh women in the workforce,
- ❖ It is 42% of the total and 30% of the entrepreneurs in Tamil Nadu are women.

Revamped Valluvar Kottam

- ❖ TN CM inaugurated the newly renovated Valluvar Kottam recently.
- ❖ Valluvar Kottam is dedicated to the classical Tamil poet philosopher Valluvar.
- ❖ It was inaugurated in April 1976 by the then President of India Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.
- ❖ It was designed by South Indian traditional architect V. Ganapati Sthapati.

New varieties of pulses seeds

- ❖ The Department of Seed Certification and Organic Certification has mend the new varieties of pulses seeds procured from Kanpur research institute.
- ❖ It aims to encourage farmers to take up green gram and black gram cultivation, without the fear of yellow mosaic virus attacks.
- ❖ The green gram variety, LGG 600, has come up well and reached the flowering stage on the 28th day with uniform growth.
- ❖ A black gram variety, Kota 5, was found disease-resistant.



4 percent reservation in promotion

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government will provide 4% reservation in promotion to its employees with benchmark disabilities.
- ❖ The reservation is applicable only to the identified posts notified by the government where the cadre strength of a post is more than five.
- ❖ Such identification shall be made only for posts carrying a pay level up to pay level 25 in each government establishment.
- ❖ The reservation is applicable in promotion as well as in recruitment by transfer (lower pay scale to higher pay scale).
- ❖ While 1% is reserved for blindness and low vision, 1% is reserved for deaf and hard of hearing.
- ❖ 1% is reserved for locomotor disability, including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims, and muscular dystrophy.
- ❖ One of the instructions allows the government to exempt any of its establishments from the provisions of Section 34 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

24 registered, unrecognised political parties

- ❖ At least 24 political parties from Tamil Nadu have been categorised as ‘registered unrecognised political parties.’
- ❖ They are likely to be issued show cause notices by the Election Commission of India.
- ❖ They have not contested even a single election during the past six years.
- ❖ The Political parties are registered under the provisions of Section 29A of the Representation of the People’s Act, 1951.
- ❖ They are entitled to many benefits - exemption from income tax (under Section 13A of the IT Act), recognition (under para 6 of the symbols order), common symbol allotment and nomination of star campaigners.
- ❖ The purpose of the registration of an association as a political party with the Commission under Section 29A of the Act was to avail of the provisions of that part for the RP Act, 1951.
- ❖ It meant participation in elections conducted by the Commission.



NATIONAL

‘Know Your DIGIPIN’ and ‘Know Your PIN Code’

- ❖ The Department of Posts launched two transformative digital platforms: ‘Know Your DIGIPIN’ and ‘Know Your PIN Code’.
- ❖ The DIGIPIN (Digital Postal Index Number) is an open-source, interoperable, geo-coded, grid-based digital address system.
- ❖ It is developed by the Department of Posts in collaboration with IIT Hyderabad and NRSC, ISRO.
- ❖ The six-digit PIN Code system, introduced in 1972, has served as the backbone of India’s postal delivery.
- ❖ By using this platform, the users can Identify the correct PIN Code based on their location.

E-Hansa aircraft

- ❖ India has initiated the development of E-Hansa, a next-generation, two-seater electric trainer aircraft.
- ❖ The aircraft is being developed by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research - National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) in Bengaluru.
- ❖ It is designed to be a cost-effective and indigenous option for pilot training in India.
- ❖ The E-HANSA is part of the larger HANSA-3 (NG) trainer aircraft program.

Mission LiFE and NAPCC

- ❖ The government is considering adding Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) to the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).
- ❖ Currently, the NAPCC has eight active missions across sectors like water, energy, and agriculture, aimed at addressing climate change.
- ❖ Prime Minister had inclined for Mission LiFE at the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- ❖ The mission was officially launched in October 2022.
- ❖ It aims to mobilise at least one billion people in India and worldwide to take the individual and collective action to protect and conserve the environment between 2022 and 2028.



- ❖ The Mission LiFE aims for three core shifts in the collective approach to the sustainability:
 - A change in demand at the personal level,
 - A change in supply at the business level, and
 - A change in policy to support sustainable consumption and production.

Traditional Medicine module under ICHI

- ❖ An agreement has been signed between the Ministry of Ayush and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❖ The agreement marks the beginning of work on a dedicated Traditional Medicine module under the International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI).
- ❖ This initiative will help in making the Ayush reach a maximum number of people across the world in a scientific manner.

Land port closure for Bangladesh

- ❖ The Directorate General of Foreign Trade has shut down all the land ports with Bangladesh for export of apparel (readymade garments) from Bangladesh.
- ❖ The order also shut down the northeastern land ports with Bangladesh to restrict the export of specific items from Bangladesh.
- ❖ However, it is allowed through Nhava Sheva and Kolkata seaports.
- ❖ But the import of fish, LPG, edible oil and crushed stone from Bangladesh will remain unaffected.
- ❖ There are 24 operational land ports between India and Bangladesh, and several other crossings are being developed.

Honorary Rank Promotion Scheme

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the conferring of honorary ranks on retiring personnel below officer rank in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Assam Rifles (AR).
- ❖ This initiative will see the retiring personnel from the ranks of Constable to Sub-Inspector being awarded an honorary promotion on their final day of service.
- ❖ However, the move carries no additional financial or pensionary benefits.

Rules under Inter-Services Organizations Act 2023

- ❖ The Rules formulated under the Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Act 2023 have been notified through a Gazette Notification by the Ministry of Defence.



- ❖ It aims to bolster effective command, control, and efficient functioning of Inter-Services Organisations (ISOs).
- ❖ This act helps maintain discipline and smooth administration, without changing the specific rules and conditions that apply to each branch of the Armed Forces.

Red Teaming - Operation Sindoor

- ❖ For the first time, Operation Sindoor employed the concept of “red teaming” as part of its operational planning.
- ❖ The Red teaming involves embedding a small group of experts familiar with the adversary’s mindset, tactics and response patterns into the planning process.
- ❖ This is the first time the Indian military has tested this concept in an actual operation.
- ❖ This concept has long been a formalised component of military operations abroad - particularly during the Cold War.
- ❖ In the Indian Army, the concept was named ‘Vidur Vakta’ - after the advisor to the Pandavas in the Mahabharata.
- ❖ The Army already has a REDFOR (red forces) unit within its training command (ARTRAC) headquartered in Shimla.

Female Cadets from NDA

- ❖ The first ever 17 women cadets of the National Defence Academy (NDA) graduated from the tri-services institute in Khadakwasla, Pune.
- ❖ In 2021, Supreme Court (SC) directed to admit women into the NDA.
- ❖ Pune’s National Defence Academy is the first tri-service academy in the world.
- ❖ Shriti Daksh became the first female cadet to receive the Silver Medal and Chief of Air Staff Trophy for securing first rank in the B.A. stream.

Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan 2025

- ❖ It is a nationwide campaign launched to modernize Indian agriculture through scientific outreach, sustainable practices, and farmer empowerment.
- ❖ It is conducted biannually before the Kharif and Rabi sowing seasons.
- ❖ It aims to provide a timely field-level guidance on improving crop production, soil health, and resource management.
- ❖ The campaign will mobilize ICAR’s 113 research institutes, 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), agricultural universities, state agriculture departments, farmer-producer organizations (FPOs), and innovative farmers.



- ❖ It will cover over 65,000 villages across 723 districts and is expected to directly engage more than 1.3 crore farmers.
- ❖ This year's Kharif rice reached 1206.79 lakh metric tonnes, wheat 1154.30 lakh metric tonnes, maize 248.11 lakh metric tonnes, groundnut 104.26 lakh metric tonnes, and soybean 151.32 lakh metric tonnes.

Advance Authorisation Scheme

- ❖ The Union Government set to relax rules under Advance Authorisation scheme for exporters.
- ❖ Exporters are allowed duty-free import benefits under the Advance Authorisation (AA) scheme, even if their goods were shipped before the licence was issued.
- ❖ Until recently, if the shipment left the foreign port before the date on which the AA licence was granted, the benefit of duty exemption should not be available.
- ❖ The scheme allows exporters to import the inputs, such as the raw materials, its components, or chemicals, without paying Customs duty, on the condition that these will be used to manufacture products for export.
- ❖ However, this relaxation won't apply to restricted goods or products that can only be imported through designated government agencies, unless the DGFT gives special permission.

ECINET portal

- ❖ The new integrated dashboard, named 'ECINET', is aimed at providing all services for stakeholders at a single point.
- ❖ It was launched by the Election Commission of India.
- ❖ Over 40 apps or websites exist now to provide various services.
- ❖ This platform is set to become operational during the current round of Assembly byelections and the upcoming Bihar Assembly election.

Modified Interest Subvention Scheme 2025/26

- ❖ The Union Government has approved the continuation of the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) for 2025-26.
- ❖ MISS is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2006–07 by the union Government.
- ❖ Under MISS, farmers get short-term loans of up to ₹3 lakh through KCC at a subsidised interest rate of 7%, with 1.5% interest subvention provided to eligible lending institutions.
- ❖ Additionally, farmers repaying loans promptly are eligible for an incentive of up to 3% as a Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI).



- ❖ For loans taken exclusively for animal husbandry or fisheries, the interest benefit is applicable up to ₹2 lakh.
- ❖ In case of the natural calamities, a restructured crop loans receive a 2% interest subvention for the first year.

Invar Missile

- ❖ The Ministry of Defence purchases 500 Invar anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) from Bharat Dynamics Ltd.
- ❖ Invar missiles are designed to be launched from tank platforms.
- ❖ This missile is known for its long-range precision strike capability of up to 5 km.

MSP for 14 Kharif Crops for 2025–26

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices, MSP for 14 Kharif crops for the 2025-26 Season.
- ❖ The very highest absolute increase in MSP price over the previous year has been recommended for Niger seed (₹820 per quintal).
- ❖ It is followed by ragi (₹596 per quintal), cotton (₹589 per quintal) and sesamum (₹579 per quintal).

India's first potash mine

- ❖ The Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) has won India's first potash and halite block in Rajasthan and a rare earth elements (REE) block in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Coal India bagged the Graphite and Vanadium mineral block.
- ❖ Potash is a very key mineral used in the fertiliser industry, particularly in the production of NPK fertilisers.
- ❖ India currently imports 100 per cent of its potash requirement from countries including Canada, Belarus, Jordan, and South Korea.
- ❖ HZL is the world's largest integrated zinc producer and is among the top five global producers of silver.
- ❖ It supplies to more than 40 countries and holds approximately 77 per cent of the primary zinc market in India.

34 Bio stimulants notification

- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare notified 34 Bio stimulants such as seaweed extracts, humic and fulvic acid formulations, among others.



- ❖ They are notified under the Fertiliser Control Order (FCO), 1985.
- ❖ In 2021, the bio stimulants were officially incorporated into the FCO, categorizing them as distinct class of fertilisers.
- ❖ The Bio stimulants or Plant conditioners are natural or biological products that help plants grow by improving nutrient absorption and resistance to stress.
- ❖ They do not include the pesticides or plant growth regulators, which are covered under the Insecticides Act, 1968.

Aid for Indigenous Thrombectomy Device

- ❖ India is set to begin manufacturing its first indigenously developed mechanical thrombectomy device.
- ❖ This is followed by financial support approved by the Technology Development Board (TDB)
- ❖ The initiative is led by Mysuru-based S3V Vascular Technologies.
- ❖ It will establish an integrated production facility near Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, to manufacture critical stroke care tools.
- ❖ A thrombectomy device is a specialised medical tool used to remove blood clots from blood vessels, particularly in the brain, to treat ischaemic strokes.
- ❖ India registered over 1.25 million new stroke cases in 2021, a 51 per cent increase compared to 650,000 cases in 1990.

RoDTEP scheme for exporters

- ❖ The centre has restored the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme with effect from June 1, 2025.
- ❖ It will benefit the units operating under Advance Authorisation, Export Oriented Units (EOUs), and Special Economic Zones (SEZs).
- ❖ The RoDTEP scheme aims to refund taxes and duties that are not rebated under any other scheme and benefit rates range between 0.3-4.3%.
- ❖ India is negotiating free trade agreements with the US and the EU.
- ❖ India and the UK have already announced the conclusion of an FTA.

India's EV Manufacturing Guidelines 2025

- ❖ India is rolling out a new flagship electric vehicle policy that aims to lure global automakers into making cars locally.
- ❖ The Companies will be allowed to import up to 8,000 electric four-wheeler units annually at a lower import duty of 15% against 70-100% currently.



- ❖ But to avail this, the minimum investment commitment in India is to be made by an applicant during a 3-year window of ₹4,150 crore (about \$500 mn).

NAKSHA Capacity Building Program

- ❖ Ministry of Rural Development conducted the second phase of capacity-building under the NAKSHA programme.
- ❖ NAKSHA stands for 'NAtional geospatial Knowledge-based land Survey of urban Habitations'.
- ❖ It is a city survey initiative under the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).
- ❖ NAKSHA program aims to reform urban land surveys using advanced geospatial technologies.
- ❖ It is executed by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR), Ministry of Rural Development.

Swachh Survekshan Gramin 2025

- ❖ Union Jal Shakti Ministry launched India's largest sanitation survey- Swachh Survekshan Gramin (SSG) 2025 in Delhi.
- ❖ This nationwide rural sanitation ranking survey covers 21,000 villages across 761 districts in 34 States/UTs.
- ❖ It is conducted by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Supreme Court on Contempt of court 2025

- ❖ The Supreme Court in the Nandini Sundar & Ors. Vs. State of Chhattisgarh, held that enacting a law by the legislature contradictory to previous Court orders cannot be viewed as Contempt of Court.
- ❖ The Supreme Court has said any law made by Parliament or a State legislature cannot be held to contempt of court.
- ❖ Every State Legislature has plenary powers to pass an enactment and so long as the said enactment has not been declared to be ultra vires the Constitution or, in any way, null and void by a constitutional court.
- ❖ Judiciary is vested under the Constitution with the power to resolve interpretive doubts and disputes about the validity or otherwise of an enacted law.
- ❖ However, the interpretative power of a court does not contemplate a situation of declaring exercise of legislative functions and passing of an enactment as an instance of a contempt of a court.



JAK Experiential Learning Program 2025

- ❖ The Government of India has launched an initiative named Jan Aushadhi Kendra (JAK) Experiential Learning Program 2025.
- ❖ It is part of the broader campaign 'Seva Se Seekhen Learn by Doing'.
- ❖ It aims to enhance community engagement and youth skill development.
- ❖ It places five youth volunteers in each district's Jan Aushadhi Kendras.
- ❖ These Kendras provide affordable and quality generic medicines to citizens.

DHRUVA policy

- ❖ The Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications has recently released a comprehensive policy document titled DHRUVA.
- ❖ DHRUVA stands for Digital Hub for Reference and Unique Virtual Address.
- ❖ It lays out the important framework for a national Digital Address Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).

C CARES 2.0

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Coal and Mines launched C CARES Version 2.0.
- ❖ It is a revamped web portal of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO).
- ❖ This platform aims to simplify Provident Fund and pension services for coal workers by introducing real-time tracking, direct benefit transfer, and mobile-based access.
- ❖ CMPFO was established in 1948 under the Ministry of Coal.

Support to Poor Prisoners' Scheme

- ❖ The Centre has asked all the states and the Union Territories (UTs) to give the financial assistance from a Central fund to poor prisoners.
- ❖ This fund can be used to, who are unable to secure bail or release from jails on account of their inability to pay the fine awarded to them due to their financial situation.
- ❖ The MHA provides funds to the states and the UTs through the Central Nodal Agency (CNA).
- ❖ It is administered by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- ❖ The Home Ministry had introduced the 'Support to Poor Prisoners Scheme' in May, 2023.



- ❖ As per the India Justice Report-2025, the national average occupancy rate in jails is more than 131 percent.
- ❖ The number of undertrial prisoners is estimated to be 76 percent of the entire prison population.

Voter Turnout Reporting in 2025

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced that it would roll out an automatic reporting feature in its new mobile application ECINET, in time for the Assembly elections in Bihar.
- ❖ The new app would also enable faster reporting of voter turnout trends.
- ❖ Currently, the presiding officer of each polling station communicates the voter turnout numbers to a sector officer to the Returning Officer of the constituency over the phone or through messages.
- ❖ These data are then manually collated and the turnout for the constituency is entered into the Voter Turnout app every two hours.
- ❖ The new system will allow each of presiding officer to directly enter the turnout figures into the ECINET app every two hours.
- ❖ Through this app now onward, the turnout for the constituency will be calculated automatically and displayed for the public.
- ❖ Under the Rule 49S of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, Presiding Officers (PROs) are required to furnish Form 17C.

India's First Tri-Services All-Women Sailing Team

- ❖ The Tri-Services All-Women Sailing Expedition team returned recently.
- ❖ They completed an 1,800-nautical-mile international voyage to Seychelles.
- ❖ They aboard the indigenously-built Indian Armed Services Vessel 'Triveni'.
- ❖ The team of 11 women officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force are part of this expedition.
- ❖ The crew included:
 - Indian Army - Lt Col Anuja, Maj Karamjeet, Maj Tanyah, Capt Omita, Capt Dauli and Capt Prajakta
 - Indian Navy - Lt Cdr Priyanka
 - Indian Air Force - Sqn Ldr Vibha, Sqn Ldr Shraddha, Sqn Ldr Aruvi and Sqn Ldr Vaishali.



Ayush Suraksha Portal

- ❖ The AYUSH Ministry launched the Ayush Suraksha Portal to Address Issues of Misleading Advertisements and Adverse Drug Reaction.
- ❖ This portal will strengthen consumer protection and regulatory oversight in the field of traditional medicine.
- ❖ The portal facilitates real-time monitoring, systematic analysis, and coordinated action on misleading advertisements and adverse drug reactions.

Enrolment in States government schools

- ❖ At least 11 States and Union Territories including Uttarakhand, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh facing low Enrolment in States government schools.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Education (MoE) has asked these 11 States to take some “remedial steps” to prevent this fall.
- ❖ In Tamil Nadu, during the 2023-24, 64% of the government schools have 37% enrolment whereas 21% of unaided school have 46% enrolment.
- ❖ In Andhra Pradesh, total enrolment in government schools is 46.33% (40.5 lakh) as compared to 52.09% (45.53 lakh) enrolment in unaided schools.
- ❖ Kerala has witnessed the reduction of students in government and aided schools, from close to 46.37 lakh in 2022-23 to 45.50 lakh in 2023-24.

Chenab Rail Bridge inauguration

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the Chenab railway bridge, the world’s highest rail bridge in Jammu & Kashmir.
- ❖ He also inaugurated the Anji bridge, India’s first cable-stayed railway bridge.
- ❖ Chenab bridge is 359 metres above the riverbed and 35 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower.
- ❖ This railway project was sanctioned in 1995 when Narasimha Rao was the Prime Minister.
- ❖ In 2002, Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared it a national project.
- ❖ Of the 272-kilometre stretch between Udhampur, Srinagar and Baramulla, 160 km was already inaugurated before 2014.
- ❖ Anji Bridge stands tall as India’s first cable-stayed rail bridge in the Himalayan terrain.
- ❖ It is establishing a vital link in the Katra-Banihal portion of the Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Line.
- ❖ The project was overseen by Konkan Railway Corporation of the Indian Railways.



- ❖ The Prime Minister has also flagged off a Vande Bharat train service between Katra and Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ This is the first train connection between the Kashmir valley and the Jammu region.
- ❖ The Prime Minister has also dedicated the 272 km long Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project to the nation.
- ❖ The USBRL also has India's longest transportation tunnel, T50, which spans 12.77 kilometres between Khari and Sumber in Jammu and Kashmir.

ECI upgradation on Election Data

- ❖ The Election Commission of India had upgraded the mechanism for generating Index Cards, making it more technology-driven.
- ❖ The Index Card is a non-statutory, post-election statistical reporting format.
- ❖ It promotes accessibility of election-related data at the constituency-level for all stakeholders.
- ❖ By leveraging automation and data integration, the new system ensures faster reporting.

Milk Production in India 2023/24

- ❖ India has been the number one milk producer since 1998.
- ❖ It now produces 25 percent of the world's milk.
- ❖ In 2023-24, the average Indian gets over 471 grams of milk daily, much higher than the world average of 322 grams.
- ❖ Between 2014-15 and 2023-24, milk production rose by 63.56% from 146.3 million tonnes to 239.2 million tonnes.
- ❖ In 2023-24, Uttar Pradesh was the top milk-producing state.
- ❖ It contributed 16.21 percent of India's total milk output.
- ❖ Bengal showed the fastest growth in milk production.
- ❖ India holds the title of the world's largest livestock owner, with a total livestock population of 536.76 million.
- ❖ Currently India's dairy is the single largest agricultural commodity.
- ❖ They are contributing 5 percent to the national economy and directly employing more than 8 crore farmers.



UMEED Central Portal

- ❖ The union government launched the UMEED portal that would create a digital inventory after geo-tagging of all Waqf properties.
- ❖ The UMEED central portal is short for Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act, 1995.
- ❖ It will serve as a centralised digital platform for real-time uploading, verification, and monitoring of Waqf properties.
- ❖ It also includes an online grievance redressal system for a better responsiveness and transparent leasing and usage tracking.
- ❖ The portal also involves the integration with GIS mapping and other e-governance tools and public access to verified records and reports.

Flu Gas Desulphurization Policy 2025

- ❖ The Principal Scientific Adviser's Office recommended rolling back the mandate requiring Indian coal-fired plants to install the Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) systems.
- ❖ Ministry of Environment (MoEFCC) in 2015 mandated all of India's 537 coal-fired plants to install FGD systems to reduce sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions.
- ❖ The FGD units are designed to reduce sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions from coal-fired power plants.
- ❖ These units have been mandated for installation in all TPPs to meet air quality standards.
- ❖ However, only 8% of India's 600 TPPs have complied with this requirement.
- ❖ Also, the cities near plants with FGD units do not show differences in SO₂ levels compared to those without.

SEZ rules 2025 - Semiconductor and electronics

- ❖ The Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Rules 2025 notified by the government on June 3 give greater autonomy to manufacturers to move or sell finished goods.
- ❖ The government has allowed the manufacturers of semiconductors and electronic components to set up factories on smaller land parcels in special economic zones (SEZs).
- ❖ SEZs exclusively meant for making semiconductors or electronic components, companies, including startups.
- ❖ They will now be able to set up factories 10 hectares of land against the earlier 50 hectares.



- ❖ In multi-product SEZs, the minimum land requirement has been lowered to four hectares from 20.
- ❖ India's semiconductor market was valued at \$45 billion in 2023 and is expected to cross \$100 billion by 2030.

Clean Plant Program

- ❖ The Union Government launched the 'Clean Plant Programme' during India's first international Agri Hackathon held in Pune.
- ❖ This program aims to address critical issues in horticulture by providing access to high-quality, virus free planting material.
- ❖ It will provide disease-free horticultural plants to farmers across India.
- ❖ A total of 9 Clean Plant Programmes (CPC) will be initiated across the country.

Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag

- ❖ Union Home Minister inaugurated the Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag (BBA / Indian Languages Section, in New Delhi.
- ❖ It will provide a strong and organized platform to all languages, incorporating the linguistic diversity of India.
- ❖ It aims for reducing the dominance of foreign languages, especially English, in India's administrative functioning.
- ❖ It also promotes the use of mother tongues in decision-making and the official communication.

India's Next Census

- ❖ India will count its population by March 1, 2027, in a census to be held after an unprecedented 16-year gap.
- ❖ The Office of the Registrar General of India under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs conducts the census.
- ❖ It will be India's first digital Census and will include an enumeration of castes for the first time in Independent India.
- ❖ Only two categories, the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) tables, has been counted so far.
- ❖ The census will be conducted in two phases by February 28, 2027 and the data will have a reference date of 12 a.m. on March 1, 2027.
- ❖ For the Union Territory of Ladakh and the non-synchronous snow-bound areas of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and the States of Himachal Pradesh and



Uttarakhand, the reference date for the population count will be 12 a.m. on October 1, 2026.

- ❖ The last census was held in 2011.
- ❖ The subsequent exercise scheduled to take place in 2021 was delayed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ As per the constitutional mandate, the first census after 2026 can be used as the basis to redraw Lok Sabha constituencies.
- ❖ India's census is conducted under the provisions of the Census Act, 1948 and the Census Rules, 1990.
- ❖ It will be completed in two phases: first, the house listing and housing schedule; and then, the population enumeration.
- ❖ There was no announcement on updating the National Population Register (NPR).
- ❖ The population register was to be updated during the first phase of the planned 2021 census.
- ❖ According to the Citizenship Rules 2003, the NPR is the first step towards the compilation of a National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC/NRC).
- ❖ The National Population Register (NPR) was last updated in 2015.
- ❖ The first NPR was created in 2010, and the data was subsequently updated in 2015 through a door-to-door survey.
- ❖ It has a database of 119 crore residents.

Justice Varma impeachment

- ❖ The Union government will bring a motion of impeachment against Justice Yashwant Varma of the Allahabad High Court during the upcoming Session.
- ❖ The impeachment motion follows his indictment by a three-member committee constituted by the then Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna.
- ❖ He was transferred to the Allahabad High Court during the controversy.
- ❖ While Justice Varma maintained his innocence over the recovery of the cash, the committee indicted him.
- ❖ Justice Varma was nudged to resign but he refused.
- ❖ It was prompting Chief Justice to write to the President and the PM to take measures for his removal.
- ❖ The inquiry committee's report had recommended Justice Varma's removal and the Union Law Minister will move the motion based on the report.
- ❖ According to the Judges (Inquiry) Act of 1968, a motion to remove a judge is admitted in any of the Houses.



- ❖ Then the speaker or the chairman will constitute a three-member committee to investigate the grounds on which the removal (or, in popular term, impeachment) has been sought.
- ❖ For the motion of impeachment to be moved, the resolution requires the support of 50 MPs if it is to be moved in the Rajya Sabha and 100 MPs if moved in the Lok Sabha.
- ❖ The motion of impeachment can be moved in either House.
- ❖ The constitutionally laid down procedure for the impeachment of a judge when a motion is admitted in either House usually requires the constitution of a three-member committee.
- ❖ But in the Justice Varma's case, this will likely not be required as the inquiry committee constituted by Chief Justice Khanna has already sifted through the evidence.

Monsoon Session 2025

- ❖ The Monsoon Session of Parliament in 2025 is likely to be held from July 21 to August 12.
- ❖ The Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju informed this to the media.
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs, chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has recommended the dates.
- ❖ It had sent a recommendation to President that Parliament be summoned on the dates cleared by the committee.
- ❖ Normally the dates for a Parliament session are announced a few days in advance.
- ❖ Never have the dates been declared 47 days before a session is due.
- ❖ The government had in the past 11 years often called the monsoon session on two to three weeks' notice.
- ❖ And this was the first time that they have announced it a month-and-a-half before hand.

8th edition of EnviStats India 2025

- ❖ The 8th issue of the publication titled as the "EnviStats India 2025: Environment Statistics" was released recently.
- ❖ The annual mean temperature increased from 25.05°C in 2001 to 25.74°C in 2024.
- ❖ The annual rainfall data from 2001 to 2024 highlights significant year-to-year variability influenced by monsoon patterns.



- ❖ India accounts for 20,613 marine faunal species.
- ❖ India has 9,436 freshwater species, 5,023 species in the Indian Mangrove System, 3,383 species in the Estuarine Ecosystem, and a notable 22,404 species in its Soil Ecosystem.
- ❖ Inland fish production has increased from 61.36 lakh tonnes in 2013-14 to 139.07 lakh tonnes in 2023-24.
- ❖ Electricity generation from renewable energy sources has increased from 65520 GWh to 2,25,835 GWh during 2013-14 to 2023-24.
- ❖ Thermal power generation has increased from 7,92,053 GWh to 13,26,549 GWh in the same duration.
- ❖ The Inland fish production has increased from 61.36 lakh tonnes to 139.07 lakh tonnes during 2013-14 to 2023-24.

Waste Picker Enumeration App

- ❖ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) launches a Nationwide Digital Application for Profiling Waste Pickers under the NAMASTE Scheme.
- ❖ It aims to enumerate 2.5 lakh individuals, granting them the formal identity and access to social protection.
- ❖ This includes issuing the occupational photo ID cards and providing the health insurance, personal protective equipment, and skill development opportunities.

Cap on MGNREGS Spending

- ❖ For the first time, the government has capped spending limit under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) at 60 per cent of its annual allocation.
- ❖ Until now, the rural jobs guarantee scheme has operated as a demand-driven programme with no such spending limit.
- ❖ Now the Finance Ministry informed MoRD that it could spend up to 60 per cent of MGNREGS's annual outlay—Rs 86,000 crore—in the first half of the financial year.
- ❖ This means that only Rs 51,600 crore will be available for the scheme until the end of September.
- ❖ For 2025-26, the Rural Development Ministry has approved a labour budget of 198.86 crore person days.
- ❖ Of this, 67.11 per cent—or 133.45 crore person days — are projected to be created in the first half of the financial year.



ICGEB Board Meeting of Governors

- ❖ The “International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology” (ICGEB) Board Meeting of Governors was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Meeting was being attended by representatives from more than 60 countries of the world.
- ❖ On the occasion, India’s first of its kind public funded DST-ICGEB ‘Bio-foundry’ was unveiled.

Ahmedabad plane crash 2025

- ❖ An Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner operating as Flight AI171 from Ahmedabad to London’s Gatwick Airport crashed on 11th June 2025.
- ❖ The pilots gave a ‘Mayday’ call immediately after the take-off, signalling the life-threatening emergency.
- ❖ The Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft was operated by Air India from Ahmedabad Airport, in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, to London Gatwick Airport in the UK.
- ❖ This is the first fatal crash and the first hull loss involving a Boeing 787 since its introduction in 2011.
- ❖ Also, Air India’s first hull loss since the bombing of Air India Flight 182 in 1985.
- ❖ It is the deadliest single aircraft crash in the history of aviation in India.
- ❖ This is also a first widebody aircraft crash in the country in 29 years after the 1996 Charkhi Dadri mid-air collision, which involved a Saudia Boeing 747.
- ❖ This is the first crash ever of the Dreamliner since it went into service in 2009.
- ❖ The crash is under investigation by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) of India.
- ❖ The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is a division of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ❖ India’s aviation authority DGCA and Air India also launched investigations into the crash.
- ❖ The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is a statutory body of the Government of India to regulate civil aviation in India.
- ❖ It became a statutory body under the Aircraft (Amendment) Act, 2020.
- ❖ It investigates aviation accidents and incidents, maintains all regulations related to aviation and is responsible for issuance of licenses pertaining to aviation, Headquartered in Gurugram, Haryana, India.
- ❖ The airline is owned by Air India Limited, which is owned by the Tata Group (74.9%) and Singapore Airlines (25.1%).



- ❖ It is the second-largest airline in India in terms of passengers carried after IndiGo.
- ❖ It was founded in 1932 as Tata Airlines by J. R. D. Tata.

Ayush Nivesh Saarthi portal

- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush under the Government of India has launched the 'Ayush Nivesh Saarthi', a dedicated investor facilitation portal for the Ayush sector.
- ❖ This portal was developed in collaboration with Invest India.
- ❖ It offers a unified interface for domestic and global investors.
- ❖ 100% FDI is permitted through the automatic route for this sector.

Top performers in adult literacy 2025

- ❖ Delhi, Tripura and Tamil Nadu are among the top performers in dealing with challenges related to adult literacy and education.
- ❖ Uttarakhand, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh were lagging behind in certification outcomes.
- ❖ This data was released by the Foundational Literacy Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT).
- ❖ Tamil Nadu recorded a 100 per cent success rate, certifying all 5,09,694 learners who appeared for FLNAT.
- ❖ Previously, two FLNATs were conducted in 2023 - in March and September.

CROPIC Initiative

- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare plans to launch CROPIC.
- ❖ It is a study to gather crop information using field photographs and AI-based models.
- ❖ CROPIC stands for Collection of Real Time Observations & Photo of Crops.
- ❖ Crops will be photographed four-five times during their cycle, and the pictures will be analysed to assess their health and potential mid-season losses.
- ❖ The ministry also plans to conduct this study for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

DRUM App

- ❖ The IIT Kharagpur team has created the Dynamic Route Planning for the Urban Green Mobility (or DRUM) web app.



- ❖ It's like Google Maps but with the added feature of allowing users pick routes based on air quality and energy efficiency.
- ❖ DRUM gives users the five route options: shortest, fastest, least exposure to air pollution (LEAP), least energy consumption route (LECR), and a combination of all four factors called the suggested route.
- ❖ The LEAP route reduced pollution exposure by over 50% in Central Delhi, despite increasing commute time by 40%.

India's population and Fertility Rate

- ❖ The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) released the '2025 State of World Population' (SOWP) Report.
- ❖ India is now the world's most populous nation, with nearly 1.46 billion people.
- ❖ This number expected to grow to about 1.7 billion before it begins to fall, around 40 years from now
- ❖ Despite the slowing birth rate, India's youth population remains significant, with 24% in the age bracket of 0-14, 17% in 10-19, and 26% in 10-24.
- ❖ The country's 68% of the population is of working age (15-64),
- ❖ India's total fertility rate has declined to 1.9 births per woman, falling below the replacement level of 2.1.
- ❖ This means that, on the average, Indian women are having fewer children than needed to maintain the population size from one generation to the next, without migration.
- ❖ In 1960, when India's population was about 436 million, the average woman had nearly six children.

Amlesh Kumar vs State of Bihar

- ❖ The Supreme Court held that there is no indefeasible right with the accused to undergo a narcoanalysis test.
- ❖ The court has also held that, "The accused has a right to voluntarily undergo a narcoanalysis test at an appropriate stage".
- ❖ This judgement overturned the Patna High Court's order that allowed the police to conduct narco-analysis tests on all accused in a dowry harassment case involving a missing woman.
- ❖ In 2010, the Supreme Court in Selvi v. State of Karnataka case, held that forceful subjection of an individual to the techniques, such as the narco-analysis test, violates the personal liberty enshrined under Articles 20(3) and Article 21 of the Constitution.



- ❖ Narco-Analysis involves administering the barbiturates or other chemicals, often sodium pentothal.
- ❖ Voluntary narco-analysis reports cannot be directly admitted as evidence.

Rare Earth Exports to Japan by India

- ❖ India has asked state-run miner IREL (Indian Rare Earths Limited) to suspend a 13-year-old agreement on rare earth exports to Japan.
- ❖ The Govt asked IREL to stop its exports of rare earths, mainly neodymium, a key material used in magnets for electric vehicle motors.
- ❖ Under a 2012 government agreement, IREL supplies rare earths to Toyotsu Rare Earths India.
- ❖ China has curbed its rare earth materials exports since April, pressuring the automakers and high-tech manufacturers worldwide.
- ❖ India has the world's fifth-largest rare earth reserves, at 6.9 million metric tons.
- ❖ But there is no domestic magnet production.
- ❖ India relies on imported magnets, mainly from China.
- ❖ In the fiscal year to March 2025, India imported 53,748 metric tons of rare earth magnets.
- ❖ IREL has a rare earths extraction plant in the eastern Indian state of Odisha and a refining unit in Kerala, in southern India.

Forest Rights Act Cells

- ❖ The Union government has started funding structural mechanisms to “facilitate” the implementation of the law meant to give forest rights to ST and forest-dwelling communities.
- ❖ The Forest Rights Act (FRA) came into being in 2006.
- ❖ Implementation of the FRA, for the last 19 years, has been the domain of State and union territory governments.
- ❖ Under the Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyaan (DAJGUA), the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs has so far sanctioned the setting up of 324 district-level FRA cells across 18 States and union territories implementing the forest rights law.
- ❖ In addition, State-level FRA cells have been sanctioned for 17 of these States and union territories.
- ❖ The highest number of district FRA cells sanctioned so far has been in Madhya Pradesh, where 55 have been approved.



- ❖ This is followed by 30 in Chhattisgarh, 29 in Telangana, 26 in Maharashtra, 25 in Assam, and 24 in Jharkhand.
- ❖ This is the first time such FRA cells are being proposed by the Union government to speed up FRA implementation.
- ❖ The Odisha state government has been using a similar mechanism for the couple of years.

India's first solar waste playbook

- ❖ The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has released the draft guidelines.
- ❖ It provides plans for the safe storage, handling and transportation of discarded solar photovoltaic (PV) modules, panels and cells.
- ❖ The guidelines were issued under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022.
- ❖ Under the Chapter V of the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, solar PV waste is classified as 'CEEW 14' category e-waste.

Project Vishnu

- ❖ India is preparing to test its most advanced indigenously developed hypersonic missile — the Extended Trajectory-Long Duration Hypersonic Cruise Missile (ET-LDHCM).
- ❖ The ET-LDHCM boasts a top speed of Mach 8 (approximately 11,000 km/h).
- ❖ It can deliver the swift and devastating strikes deep into the enemy territory, including targets in China and Pakistan.
- ❖ With this capability, India joins a group of countries, including the United States, China, and Russia, that have achieved operational success in hypersonic weapons technology.
- ❖ The missile can carry the warheads weighing between 1,000 and 2,000 kg over a range of approximately 1,500 km.
- ❖ It is powered by a scramjet engine which sustains the hypersonic speeds using the atmospheric oxygen, allowing for longer flight durations.

India's Aviation Safety Standards 2025

- ❖ India was rated well above the global average in terms of its operations and air worthiness by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- ❖ India scored particularly higher than the global average by the ICAO when it came to operations.
- ❖ The global average stood at 72.28 per cent and India at 94.02 per cent.



- ❖ This was even higher than the likes of the US (86.51 per cent) and China (90 per cent), as per their 2024 audits.
- ❖ India also scored higher than the US and China in terms of airworthiness: 97.06 per cent versus 89.13 per cent and 94.83 per cent, respectively.
- ❖ While India's last audit was in 2022, the audits for US and China were conducted in 2024.
- ❖ The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has retained India's International Aviation Safety Assessment category as Category 1.
- ❖ India is the third-largest domestic aviation market after the US and China.

Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan 2025

- ❖ The Government of India has launched the Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan.
- ❖ This campaign is being rolled out across 549 tribal-dominated districts and 207 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)-dominated districts covering about 100,000+ Villages & Habitations.
- ❖ This Largest-Ever Tribal Empowerment Campaign was initiated under Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh.
- ❖ It will provide access to critical entitlements and government services, including, Adhaar Card Enrolments and Updates, Ayushman Bharat Health Card Issuance, Opening of Jan Dhan Bank Accounts and etc.

1st Assembly of IBCA

- ❖ The first Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Prime Minister of India announced the IBCA in 2023 in Mysuru, commemorating the 50th anniversary of Project Tiger.
- ❖ The Indian government has also established the IBCA through the National Tiger Conservation Authority in March 2024.
- ❖ IBCA is a coalition of 95 range countries with a mandate for the conservation of seven big cats
- ❖ The seven big cats are Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma.

Samarth Program for Telecom Startups

- ❖ The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) launched 'Samarth' Program.
- ❖ It is a cutting-edge Incubation Program for startups in Telecom & ICT Sector.



- ❖ In the first phase 18 startups have been selected in cohort 1 through a highly competitive process.
- ❖ These startups are provided the financial grant, fully furnished office space and access to C-DOT's lab facilities at Delhi and Bengaluru campuses.
- ❖ "Samarth" Incubation Program offers holistic support to startups and innovators working in telecom applications, cybersecurity, 5G/6G technologies, AI, IoT, and quantum technologies.

Revised Mission Document - Green India Mission

- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has released the revised document for 2021-2030 period.
- ❖ The revised mission document also projected, India could achieve a carbon sink of 3.39 billion tonnes, from the combination of all restoration activities.
- ❖ This will require an increase in the forest and tree cover over an estimated 24.7 million hectares.
- ❖ The National Mission for Green India aims to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent through additional forest and tree cover.
- ❖ The mission's interventions were started in the year 2015-16.
- ❖ About 11.22 million hectares of the area could be included under plantations till 2020-21, as per the revised document.
- ❖ The ministry will focus on restoration of vulnerable landscapes like Aravalli's and Western Ghats Mountain ranges, along with mangroves and Indian Himalayan region.

Viksit Bharat Ka Amrit Kaal Report

- ❖ The document titled 'Viksit Bharat ka Amrit Kaal - Seva, Sushasan aur Garib Kalyan' highlighted key achievements and grassroots impact under PM's 11-year rule.
- ❖ Loans worth Rs 61,000 crore were approved in 2024, up from Rs 14,431 crore in 2018.
- ❖ The government also achieved 100 per cent open defecation-free status by 2019 and 100 per cent LPG penetration in 2025.
- ❖ 81 crore people were getting the free food grains, while 12 crore toilets were built under Swachh Bharat.
- ❖ Over 15 crore tap connections were provided to households.



- ❖ The government has also implemented the housing schemes, under which over 4 crore houses were completed under PMAY.
- ❖ Over 52 crore loans were given to small entrepreneurs under Mudra Yojna.

Notification to India's 16th Census

- ❖ The Centre has issued an official gazette notifying of the reference dates for the conduct of the census.
- ❖ According to an official notification, India's 16th census with caste enumeration will be carried out on March 1, 2027.
- ❖ The reference date for the said census shall be 00.00 hours of the 1st day of March, 2027.
- ❖ In respect of Ladakh and the snow-bound non-synchronous areas of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and the states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the reference date shall be 00:00 hours of the 1st day of October, 2026.
- ❖ The census will be conducted in two phases.
- ❖ The 2027 Census will be the first digital census in India's history, with the use of mobile apps, online self-enumeration, and near-real-time monitoring.
- ❖ It is also the first since 1931 that will collect caste data for all communities.
- ❖ The 2027 Census plans to allow self-enumeration for the first time.
- ❖ Households can log into a government portal or use an app to fill out their own details.
- ❖ Once self-enumeration is done, the system will generate a unique ID.
- ❖ The Individuals who have self-enumerated will have to just present this ID when Census enumerator comes to their house.
- ❖ While 2011 used the physical maps and area lists, 2027 introduces GPS tagging of households and geofencing to avoid coverage gaps.
- ❖ The Enumerators in 2027 will receive alerts for errors like inconsistent age or unrealistic household size, enabling real-time corrections.
- ❖ New categories added under reasons for migration, such as displacement due to climate events or natural disasters.

Key Innovations in Bye-Polls 2025

- ❖ Bye-elections were concluded in five Assembly constituencies in four states - Gujarat, Kerala, West Bengal and Punjab.
- ❖ In a first-of-its-kind move, the ECI has provided voters with secure mobile deposit facilities at the entrance of all polling stations.



- ❖ Presiding Officers were enabled to directly input turnout data every two hours using the upgraded ECINET App.
- ❖ For the first time, webcasting was conducted at nearly 100% of polling stations.
- ❖ One polling station in the five constituencies were brought under round-the-clock webcasting surveillance.
- ❖ A Special Summary Revision (SSR) of the electoral rolls conducted ahead of the bye-polls.
- ❖ This measure was taken for the first time in nearly 20 years.

Gender Budgeting Knowledge Hub

- ❖ The Centre launched a web portal named 'Gender Budgeting Knowledge Hub'.
- ❖ Over the past 11 years, Gender Budget allocations have increased by four and a half times — from ₹0.98 lakh crore in 2014-15 to ₹4.49 lakh crore in 2025-26.
- ❖ The Hub is a digital repository of all information related to the gender budgeting processes.

50 Years of Crocodile Conservation Project

- ❖ India began its Crocodile Conservation programme in 1975.
- ❖ India launched this project at Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Park with support from UNDP and the FAO.
- ❖ This year marks 50 years of this initiative.
- ❖ India is home to three main kinds of crocodile species – the gharial, the salt water crocodile or salties, and the muggers.
- ❖ Odisha is the only Indian state to host the wild populations of all three native crocodilian species.
- ❖ India hosts nearly 80% of the global wild gharial population.

Yoga Sangam & Yoga Bandhan

- ❖ The 11th International Yoga Day was observed in June 21, with the theme 'Yoga for One Earth, One Health'.
- ❖ It has featured 'Yoga Sangam' a mass yoga demonstration over 1,00,000 locations across India.
- ❖ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) under the Ministry of External Affairs organised various yoga events and programmes in 191 countries.
- ❖ Additionally, the ICCR is hosted 'Yoga Bandhan'.



- ❖ It is a flagship international program under the Ministry of Ayush.

Fifth Edition of National Time Release Study (NTRS)

- ❖ Centre has released the fifth edition of the National Time Release Study (NTRS).
- ❖ The Time Release Study (TRS) measures the time taken for cargo release to assess clearance process efficiency.
- ❖ It analyses the time taken in the seaports, Air Cargo Complexes (ACCs), Inland Container Depots (ICDs), and Integrated Check Posts (ICPs).
- ❖ The Average Release Time (ART) in imports declined between 2023 and 2025 at the seaports (~6 hours), ACCs (~5 hours), and ICPs (~18 hours).
- ❖ But Integrated Check Posts saw a ~12-hour increase.
- ❖ 93.33% of import cargo at ICPs met the 48-hour NTFAP 3.0 target.

One Nation, One Time

- ❖ The government has proposed some new rules to standardize the timekeeping by mandating exclusive use of Indian Standard Time (IST).
- ❖ The Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2024 draft aims to create a legal framework for consistent time practices.
- ❖ The IST will be the sole recognized time reference for the legal, administrative, commercial, and official documents.
- ❖ The proposal supports the very precise timekeeping in critical infrastructure like telecommunications, banking, defense, 5G, and AI.
- ❖ Exceptions will be allowed for astronomy, navigation, and scientific research with the prior government approval.

India's Updated SOP for EVM Verification

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has updated its SOP for verifying the electronic voting machines (EVMs).
- ❖ The update follows a Supreme Court ruling, which is allowing second and third-place candidates to request EVM checks.
- ❖ The revised SOP aims to boost transparency and uphold electoral integrity.
- ❖ Candidates can now request verification of up to 5% of EVMs used in an election.
- ❖ The process includes a mock poll of up to 1,400 votes per machine.
- ❖ If EVM results match the VVPAT slips, the machine is considered verified.



Estimates Committee Completes 75 Years

- ❖ The Lok Sabha Speaker has inaugurated the National Conference of Estimates Committees in Mumbai.
- ❖ It is commemorating the 75 years of Parliamentary Estimates Committee.
- ❖ On April 10, 1950, the Committee was established.
- ❖ It aims to ensure strict financial oversight in India's parliamentary system.
- ❖ It scrutinizes government expenditure, estimates and promoting administrative efficiency, economy, and accountability.

'Pratibha Setu' Platform

- ❖ The Pratibha Setu is a centralized digital platform launched by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- ❖ Pratibha Setu stands for 'Professional Resource and Talent Integration – Bridge for Hiring Aspirants'.
- ❖ It was officially launched in June 2025.
- ❖ It aims to bridge the gap between the talent and opportunity by facilitating the sharing of profiles of meritorious, non-recommended candidates.
- ❖ These candidate profiles are made accessible to government departments, public sector undertakings (PSUs), and private employers for potential recruitment.
- ❖ Pratibha Setu is rebranded and upgraded version of the earlier Public Disclosure Scheme (PDS).
- ❖ The PDS was launched in August 2018 following a decision by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).
- ❖ Under the original scheme, the UPSC began publicly sharing the biodata of non-recommended but willing candidates.
- ❖ The new platform serving as a modern talent integration bridge for aspirants who clear CSE stages but do not make the final list.

Training of Trainers (ToT) program 2025

- ❖ The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has now launched the Training of Trainers (ToT) programme under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- ❖ It focuses on enhancing Panchayats' capacity to generate Own Source Revenue (OSR).
- ❖ This program was implemented under the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).



- ❖ It will be conducted in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen the grassroots governance through financial empowerment of Panchayats.

e-Rakt Kosh

- ❖ The Central Health Ministry plans to integrate the Rare Donor Registry of India (RDRI) with e-Rakt Kosh, the national blood bank management platform.
- ❖ The e-Rakt Kosh is developed under the National Health Mission (NHM).
- ❖ It offers real-time information on blood banks, availability, and donation camps.
- ❖ It aims to benefit the people with rare blood types like Bombay, Rh-null, and P-Null by easing access to compatible donors.
- ❖ The RDRI was created by ICMR–National Institute of Immunohematology (NIIH) and four partnering institutes.

Special PhD Admission Drive for SC/ST Candidates

- ❖ IIT-Delhi has started its first-ever special admission drive for the PhD candidates from Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) categories.
- ❖ This initiative aims to address the ongoing shortfall in seat occupancy for SC/ST students at the doctoral level.
- ❖ According to the government reservation rules, IITs must reserve 15% seats for SC and 7.5% for ST in higher education admissions.
- ❖ However, IIT-Delhi's data shows actual SC/ST intake at the PhD level has been below these targets.
- ❖ From 2015-16 to 2024-25, SC enrolment increased slightly from 8.88% to 9.69%, while ST enrolment rose from 0.97% to 3.28%.

NAVYA Scheme

- ❖ The central government has launched the NAVYA (Nurturing Aspirations through Vocational Training for Young Adolescent Girls) in Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ It aims to provide the vocational training to girls aged 16 to 18 years who have completed at least Class 10.
- ❖ The focus is on training girls in non-traditional job roles to open up new career opportunities.
- ❖ NAVYA supports the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 by promoting the women-led development.



- ❖ It is a joint pilot initiative by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- ❖ The scheme will cover 27 districts across the 19 states, including the Aspirational Districts and areas in the North-Eastern region.

Comprehensive Household Income Survey

- ❖ India is set to conduct its first-ever comprehensive Household Income Survey in 2026.
- ❖ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has announced the initiative.
- ❖ The survey aims to offer a reliable and detailed view of income distribution across Indian households, addressing gaps in official statistics.
- ❖ It will also examine how technology adoption is affecting wage levels amid India's rapid digital transformation.

India's oil import - June 2025

- ❖ India has ramped up purchases of Russian oil in June.
- ❖ It is importing more than the combined volumes from Middle Eastern suppliers such as Saudi Arabia and Iraq.
- ❖ Indian refiners are likely to import 2-2.2 million barrels per day of Russian crude oil in June.
- ❖ It was the highest in the last two years and more than the total volumes bought from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Kuwait.
- ❖ India's oil imports from Russia were 1.96 million barrels per day (bpd) in May 2025.
- ❖ Imports from the United States also rose to 439,000 bpd in June, a big jump from 280,000 bpd purchased in the previous month.
- ❖ The Full-month projections for imports from the Middle East stand at around 2 million bpd, lower than the previous month's buying.
- ❖ India is the world's third-largest oil-importing and consuming nation.
- ❖ It bought from abroad around 5.1 million barrels of crude oil.
- ❖ India has traditionally sourced its oil from the Middle East.
- ❖ It began importing a large volume of oil from Russia soon after the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.
- ❖ Russian oil (Urals, ESPO, Sokol) is logistically detached from Hormuz, flowing via the Suez Canal, Cape of Good Hope, or Pacific Ocean.



- ❖ This was primarily because Russian oil was available at a significant discount to other international benchmarks due to Western sanctions and some European countries shunning purchases.
- ❖ This led to India's imports of Russian oil seeing a dramatic rise, growing from less than 1 per cent of its total crude oil imports to a staggering 40-44 per cent in a short period.
- ❖ The Strait of Hormuz lies between Iran to the north and Oman and the United Arab Emirates to the south.
- ❖ It serves as the main route for oil exports from Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, and the UAE.
- ❖ Many liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments, especially from Qatar, also pass through the strait.
- ❖ The Strait of Hormuz is a route for a fifth of the world's oil and a major LNG export transit.
- ❖ India imports about 40% of all its oil and about half of its gas through the narrow Strait.
- ❖ China, Iran's largest oil customer (which imports 47 per cent of its seaborne crude from the Middle East Gulf), would be directly impacted by the blockade of Hormuz.
- ❖ Also, Iran's reliance on Hormuz for oil exports via Kharg Island (handles 96 per cent of its exports) makes self-blockade counterproductive.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia and the UAE, also rely heavily on the Strait for exports.
- ❖ At the end, India may also pivot harder toward the US, Nigeria, Angola, and Brazil, albeit at higher freight costs.

NITI Aayog Report on India's Data Quality

- ❖ NITI Aayog released the third edition of report titled "India's Data Imperative: The Pivot Towards Quality."
- ❖ It highlights the urgent need to improve data quality for better digital governance and public trust.
- ❖ It introduces tools like the Data-Quality Scorecard and the Data-Quality Maturity Framework to help measure and improve data.
- ❖ India's data ecosystem includes Aadhaar, UPI, Ayushman Bharat, and the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) systems.
- ❖ India has 1.2 billion mobile users and 800 million internet users.
- ❖ The report warns that poor data quality causes 4-7% excess welfare spending due to errors and duplicates.



Centenary of a Historic Spiritual Conversation

- ❖ The 100th anniversary event of the meeting between Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The original conversation took place in 1925 at Sivagiri Mutt, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- ❖ They discussed various topics like Vaikom Satyagraha, non-violence, ending untouchability, and helping marginalized communities.
- ❖ Their talk is remembered for addressing social reform and equality issues of that time.

India's non-Fossil Power source

- ❖ India's total power capacity reached 476 GW as of June 2025.
- ❖ Non-fossil fuel sources make up 235.7 GW (49%) of this capacity.
- ❖ Renewable energy accounts for 226.9 GW, including 110.9 GW solar and 51.3 GW wind power.
- ❖ Nuclear power contributes 8.8 GW to the total capacity.
- ❖ Coal-based thermal power remains the largest source with 240 GW, or 50.52% of capacity.

Vaccine Gap Ranks

- ❖ India had 1.44 million "zero-dose" children in 2023, second only to Nigeria's 2.5 million.
- ❖ "Zero-dose" children are those who have not received even one routine childhood vaccine.
- ❖ These children are mostly concentrated in eight countries.
- ❖ These 8 together account for over 50% of the global burden.
- ❖ The data comes from a new Lancet study using the Global Burden of Disease estimates.
- ❖ India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) covers 12 diseases, but gaps in coverage remain.
- ❖ Globally, the number of zero-dose children dropped from 58.8 million in 1980 to 14.7 million in 2019.

Language promotion funds status

- ❖ Between 2014–15 and 2024–25, the union government spent Rs 2,532.59 crore on promoting Sanskrit.



- ❖ Only Rs 147.56 crore spent in total for the promotion of the other five classical languages combined, including Tamil.
- ❖ The allocation for Tamil alone was Rs 113.48 crore.
- ❖ Kannada and Telugu has each received less than 0.5%, and Odia and Malayalam each received under 0.2% of Sanskrit's total allocation.
- ❖ The combined funding of the remaining four Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, and Odia, which received the classical language status between 2008 and 2014, was ₹34.08 crore.
- ❖ The combined funding for Hindi, Urdu and Sindhi between 2014-15 and 2024-25 was ₹1,317.96 crore.
- ❖ According to the 2011 census, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Odia, and Kannada speakers together accounted for 21.99% of India's total population of 1.2 billion.

New Digital Push for India's Ports and Shipping

- ❖ Centre has launched new digital projects to improve India's maritime sector.
- ❖ Key projects include
 - SAGAR SETU- Seamless Administration for Growth and Access to Ports - System for Efficient Transport and Trade Unification,
 - Digital Centre of Excellence (DCoE),
 - DRISHTI Framework, and
 - Scale of Rates (SOR).
- ❖ These initiatives aim to modernize the ports and make shipping more efficient and sustainable.
- ❖ DCoE uses Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), and the Blockchain to create smart and green port operations.
- ❖ SAGAR SETU connects over 80 ports and 40 stakeholders for faster, paperless Export-Import (EXIM) processes.
- ❖ DRISHTI tracks progress on Maritime India Vision 2030 projects in real time.
- ❖ The SOR template standardizes the port tariffs to increase the transparency and boost investor confidence.
- ❖ All efforts align with the Maritime India Vision 2030 and Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 goals.

Inactive Political Parties 2025

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has begun the process to delist the 345 inactive Registered Unrecognized Political Parties (RUPPs).



- ❖ These parties have not contested any election since 2019.
- ❖ Their offices could not be physically located during verification.
- ❖ India has over 2,800 RUPPs registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- ❖ Many of these parties enjoy tax benefits but have not met the basic requirement of contesting elections.
- ❖ Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) have been asked to issue show-cause notices to these parties.
- ❖ Parties can explain their case in hearings before the CEOs but the ECI will make the final delisting decision.

50 Years of Official Language Department

- ❖ The Department of Official Language completes 50 years, highlighting efforts to promote Indian languages in governance.
- ❖ The journey from 1975 to 2025 reflects the collective dedication and commitment to linguistic empowerment.
- ❖ Initiatives like Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat strengthen national unity through cultural exchange.
- ❖ Events like Kashi-Tamil, Kashi-Telugu, and Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamams bring languages closer.
- ❖ Under the Bhasha Sangam, schools now teach the students 100 commonly used sentences in 22 scheduled languages.

First Maritime NBFC

- ❖ The country's first dedicated NBFC for the maritime sector has been launched recently.
- ❖ It is named Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL).
- ❖ It was earlier known as Sagarmala Development Company Limited.
- ❖ SMFCL is now officially registered as a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) with RBI.
- ❖ It has been granted Mini Ratna, Category-I, Central Public Sector Enterprise status.
- ❖ SMFCL will help fund port development, shipping, and other maritime projects.



INTERNATIONAL

Bill Legalizing Assisted Dying – France

- ❖ France’s National Assembly approved a bill that would allow adults suffering from unbearable and incurable illnesses to choose assisted dying.
- ❖ Under strict conditions, some people will be able to request medical help to end their lives peacefully and with dignity.
- ❖ Adults over 18 and living in France, can apply for assisted dying if they have a serious, incurable illness that causes constant physical or mental suffering.
- ❖ If it is approved, the law could take full effect by 2026.
- ❖ With this move, France may soon join other countries like Belgium and the Netherlands, where assisted dying is already legal.

2nd ASEAN - GCC - China Summit

- ❖ The 2nd ASEAN- The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ❖ GCC, China and ASEAN agreed to “chart a unified and collective path towards a peaceful, prosperous, and just future”.
- ❖ The GCC comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ The ASEAN members are Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar.

First Climate Impact Fee in US – Hawaii

- ❖ Hawaii has become the first U.S. state to implement a climate impact fee.
- ❖ It introduced a new tax on tourists to support environmental initiatives.
- ❖ The nation’s first “Green Fee, will increase the state’s transient accommodations tax by 0.75%.
- ❖ Previously exempted from the TAT (Transient Accommodation Tax), cruise ship passengers will now be included under the new law.
- ❖ The new Green Fee tax is projected to generate around \$100 million each year.

25 years of India - Germany strategic partnership

- ❖ In May 2025, India and Germany marked the Silver Jubilee (25 years) of their Strategic Partnership.



- ❖ The strategic partnership began in 2000.
- ❖ It was evolving to tackle contemporary global challenges like climate change and security.
- ❖ Over 2,000 German companies operate in India, generating more than 750,000 jobs.
- ❖ Over 50,000 Indian students are currently studying in Germany, forming the largest group of international students in the country.
- ❖ India was among the first to establish relations with post-WWI Germany.
- ❖ Also, Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe.

Interpol's Silver Notice 2025

- ❖ Interpol has issued the first silver notice on India's request to track the global assets of former French Embassy officer Shubham Shokeen.
- ❖ Before this, the CBI had also issued a Blue Notice to trace his whereabouts.
- ❖ The Silver Notice is a recently introduced, colour-coded notice by Interpol.
- ❖ It is aimed at tracking the movement of illicit assets across the globe.
- ❖ India is among the countries participating in this initiative.
- ❖ Notably, the first Silver Notice was issued at the request of Italy.
- ❖ In another case, the Silver Notice was issued against Amit Madanlal Lakhanpal at the ED's request.

Zangezur Corridor

- ❖ The Zangezur Corridor is the proposed transport route that Azerbaijan strongly wants to build.
- ❖ Its goal is to connect mainland Azerbaijan to a small, separated region called Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.
- ❖ This place is also a part of Azerbaijan but not physically linked to the rest of the country.
- ❖ If this corridor completed, it would also give Azerbaijan and Turkey the direct land access to each other.
- ❖ Back in 2020, Azerbaijan and Armenia fought a war over the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

International Organisation for Mediation (IOMed)

- ❖ The Chinese government and other 32 countries have signed a convention for establishing an international mediation organisation (IOMed) in Hong Kong.



- ❖ It was described as the “world’s first intergovernmental international legal organisation dedicated to resolving international disputes through mediation”.
- ❖ Its status would be on par with the UN bodies the ICJ and the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.
- ❖ Article 33 of the UN Charter provides for the peaceful settlement of international disputes through negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement or other peaceful means.
- ❖ So far, there has been no established intergovernmental organization for the mediation methods of dispute settlement.

Japan Carbon Emissions Trading System

- ❖ Japan’s parliament has enacted a law obliging hundreds of firms to join a carbon emissions trading scheme starting April 2026.
- ❖ Under the revised law, companies producing 100,000 tons of carbon dioxide or more a year are to join the Green Transformation-Emissions Trading System.
- ❖ The government estimates that the companies account for nearly 60% of domestic greenhouse gas emissions.
- ❖ Under the trading system, the companies will be allotted a maximum emission allowance.
- ❖ Carbon credits will have to be purchased on the market for any emissions above the threshold.

International Conference on Glaciers’ Preservation 2025

- ❖ The Plenary Session of the International Conference on Glaciers’ Preservation, was held in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan.
- ❖ It had focused on enhancing transboundary collaboration to preserve glaciers and their socio-economic benefits.
- ❖ The Conference also supported the implementation of UN resolutions on the “International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation 2025” and the “Decade of Action for Cryosphere Sciences, 2025–2034”.

51st G7 summit 2025

- ❖ The 2025 G7 Summit will be hosted by Canada in Alberta from June 15-17.
- ❖ This is the Second time Kananaskis city is hosting after 2002.
- ❖ The summit celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first G7 meeting.
- ❖ India will not participate due to ongoing diplomatic tensions with Canada.



- ❖ India had attended every summit since 2019.
- ❖ The previous summits are held in Germany in 2022, Japan in 2023 and Italy in 2024.
- ❖ The G7 member States are Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK, and the US.

Vietnam on Two-Child policy

- ❖ Vietnam has scrapped its longstanding two-child policy.
- ❖ This move aims to reverse its declining birthrate and ease the pressure from an ageing society.
- ❖ Between 1999 and 2022, Vietnam's birthrate was about 2.1 children per woman.
- ❖ In 2024, the country's birthrate reached a record low of 1.91 children per woman.
- ❖ Regional neighbours like Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong also have declining birthrates.
- ❖ The country's communist government introduced the two-child policy in 1988.

Nigeria floods 2025

- ❖ Flash floods triggered by heavy rains have devastated a North central Niger state's Mokwa.
- ❖ The floods are said to be worst in the area for 60 years.
- ❖ The area was also affected in 2022 when Nigeria recorded its worst flooding in more than a decade.

8th GPDRR 2025

- ❖ The 8th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2025 was organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ African Union joins Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as 54th Member recently.
- ❖ During the event, India called for the creation of a global facility, backed by the UN system & multilateral financial institutions.
- ❖ This can be used to provide the catalytic funding, technical assistance, and as a platform for knowledge exchange.



ECOWAS's 50th anniversary

- ❖ The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) commemorated its 50th anniversary on May 28, 2025.
- ❖ The Treaty of Lagos was signed by 15 West African Heads of the State and the Governments in 1975.
- ❖ This treaty laid the foundation for ECOWAS with the mission to promote the economic integration across the region.
- ❖ ECOWAS is a regional group of 15 West African countries.
- ❖ Recently, Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso have officially withdrawn from the group.
- ❖ Mauritania withdrew in 2000 but rejoined as an associate member in 2017.

80th UN General Assembly Session

- ❖ The 80th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 80) will open on 9 September 2025.
- ❖ The Former German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock was elected as the President of the 80th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- ❖ She becomes the first woman from the Western European group to assume the post and the fifth woman overall to lead the UNGA.
- ❖ The UNGA Presidency rotates annually among five regional groups.

BRICS Parliamentary Forum 2025

- ❖ The 11th BRICS Parliamentary Forum concluded in Brasilia, Brazil, recently with participating parliaments from all 10 BRICS member countries.
- ❖ The expanded BRICS parliamentary forum now includes India, Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa, Iran, the UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Indonesia.
- ❖ During the forum India assume the chairmanship of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, to be hosted next year.

HawkEye 360 Technology Deal

- ❖ The United States has approved the sale of HawkEye 360 technology to India.
- ❖ HawkEye 360 is a private American company that operates a network of satellites in low Earth orbit.
- ❖ These satellites track the radio frequency (RF) signals coming from ships, aircraft, vehicles, and coastal systems.



- ❖ It will be useful for detecting the vessels that switch off their Automatic Identification System (AIS) to evade detection.
- ❖ These so-called 'dark' ships pose a significant challenge in disputed waters or areas where illicit activities occur.

Humanitarian initiative in Socotra Island

- ❖ The UAE and WHO have launched a comprehensive humanitarian initiative to combat severe malnutrition affecting women and children on Socotra Island.
- ❖ Yemen's Socotra Island's Global Acute Malnutrition rate among children under five has reached 10.9 percent.
- ❖ Also, the Severe Acute Malnutrition is affecting 1.6 percent of this population.
- ❖ International health standards classify GAM rates between 10 and 14 percent as serious.
- ❖ Socotra is a biodiversity-rich island known as the "Galápagos of the Indian Ocean" for its unique flora and fauna.
- ❖ It is located approximately 340 km southeast of Yemen, in the Indian Ocean, near the Horn of Africa.

Vice-chair of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee

- ❖ Pakistan will chair the Taliban Sanctions Committee of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in 2025.
- ❖ It will serve as vice-chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the 15-nation U.N. body.
- ❖ Denmark will chair the 1267 ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee of the UNSC.
- ❖ Russia and Sierra Leone will be vice-chairs for 2025.
- ❖ Pakistan will chair the 1988 Taliban Sanctions Committee.
- ❖ It imposes an assets freeze, a travel ban and an arms embargo on individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan.
- ❖ Guyana and Russia will be vice-chairs of the Taliban Sanctions Committee.
- ❖ Pakistan is a non-permanent member of the 15-nation Security Council for the 2025-26 term.
- ❖ India was chair of the UNSC Counter-terrorism Committee for 2022 during its 2021-22 tenure in the Council as a non-permanent member.



Diphtheria Outbreak - Western Europe

- ❖ The largest diphtheria outbreak to strike Western Europe in 70 years has been affecting vulnerable people such as migrants and the homeless since 2022.
- ❖ Diphtheria is a highly contagious bacterial infection that can severely attack the respiratory tract and spread throughout the body.
- ❖ The bacteria that cause diphtheria is *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*.

ICDRI 2025

- ❖ The seventh year of the International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) was held in Nice, France.
- ❖ Theme of the event is “Shaping a Resilient Future for Coastal Regions”.
- ❖ It was organised by the New Delhi-headquartered Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).
- ❖ This is the first time the conference was held in Europe with the CDRI as the co-chair.
- ❖ ICDRI 2025 is aligned with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) in Geneva, and third U.N. Oceans Conference (UNOC3), in Nice.
- ❖ During the event, the Indian Prime Minister has outlined 7 key global priorities to strengthen the disaster resilience, need for the early warning systems and the coordination.

High Seas Treaty updates

- ❖ A special High Seas Treaty event was organised especially for the Conference taking place this week in Nice, France.
- ❖ This Treaty got 18 ratifications at the Conference.
- ❖ Till date, the total number of nations to have formally ratified the legislation is 49.
- ❖ An additional 17 countries also signed the Treaty, marking their intention to ratify it in the future, taking the total number of signatories to 134.
- ❖ The treaty will enter into force 120 days after at least 60 countries ratify it.
- ❖ India is signed the treaty but not yet ratified.
- ❖ It is formally called the Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) treaty.
- ❖ The treaty is crucial to meet a globally agreed biodiversity target of protecting 30 per cent of the oceans and lands by 2030, known as “30x30”.



ECCAS and Rwanda

- ❖ Rwanda has announced its withdrawal from the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).
- ❖ Rwanda had expected to assume the chairmanship of the 11-member bloc at a meeting in Equatorial Guinea.
- ❖ ECCAS was established in the 1980s to foster cooperation in areas like security and economic affairs among its member states.
- ❖ It consists of 11 member states, including Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).
- ❖ Rwanda is accused of providing military support to M23, which has seized key cities in eastern Congo.

Blue NDC Challenge

- ❖ Brazil and France have launched a new initiative to bring oceans to the heart of climate action at the third United Ocean Conference (UNOC3) in Nice, France.
- ❖ The 'Blue NDC Challenge' urges countries to incorporate ocean-focused climate measures into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- ❖ Six other countries—Australia, Fiji, Kenya, Mexico, Palau, and the Republic of Seychelles—have joined the initiative.
- ❖ The deadline for the third set of NDCs for 2035 was February 10, 2025.
- ❖ Only 21 countries of the 195 parties have made their submissions this year.
- ❖ The 30th Conference of Parties (COP30) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is going to be held in Belem, Brazil.

Operation Secure 2025

- ❖ More than 20,000 malicious IP addresses or domains linked to the information stealers have been taken down in an INTERPOL-coordinated operation.
- ❖ During Operation Secure involved law enforcement agencies from 26 countries.
- ❖ The operation aimed to dismantle malicious infrastructure linked to information-stealing malware.
- ❖ They have worked to locate servers, map physical networks and execute targeted takedowns.
- ❖ Infostealer malware was identified as a primary tool for cybercriminals.



World Bank's updated poverty line

- ❖ The World Bank revised upwards its threshold poverty line to \$3 per day.
- ❖ For lower middle-income countries it's changed from \$3.65 to \$4.20 per day and for upper middle-income countries it went up from \$6.85 to \$8.40.
- ❖ The poverty rate at the lower middle-income country (LMIC) line declined by 33.7 percentage points.
- ❖ India has lifted 171 million people from extreme poverty in the decade between 2011-12 and 2022-23.
- ❖ India's extreme poverty rate declined sharply to 5.3% over a decade from 27.1% in 2011-12.
- ❖ In India, 54,695,832 people lived on less than \$3 per day in 2024.
- ❖ Thus, the poverty rate at \$3 per day (2021 PPP - percentage population) is 5.44% in 2024.
- ❖ The extreme poverty rate decreased from 16.2 to 2.3% between 2011-12 and 2022-23.
- ❖ Rural extreme poverty dropped from 18.4% to 2.8%, and urban from 10.7% to 1.1%.
- ❖ 269 million Indians moved above the extreme poverty line between 2011-12 and 2022-23.

Operation Rising Lion

- ❖ Israel targeted the Iranian Nuclear Sites under the Operation Rising Lion.
- ❖ Among the high-profile targets was the nuclear facilities at Natanz and Fordow.
- ❖ Nuclear sites at Khondab and Khorramabad were also targeted.
- ❖ The operation aims to dismantle Iran's military.
- ❖ The commander of the Revolutionary Guards' (IRGC) air force of Iran Amir Ali Hajizadeh was killed by Israel attack.
- ❖ The IRGC commander Hossein Salami and the Iranian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Major General Mohammad Bagheri were also killed.
- ❖ The IRGC air force was responsible for Iran's ballistic missile and drone attacks on Israel in April and October last year.
- ❖ In retaliation, Iran launched Operation True Promise III, striking Israel.

Gaza ceasefire resolution 2025

- ❖ India abstained from voting during the resolution at the United Nations General Assembly for a ceasefire in Gaza.



- ❖ But the resolution was adopted with overwhelming support, as 149 countries voted in favour.
- ❖ India was among the 19 countries that abstained, even as key American allies like the UK, Australia and Japan voted in favour.
- ❖ The US, Israel and 10 other countries voted against.
- ❖ India stands alone as the only country in South Asia, BRICS, and SCO to abstain.
- ❖ India had twice voted in favour of the UNGA Gaza ceasefire resolutions – first in December 2023 and again in the same month a year later.

Nice Ocean Action Plan

- ❖ The Third UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3) 2025 was held in Nice, France.
- ❖ It was co-hosted by France and Costa Rica.
- ❖ They adapted the Political Declaration titled “Our Ocean, Our Future: United for Urgent Action”.
- ❖ The declaration is also known as the “Nice Ocean Action Plan”.
- ❖ Ratification of High Seas Treaty has touched 50.
- ❖ The President of the European Commission has announced an investment of €1 billion to support ocean conservation, science and sustainable fishing.
- ❖ Indonesia & World Bank officially launched the Coral Reef Bond.
- ❖ French Polynesia announced the creation of the world’s largest Marine Protected Area (MPA).
- ❖ It covers the entirety of the country’s exclusive economic zone (EEZ), almost 5 million square kilometers (more than 1.9 million square miles).
- ❖ Both Chile and the Republic of Korea’s made a joint proposal to host the next UN Conference on Oceans in 2028.

113th International Labour Conference

- ❖ This Conference has also adopted the first international labour standards aimed at protecting workers from biological hazards.
- ❖ This is the 1st international instrument specifically addressing biological hazards in the working environment.
- ❖ The Convention (C 192) calls on Member States to formulate national policies and adopt measures on occupational safety and health.
- ❖ It also called to include the prevention and protection against biological hazards, and the development of preparedness and response measures to deal with the accidents and emergencies.



- ❖ Seven amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, were approved during the event.
- ❖ Palestine participated as a non-member observer State at the Conference.

Barak Magen vs Fattah I missile

- ❖ Israel activated its new aerial defence system, 'Barak Magen' or 'Lightning Shield,' for the first time after Iran's Fattah-1 missile attack.
- ❖ It is a special version of the Barak MX missile defence system.
- ❖ It is built to protect the navy ships from various aerial threats like drones, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles.
- ❖ The system is deployed on advanced Israeli Navy ships called Sa'ar 6 corvettes.
- ❖ Fattah-1 is a medium-range hypersonic ballistic missile.
- ❖ It has been specifically engineered to evade defense systems such as Israel's Iron Dome and Arrow
- ❖ The missile is capable of reaching the speeds between Mach 13 and 15—around 15,000 km/h.
- ❖ It has a range of approximately 1,400 kilometres (about 870 miles).

India and G7 2025 Summit

- ❖ Indian Prime Minister participated in the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada.
- ❖ He has addressed a session on 'Energy Security: diversification, technology and infrastructure to ensure access and affordability in a changing world'.
- ❖ India and Canada agreed to designate new High Commissioners for the first time since 2023.
- ❖ Prime Minister also made a four-day, three-nation tour covering Cyprus, Canada and Croatia.

Sickle Cell Disease Management Guidelines

- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) has introduced its first global guideline for managing sickle cell disease (SCD) during pregnancy.
- ❖ The guideline includes over 20 recommendations including the folic acid and iron supplementation.
- ❖ Women with SCD face a 4- to 11-fold higher likelihood of the maternal death than those without.
- ❖ Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder.
- ❖ It causes red blood cells to become rigid and shaped like sickles.



Israel's Samson Option

- ❖ Israel's "scenario of last resort" is sometimes referred to as "the Samson Option".
- ❖ This phrase is believed to have been coined by the Israeli leaders during the mid-1960s.
- ❖ The principle is that Israel would use nuclear retaliation if it faced an existential threat.
- ❖ In theory, the Samson Option could apply if Israel faces a military defeat that it considers existential, even from a non-nuclear power.
- ❖ Israel owns the US-produced F-15, F-16 and F-35 aircraft, all of which can be modified to hold nuclear bombs.
- ❖ Israel has between 750 and 1,110kg of plutonium, which would be enough to build 187 to 277 nuclear weapons.

Ottawa Convention – Finland

- ❖ Finland becomes 5th European nation to exit the Ottawa landmine treaty after Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Poland.
- ❖ Finland joined the Ottawa Treaty in 2012.
- ❖ The Ottawa Convention was signed in 1997 and came into force in 1999.
- ❖ The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (the Ottawa treaty) bans the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of antipersonnel mines.
- ❖ Currently it has 164 states parties.

B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber

- ❖ The US Air Force has deployed B-2 Spirit stealth bombers for precision strikes on Iran's nuclear sites.
- ❖ The mission has targeted three locations, including the heavily fortified Fordow enrichment facility.
- ❖ Fordow is called as the "Crown Jewel" of Iran's nuclear program.
- ❖ The B-2 has a range of over 6,000 nautical miles (11,000 km) without refuelling, allowing long-range missions from the continental US.
- ❖ It can carry a total payload exceeding 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).
- ❖ The payload includes both conventional and nuclear weapons.
- ❖ The B-2 can deliver up to 16 B83 nuclear bombs as part of the US nuclear triad.



Assisted Dying bill 2025 – UK

- ❖ The U.K. House of Commons have passed a bill to allow terminally-ill people to end their lives.
- ❖ The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is colloquially known as the Assisted Dying bill.
- ❖ It will only apply to people in England and Wales who have less than six months to live.

Chios Wildfire 2025

- ❖ A massive wildfire has been spread on the Greek island of Chios.
- ❖ Three severe forest fires broke out in the areas of Kofinas, Agia Anna and Agios Makarios.
- ❖ Chios is located in the eastern Aegean.
- ❖ It is prone to wildfires during Greece's hot and dry summers.

New Trilateral Dialogue 2025

- ❖ China, Pakistan, and Bangladesh have held their first-ever trilateral meeting in Kunming, capital of China's Yunnan province.
- ❖ This marks China's second recent trilateral initiative in the region.
- ❖ Similar dialogue was held with China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan last month.
- ❖ The three countries focused on strengthening regional cooperation and discussed various strategic and developmental issues.

Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution

- ❖ A new global science-policy panel on chemicals, waste, and pollution has been launched in Punta del Este, Uruguay.
- ❖ It is formed under the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ❖ It aims to strengthen the global efforts to tackle pollution, manage hazardous chemicals and waste, and protect the environmental and human health through evidence-based policymaking.
- ❖ This panel joins the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).
- ❖ These 3 form a powerful trio tackling the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.



HIV MTCT Elimination - Botswana

- ❖ Botswana became the first country to achieve gold tier status in eliminating the mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV.
- ❖ It reduced new HIV infections in children to below 250 per 100,000 live births.
- ❖ Service coverage increased from 90% to 95% in antenatal care, HIV testing, and treatment for pregnant women with HIV.
- ❖ Botswana had already achieved silver tier status in 2021.
- ❖ In 2023, Namibia was awarded bronze tier for progress in HIV MTCT elimination.
- ❖ Namibia is also the first country to earn the silver tier for eliminating MTCT of hepatitis B.

UN80 Initiative

- ❖ The UN80 Initiative was launched by UN Secretary-General António Guterres.
- ❖ It aims to modernize the UN to meet current global challenges.
- ❖ The focus is on improving the UN's work in peace, development, and human rights.
- ❖ It plans to eliminate overlaps and automate administrative services.
- ❖ A review will assess how over 3,600 UN mandates are being implemented.
- ❖ The initiative will not change the mandates themselves.
- ❖ The UN80 Initiative focuses on three workstreams—cutting costs and overlaps through automation, review.

Iran and IAEA Cooperation

- ❖ Iran's Parliament have voted to stop all cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).
- ❖ The move follows military strikes by the United States (US) and Israel on Iranian nuclear sites.
- ❖ The IAEA, the United Nations (UN) nuclear monitoring body, oversees the nuclear activities worldwide.
- ❖ Iran had been allowing inspections under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).
- ❖ The NPT is an international agreement aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons.

US exits from GAVI

- ❖ US is pulling its support from the vaccine's alliance Gavi.



- ❖ The Gavi is a public-private partnership including the WHO, UNICEF, the Gates Foundation and the World Bank.
- ❖ It has paid for more than 1 billion children to be vaccinated through the routine immunization programs, saving an estimated 18 million lives.
- ❖ It is also a member of the WHO-led Vaccine Safety Net (VSN) project.
- ❖ US already withdrew from WHO, the Paris Climate Agreement, the UN Human Rights Council, the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), etc.

50 Poorest Countries in 2025

- ❖ South Sudan is the poorest country in the world by GDP per capita at, \$251.
- ❖ Over 30 countries from Sub-Saharan Africa are among the world's poorest.
- ❖ India, the 4th largest country by GDP, ranks 50th in the world's poorest countries by GDP per capita in 2025 (\$2,878).
- ❖ Data is missing for Afghanistan, Eritrea, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Syria, Palestine.

ECONOMY

Designing a Policy for Medium Enterprises

- ❖ NITI Aayog released a report titled "Designing a Policy for Medium Enterprises".
- ❖ It was offering a comprehensive roadmap for transforming medium enterprises into future growth engines of India's economy.
- ❖ The MSME sector contributes approximately 29% to India's GDP.
- ❖ They account for 40% of exports, and employs over 60% of the workforce.
- ❖ 97% of registered MSMEs are micro enterprises, 2.7% are small, and only 0.3% are medium enterprises.
- ❖ However, this 0.3% of medium enterprises contributes nearly 40% of the MSME exports.

Revised Economic Capital Framework 2025

- ❖ RBI has taken a step to strengthen its financial resilience by revising its Economic Capital Framework (ECF) and risk provisioning norms.
- ❖ The revision follows a five-year of periodic review, as recommended by the Bimal Jalan Committee.



- ❖ The original ECF, adopted in August 2019, has been in operation for nearly five years.
- ❖ The ECF governs how much capital the RBI should maintain to cover its various risks and how much of its surplus income can be transferred to the Government of India.
- ❖ The new framework allows for a contingency risk buffer (CRB) range of 4.5-7.5 per cent, expansion from the previous 5.5-6.5 per cent range.
- ❖ From FY19 to FY22, the RBI maintained a CRB of 5.50 per cent.
- ❖ In FY23, it increased to 6 per cent, and further to 6.5 per cent in FY24.
- ❖ RBI's central board approved a surplus transfer of approximately ₹2.69 trillion to the government for the fiscal year 2024-25.

“Niveshak Shivar” initiative

- ❖ The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), in collaboration with SEBI, has announced the launch of its pilot initiative “Niveshak Shivar”.
- ❖ The initiative is designed to serve as a one-stop solution for investors seeking to resolve issues related to unclaimed dividends and shares.
- ❖ It is also providing direct access to investor services.
- ❖ The total number of unclaimed shares lying with the IEPFA is over 1.1 billion, valued about Rs 1 lakh crore.
- ❖ The total value of unclaimed dividends at about Rs 6,000 crore.

India's fiscal deficit in FY 2024/25

- ❖ The central government's fiscal deficit stood at Rs 15.77 lakh crore or 100.5% of the revised annual target.
- ❖ The latest figure is lower than the ₹16.54 trillion registered in FY24, which was 95.3% of the estimates for the year.
- ❖ Total expenditure stood at Rs 46.56 lakh crore, which is 98.7% of this fiscal year's revised budget targets.
- ❖ The central government's fiscal deficit target was 4.8% of the gross domestic product (GDP) for 2024-25, with a further reduction to 4.4% targeted for 2025-26.
- ❖ Revenue receipts stood at Rs 30.36 lakh crore, of which tax revenue was Rs 24.99 lakh crore and non-tax revenue was Rs 5.38 lakh crore.



India's FDI in FY 2024/25

- ❖ India has received foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows worth USD 81.04 billion (provisional) in the financial year 2024–25.
- ❖ It reflects a 14% increase from USD 71.28 billion in the previous year.
- ❖ The services sector has emerged as the top recipient of FDI equity in FY 2024–25, accounting for 19% of total inflows.
- ❖ The sector received USD 9.35 billion, a 40.77% rise from USD 6.64 billion in FY 2023–24.
- ❖ It was followed by the computer software and hardware sector at 16%, and trading at 8%.
- ❖ Among the Indian states, Maharashtra attracted the highest share of FDI equity inflows at 39%, followed by Karnataka (13%) and Delhi (12%).
- ❖ On the source country front, Singapore has contributed 30% of total FDI inflows, followed by Mauritius at 17% and the United States at 11%.

UPI transactions in May 2025

- ❖ Transactions on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) touched an all-time high of 18.68 billion in volume and ₹25.14 trillion in value in May.
- ❖ The previous high record numbers were in March 2025, when the digital payment system clocked 18.3 billion in volume and ₹24.77 trillion in value.
- ❖ UPI apps are already accepted via QR codes in Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the UAE.
- ❖ It will be allowing Indian travellers to make merchant payments abroad using domestic UPI platforms.

Miniratna status to three DPSUs

- ❖ The Defence Ministry has approved the grant of 'Miniratna' status Category-I for
 - The Munitions India Limited (MIL),
 - The Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL), and
 - India Optel Limited (IOL).
- ❖ The Miniratna scheme was initiated in the year 1997.
- ❖ The qualification for the designation of Miniratna status
 - Must have achieved profitability in the last three consecutive years.
 - Need to demonstrate a pre-tax profit of Rs.30 crores or more in at least one of the three years.
 - Must maintain a positive net worth.



RBI's 6th Remittances Survey

- ❖ Inward remittances stood at a record \$118.7 billion in 2023-24.
- ❖ This is not only exceeding the FDI inflows but also financing over half of India's merchandise trade deficit.
- ❖ The U.S. accounts for 27.7% of India's inward remittances.
- ❖ This is a hike from 23.4% reported in the Fifth Round (2020-21) Survey.
- ❖ The U.S., U.K., Canada, Australia, and Singapore together account for 51.2% of the flows.
- ❖ They overtook the cumulative share of the six GCC nations (37.9%) by a large margin.
- ❖ In 2023-24, transfers above ₹5 lakh accounted for nearly 29% of total remittance value.
- ❖ In 2023-24, digital channels, on average, accounted for 73.5% of all remittance transactions.
- ❖ The average cost of sending \$200 to India now stands at 4.9%, below the global average of 6.65%.
- ❖ But this is still above the Sustainable Development Goal benchmark of 3%.
- ❖ Maharashtra, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu received about 51% of total remittances.
- ❖ Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan have received a total share of under 6% of remittances.

New Future Equivalent (FutEq) method

- ❖ SEBI has announced a comprehensive overhaul of its framework governing the equity Futures and Options (F&O) segment.
- ❖ SEBI is now employing a Future Equivalent (FutEq) method to measure the open interest.
- ❖ It was replacing the traditional notional open interest method.

RBI Annual Report 2024-25

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) balance sheet expanded by 8.2 per cent to Rs 76.25 lakh crore in the year 2024-25.
- ❖ The RBI's balance sheet stood at Rs 70.48 lakh crore as on March 31, 2024.
- ❖ During 2024-25, its income grew by 22.77 per cent to Rs 3.38 lakh crore from Rs 2.76 lakh crore in 2023-24.
- ❖ The expenditure increased by 7.76 per cent to Rs 69,714.02 crore in 2024-25 from Rs 64,694.33 crore as on March 31, 2024.



- ❖ The income from foreign sources has surged 38.07 per cent to 2.59 lakh crore in 2024-25.
- ❖ The total gold held by the RBI was 879.58 metric tonnes as on March 31, 2025.
- ❖ The RBI's 'other liabilities' are increased by 23.31 per cent from Rs 2.61 lakh crore as on March 31, 2024 to Rs 3.21 lakh crore as on March 31, 2025.
- ❖ India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth moderated to 6.5% in 2024-25.
- ❖ Net household savings increased to 5.1% of Gross National Disposable Income (GNDI).
- ❖ Digital payments volume grew by 34.8%, value by 17.9% in 2024-25.
- ❖ The Gross Fiscal Deficit (GFD) of the central government reduced to 4.7% of GDP in 2024-25 from 5.5% in 2023-24.
- ❖ Counterfeit of Rs 200 and Rs 500 notes rose by 13.9% and 37.3% respectively.

5-year initiative - ADB Bank

- ❖ Asian Development Bank (ADB) has unveiled a \$10 billion five-year initiative to transform urban infrastructure across India.
- ❖ The amount includes third-party capital and will be used for metro extensions, new regional rapid transit system corridors, and urban infrastructure and services.
- ❖ The ADB has already worked with more than 110 cities across 22 states on water supply, sanitation, housing, and solid-waste management projects.
- ❖ The ADB expects India's GDP at 6.7% this year (FY2025-2026) and 6.8% next year (FY2026-2027).
- ❖ This is 2 percentage points higher than the developing Asian economies.
- ❖ ADB was founded in 1966, and owned by 69 members--50 from the region.
- ❖ It began operations in India in 1986.

Monetary Policy update 2025

- ❖ RBI has announced its latest Monetary Policy updates after its 55th meeting of its Monetary Policy Committee.
- ❖ Policy repo rate is being reduced by 50 basis points (bps) to 5.50 per cent with immediate effect.
- ❖ The inflation outlook for FY26 has been revised to 3.7 per cent, from the earlier 4 per cent.
- ❖ The real GDP growth for 2025-26 is projected at 6.5 per cent.



- ❖ For the financial year 2024-25, the growth rate stood at 6.5 per cent, which was a four-year low.
- ❖ The SDF rate revised to 5.25% and the MSF/Bank Rate to 5.75%.
- ❖ It decided to cut Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by a huge 1%.
- ❖ It will unlock ₹2.5 lakh crore liquidity to the banking system.
- ❖ With the reduction in four equal tranches, the CRR would come down to 3% of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL).

India's market capitalization June 2025

- ❖ India's listed companies have added nearly \$1 trillion in market capitalization in absolute terms to \$5.33 trillion since early March 2025.
- ❖ In percentage terms, m-cap has surged by over 21 percent.
- ❖ This is the highest increase among the world's top 10 equity markets.
- ❖ Globally, Germany has posted the second-largest gain after India, with its m-cap rising nearly 14 percent during this period.
- ❖ India is currently the fifth largest market globally after the US, China, Japan and Hong Kong.

India's FDI inflows in FY 2024-25

- ❖ In 2024-25, India received a total FDI of \$81 billion, which is the highest in the last three years.
- ❖ Maharashtra and Karnataka together attracted 51% of India's total FDI inflows in FY 2024-25.
- ❖ Gujarat's share rose from 6% to 11%, while Tamil Nadu's share declined from 11% to 7%.
- ❖ Number of source countries for FDI increased from 89 in 2013-14 to 112 in 2024-25.
- ❖ The highest FDI inflow ever received was \$84.83 billion in 2021-22.
- ❖ Singapore emerged as the largest source of FDI with \$14.94 billion inflows.
- ❖ It was followed by Mauritius (\$3.73 billion against \$8.34 billion), the US (\$5.45 billion), the Netherlands (\$4.62 billion), the UAE (\$3.12 billion), Japan (\$2.47 billion), Cyprus (\$1.2 billion), the UK (\$795 million), Germany (\$ 469 million), and the Cayman Islands (\$371 million).
- ❖ In terms of sector-wise FDI, inflows rose in services, trading, telecommunication, automobile, construction development, non-conventional energy and chemicals.



New UPI Payment Mechanism for Investors

- ❖ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is set to implement this.
- ❖ It aims to protect investors from unregistered entities in the stock market.
- ❖ It will allow investors to easily identify legitimate SEBI-registered intermediaries before making payments.
- ❖ Unregistered entities have increasingly misled investors, collecting funds without proper authorisation.
- ❖ It is also developing a new tool called 'SEBI Check' to verify the veracity of UPI IDs or bank details of registered intermediaries.
- ❖ Under the new mechanism, the username will be a readable name chosen by the intermediary, followed by a mandatory suffix that clearly identifies their category.
- ❖ While the suffix would be '.brk' for a stock broker, it would be '.mf' for a mutual fund.
- ❖ The verified UPI handle will feature a unique and exclusive identifier, "@valid", combined with the name of the self-certified syndicate bank.
- ❖ The validated UPI handle will be exclusively allocated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) only for the payment collection by the Sebi-registered intermediaries.
- ❖ The NPCI is the umbrella organisation for operating the retail payments and the settlement systems in the country, that owns and operates the UPI platform.

India's Retail Inflation – June 2025

- ❖ India's retail inflation rate eased to a 75-month low of 2.8% in May 2025.
- ❖ It fell below 3 per cent for the first time in over six years.
- ❖ It was last lower than this in February 2019.
- ❖ It was as per the Consumer Price Index (CPI) data.
- ❖ This decline is primarily attributed to falling food prices, despite an increase in some vegetable costs.
- ❖ However, double-digit inflation in edible oils and fruits partially offset the broader moderation.

India's Tea exports in 2024

- ❖ Tea exports from India have increased by 9.92 per cent at 254.67 million kg, from January to December 2024.
- ❖ This was 231.69 million kg in the previous calendar year.



- ❖ In south India, the production volumes from January to December 2024 stood at 99.86 million kg.
- ❖ It was 90.69 million kg in the previous calendar of 2023, registering a rise of 10.11 per cent year-on-year.

SEBI on reverse flipping

- ❖ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved changes to its reverse flipping, and Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) norms.
- ❖ It aims to ease the Initial Public Offering (IPO) process for startups.
- ❖ Reverse flipping is the process of transferring the ownership of an Indian startup entity from a foreign jurisdiction to India.
- ❖ Earlier, equity shares acquired under approved schemes for an Offer for Sale in a public issue were exempt from one-year minimum holding period requirement.

Indian Funds in Swiss Banks in 2024

- ❖ Indian funds in Swiss banks surged over threefold to CHF 3.5 billion (Rs 37,600 crore) in 2024.
- ❖ Most of the increase came from funds held through bank channels and other financial entities, not individual customer accounts.
- ❖ This is the highest since 2021, when the total Indian money in Swiss banks had hit a 14-year-high of CHF 3.83 billion.
- ❖ India has rose to the 48th spot globally in terms of funds in Swiss banks, up from 67th last year.

Foreign Direct Investment Decline – 2024

- ❖ The World Investment Report 2025 was released by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
- ❖ Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows was making up 2.3% of all the capital formation in India in 2024.
- ❖ India attracted \$27.6 billion of FDI inflows in 2024, down 1.8% from 2023.
- ❖ It was also less than half the amount seen in 2020.
- ❖ In South Asia, India accounting for nearly 80% of the region's FDI inflows.

RBI's New Project Finance Norms 2025

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued final guidelines on project finance, offering regulatory clarity for the NBFC sector.



- ❖ These norms apply to loans sanctioned on or after 1st October 2025.
- ❖ The final version eases the provisioning requirements.
- ❖ The RBI has adopted a principle-based resolution approach, with a standardized guidelines across all regulated entities.
- ❖ Standard asset provisioning for new under-construction loans is set at 1%, and 1.25% for commercial real estate projects.
- ❖ It is much lower than the initially proposed 5%.

World's Second-Largest Reserve Asset

- ❖ Gold has overtaken the euro to become world's second-largest foreign exchange reserve asset.
- ❖ Gold now holds 20% of global reserves, surpassing the euro's 16%.
- ❖ The US dollar remains the dominant reserve currency.
- ❖ It is accounting for 46% of global holdings.
- ❖ The Central banks have significantly increased gold purchases in recent years—over 1,000 tonnes annually for the past three years.
- ❖ It is more than double the previous decade's average of 400–500 tonnes.
- ❖ Global official gold reserves have reached 36,000 tonnes.
- ❖ It is almost nearing the historic peak of 38,000 tonnes set in 1965 during the Bretton Woods era.
- ❖ As per World Gold Council data, the Reserve Bank of India held 876.18 tonnes of gold as of December 2024.

India's Coffee Exports

- ❖ India's coffee exports have surged by 125% over the past 11 years.
- ❖ Now it reaching \$1.8 billion in 2023–24.
- ❖ This is a rise from \$800 million in 2014–15.
- ❖ It elevated India to the 5th largest coffee exporter globally.
- ❖ India is currently the 7th largest producer of coffee.
- ❖ India exports over two-thirds of its annual production of more than 3.5 lakh tonnes.
- ❖ Around 75% of India's coffee is made up of Arabica and Robusta beans, primarily grown in the Western and Eastern Ghats.
- ❖ Karnataka leads national production with 248,020 metric tonnes in 2022–23, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



- ❖ Europe remains the top export destination, with key markets including Italy, Germany, Belgium, along with Russia, UAE, US, South Korea, and Japan.
- ❖ Brazil continues to be the world's largest coffee producer, maintaining global dominance.

Digital Payment Intelligence Platform (DPIP)

- ❖ Major Indian banks are teaming up with the RBI to develop the Digital Payment Intelligence Platform (DPIP).
- ❖ The goal is to reduce the digital payment frauds through the real-time intelligence sharing.
- ❖ DPIP will act as a Digital Public Infrastructure for safer transactions.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) is building the prototype in the very collaboration with 5–10 banks.
- ❖ The platform will use advanced technologies like AI and analytics to detect and prevent fraud.
- ❖ In FY25, the total amount involved in bank frauds rose to Rs 36,014 crore, nearly three times the Rs 12,230 crore reported in FY24.

States' Capital Spending to Rise

- ❖ Capital expenditure (capex) by 26 Indian states will increase to ₹10.2 trillion in FY26 from ₹8.7 trillion in FY25.
- ❖ Just over five states will contribute nearly 50% of this total capex.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh alone will account for 16.3% of total capital spending.
- ❖ In FY25, the top five capex contributors were Uttar Pradesh (16.9%), Maharashtra (10.9%), Gujarat (8.1%), Madhya Pradesh (7.5%), and Odisha (6.4%).
- ❖ Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, and Sikkim together will make up only 0.4% of the FY26 capital spending.
- ❖ Aggregate receipts across the 26 states are forecast at ₹69.4 trillion in FY26.
- ❖ It is a 10.6% increase over FY25.
- ❖ Revenue receipts are expected to grow by 12.3%.
- ❖ Capital receipts are projected to rise by 6.6%.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Rajasthan are each projected to contribute 5.9%.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu, a top contributor in FY25, is not among the top five in FY26.



Different Base Years for GDP and CPI Calculations

- ❖ The government is likely to adopt the different base years for calculating Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and retail inflation (measured by the Consumer Price Index or CPI).
- ❖ The proposed base year for GDP is 2022–23, while for CPI it is 2023–24.
- ❖ Currently, both GDP and CPI use the 2011–12 base year.
- ❖ The choice of 2022–23 for GDP is due to key data sources like the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE), and the Household Consumption Survey being conducted during that year.
- ❖ CPI will use 2023–24 as its base year because the price collection survey began in January 2024.
- ❖ The new base years for GDP and CPI are expected to be implemented from the financial year 2026–27.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

First Stigma Scale for Sickle Cell Disease

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) recently developed India's first ICMR-SCD Stigma Scale for India (ISSSI).
- ❖ The three scales available globally were unsuitable due to India's diversity.
- ❖ ISSSI is the first in India and the fourth globally, available in clinical and research settings.
- ❖ Sickle cell disease is caused by the inheritance of two mutated β -globin genes, one from each parent.
- ❖ India accounts for the second-highest prevalence of the sickle cell disease (SCD) globally, following sub-Saharan Africa.

Tianwen-2 Probe

- ❖ China launched a space probe Tianwen 2 on the country's first mission to retrieve samples from an asteroid and bring back for research.
- ❖ It is headed to Kamo'oalewa (also referred to as 2016 HO3), a small, unusual near-Earth asteroid.
- ❖ It will bring samples of the object to Earth sometime in 2027.



- ❖ This asteroid is a “living fossil” consisting of the ancient materials that can help scientists understand how the early Solar System formed.
- ❖ Tianwen 2 will also explore the comet 311P.
- ❖ 311P orbits in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

AMCA project

- ❖ India cleared its ambitious Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program, a fifth-generation stealth fighter jet project.
- ❖ The AMCA project is led by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) of the DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) under the Ministry of Defence.
- ❖ The AMCA is a 25-tonne twin-engine stealth multi-role fighter, featuring cutting-edge stealth design, sensor fusion, and advanced avionics.
- ❖ This project aims to elevate the Indian Air Force (IAF) into the elite club of next-gen aerial combat nations like US, Russia, and China.

World-first CRISPR therapy

- ❖ The baby, KJ Muldoon from Pennsylvania of USA, is one of 350 million people worldwide with a rare disease - CPS1 deficiency.
- ❖ This baby became the first to successfully receive personalized gene therapy.
- ❖ The Doctors’ team created a therapy designed to correct KJ’s faulty gene.
- ❖ They used CRISPR, the gene editing tool that won its inventors the Nobel Prize in 2020.
- ❖ Doctors employed a technique known as “base editing.”

South Asia’s largest Battery Energy Storage System

- ❖ A 20-MW battery energy storage system (BESS), the “largest” one in South Asia was inaugurated at Kilokari, New Delhi.
- ❖ The system is also India’s “the first commercially approved” utility-scale energy storage system.
- ❖ It uses an advanced Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) technology known for superior safety, thermal stability and durability.
- ❖ In Lithium–iron phosphate (LiFePO₄) batteries, lithium metal phosphate is used as a cathode instead of lithium metal oxide.



India's First Gene-Edited Sheep

- ❖ Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) at Jammu have produced India's first gene-edited sheep.
- ❖ The gene editing was performed using CRISPR-Cas9 technology.
- ❖ The same team had previously cloned India's first Pashmina goat 'Noori' in 2012.

Nuvaxovid COVID vaccine

- ❖ Novavax (Nuvaxovid) has secured a full FDA of USA approval for its protein-based COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ Nuvaxovid (NVX-CoV2705) is an updated version of Novavax's prototype COVID-19 vaccine (NVX-CoV2373) formulated to target the JN.1 variant.
- ❖ It is a protein-based vaccine (Not mRNA) made by creating copies of the surface spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 that causes COVID-19.
- ❖ The non-infectious spike protein serves as the antigen that primes the immune system to recognize the virus.

Laser Weapon usage

- ❖ Israel has become the first country in the world to use laser weapons to shoot down enemy drones during the ongoing war in Gaza.
- ❖ The use of the Iron Beam is also known by its Hebrew name Magen.
- ❖ It will complement existing systems such as Iron Dome, David's Sling and Arrow.
- ❖ These laser systems are useful for eliminating cheaper enemy targets like drones rather than spending expensive missile interceptors.
- ❖ But their maximum effective range is about 10 kilometers—significantly shorter than Iron Dome's 40 kilometers.
- ❖ Russia (Peresvet), USA (HELIOS), China (Hurricane-3000), UK (DragonFire) and India's (IDD&IS) Mk2A are the other-Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) system in the world.

mNexspike Vaccine

- ❖ The US approved a new COVID-19 vaccine mNexspike, made by Moderna.
- ❖ The new vaccine is a step toward next-generation coronavirus vaccines.
- ❖ It allows for a lower dose a fifth of the dose of its current Covid-19 vaccine.
- ❖ It is particularly aimed at individuals aged 65 and older and those aged 12 to 64.



Artificial metal-based nanozyme

- ❖ Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed an artificial metal-based nanozyme.
- ❖ It can be used to clamp down on abnormal blood clotting caused by conditions like pulmonary thromboembolism (PTE).
- ❖ Under the normal circumstances, when blood vessel is injured, specialised blood cells called platelets get activated, and cluster together around the vessel to form protective blood clots.
- ❖ This process is known as the blood clotting cascade (haemostasis).
- ❖ But, conditions like PTE or diseases like COVID-19, are leading to over-activation of platelets.
- ❖ This triggers the formation of the excess clots in the blood vessel, contributing to thrombosis, a major cause of morbidity and mortality.
- ❖ The spherical-shaped vanadium pentoxide (V₂O₅) nanozymes mimic a natural antioxidant enzyme called glutathione peroxidase to reduce oxidative stress.

2017 OF201 - New distant dwarf planet

- ❖ The new dwarf planet has been discovered at the edge of our solar system.
- ❖ It takes around 25,000 years to complete one orbit around the sun.
- ❖ The object is known as 2017 OF201.
- ❖ The new object is roughly 700 kilometres (430 miles) across.
- ❖ The object is currently three times farther away from Earth than Neptune.
- ❖ A dwarf planet is a celestial body that orbits the Sun, is nearly round due to its own gravity, has not cleared its orbital path.
- ❖ Unlike planets, dwarf planets do not clear their orbits and often share them with asteroids or Kuiper Belt objects.

World's First Supercomputer in Space

- ❖ China is building the world's first supercomputer network in space, for which it launched 12 AI-powered satellites recently.
- ❖ Each of the 12 satellites can process up to 744 trillion operations per second, having transfer rates up to 100 gigabits per second.
- ❖ The space computing satellite constellation is the first constellation of the 'Star Computing' program.
- ❖ The "Three-Body Computing Constellation" will function as a space-based data processing network.



- ❖ This network is capable of computing vast amounts of information directly in orbit, without relying on any Earth-based infrastructure.
- ❖ Earlier this year, Beijing unveiled plans to build the “Three Gorges Dam of Space” to harness limitless solar power.
- ❖ This initiative involves deploying a massive solar array one kilometre wide in geostationary orbit, 36,000 kilometres above Earth.

Antibiotic-Producing Thermophilic Bacteria

- ❖ The researchers from Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) studied the Rajgir hot spring in Nalanda, Bihar and discovered thermophilic Actinobacteria.
- ❖ These Actinobacteria produces antibiotic compounds effective against several disease-causing pathogens.
- ❖ Thermophilic bacteria are heat-loving bacteria that thrive in 45°C to 70°C.
- ❖ Actinobacteria are a group of Gram-positive bacteria and are renowned for producing antibiotics like streptomycin and tetracycline.
- ❖ Some Actinobacteria are thermophilic as they survive in hot environments like hot springs.

KATRIN Experiment 2025

- ❖ KATRIN has set a new global benchmark in the field of direct neutrino mass measurements.
- ❖ Neutrinos are incredibly abundant and pass through ordinary matter virtually undetected.
- ❖ The KATRIN experiment focuses on studying the beta decay of tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen.
- ❖ During the test, the upper limit of the neutrino mass has been reduced to 0.45 electron volts per c^2 , about 8×10^{-37} kilogrammes.
- ❖ KATRIN stands for Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino experiment, and it is located in Karlsruhe, Germany.

Jarosite

- ❖ Researchers from India sampled six jarosite veins from Kachchh in Gujarat.
- ❖ Researchers have found it could serve as a natural geological clock on Mars.
- ❖ Jarosite is a yellow-brown mineral that contains potassium, iron, and sulphate
- ❖ It exhibits radiation-induced luminescence.



- ❖ This property is serving as a geological clock that can record events up to 25,000 years ago.
- ❖ It was detected by NASA's Opportunity and Curiosity rovers in Meridiani Planum and Gale Crater of Mars.

NASA's GRAIL Mission

- ❖ The Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) mission aimed to map the Moon's gravitational field.
- ❖ It was launched in 2011.
- ❖ It consisted of two robotic spacecraft named Ebb and Flow.
- ❖ NASA's GRAIL mission has revealed the very differences between the Moon's two hemispheres.
- ❖ The side facing Earth - the nearside - is warmer and more geologically active deep down than the farside.
- ❖ Billions of years ago, intense volcanic activity on the nearside led to the formation of vast plains of basaltic rock.
- ❖ In contrast, the farside is covered with lighter and older crust that has remained largely untouched by large-scale volcanic processes.
- ❖ The near side's mantle is 100 to 200°C hotter than the farside.

Seawater-Dissolving Plastic – Japan

- ❖ Japanese scientists have developed a new type of plastic that dissolves quickly in seawater, leaving no harmful residue.
- ❖ The new material leaves behind nitrogen and phosphorus, which microbes can metabolise and plants can absorb.
- ❖ It is non-toxic for humans and has fire-resistant capabilities and does not release carbon dioxide.
- ❖ While these elements can enrich soil, they could also overload coastal ecosystems with nutrients.

Heaviest Proton-Emitting Nucleus

- ❖ The Nuclear physicists have detected the radioactive disintegration of a rare isotope of astatine for the first time.
- ❖ They have measured the proton emission and half-life of ^{188}At (188At).
- ❖ This shows that the heaviest element found in nature may be modified a lot, maybe even destroyed, in a way that scientists didn't predict.



- ❖ Astatine (At) is a radioactive, halogenous element with atomic number 85 and with 103 neutrons.
- ❖ It was belonging to the halogen family (Group 17) on the periodic table.
- ❖ It is a rarest natural element on the Earth, not naturally occurring in significant quantities due to its short half-life.
- ❖ This was the first recorded instance of proton emission from astatine, a rare and heavy element.

New method to extract Nickel

- ❖ The Scientists in Germany developed one-step, carbon-free method for extracting nickel.
- ❖ The proposed method has the potential to be up to about 18% more energy efficient while cutting direct carbon dioxide emissions by up to 84%.
- ❖ Right now, producing just one ton of nickel generates roughly 20 tons of carbon pollution.
- ❖ Global demand for nickel expected to double by 2040.
- ❖ India has substantial nickel laterite reserves, particularly in Odisha's Sukinda region.
- ❖ These deposits are containing 0.4-0.9% nickel as nickeliferous limonite.

Germany's Wendelstein 7-X stellarator

- ❖ The Scientists in Germany have achieved a major milestone in limitless energy through nuclear fusion.
- ❖ With the Wendelstein 7-X reactor, researchers sustained a fusion plasma for 43 seconds, setting a new record.
- ❖ It is the world's largest operational stellarator.
- ❖ This is a type of fusion reactor that uses powerful external magnets to confine superheated plasma.
- ❖ The now-decommissioned JT60U in Japan and JET in the UK — have historically led fusion experiments.
- ❖ In 2023, China's Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), also known as the "artificial sun," held plasma for 1,000 seconds.

Resilience Mission – Japan

- ❖ Resilience, a lander built by Japan-based Pvt company Ispace, crashed into the lunar surface.



- ❖ This was the second attempt at a soft landing by Ispace.
- ❖ Ispace's first lander, the Hakuto-R spacecraft was crash landed in 2023.

First chromosome-level genome of the Indian yak

- ❖ Specialists from four institutions of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have assembled the first-ever chromosome-level genome of the Indian yak.
- ❖ The Indian yak (*Bos grunniens*) is often called the 'ship of the Himalayas'.
- ❖ The bovine animal has long been recognised for its resilience and adaptability to extreme conditions.
- ❖ In India, yaks are found above 7,000 feet in Ladakh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Himachal Pradesh.

2D metal sheets

- ❖ Scientists in China have successfully fabricated atomically thin 2D metal sheets of bismuth, gallium, tin, and lead using a novel high-pressure technique.
- ❖ 2D metals are ultra-thin layers of metal atoms, usually just 1–2 atoms thick.
- ❖ According to the team, the bismuth sheet was just 6.3 Å thick.
- ❖ Both the strong field effect and the nonlinear Hall effect occur in 2D metals, not in 3D metals.

TOI-6894b - Gas Giant Planet

- ❖ A gas giant planet, roughly the size of Saturn, has been found orbiting a very unusually small red dwarf star.
- ❖ This rare pairing defies current models, which say small stars don't have enough material in their surrounding disks to form such large planets.
- ❖ The star, named TOI-6894, is only about a fifth the mass of the Sun.
- ❖ TOI-6894 is roughly 240 light-years from Earth in the constellation Leo.
- ❖ It is the smallest-known star to host a large planet.
- ❖ The planet is completing an orbit in approximately three days.
- ❖ It is about 40 times closer to its star as compared to Earth is to the Sun.
- ❖ It is much cooler than most other planets found outside our solar system.

BBX32 Protein

- ❖ IISER - Bhopal have found that a single protein helps plants time their first step from darkness into light.



- ❖ They have also found that ethylene turns BBX32 on and that light protects the BBX32 from being destroyed.
- ❖ The role of BBX32 itself is to keep the hook closed for longer.
- ❖ Without extra ethylene, BBX32 mutants behave like normal plants whereas with high ethylene or a sand cover, the hook opens too soon.
- ❖ Ethylene partially shields BBX32.
- ❖ But once the emerging seedling first senses daylight, COP1 enzyme activity drops, allowing the protein to build up on the concave side of the hook and hold it shut a little longer.

First images of the Sun's Poles

- ❖ The first ever video and images of the Sun's south pole have been sent back to Earth by the European Space Agency's Solar Orbiter spacecraft.
- ❖ The new images will enable the scientists to learn how the Sun cycles between periods of raging storms and quiet times.
- ❖ The Solar Orbiter also has captured new images of chemical elements at different layers of the Sun and their movement.
- ❖ These have been taken using an instrument called SPICE.

SPArc therapy

- ❖ The U.S. has successfully used a technique called step-and-shoot spot-scanning proton arc therapy (SPArc) to treat a patient's adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC) for the first time.
- ❖ The SPArc works by targeting tumours with protons while sparing surrounding tissue.
- ❖ The ACC is a relatively rare form of cancer that most commonly develops in the salivary glands or other regions of the head and neck.
- ❖ But these technologies are very expensive one and are often suitable for a small patient population.

Heat-based cancer therapy

- ❖ Indian researchers have developed an innovative one-step method to synthesize nano-sized particles with a unique cup-like shape.
- ❖ The technique simplifies the creation of PEGylated semi-shell nanoparticles - commonly known as nano-cups.
- ❖ It can be used to burn cancer cells through heat-based therapy.



Detection of ordinary matter

- ❖ For the first time, the researchers detected the universe's missing ordinary matter using powerful cosmic signals known as Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs).
- ❖ Previously, the scientists have known that at least half of the universe's ordinary, or baryonic matter was unaccounted for.
- ❖ Dark matter and dark energy make up most of the universe.
- ❖ But the rest of the universe is made of cosmic baryons, or ordinary matter.

Plasma Beyond Pluto - Voyager 1

- ❖ NASA's Voyager 1 spacecraft has detected a shell of superheated plasma at the heliopause.
- ❖ This plasma has been heated to an astonishing 30,000 to 50,000 Kelvin.
- ❖ Heliopause, defines the outer edge of the Sun's protective bubble known as the heliosphere.
- ❖ Heliopause is the boundary where the Sun's influence ends nearly 24 billion kilo metres away
- ❖ Voyager 1 was launched in 1977 and has been travelling through the space and crossed into interstellar space in 2012.

Extreme Helium Star - A980

- ❖ The scientists from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, have identified Extreme Helium in Star - A980.
- ❖ The distant star A980 is located approximately 25,800 light years away in the Ophiuchus Constellation.
- ❖ Initially it was believed to be a hydrogen-deficient carbon (HdC) star.
- ❖ This mysterious celestial body has now been reclassified as an Extreme Helium (EHe) star.
- ❖ Also, they found evidence of singly-ionized germanium (Ge II)—a metallic element that has never before been detected in this type of star.
- ❖ This is the first confirmed observation of germanium in an EHe star.

India's New Solar-Powered Device

- ❖ The Scientists from Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengaluru, have developed a next-gen green hydrogen device.
- ❖ It splits water molecules using only solar energy and earth-abundant materials.



- ❖ The process is entirely free of fossil fuels and expensive resources.
- ❖ The Green hydrogen is one of the cleanest fuels known, capable of decarbonizing industries, powering vehicles, and storing renewable energy.

Quantum 5G FWA

- ❖ BSNL has soft-launched Quantum 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) in Hyderabad.
- ❖ It is India's first fully indigenous, SIM-less 5G FWA service, delivering fibre-like speeds via 5G radio.
- ❖ With this, BSNL becomes the first Indian operator to offer SIM-less 5G using the indigenous technology.

Voyager 1 - Wall of Fire

- ❖ Voyager 1 has encountered a region dubbed a "wall of fire" at the edge of our solar system.
- ❖ The "wall of fire" is a thin shell of the superheated plasma located near the heliopause.
- ❖ Temperatures in this very zone ranges between 30,000 and 50,000 of the Kelvin (approximately 90,000°F).

Gwada Negative blood group

- ❖ France has identified a completely new blood group system.
- ❖ It is now officially recognised by the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT).
- ❖ It is named EMM-negative and colloquially dubbed "Gwada negative".
- ❖ The newly classified blood group system, officially registered by ISBT as ISBT042.
- ❖ It is defined by the absence of the EMM antigen.
- ❖ EMM antigen is normally found on the red blood cells and is considered a high-incidence antigen.

Ultra-Detailed Map of Sculptor Galaxy

- ❖ The Astronomers at the European Southern Observatory (ESO) created the most detailed map ever of this galaxy.
- ❖ It was covering up to 65,000 light-years.
- ❖ The Sculptor Galaxy is also known as NGC 253.
- ❖ It is one of the brightest and dustiest spiral galaxies visible from Earth.



- ❖ It is located about 11 million light-years away in the constellation Sculptor.
- ❖ It is also called the Silver Coin or Silver Dollar Galaxy.
- ❖ NGC 253 is a starburst galaxy, currently undergoing intense star formation.
- ❖ The new data led to the discovery of 500 previously unknown planetary nebulae within the Sculptor Galaxy.
- ❖ The Sculptor Galaxy shares many structural and size similarities with our own Milky Way.

SSLV Technology Transfer from ISRO

- ❖ The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) wins the bid for SSLV technology transfer from ISRO.
- ❖ It becomes the sole manufacturer of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV).
- ❖ The full technology transfer process will take around two years.
- ❖ SSLV is a compact and cost-effective rocket developed by ISRO.
- ❖ It is designed to launch small satellites quickly into Low Earth Orbit.
- ❖ The SSLV helps meet urgent satellite launch needs, especially for defence use.

Axiom-4 Mission

- ❖ The Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla becomes the second Indian to travel to space.
- ❖ The first Indian in space was Rakesh Sharma, who flew aboard a Soviet Soyuz spacecraft in 1984.
- ❖ Shukla is part of Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) to the International Space Station (ISS).
- ❖ The mission launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida on a Falcon 9 rocket.
- ❖ The Axiom 4 mission involves Axiom Space, NASA, and SpaceX.
- ❖ India, Poland, and Hungary are each sending an astronaut.
- ❖ The crew will spend up to 14 days in space, conducting scientific research and activities.
- ❖ Axiom Mission 4 is the fourth private astronaut mission to the ISS.

Google AI Mode in India

- ❖ Google has launched AI Mode in India, the first country outside the US to get it.
- ❖ It gives detailed answers in English using text, images, and links.



- ❖ This new search mode is powered by Google's Gemini 2.5 AI model.
- ❖ It uses a method called 'query fan-out'.
- ❖ This means, it breaking one question into many parts, searching the web, and combining the best answers.
- ❖ The feature is currently experimental and available to select users.

Favipiravir drug

- ❖ Pune's National Institute of Virology has found that the anti-viral drug Favipiravir could help protect against the Chandipura virus.
- ❖ Chandipura virus is common in central India and causes high fever, seizures, and encephalitis.
- ❖ The virus was first found in Maharashtra in 1965 from patients with fever.
- ❖ The first major outbreak had happened in 2003 in Telangana, infecting over 300 children with more than 50% deaths.

DeepMind's AlphaGenome

- ❖ DeepMind has developed a new AI tool called AlphaGenome.
- ❖ AlphaGenome predicts how changing one DNA letter affects gene expression.
- ❖ It shows how changes impact RNA and protein products.
- ❖ Other AIs analyse only about 2% of the genome (protein-coding parts).
- ❖ AlphaGenome is the first AI to analyze the entire human genome.

ENVIRONMENT

Giant Shrimp *Alicella gigantea*

- ❖ The rare giant shrimp *Alicella gigantea* is occurring in 59% of the world's oceans.
- ❖ *Alicella gigantea* is one of the largest deep-sea amphipods ever recorded
- ❖ It is a giant amphipod crustacean that can grow up to 34 cm in length.
- ❖ The Researchers compiled 195 records of *A. gigantea*, from 75 different sites in the deep sea in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans, from depths of 3,890 to 8,931 meters.



3 new high-yielding crop varieties

- ❖ Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth (PDKV), Maharashtra has introduced three new crop varieties.
- ❖ The new varieties include the wheat variety AKAW 5100, yellow sorghum hybrid kharif variety CSV 65 yellow, and chickpea super jaki (AKG 1402).
- ❖ AKAW 5100 is released for timely sowing in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Additionally, soybean varieties PDKV Amba (AMS 100-39) and PDKV Purva (AMS 2014-1), and groundnut variety TAG 73 (TAG 14-73) were approved for area expansion.
- ❖ TAG 73 groundnut is approved for the state of Gujarat, PDKV Amba soybean for Chhattisgarh, and PDKV Purva soybean for Assam, Meghalaya, and southeastern Madhya Pradesh.

Bow Echos in Delhi

- ❖ The intense storm that hit Delhi has appeared in an unusual shape in the India Meteorological Department's (IMD's) weather radar imagery.
- ❖ The storm was looked like a crescent or an archer's bow.
- ❖ In technical terms, such presentations of storms are called "bow echoes".
- ❖ The bow echoes because they are very often a precursor to the more destructive windstorms.
- ❖ A bow echo can extend from 20 km to 100 km, and last between three and six hours.
- ❖ The term was first coined in the 1970s by Ted Fujita, a Japanese American meteorologist known for developing the scale to classify tornadoes.
- ❖ When rain-cooled air comes down to the ground and spreads out horizontally.
- ❖ As this happens, a boundary called the gust front is created between the rain-cooled air and warm-moist air on the surface.
- ❖ This front pushes up the warm-moist air into the atmosphere, which forms new thunderstorms.
- ❖ These new thunderstorms produce more rain, thereby creating more rain-cooled air, which helps the gust front to maintain its strength.
- ❖ As this process keeps repeating itself, there comes a point when there is an inflow of air on the trailing side of the line of storms and bends it like an archer's bow.
- ❖ The cycle lasts as long as new thunderstorms keep forming at the front, helping the system grow and move forward with strong winds.



Nagshankar Temple Model for Turtle Conservation

- ❖ Nagshankar, in northeastern Assam's Biswanath district, has been designated a model temple for turtle conservation.
- ❖ Turtles have traditionally been conserved in several temple ponds of Assam.
- ❖ The Nagshankar turtle conservation project sustains 13 species of the freshwater turtles.
- ❖ Turtles are called vultures of the aquatic ecosystem, as they help keep the water clean by scavenging on dead and decomposed matter.

New Cave-Dwelling Fish Species – Meghalaya

- ❖ A new species of cave-dwelling fish named *Schistura densiclava* was discovered in Meghalaya.
- ❖ The discovery was made in Krem Mawjngbuiñ, a cave located near Mawsynram.
- ❖ It's the ninth new fish species we've described from Northeast India.
- ❖ Also, this is the sixth known cave-associated fish from Meghalaya.
- ❖ The Most cavefish lose their eyesight and pigmentation over generations, relying on heightened non-visual senses to navigate dark waters.
- ❖ Meghalaya is home to one of the richest cave systems globally, with over 1,700 documented caves.

Birch Glacier status

- ❖ The Swiss village of Blatten has been partially destroyed after a huge chunk of glacier crashed down into the valley.
- ❖ It is located in the Lötschental valley in northern Switzerland.
- ❖ The collapse of the glacier blocked the flow of the Lonza River, which runs through the valley.
- ❖ Swiss saw 4% of its total glacier volume disappear in 2023.
- ❖ That was the second-biggest decline in a single year after a 6% drop in 2022.

Arctic seabird Sabine's Gull in India

- ❖ A rare Arctic seabird, the Sabine's Gull, was spotted at Gujarat's Nal Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- ❖ This is the first recorded sighting in India since 2013, when it was seen in Kerala.
- ❖ The species primarily breeds in the high-latitude Arctic regions of North America, Greenland, and Siberia, nesting near wet tundra areas.



- ❖ For winter, it migrates to highly productive marine areas off the coasts of South America and western Africa.
- ❖ It does not typically pass through India during migration.

Calotes zolaiking - first time in Meghalaya

- ❖ *Calotes zolaiking*, a species of garden lizard, was first described in 2019 in Mizoram's Aizawl district.
- ❖ This lizard species is now recorded in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya.
- ❖ India is home to 14 species of Calotes, nine of which have been recorded in the Northeast.

Nurdles in Kerala

- ❖ Tiny plastic pellets (nurdles) were found on beaches in Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala following the sinking of the container vessel MSC ELSA3.
- ❖ Classified as primary microplastics, these pellets are between 1 mm to 5 mm in diameter.
- ❖ The pellets found in Kochu Veli are mostly low-density polyethylene (LDPE) and high-density polyethylene (HDPE).
- ❖ These pellets are melted and moulded into the various products, including the packaging, water bottles, toys, and textiles.
- ❖ While not inherently toxic, the pellets remain a dangerous pollutant.
- ❖ They can break up into micro and nano plastics and enter the food chain.
- ❖ This is the very first major incident of plastic nurdle landings in India caused by a shipwreck.

India's Forest Loss in 2024

- ❖ India lost 18,200 hectares of primary forest in 2024, a slight increase from 17,700 hectares recorded in 2023.
- ❖ Between 2002 and 2024, the country lost a total of 3,48,000 hectares of humid primary forest.
- ❖ It represents around 5.4% of India's total humid primary forest area.
- ❖ This accounts for 15% of the country's total tree cover loss during the same period.
- ❖ Since 2001, India has lost approximately 2.31 million hectares of tree cover, reflecting a 7.1% decline.



- ❖ This loss is estimated to have generated about 1.29 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions.
- ❖ Assam recorded the highest tree cover loss in the country, with 3,40,000 hectares lost between 2001 and 2024.
- ❖ Wildfires caused the loss of 8,330 hectares of tree cover between 2001 and 2024.
- ❖ The peak year for fire-related forest loss was 2008.

State of India's Environment in Figures 2025

- ❖ The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has released the annual State of India's Environment in Figures 2025 report.
- ❖ Using 48 indicators across four thematic areas, environment, agriculture, public health and human development, the report ranked all 36 states and Union Territories.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa top the charts in individual categories.
- ❖ No state emerges as a consistent performer across all domains.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh led in environmental management.
- ❖ Goa is the best in public health and infrastructure.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal are ranked poorly across all categories.
- ❖ India's greenhouse gas emissions reached their highest global share - 7.8 per cent, since 1970.

Caspian Gull in Kerala

- ❖ Caspian Gull, a rare migratory bird, was sighting for the first time in Kerala.
- ❖ It was sighted on Kappad beach in Kozhikode in February 2020.
- ❖ The Caspian Gull, usually found in Central Asia, visits northwestern India, such as Gujarat, in winter.
- ❖ It was sighted in Goa only once and never again in south India until this time.

Global Glacier Melting status in 2025

- ❖ If the world gets warmer by 2.7°C due to the current trajectory of climate policies, only 24% of the world's present-day glaciers will remain.
- ❖ Limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C — as adopted in the Paris climate agreement — could preserve up to 54% or twice as much glacier mass.



- ❖ The world's glaciers would still lose 39% of their mass, compared to 2020 levels, and that would lead to a sea level rise of 113 mm.
- ❖ Among the most vulnerable regions were the glaciers in Scandinavia, Rockies in Western Canada and the US, and European Alps.
- ❖ In the Hindu Kush Himalayas, only 25% of ice from 2020 levels will be left at 2°C of warming.

New Ramsar sites - June 2025

- ❖ Khichan in Phalodi and Menar in Udaipur have been designated as Ramsar sites recently.
- ❖ This addition takes our sites tally to 91.
- ❖ Khichan Wetland is located in the northern Thar Desert.
- ❖ It comprises the two water bodies, Ratri nadi (river) and Vijaysagar talab (pond), riparian habitat and scrub land.
- ❖ The Menar Wetland Complex is a freshwater monsoon wetland complex.
- ❖ It is formed by three ponds-Braham talab, Dhand talab and Kheroda talab.
- ❖ The Ramsar Convention is an intergovernmental treaty signed in 1971 in Ramsar, Iran.

ESZ of Tral Wildlife Sanctuary

- ❖ The Centre has officially designated an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around the Tral Wildlife Sanctuary.
- ❖ The Tral Wildlife Sanctuary serves as a vital corridor for the remaining population of Hangul in the country.
- ❖ Following the notification, the government can now regulate activities in the area to create a buffer zone.
- ❖ The Tral Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ This sanctuary is also well connected to Overa-Aru Wildlife Sanctuary and Khrew Conservation Reserve.
- ❖ Hangul is a subspecies of the Central Asian red deer that is native to Kashmir and its neighbouring regions.
- ❖ It is listed under Critically endangered in IUCN Red list.



Rising black carbon

- ❖ A recent study stated that Levels of black carbon-ultra-fine particles of carbon in the Himalayas have been rising.
- ❖ Eastern Himalaya records warmest snow surfaces, followed by the central and western Himalayas.
- ❖ The average snow-surface temperature has increased from -11.27°C from 2000–2009 to -7.13°C during 2020–2023.
- ❖ Black carbon generally absorbs sunlight and if it settles on the surface can thus heat the ground.
- ❖ The major generators of the black carbon include biomass combustion, fossil fuel use, and open burning, particularly in the Indo-Gangetic plain, which acts as a hotspot for emissions.

Hexapod species in Nilgiris

- ❖ A species of hexapod originally described from the Nilgiris close to a century ago, was “rediscovered” recently.
- ❖ J. R. Dennis, a French scientist in 1933, had identified a rare species of springtail (Collembolla) insect from the Devar shola near Gudalur in Nilgiris.
- ❖ He named it *Ballistura fitchi* renamed it as *Ballistura fitchoides* in 1944
- ❖ Though 21 species are recorded throughout the world, genetic data of this genus are not available.
- ❖ Until now only two species of Ballistura are reported from India.
- ❖ The second one is from Bengal (*Ballistura bengalensis* by Yosii 1966).

Stratospheric aerosol injection 2025

- ❖ A Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI) is a method in which aerosols are injected into the earth’s stratosphere to reduce the amount of sunlight reaching the surface.
- ❖ SAI aims to create a cooling effect that could help to combat the rising surface temperatures.
- ❖ It mimics the natural cooling effects observed after large volcanic eruptions, such as the 1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo (Philippines).
- ❖ This eruption injected the sulfate aerosols into the stratosphere and temporarily lowered global temperatures by 0.5°C that year.
- ❖ SAI’s efficacy have focused on implementing it at 20 km or more, particularly over areas closer to the equator.



- ❖ The cooling effect will also be more pronounced in polar regions rather than in the tropics, where warming is more severe.
- ❖ If one country injects aerosols into the stratosphere, all countries will be affected and not always in a good way.

Dugesia Punensis in Pune

- ❖ A new planarian worm species, *Dugesia punensis*, has been discovered in Pashan Lake, Pune.
- ❖ This marks the first new planarian species recorded in India since 1983.
- ❖ *Dugesia punensis* also demonstrates the notable regenerative abilities, capable of regrowing within 10-13 days.
- ❖ The body size ranges between 8mm-12mm in length.

Spathaspina noohi

- ❖ The insect, named *Spathaspina noohi*, belongs to the weevil family discovered from the forests of Meghalaya.
- ❖ This is not only been identified as a new species but also classified under an entirely new genus.
- ❖ Its name honors P B Nooh, IAS, Director of Tourism for the Government of Kerala, in recognition of his efforts to promote eco-tourism and sustainable development.
- ❖ The Weevils are part of the large beetle family Curculionidae, which includes over 60,000 known species globally.

Himalayan Long-tailed Myotis

- ❖ A new bat species, the Himalayan long-tailed myotis (*Myotis himalaicus*), has been discovered in the high-altitude forests of Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The species are believed to be native to the southern Himalayan slopes.
- ❖ The newly-described species belongs to the *Myotis frater* complex.
- ❖ It is a group of morphologically-similar species distributed across eastern China, Taiwan, Siberia, Korea, Japan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Zimbabwe Elephant Culling 2025

- ❖ Zimbabwe has announced plans to cull at least 50 elephants in the Save Valley Conservancy.
- ❖ The Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZimParks) currently holds around 2,550 elephants.



- ❖ This count is far exceeding its ecological carrying capacity of 800.
- ❖ The meat from the cull will be distributed to local communities.
- ❖ Zimbabwe is home to one of the world's largest elephant populations — second only to Botswana.
- ❖ This is the second time in recent years that Zimbabwe has resorted to culling elephants.

Eurasian Otter – Kashmir

- ❖ The Eurasian otter has been spotted again in the Lidder River.
- ❖ It was thought to be extinct in Kashmir for nearly three decades.
- ❖ This semi-aquatic mammal is known locally as Vuder.
- ❖ It is classified as 'near threatened' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- ❖ The old data indicate its population in areas like Dachigam National Park and the streams feeding the Dal Lake.
- ❖ Its population declined sharply due to water pollution and hunting for its fur.
- ❖ As a carnivorous mammal, it feeds on fish and other aquatic fauna, helping to control their populations.
- ❖ The presence of otters indicates a balanced ecosystem, as they require clean water and abundant prey.
- ❖ In India, it is primarily found in northern and northeastern states, as well as in southern regions.
- ❖ In India, it is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972, where it is classified in Schedule II.
- ❖ Additionally, it is listed in Appendix I of CITES, which regulates international trade of endangered species.

AviList 2025

- ❖ It is the first-ever unified global checklist of bird species.
- ❖ It aims to provide the clarity and consistency in the avian taxonomy, a crucial for conservation efforts.
- ❖ It became live after four years of work by the Working Group on Avian Checklists.
- ❖ The new checklist will replace the International Ornithological Committee (IOC) and Clements lists and will be updated annually.
- ❖ It was according to a statement by BirdLife International.



- ❖ The BirdLife International was the global partnership of the non-governmental organisations that strives to conserve birds and their habitats.
- ❖ The Working Group on Avian Checklists included representatives from BirdLife International, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, American Ornithologists Society, the International Ornithologists' Union, and Avibase.
- ❖ The list contains 11,131 species, 19,879 subspecies, 2,376 genera, 252 families and 46 orders.

Global Ocean Darkening

- ❖ More than one-fifth of the global ocean has considerably darkened in the last two decades.
- ❖ It is essentially shrinking of the photic zones or those layers of the water where sunlight can pass and induce the process of photosynthesis.
- ❖ The photic layers can go down to about 200 meters and they also act as a base for nearly 90 per cent of the world's marine life.
- ❖ Between 2003 and 2022, nearly 21 per cent of the global ocean experienced the darkening.
- ❖ Around the same two decade-span, a considerable part of the global ocean has actually become lighter.
- ❖ The North Sea, the eastern UK coastline, and the Arctic have lost lighter than any other regions.

Spartaeus and Sonoita

- ❖ Researchers have identified a new species of jumping spiders of the Spartaeinae subfamily in southern India.
- ❖ They are known for their intelligent hunting skills and web-invasion tactics.
- ❖ This discovery possibly marks the first time that the genera previously known only from Southeast Asia and Africa, have been found in India.
- ❖ These spiders, part of the Salticidae family, are known for their keen eyesight and unique hunting methods, often deceiving other spiders by mimicking prey.
- ❖ In addition, Sonoita cf. lightfooti, a species previously thought to be confined to Africa, was also identified in Karnataka.
- ❖ More specimens were also discovered in Tamil Nadu's Villupuram district.
- ❖ The study also resolved a longstanding taxonomic confusion.
- ❖ The species Marpissa gangasagarensis was described in 2005 from Gangasagar, West Bengal.



- ❖ It was confirmed to be the same as *Phaeacius fimbriatus*, a species first described in 1900, following careful examination of historical museum specimen.
- ❖ With these findings, India's spider fauna under the *Spartaeinae* subfamily has also grown to 15 species across 10 genera.

Two new species of earthworms

- ❖ Two new species of an earthworms - *Kanchuria tripuraensis* and *Kanchuria Priya Shankari*, have been officially discovered in Tripura.
- ❖ The genus *Kanchuria*, which is endemic to Northeast India, now comprises 10 species with these new additions.
- ❖ This also increases the total number of the recorded megadrile worm species in Tripura to 38.
- ❖ *Kanchuria Priya Shankari* is named in honour of Priya Sankar Chaudhuri for his lifelong work in earthworm taxonomy.

Portulaca Bharat in Aravalli hills

- ❖ A new flowering plant species, *Portulaca Bharat*, has been discovered in the rocky and semi-arid landscape of the Aravali hills near Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ Currently, it is assessed as data deficient under IUCN guidelines.
- ❖ *Portulaca Bharat* belongs to the genus *Portulaca*.
- ❖ *Portulaca* Genus comprises about 153 species worldwide, with 11 known species in India, including four endemics.

Initiatives at UN Ocean Conference 2025

- ❖ The 3rd UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3) recently concluded in Nice, France.
- ❖ One Ocean Finance and the High Ambition Coalition for a Quiet Ocean were launched during the event.
- ❖ One Ocean Finance is a global finance initiative to mobilise billions in sustainable funding for blue economy sectors and ocean restoration.
- ❖ Coalition for a Quiet Ocean committed to reducing marine noise pollution and its harmful impacts on marine biodiversity.
- ❖ It was launched by Canada and Panama and supported by 35 other nations.

Solar Power Potential from Coal Mines

- ❖ India has the fourth highest potential in the world to generate solar power from abandoned coal mines.



- ❖ 63 disused mine sites could collectively generate around 27.11 gigawatts (GW) of the solar power.
- ❖ It is equivalent to nearly 37 percent of country's current installed solar capacity.
- ❖ Telangana, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh feature among the top 20 global regions with the highest land availability from closed or soon-to-be-closed mines.
- ❖ Other 3 top countries are Australia, Indonesia and the United States.

Doomsday Fish (Oarfish) in Tamil Nadu

- ❖ A rare oarfish, ominously dubbed the 'doomsday fish' in Japanese folklore, was recently caught off the Tamil Nadu coast.
- ❖ The creature captured in Tamil Nadu is a giant oarfish (Regalecus glesne).
- ❖ It is the world's longest bony fish, which can reach lengths of up to 36 feet (11 meters).
- ❖ They typically inhabit the mesopelagic zone, dwelling 660 to 3,300 feet beneath the ocean's surface.
- ❖ As per the Japanese folklore, Oarfish are also called 'ryugu no tsukai,' meaning 'messenger from the sea god's palace.'

Alien species in India

- ❖ A 2022 study found that India has lost \$127.3 billion (Rs 830 crore) to invasive alien species over the last 60 years.
- ❖ It was rendering the country the second-most financially affected by an invasive alien species in the world, after the U.S.
- ❖ But this data only stems from the calculated costs of 10 invasive alien species from the 2,000+ alien species known in India.
- ❖ The most conservative estimates report 173 invasive plants and 157 invasive animals.
- ❖ In India, the declaration of alien species as invasive is managed under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (amended in 2022).

Dravid gecko Coonoor – New gecko

- ❖ A new species of gecko, believed to be present only around Coonoor, has been discovered in the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Dravidogecko Coonoor is the formal name of this "distinct population of the Dravidogecko in Coonoor Hills of the Upper Nilgiris, Western Ghats.



- ❖ Following the discovery of the new gecko, total species found across the Western Ghats now stands at nine.

Herpetofauna survey at PTR

- ❖ The recent survey in Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) have added five new amphibian species and three new reptile species to the region's records.
- ❖ A total of 67 amphibian species and 82 reptile species were documented during the survey.
- ❖ Amphibian diversity is notable, with 53 out of 67 species (around 80%) endemic to the Western Ghats.
- ❖ Among reptiles, there are 12 species on the endangered list.

Thirstwave - New terminology

- ❖ Meetpal Kukal and Mike Hobbins and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration coined the term "thirstwave".
- ❖ This term denotes three or more contiguous days of intense evaporative demand.
- ❖ Thirstwave occurs when the daily evaporative demand stays above the historical 90th percentile for at least three consecutive days.
- ❖ Evaporative demand means how thirsty the atmosphere is or how much water it wants to absorb from the ground or plants.
- ❖ It is influenced by temperature, wind speed, humidity, and sunshine.

NDC Cooling Guidelines

- ❖ The Guidelines were developed by the UNEP Cool Coalition NDC Working Group with support from global climate and energy organizations.
- ❖ It provides a six-stage, step-by-step framework supported by the country case studies.
- ❖ They guide policymakers to assess emissions, set sector-specific targets, and create National Cooling Action Plans (NCAPs).
- ❖ It emphasizes the energy efficiency standards, Kigali-compliant refrigerant phase-down, passive cooling, and climate-responsive urban planning.
- ❖ The cooling sector currently contributes 7% of global greenhouse gas emissions and could double its share by 2050.
- ❖ These measures support both climate adaptation and mitigation goals.



Sustainable Battery Recycling Process

- ❖ The BatX Energies has developed an exclusive low-temperature, low-pressure hydro metallurgical process that is agnostic to lithium-ion battery chemistries.
- ❖ The project aims to commercialize a homegrown battery recycling process for lithium-ion batteries.
- ❖ This process recovers battery-grade lithium, cobalt, nickel, and manganese from used batteries.
- ❖ Their technology works with all types of lithium-ion battery chemistries.
- ❖ The process achieves 97–99% recovery rates through the wet and dry black mass recovery.
- ❖ It covers the entire cycle such as the collection, shredding, metal leaching, and purification.
- ❖ The technology is patented and developed entirely in India, reducing the need for imported equipment.

ICCON 2025 Meet

- ❖ The Indian Conservation Conference (ICCON) 2025 is held at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun.
- ❖ ICCON focuses on solving India's urgent wildlife and biodiversity challenges.
- ❖ The conference started in 2023 during the Project Tiger's 50th anniversary and launch of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).

Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary

- ❖ The Union government has declared the Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around the Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka.
- ❖ It is often referred to as the “Western Ghats of North Karnataka” due to its unique biodiversity.
- ❖ The sanctuary is home to nearly 400 species of medicinal plants and supports a range of dry-scrub and deciduous vegetation.
- ❖ Apart from its ecological value, Kappatagudda holds historical significance, with several ancient temple ruins scattered across the hills, reflecting its cultural heritage.

Biodiversity Data Funding in 2024

- ❖ In 2024, IBAT invested a record 2.5 million US dollars (USD) in biodiversity data.
- ❖ This marks a rise from 1.2 million US dollars (USD) invested in 2023.



- ❖ The Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) Alliance was founded in 2008.
- ❖ It is a collaboration of four major global conservation organizations.
- ❖ The member organizations are BirdLife International, Conservation International, IUCN, and UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).
- ❖ The Alliance is headquartered in Cambridge, United Kingdom (UK).

India's First Inland Fishery

- ❖ In a first for India, the efforts are underway to get global sustainability recognition for the mud crab fishery in Chilika Lake.
- ❖ A joint effort has started to earn Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification for Chilika's mud crab fishery.
- ❖ This fishery is both economically and ecologically important in northeast India.
- ❖ It is the first inland fishery in India to be considered for MSC certification.
- ❖ MSC is a global program that promotes and certifies sustainable fishing.
- ❖ Chilika is the largest coastal lagoon in India and a UNESCO-recognized bio diversity hotspot.

REPORTS AND INDICATES

ILO-NASK report 2025

- ❖ The report named as 'the Generative AI and Jobs: A Refined Global Index of the Occupational Exposure' was released recently.
- ❖ The joint study was released by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Poland's National Research Institute (NASK).
- ❖ 1 in 4 jobs worldwide is potentially exposed to generative artificial intelligence (GenAI).
- ❖ In high-income nations, 9.6% of female jobs face high automation risk, compared to 3.5% for men.
- ❖ Clerical, media, software, and finance-related occupations are most exposed, while full automation remains limited.

WMO Global Climate Forecast 2025–2029

- ❖ The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) has issued the Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update for 2025-2029.



- ❖ 80% possibility is there for at least one year between 2025 and 2029 will surpass the warmest year on record (currently 2024).
- ❖ The temperature is expected to be 1.2°C to 1.9°C higher than the pre-industrial average.
- ❖ The forecast also suggests a 70% chance that the five-year average warming will exceed 1.5°C.
- ❖ From 2023, the South Asian region has been anomalously wet, and this will continue for the 2025-2029 period.

Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2025

- ❖ The Global Assessment Report (GAR) on Disaster Risk Reduction 2025 was released by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).
- ❖ The direct costs of disasters averaged USD 70–80 billion a year between 1970 and 2000.
- ❖ Between 2001 and 2020 these annual costs grew significantly to USD 180–200 billion.
- ❖ In 2025, the total disaster costs will now exceed \$2.3 trillion annually when an indirect and ecosystem impacts are included.
- ❖ Cities are projected to add 1.2 billion residents, and 98.4 per cent of them will be in the Global South.
- ❖ Losses from flooding will increase between 5 per cent to 13 per cent.
- ❖ Over 90% of the land is at risk of becoming degraded by 2050, up from the current 40 per cent.
- ❖ The past 30 years have seen an estimated loss of \$3.8 trillion in crops and livestock production due to disaster events.
- ❖ It equals an average annual loss of \$ 123 billion per year or 5% of the global agricultural GDP.

‘Trends — Artificial Intelligence’ Report

- ❖ According to Meeker’s report, India contributes the highest share (13.5 per cent) of ChatGPT’s mobile app users.
- ❖ It is ahead of the US (8.9 per cent) and Germany (3 per cent).
- ❖ It’s also the third-largest user base for DeepSeek, a Chinese AI platform.
- ❖ China is leading the open-source race.
- ❖ It released three major models — DeepSeek-R1, Alibaba’s Qwen-32B, and Baidu’s Ernie 4.5.



World's Top Creditor 2024

- ❖ After 34 Years, Germany has taken the top spot of Japan's and became the world's leading creditor nation with \$3.9 trillion worth assets.
- ❖ Japan (\$3.7 trillion) had held the top position since surpassing Germany in 1991.
- ❖ China maintained its third position with net assets of ¥516.3 trillion.

UNESCO GEM Report 2024–25

- ❖ The UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2024-25 has raised the serious concerns over gender inequalities.
- ❖ The Boys are consistently falling behind girls in reading proficiency, especially in middle-income countries.
- ❖ Only 87 boys attain the minimum proficiency level for every 100 girls.
- ❖ The gap is even wider in middle-income countries, where only 72 boys meet the reading standards per 100 girls.
- ❖ After Covid, the Girls in countries such as Brazil, Chile, England, Italy, and New Zealand have shown notable setbacks in performance compared to boys.
- ❖ In India, only 5% of women held top positions such as the vice-chancellors or the directors in 189 national institutions in 2021.
- ❖ Only 63 per cent of countries globally have open and competitive school leader recruitment processes.

World Wealth Report 2025

- ❖ USA was adding 562,000 millionaires as the country's HNWI population grew by 7.6% to 7.9 million.
- ❖ 36% of the world's centi-millionaires (those with over \$100 million) and 33% of the world's billionaires reside in the United States.
- ❖ India and Japan were standouts in the Asia-Pacific region, with both countries registering 5.6% growth,
- ❖ India's billionaires are emerging faster than millionaires.
- ❖ India has roughly 250 billionaires, just half that of China (which has roughly 520 billionaires).
- ❖ India had 4,290 ultra-HNWIs (over \$30 million in assets), compared to 22,780 in China and 13,620 in Japan.
- ❖ India's high-net-worth individual (HNWI) population grew 5.6% in 2024, with their collective wealth rising 8.8% - outpacing both China and global peers.



WEF Gender Gap Index 2025

- ❖ India has ranked 131 out of 146 countries in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2025.
- ❖ With a parity score of just 64.1%, India is among the lowest-ranked countries in South Asia.
- ❖ This rank stood behind its neighbours like Bhutan (119th), Nepal (125th) and Sri Lanka (130th).
- ❖ India was ranked 129th last year.
- ❖ Iceland leads the rankings for the 16th year running.
- ❖ It is followed by Finland, Norway, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.
- ❖ The global gender gap has marginally narrowed in 2025, from 68.4% in 2024 to 68.8% in 2025.
- ❖ High-income economies have closed 74.3% of their gender gap.
- ❖ Pakistan (148), Sudan, Chad, and Iran ranked at the bottom.

CCPI Index 2025

- ❖ 64 countries responsible for over 90% of global GHG emissions.
- ❖ Only 22 are making progress in the Climate Change Performance Index 2025, while 42 are falling behind.
- ❖ This year, the top three positions remain vacant.
- ❖ No single country was ranked at 'very high' on all parameters for climate change mitigation in 2025.
- ❖ Denmark has retained its rank as the top country (#4).
- ❖ It is followed by Netherlands, UK, Philippines, Morocco, Norway and India (10th).
- ❖ Contrastingly, countries like China, the United States of America (USA), Canada, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and more have been ranked very low.

Review of the state of world marine fishery resources — 2025

- ❖ The new report was released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- ❖ Globally 64.5 per cent of all the fishery stocks are exploited within biologically sustainable levels, while 35.5 per cent are overfished.
- ❖ The northeast Pacific and southwest Pacific, exhibit higher sustainability rates.
- ❖ The eastern Indian Ocean is estimated to have around 72.7 per cent of the stocks sustainably exploited.



World Economic Situation and Prospects 2025

- ❖ The report is released by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in collaboration with UNCTAD and others.
- ❖ Global GDP growth is projected to slow to 2.4% in 2025 (from 2.9% in 2024), and 2.5% in 2026.
- ❖ India's GDP growth was revised down to 6.3% in 2025 from 7.1% in 2024.
- ❖ But it still remains the highest among major global economies/
- ❖ It is expected to reach 6.4% in 2026.
- ❖ US growth is projected to fall due to tariffs and policy uncertainty, while China's growth is estimated at 4.6% in 2025.
- ❖ Globally, 343 million people face acute food insecurity, with 1.9 million at famine risk in conflict zones like Gaza, Haiti, Mali, South Sudan, and Sudan.
- ❖ Countries like India, where food forms a large part of household spending, are worst affected by food inflation.

World Energy Investment Report 2025

- ❖ The new report was released by the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- ❖ The Global clean energy investments are projected to reach \$2.2 trillion in 2025.
- ❖ China is set to account for over 25 per cent of global energy investment in 2025.
- ❖ It has more than doubled its clean energy investments to over \$625 billion since 2015.
- ❖ In 2024, China approved nearly 100 GW of new coal-fired plants, contributing to the highest global approvals for coal since 2015.
- ❖ India has significantly increased its investments in renewable power, from \$13 billion in 2015 to \$37 billion in 2025.
- ❖ Over the same decade, its fossil fuel investments also rose, from \$ 41 billion to \$ 49 billion.
- ❖ The country's spending on nuclear and other clean energy source was \$1 billion in 2015, increasing to \$6 billion in 2025.

Global Trends Report: Forced Displacement in 2024

- ❖ It was released by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- ❖ Forced Displacement refers to situations of persons who leave their homes due to factors like persecution, violence, human rights violations, disasters etc.
- ❖ 123.2 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced at the end of 2024.
- ❖ More than one-third of all forcibly displaced people were Sudanese, Syrian, Afghan or Ukrainian.



State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2025

- ❖ It was a World Bank report titled State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2025.
- ❖ Carbon pricing instruments capture the external costs of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- ❖ These external costs—such as damage to crops, healthcare expenses from heat waves and droughts, and property loss from flooding and sea level rise—are typically borne by the public.
- ❖ Carbon pricing mechanisms tie these costs to their sources, usually through a price on emitted carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- ❖ The report covers three types of carbon pricing instruments: Emissions trading system (ETS), carbon taxes and carbon credit trading mechanisms.
- ❖ An ETS involves governments setting a limit, or cap, on the amount or intensity of GHG emissions generated by emitters.
- ❖ Companies are allowed to trade emission units to meet their targets.
- ❖ If they implement internal measures to lower their emissions, they can sell these units to other emitters.
- ❖ A carbon tax explicitly prices carbon by defining a tax rate on GHG emissions or the carbon content of fossil fuels.
- ❖ Governments can levy this fee on companies for their GHG emissions.
- ❖ A crediting mechanism allows the trading of credits (each representing 1 tonne of carbon equivalent) generated through the activities that reduce emissions (e.g., capturing methane from landfills) or remove them (e.g., sequestering carbon through afforestation).
- ❖ Companies can then purchase these credits to offset their own emissions.
- ❖ Countries are increasingly adopting carbon pricing, which now represents almost two-thirds of global Gross Domestic Product.
- ❖ The number of operational carbon pricing instruments has grown significantly, from 5 in 2005 to 80 today.
- ❖ India, Brazil, and Türkiye are actively developing them.
- ❖ The Carbon pricing instruments now cover approximately 28 per cent of global GHG emissions.
- ❖ The report noted that most new and planned instruments are ETSs.
- ❖ India's ETS will be rate-based, meaning emissions are not capped.
- ❖ Instead, emitters are allocated a performance benchmark that serves as a limit on their net emissions.
- ❖ Among the different sectors, carbon pricing coverage was highest in the power sector, followed by the industry, mining and the extractives sector, buildings, land transport and aviation.



- ❖ However, waste and agriculture are largely not covered by carbon pricing.
- ❖ The national determined contributions is a country's demand for or international carbon credits under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement to meet national climate targets.

QS World University Rankings 2026

- ❖ Globally, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) of USA has retained the 'best institute in the world' position for the 14th time this year.
- ❖ A total of 54 universities is featured this year, including 12 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).
- ❖ Eight universities have made their debut.
- ❖ India is now the fourth most represented country.
- ❖ Only the United States (192), the United Kingdom (90), and Mainland China (72) have more universities ranked than India.
- ❖ IIT Madras (180) has achieved the third spot in India after IIT Delhi (123) and IIT Bombay (129).

THE Impact Rankings 2025

- ❖ Western Sydney University (Australia) retained its number one spot globally for the fourth year in a row.
- ❖ Asia is claiming more than half the places in the global rankings.
- ❖ In fact, 22 of the top 50 ranks are now held by Asian institutions.
- ❖ Total of 135 Indian institutes made it to the 'THE Rankings' this year.
- ❖ India also saw Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (Rank 41) and Lovely Professional University (Rank 48) as its top performers.
- ❖ JSS Academy of Higher Education (Rank 48) and Shoolini University (Rank 48) also made it to the top 100.
- ❖ The rest of the Indian universities are scattered across ranks below 100.

WEF Energy Transition Index 2025

- ❖ The World Economic Forum (WEF) released the Energy Transition Index (ETI).
- ❖ Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions have climbed to an all-time high of 37.8 billion tonnes last year.
- ❖ Nordic countries — Sweden, Finland and Denmark — continue to top the ETI.
- ❖ China, meanwhile, reached a record-high 12th position
- ❖ From a rank of 63 in 2024, India has now slipped to rank 71.



- ❖ China topped the “Emerging Asia” category.

Oil 2025 - IEA report

- ❖ The report Oil 2025 was released by the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- ❖ Global oil demand is forecast to increase by 2.5 million barrels per day (mb/d) between 2024 and 2030.
- ❖ At the same time, the global oil production capacity is projected to rise by over 5 mb/d to reach 114.7 mb/d by 2030.
- ❖ India’s oil demand is set to rise sharply by 1 mb/d over the forecast period.
- ❖ The global biofuels production is expected to grow by 680 kb/d between 2024 and 2030.
- ❖ Brazil and India are expected to lead the ethanol output growth, adding 140 kb/d and 100 kb/d respectively.

Hunger Hotspots 2025

- ❖ The UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) have issued the Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warning on acute food insecurity
- ❖ African countries Sudan, South Sudan and Mali are among five global hunger hotspots of highest concern.
- ❖ Conversely, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Zambia, and Zimbabwe are no longer on the Hunger Hotspots list.

Nuclear Weapons Landscape 2025

- ❖ The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute’s (SIPRI) Yearbook 2025 was published recently.
- ❖ 12,241 nuclear warheads owned globally and ~9,614 in military stockpiles.
- ❖ Russia (5,459) and USA (5,177) hold over 90% of global warheads.
- ❖ India has 180 stored nuclear warheads as of January 2025.
- ❖ Pakistan stocks estimated at 170 warheads as of January 2025.
- ❖ China has 600 nuclear warheads, growing at ~100 per year since 2023.
- ❖ The nine nuclear-armed states of the World are the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel.



Women in politics 2025 fact sheet

- ❖ This report was released by UN Women.
- ❖ As of 1 June 2025, there are 27 countries where 31 women serve as the Heads of State and/or Government.
- ❖ Only 27.2 per cent of parliamentarians in single or lower houses are women, up from 11 per cent in 1995.
- ❖ Only six countries have 50 per cent or more women in parliament in single or lower houses.
- ❖ The top performers are Rwanda (64 %), Cuba (56 %), Nicaragua (55 %), Andorra (50 %), Mexico (50 %), and the UAE (50 %).
- ❖ Women constitute more than 3 million (35.5 per cent) of elected members in local deliberative bodies.
- ❖ Only two countries have reached 50 per cent.

Global Drought Outlook - 2025

- ❖ The report has been released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- ❖ Since 1980, 37% of global land has experienced significant soil moisture decline.
- ❖ 40% of the planet has experienced more frequent and intense droughts in recent decades due to climate change and human activity.
- ❖ Climate change made the 2022 European drought up to 20 times more likely and increased the ongoing North American drought by 42%.
- ❖ Countries like India, Australia, etc. may face the water-related disruptions in the operations of hydroelectric power stations.
- ❖ 3% - 7.5% annual increase in the economic cost of an average drought event.

World Investment Report 2025

- ❖ The World Investment Report 2025 was released by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- ❖ Global foreign direct investment (FDI) declined 11% in calendar year 2024 to \$1.5 trillion.
- ❖ This was marking a second consecutive year of double-digit contraction.
- ❖ The international project finance deals collapsed 27%.
- ❖ FDI inflows into developing Asia fell 3% in 2024.
- ❖ China saw one of the steepest drops, with the inflows are plunging 29% and India recorded a smaller 2% decline.



- ❖ The Asean bloc attracted a record \$225 billion in FDI, up 10% year-on-year.
- ❖ The infrastructure investments had dropped 35%, renewable energy fell 31%, and spending on water, sanitation and hygiene contracted 30%.
- ❖ Agrifood investments declined 19%.
- ❖ Only health and education bucked the trend, posting a 25% increase.

Global Drought Outlook Report 2025

- ❖ The latest Global Drought Outlook 2025 report was published by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- ❖ Spain is one of the OECD countries that most exposed to the intensification of drought.
- ❖ The average economic impact of a drought in 2025 is already at least double that of 2000.
- ❖ It is expected to increase by a further 35% by 2035.
- ❖ Droughts are responsible for 34% of disaster-related deaths.

Annual report on Children in Armed Conflict 2025

- ❖ Last year, 41,370 grave violations against children were documented and verified by the United Nations.
- ❖ This is a 25% surge in “grave violations” against the children under the age of 18 from 2023.
- ❖ The United Nations has kept Israel on its “blacklist” of countries committing the abuses against children in armed conflict for a second straight year.
- ❖ It also kept the Russian armed forces and affiliated armed groups on its blacklist for a third year.
- ❖ In Haiti, the UN has put gang, the Viv Ansanm coalition, on the blacklist for the first time.

WMO’s State of the Climate in Asia 2024 Report

- ❖ 2024 was the warmest year on record in Asia with widespread and the prolonged heat waves.
- ❖ Global mean temperature in 2024 was the highest from 1850–2024.
- ❖ It was surpassing 1.45 °C set in 2023.
- ❖ Sea surface temperatures in Asia reached record highs, warming nearly twice as fast as the global average.



- ❖ Sea level rise on Asia's Pacific and the Indian Ocean coasts exceeded the global average.
- ❖ 23 out of 24 monitored glaciers in the Himalayas and Tian Shan have lost mass, increasing glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF) and landslide risks.
- ❖ Marine heatwaves of strong to extreme intensity affected most Asian ocean areas in 2024.
- ❖ UAE saw 259.5 mm rainfall in 24 hours — among the most extreme events since 1949.
- ❖ Lightning strikes across India in 2024 killed about 1,300 people; 72 died on July 10.
- ❖ Drought in China affected 4.8 million people and caused Chinese yuan (CNY) 2.89 billion in direct losses.

2025 Global Peace Index

- ❖ The Global Peace Index (GPI) is produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).
- ❖ The GPI covers 99.7% of the world's population and uses 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators from trusted sources.
- ❖ It measures peace across three domains as societal safety and security, ongoing domestic and international conflict, and militarisation.
- ❖ The average level of global peacefulness declined by 0.36% in 2025, marking the sixth consecutive year of deterioration.
- ❖ India ranks 115th out of 163 nations with a GPI score of 2.229.
- ❖ It was showing a 0.58% improvement from 2024 (116th rank).
- ❖ Iceland is the safest country globally, ranked highest across all domains.
- ❖ Russia is the least peaceful country in the world for the first time.
- ❖ Bangladesh ranks 123rd, Pakistan 144th, and Afghanistan 158th in the index.

India - Top 100 in SDG Index

- ❖ The latest Sustainable Development Report (SDR) released by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.
- ❖ India ranks 99th out of 167 countries on the 2025 SDG Index with a score of 67 from 109th rank in 2024.
- ❖ This is the first time, India secured a position among the top 100 countries.
- ❖ China ranks 49th with a score of 74.4, while the US is 44th with 75.2 points.



- ❖ Among India's neighbours, Bhutan ranks 74th with 70.5, Nepal 85th with 68.6, Bangladesh 114th with 63.9, and Pakistan 140th with 57.
- ❖ India's maritime neighbours Maldives and Sri Lanka are placed 53rd and 93rd respectively.
- ❖ The SDGs were adopted in 2015 to ensure no one is left behind in the global development by 2030.
- ❖ Countries are scored from 0 to 100, where 100 means all 17 goals have been fully achieved.

FATF Report on Financing and Evasion

- ❖ The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has released a report on the Proliferation Financing (PF) and sanctions evasion.
- ❖ The PF means raising or moving money to support Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), threatening global security.
- ❖ Major threats come from countries like North Korea, Iran, Russia, and non-state terror and criminal groups.
- ❖ The report highlights the weaknesses in national systems, both in structure and specific sectors.
- ❖ It analysed 38 cases from 19 countries and identified 4 common PF and sanctions evasion methods.
- ❖ FATF makes 4 key recommendations for countries to improve their efforts.
- ❖ Only 16% of countries fully enforce the UN sanctions aimed at stopping the WMD proliferation.

Global Tobacco Epidemic 2025 report

- ❖ This report was released by World Health Organization (WHO) at the World Conference on Tobacco Control in Dublin, Ireland.
- ❖ The report focuses on the six proven WHO MPOWER measures to reduce tobacco use.
- ❖ Tobacco causes over 7 million deaths yearly.
- ❖ WHO launched the MPOWER strategy in 2008.
- ❖ Since 2007, 155 countries have adopted at least one MPOWER measure at the best-practice level.
- ❖ India has fully implemented two measures: offering help to quit and warning about tobacco dangers.
- ❖ India has moderate progress in the other four MPOWER areas.



STATES

District symbols of Kozhikode

- ❖ Athiranni (*Melastoma malabathricum*) was declared as the district flower and Menipponman (*Ceyx erithaca*) as the district bird of Kozhikode district.
- ❖ The Malabar Rose (*Pachliopta pandiyana*) is the district's butterfly.
- ❖ Eeyakam (*Hopea erosa*) was declared as the district tree.
- ❖ The Smooth-coated Otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*) is the district's aquatic animal.
- ❖ The Pathala Poontharakan (*Pangio bhujia*) is the fish and the Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) is the animal.
- ❖ This is the first people's biodiversity declaration in the state of Kerala.

Kochi shipwreck issue

- ❖ The Kerala government has declared the wreckage of the Liberian-flagged cargo ship a State-specific disaster.
- ❖ The ship, MSC ELSA-3 bearing IMO number 9123221, sank near the coast of Kerala.
- ❖ It contains 640 containers including 13 with hazardous cargo and 12 containing calcium carbide.
- ❖ ICG ship Saksham, carrying pollution-response equipment, remains deployed at the site.
- ❖ The ICG's Maritime Rescue Sub-Centre (MRSC) in Kochi immediately launched a coordinated response.
- ❖ The Coast Guard's Dornier aircraft was deployed for aerial surveillance.
- ❖ Subsequently, ICG patrol ships and merchant vessels MV Han Yi and MSC Silver 2 were diverted to assist (the stranded crew)
- ❖ The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, also closely monitors the situation.
- ❖ INCOIS has activated its Search and Rescue Aid Tool (SARAT) to assist in locating containers or drifting objects.
- ❖ Three Indian Coast Guard (ICG) vessels Vikram, Saksham, and Samarth are relying on infrared cameras to detect the extent of the oil spill.
- ❖ The Mercantile Marine Department, Kochi, issued a pollution liability warning to the vessel owners MSC under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.
- ❖ Pollution response vessel Samudra Prahari is also mobilised.
- ❖ They also utilised oil spill dispersant (OSD) to contain the spread of oil from the vessel.



Impact in Tamilnadu

- ❖ Several bags of tiny plastic pellets (nurdles) were washed ashore in some of the coastal hamlets of western Kanniyakumari district.
- ❖ A few damaged bags and tiny plastic pellets were found along the shoreline of Enayampuththanthurai, Vallavilai, Eravipuththanthurai and a few more coastal villages in Kanniyakumari district.
- ❖ A container was also found washed ashore between the very coastal villages of Kodimunai and Vaniyakudi near Colachel.

Maharashtra CM Relief Fund

- ❖ The Union Home Ministry has granted the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010 registration to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund of Maharashtra.
- ❖ This enables it to receive foreign donations for "social" programmes.
- ❖ This is the first time that the Union Home Ministry has granted FCRA nod to a state government relief body.
- ❖ It aims to supplement financial assistance to those affected by natural calamities, major accidents, communal riots, terrorist attacks or those in need of medical and educational help.
- ❖ The relief funds of State governments usually run on domestic donations and contributions.
- ❖ In 2018, Government of India declined foreign aid for Kerala flood relief.
- ❖ The Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) of Maharashtra is registered as a Trust under the Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950.
- ❖ It is managed by the State of Maharashtra under the chairmanship of CM who exercises overall supervision and control over the funds.
- ❖ The Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund or the PM CARES Fund – was set up in March 2020.
- ❖ It aims to tackle the distress situations such as those posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ It was also exempted from the FCRA provisions.
- ❖ It is compulsory to register under the Act, first enacted in 1976, if an association, group or NGO intends to receive foreign donations.
- ❖ The 1976 Act was repealed and replaced with new legislation in 2010 and was further amended in 2020.
- ❖ Registered associations can receive foreign contributions for social, educational, religious, economic and cultural programmes.



Tiger Safari in Barwadih Forest

- ❖ The Jharkhand government plans to establish the state's first tiger safari in the fringe area of the Barwadih Western Forest Range in Latehar district.
- ❖ This area falls under the Palamau Tiger Reserve (PTR).
- ❖ Tiger safari is not defined under The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ❖ The concept was first envisaged in the Guidelines for the Tourism issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in 2012.
- ❖ In 2016, the NTCA issued guidelines for establishing tiger safaris in the buffer and fringe areas of tiger reserves.
- ❖ In March 2024, the Supreme Court has also directed that tiger safaris should be established outside the core and buffer areas of tiger reserves.

Bairabi-Sairang line

- ❖ Mizoram's capital Aizawl has now been linked to the national railway network via the Bairabi-Sairang line in the state.
- ❖ Thus Mizoram becomes the fourth N-E state with its capital city connected to the national railway network.
- ❖ The other three states are Assam, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh.

Assam - Meghalaya joint hydel project

- ❖ The Assam and Meghalaya governments have decided to set up a hydropower and irrigation project jointly.
- ❖ The two governments will take up the 55 MW Kulsi hydropower-cum-irrigation project after consultations with the local people.
- ❖ The Kulsi river, a tributary of the Brahmaputra to the west of Guwahati, flows down from the West Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya.
- ❖ The river is a major nesting site for the Gangetic River dolphin.

Samruddhi Mahamarg

- ❖ Maharashtra's most ambitious road infrastructure project, the 701-km-long Samruddhi Mahamarg, became fully operational.
- ❖ It will reduce travel time between Mumbai and Nagpur to just seven hours.
- ❖ It is popularly known as the Mumbai-Nagpur Expressway though the Samruddhi Mahamarg doesn't actually begin in Mumbai.
- ❖ It passes through three wildlife sanctuaries



- Katepurna wildlife sanctuary in Akola
- Karanja-Sohol Black Buck sanctuary in Washim
- Tansa wildlife sanctuary in Thane

Ghatampur Thermal Power Project

- ❖ NLC India has commenced the commercial operations of the first unit of its 3 x 660 MW Ghatampur Thermal Power Plant in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ It is developed through Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd, a joint venture between NLC India and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh will receive 75.12% of this power, while Assam will receive 24.88%.

Stromatolites - Himachal Pradesh

- ❖ A large size of stromatolites has been recently unearthed in the pine-clad ridges of Chambaghat in Solan district, Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It dates from 3.6 billion years old (Australia) to 600 million years old (as per the recent Himalayan discovery).
- ❖ Stromatolites are reef-like structures built by ancient cyanobacteria in shallow seas.
- ❖ The oldest stromatolites are 3.6 billion years old and are found in Australia.

Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link

- ❖ The Prime Minister inaugurated the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link in Kashmir.
- ❖ It is a 272-km project connecting the Kashmir valley to the rest of the country.
- ❖ In 1884 and Maharaja Pratap Singh of the Jammu and Kashmir state proposed this project to his Prime Minister, Diwan Anant Ram.
- ❖ Former prime minister Indira Gandhi laid the foundation stone for the Jammu-Udhampur-Srinagar railway line in 1983.
- ❖ It was declared a national project in 2002.
- ❖ The 119-km Baramulla-Srinagar-Anantnag-Qazigund section was completed and made operational in 2009.

Ladakh Land and Job Regulations of 2025

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu notified the Union Territory of Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Regulation, 2025



- ❖ It amends the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004 in Ladakh's context.
- ❖ The total percentage of reservation shall in no case exceed 85%, excluding the reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
- ❖ The total reservation for government jobs in the UT now stands at 95%, one of the highest in the country.
- ❖ Meghalaya has 85% reservation for Scheduled Castes and Tribes (SCs/STs) and Arunachal Pradesh has an 80% quota for ST.
- ❖ Following Three other Regulations were also notified by President:
 - The Ladakh Official Languages Regulation, 2025;
 - The Ladakh Civil Services Decentralisation and Recruitment (Amendment) Regulation, 2025; and
 - The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (Amendment) Regulation, 2025.
- ❖ "English, Hindi, Urdu, Bhoti and Purgi" shall be the official languages of Ladakh.
- ❖ Special efforts for the promotion and development of other native languages of Ladakh: Shina (Dardic), Brokskat (Dardic), Balti and Ladakhi.
- ❖ For other residents — including children of Central government officials — are to be considered "domiciles".
- ❖ Its rules, also notified by the MHA, specified the criteria to qualify as a "domicile" to apply for government jobs.
- ❖ But they will have to show 15 years of the continuous residence in the UT from October 31, 2019, Ladakh's foundation day.
- ❖ In a first, a third of the seats in hill councils have been reserved for women on a rotational basis.
- ❖ The regulation is to amend the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils Act, 1997.
- ❖ After initial jubilation in 2019, the protests began in 2020 at Ladakh with four specific demands:
 - Statehood for Ladakh,
 - Inclusion of Ladakh in the sixth schedule of the constitution thus giving it a tribal status,
 - Job reservation for locals, and
 - A Parliamentary seat each for Leh and Kargil.





Molecular Test Kits for Amoeba

- ❖ Kerala developed its own molecular diagnostic test kits to identify five common species of free-living amoeba (FLA).
- ❖ They are toxic to humans and which can cause amoebic meningoencephalitis.
- ❖ A highly fatal brain infection, cases of amoebic meningoencephalitis are being reported frequently in Kerala now.
- ❖ There are over 400 species of free-living amoeba in the environment, but only six have been documented to be pathogenic to humans.
- ❖ The State Public Health Laboratory is also the only lab which has the ability to identify five of these toxic organisms.

Arms License Scheme for Indigenous Citizens

- ❖ The Assam Cabinet have approved a scheme to issue arms licences to “original inhabitants and indigenous communities” living in “vulnerable and remote” areas near the Bangladesh border.
- ❖ This new arms licence policy will not apply to areas bordering Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Nagaland.
- ❖ These regions, though historically involved in border disputes with Assam, are not considered vulnerable in terms of national security.

Punjab Cotton Cultivation

- ❖ In Punjab, the crop diversification efforts got a major fillip with cotton cultivation witnessing around a 20% surge.
- ❖ The total area under cotton cultivation has increased from 2.49 lakh acres last year to 2.98 lakh acres this year in 2025.
- ❖ It shows an increase of over 49,000 acres within a year.
- ❖ Four districts which are leading in the cotton cultivation in the state are Fazilka, Mansa, Bathinda and Sri Muktsar Sahib, respectively.
- ❖ Punjab government has also decided to provide a 33% subsidy on cotton seeds to growers.

Goa's Feni - GI Tag

- ❖ Goa's Ozzo Feni becomes India's first feni to receive a Geographical Indication tag.
- ❖ Feni made from the fermentation and double distillation of either cashew apples or coconut sap.



- ❖ Feni was introduced to India by the Portuguese missionaries in the 1600s when they came to trade.
- ❖ The people who made feni were called bhatikars.
- ❖ The condensation of feni takes place in earthen mud clays called launi.

India's First Mobile-Based e-Voting System – Bihar

- ❖ The Bihar State Election Commission has decided to roll out an e-voting system using an Android-based mobile.
- ❖ Bihar will be the country's first state to adopt this revolutionary change in the voting process.
- ❖ The entire e-voting process will be executed through two mobile apps, namely "e-Voting SECBHR".
- ❖ One app was developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and another was by the Bihar State Election Commission.
- ❖ Migrant labourers, migrant voters, divyang voters, pregnant female voters, elderly and senior citizens, and seriously ill electorates will be able to cast their votes using the e-voting process.
- ❖ The e-voting system will also have features like a blockchain platform, liveness detection, face match, live face scan, and face comparison, making the voting tamper-proof.
- ❖ Like EVMs feature of VVPAT, an audit trail has also been put in place in the e-voting process.
- ❖ As per the information available on e-voting process, only the European country Estonia has rolled out this option.

Jal Ganga Sanvardhan Abhiyan Initiative - Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ Jal Ganga Samvardhan Abhiyan, a campaign was launched on the banks of the Kshipra River on March 30, 2025.
- ❖ It aims to protect and restore the state's water structures (rivers, ponds, wells, stepwells, and so on).
- ❖ Uncontrolled groundwater extraction had dried up this and other small rivers, affecting agriculture.
- ❖ Through water conservation structures built using the 'Ridge to Valley' principle, water has been harvested over a 33km stretch.
- ❖ As a result, the river is once again flowing now.



Talliki Vandanam - Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government, has started a new welfare scheme called ‘Talliki Vandanam’.
- ❖ Under this scheme, every student’s mother or guardian will get Rs 15,000 every year.
- ❖ Every student studying in Classes 1 to 12 will be covered under this scheme.
- ❖ The government is calling this the “mother of all welfare schemes”.

Utkal Keshari Parida case – 2013

- ❖ The Speaker M. Appavu can entertain a petition by an elector of Bodinayakanur against former Chief Minister and MLA of the constituency O. Panneerselvam.
- ❖ It was also by the Supreme Court’s verdict in the Speaker of Orissa Legislative Assembly vs Utkal Keshari Parida, 2013 case.
- ❖ However, this position is not in conformity with the 1986 Rules of the Tamil Nadu Assembly regarding disqualifications.
- ❖ It explicitly states that only an MLA can submit any such petition.
- ❖ Even in the Odisha case, the locus standi of a non-member of the House in submitting a petition for disqualification of four legislators was raised.
- ❖ But the Supreme Court held that not only a Member of the House, but any person interested would also be entitled to bring to the notice of the Speaker the fact.
- ❖ It may be that a Member of the House had incurred disqualification under the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution of India.
- ❖ As regards the Tamil Nadu Assembly, Rule 6 — References to be by the petitions — deals with the matter of who can give the petition.
- ❖ Sub-rule (2) says: “A petition in relation to a member may be made in writing to the Speaker by any other member.”
- ❖ Here, the term, “member,” as per Rule (2) titled Definitions, means “a member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.”
- ❖ The last time the disqualification of legislators was carried out was in September 2017.
- ❖ Then the then Assembly Speaker P. Dhanapal took action against 18 MLAs of the AIADMK on the grounds that they had “voluntarily given up” their membership of the party.

Dhanya M Vs State of Kerala & Others

- ❖ The Supreme Court has held that the extraordinary measure of the preventive detention must not be used as a substitute for criminal prosecution or to bypass orders of bail.



- ❖ The judgment by SC underscored the difference between ‘public order’ and ‘law and order’, citing SK. Nazneen v. State of Telangana (2023) and Nenavath Bujji Vs State of Telangana (2024).
- ❖ The SC set aside the preventive detention under the Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 2007.
- ❖ Other Key Supreme Court Judgments are
 - Rekha v. State of Tamil Nadu (2011),
 - Vijay Narayan Singh v State of Bihar (1984),
 - Icchu Devi v Union of India (1980) and
 - A.K. Gopalan v. State of Madras (1950)
- ❖ Preventive detention is recognised in the Constitution under Article 22(3)(b).
- ❖ The power of preventive detention is an exception to Article 21 and, therefore, must be applied as such, as an exception to the main rule and only in rare cases.
- ❖ The provision for preventive detention is an extraordinary power in the hands of the State that must be used sparingly.
- ❖ It curtails the liberty of an individual in anticipation of the commission of further offence(s), and therefore, must not be used in the ordinary course of nature.
- ❖ When a person is enlarged on bail by a competent criminal court, a great caution should be exercised in scrutinising the validity of an order of preventive detention which is based on the very same charge which is to be tried by the criminal court.

Kanha Tiger Reserve 2025

- ❖ The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun in Uttarakhand released a report titled “Status of Ungulates in Tiger Habitats of India”.
- ❖ The Kanha Tiger Reserve (KTR) in Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the leading tiger habitat in India in terms of ungulate (hoofed herbivore) population.
- ❖ As per the report, “Kanha Tiger Reserve boasts the highest ungulate population (1,02,485) among India’s major tiger reserves.”
- ❖ The total available biomass surpasses 12.6 million kilograms, making Kanha the most resource-rich tiger habitat in the country.

‘Performance Grade Index (PGI) 2.0’

- ❖ The PGI was introduced in 2017, and the Education ministry revamped it as PGI 2.0 in 2021.
- ❖ Chandigarh, Punjab, and Delhi were the top three performers in the Ministry of Education’s latest assessment of school education indicators.



- ❖ Chandigarh was the top scorer in 2021-22 as well, with a score of 659, followed by Punjab (647.4) and Delhi (636.2).
- ❖ No state/UT has scored in the higher ranges of 761 and above.
- ❖ In the middle ranges of 521-580 were Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, the West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The state that scored the lowest was Meghalaya (417.9).
- ❖ Just above it was Arunachal Pradesh (461.4), Mizoram (464.2), Nagaland (468.6), and Bihar (471.9).

Ship ki La Pass opening 2025

- ❖ Himachal Pradesh has recently opened the Ship ki La Pass to domestic tourists.
- ❖ It is situated at an elevation of 3,930 metres above sea level.
- ❖ The pass has been part of documented trade since the 15th century.
- ❖ It serves as a potential route for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra.
- ❖ It was used as a trade corridor between India and Tibet.
- ❖ It was first disrupted after the Sino-India War of 1962.

Cholera Outbreak in Odisha 2025

- ❖ The diarrhoea outbreak that has affected eight districts of Odisha has emerged as a grave concern for the state's public health apparatus.
- ❖ Several clusters have also been found to be struck by the deadly *Vibrio cholerae* (cholera) bacterium.
- ❖ Odisha earlier saw a cholera outbreak in December 2023 and July - November 2022.
- ❖ Cholera is an infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.
- ❖ It spreads through contaminated food and water.

Wind Power Capacity Growth 2024/25

- ❖ Karnataka has topped the country in wind power capacity addition for 2024-25.
- ❖ It was adding 1,331.48 MW, the highest among all states.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu and Gujarat had followed, with additions of 1,136.37 MW and 954.76 MW, respectively.
- ❖ India currently has an installed wind capacity of 51.5 GW.



- ❖ The national goal is to reach 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030.
- ❖ It is including 100 GW from wind power, of which 30 GW will come from offshore sources.
- ❖ Of the total RE, solar power capacity expanded 31.49 percent.
- ❖ India has fourth largest wind power installed capacity and also is the third largest renewable energy producer in the world.
- ❖ Wind power is the second-largest contributor to India's renewable energy mix following solar power.
- ❖ Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh are the high potential states.

MoU with NFWPIS

- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) organized the 'National Conference on Agri Stack: Turning Data into Delivery'.
- ❖ MoUs with Maharashtra, Kerala, Bihar, and Odisha, and the PSB Alliance with the National Farmers' Welfare Program Implementation Society was signed in the event.
- ❖ It aims to enable the seamless digital access to credit services through farmer registry-linked authentication.

Reintroduction of king cobras - Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ One of the two King Cobras brought to Madhya Pradesh from Mangalore Zoo died at the Van Vihar National Park's snake enclosure.
- ❖ The King Cobra is not a species endemic to the state.
- ❖ The king cobra, the world's longest venomous snake, can grow to 15 feet in the length.
- ❖ It prefers humid, dark forests with thick undergrowth, cool swamps, and bamboo patches across diverse habitats.
- ❖ They spread across from the highland evergreen and semi-evergreen forests to estuarine mangroves with high rainfall.
- ❖ In India, the king cobra's range includes the Western Ghats, the North Indian terai belt, Northeast India, coastlines of West Bengal and Odisha, Andaman and Nicobar, and parts of the Eastern Ghats.
- ❖ King cobras are known for their unique nesting behaviour.
- ❖ However, they do not breed well in captivity.



Achievements of Rajasthan's Cash Plus Model

- ❖ Rajasthan's Cash Plus model pushes up early breastfeeding rate, dietary diversity among new mothers.
- ❖ It is India's first State-led pilot to converge Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) with the Behaviour Change Communication.
- ❖ Through the programme, pregnant and lactating women are offered home-based and group nutrition counselling on maternal and child health and nutrition.
- ❖ As per the survey report, 80% of the women reported improved affordability and access to nutritious food.

Tripura - Fully Literate

- ❖ Tripura has now been declared as fully literate under the ULLAS – the Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.
- ❖ It is the third state in India to achieve full literacy, after Mizoram and Goa.
- ❖ The state's literacy rate has reached 95.6%, up from just 20.24% in 1961.
- ❖ ULLAS is a centrally sponsored scheme, launched in 2022 and running till 2027.
- ❖ The programme aims to empower non-literate youth and adults (15+ years).
- ❖ It focuses on foundational literacy, numeracy, and critical life skills.

OBC Status to Transgender Community

- ❖ Assam has announced that the transgender community in the state will be given Other Backward Class (OBC) status.
- ❖ This move aims to improve their access to education, jobs, and welfare benefits.
- ❖ Additionally, 50% of supervisor-level posts in the Women and Child Development Department will be reserved for Anganwadi workers.
- ❖ These supervisor roles are the part of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme and offer a promotion from the current grassroots-level positions.

Salkhan Fossils Park

- ❖ Salkhan Fossils Park in Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh was added into on UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage Sites.
- ❖ The park is one of the oldest fossil sites globally, with fossils dating back 1.4 billion years.
- ❖ Fossils include stromatolites and algae, among the earliest signs of life on Earth.
- ❖ The park covers 25 hectares in the Kaimur range, Vindhyan mountains.



Bihar's First Nuclear Power Plant

- ❖ Bihar is one of six states chosen to get a nuclear power plant under India's Nuclear Energy Mission.
- ❖ The plant will use the Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technology after the central government approval.
- ❖ This mission aims to expand clean and reliable nuclear power across India and improve regional energy security.
- ❖ SMRs are newer nuclear reactors that are more flexible, cost-effective, and safer than traditional reactors.

Banakacherla reservoir project

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh state has submitted a pre-feasibility report of the 'Godavari-Banakacherla Project' to the Central Water Commission (CWC).
- ❖ It aims to divert surplus Godavari water via the Krishna River to the drought-hit Rayalaseema region for drinking and irrigation needs.
- ❖ The project is located in Banakacherla, Nandyal district, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Telangana is calling it as a violation of the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014, which requires prior approval for inter-basin projects.
- ❖ The project has not yet received clearance from the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB), Godavari River Management Board (GRMB), or the CWC.
- ❖ Telangana was allotted 968 TMC ft of Godavari water by the Godavari Tribunal.

EAGLE - Telangana

- ❖ The Telangana govt announced the launch of Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) as a special enforcement unit called EAGLE.
- ❖ EAGLE stands for Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement.
- ❖ It will identify and destroy ganja cultivation in Telangana and intercept trafficking activities at the State borders.

Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls - Bihar

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar.
- ❖ House-to-house verification will be done by Booth Level Officers (BLOs).
- ❖ The aim is to include all eligible citizens and remove ineligible or fake entries.
- ❖ The last intensive revision in Bihar was conducted in 2003.



- ❖ The revision addresses issues like the urbanization, migration, and unreported deaths.
- ❖ The Strict legal rules under Article 326 and Section 16 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 will be followed.
- ❖ The Documents used for voter verification will be uploaded securely on ECINET, visible only to authorized officials.

Bonalu Festival 2025

- ❖ Bonalu is a Hindu festival mainly celebrated in Telangana, especially Hyderabad and Secunderabad.
- ❖ “Bonalu” means “feast” in Telugu, highlighting the special food prepared for the goddess.
- ❖ Devotees offer Bonam—a mix of rice, jaggery, curd, and neem leaves—to Goddess Mahakali.
- ❖ The offering is made to seek blessings and protection from diseases and disasters.
- ❖ The festival shows the gratitude to the goddess for protecting people during past hardships, including a 19th-century plague.

Jagannath Rath Yatra 2025

- ❖ Jagannath Rath Yatra is a famous Hindu festival in Odisha.
- ❖ It is also called the Chariot Festival or Shree Gundicha Yatra.
- ❖ The festival happens on Dwitiya Tithi, the second day of the bright lunar phase (Shukla Paksha).

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Valmiki Thapar

- ❖ Valmik Thapar of New Delhi, an Indian wildlife conservationist and one of the country’s most passionate advocates for the tiger, passed away.
- ❖ He has authored over two dozen books on wildlife and conservation including ‘Tiger My Life, Ranthambhore and Beyond’.
- ❖ Thapar has also presented several landmark wildlife documentaries, including the seminal BBC series “Land of the Tiger” (1997).
- ❖ In 1987, Thapar set up the Ranthambhore Foundation, a non-profit that worked to integrate local communities into conservation efforts.



Miss World 2025

- ❖ Thailand's Opal Suchata Chuangsri has been crowned the Miss World 2025 in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- ❖ This is Thailand's first win at the Miss World pageant.
- ❖ This is the first time in 28 years the event was hosted by India.
- ❖ The earlier Miss World event was held in 1996 and 2023.
- ❖ India won the Miss World title six times to date.

Norway Chess 2025 - D Gukesh

- ❖ The World Champion D Gukesh has defeated the World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen in Norway Chess 2025 tournament.
- ❖ The win was Gukesh's first-ever classical victory over Norwegian grand master.
- ❖ The 19-year-old also became the second Indian player to beat Carlsen in the history of the competition after Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa.

National Anubhav awards 2025

- ❖ 5 retirees were selected for the Anubhav Award and also 10 retirees for the Jury Certificates.
- ❖ This year's edition of the National Anubhav Awards Scheme marks a historic expansion.
- ❖ The employees from Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and Public Sector Banks (PSBs) were included for the first time alongside Central Government employees.
- ❖ Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare had launched an online platform 'Anubhav' in March 2015.
- ❖ It allows for sharing the experiences of retiring/retired government employees while working with the Government.
- ❖ An Annual Awards Scheme was introduced to incentivize and encourage retiring / retired employees to submit their experience through write-up.
- ❖ So far 59 Anubhav Awards and 19 Jury Certificates have been conferred.

81st Annual General Meeting of IATA

- ❖ The International Air Transport Association's (IATA) 81st annual general meeting was held in Delhi.
- ❖ Earlier, India hosted the event in 1958 and 1983.



- ❖ IATA was established in April 1945 in Havana, Cuba, as a successor to the 1919 International Air Traffic Association.
- ❖ Now it supports over 317 member airlines from 120+ countries (82% of global air traffic).

Retired judge M.S. Janarathanan

- ❖ The Retired Madras High Court judge and former chairman of the State Backward Classes Commission, Justice M.S. Janarathanan, passed away.
- ❖ He served as a judge of the Madras High Court from 1988 to 1998.
- ❖ He also served as the chairman of the State Backward Classes Commission from 2006 to 2015.
- ❖ It was on the basis of his recommendations that reservations were implemented for Muslims, Christians, and Arunthathiyars in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ In July 2010, the Supreme Court, provided one year to Tamil Nadu to come out with justification along with quantifiable data for the continuance of the 69% reservation for BC, MBC and SCs/STs.
- ❖ Justice Janarathanan, as the head of the State BC Commission, had authored a report in support of the quota scheme, as provided in the Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994.
- ❖ In November 2008, as the head of a committee, he submitted a report to the then DMK government that the representation of the Arunthathiyars in Groups A, B and C services under the State “has been found grotesquely inadequate.”
- ❖ Consequently, a three percent quota came into force.
- ❖ In 2012 he also gave an opinion to the government for providing a 10.5% quota to Vanniyars within the 20%.
- ❖ Though this was acted upon by the previous AIADMK regime nine years later, the Supreme Court, in April 2022, quashed the move.

UN Habitat Assembly 2025

- ❖ The Second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly was held in Nairobi, Kenya.
- ❖ It is the highest global decision-making body on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, composed of 193 UN member states.
- ❖ The Assembly adapted the UN-Habitat’s Strategic Plan 2026–2029.
- ❖ The plan aims to accelerate the very inclusive, climate-resilient, and equitable development in cities and communities.



- ❖ It will focus particularly in countries grappling with climate change, conflict, and inequality.
- ❖ Malaysia has also officially been elected president of the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) General Assembly for the 2025-2029 term.
- ❖ Malaysia made history when its presidency was unanimously approved by all 193 member states.
- ❖ During this term, Malaysia will hold the presidency and a seat on the Executive Board jointly with the United Arab Emirates to represent the Asia Pacific region.
- ❖ The United Nations Habitat Assembly convenes every four years.
- ❖ The World Urban Forum 13 (WUF13) will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in 2026 under the theme: “Housing the world: Safe and resilient cities and communities.”

Shangri-la Dialogue 2025

- ❖ India’s CDS General Anil Chauhan participated the 22nd edition of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore.
- ❖ It is hosted annually by the International Institute for Strategic Studies.
- ❖ Shangri-La Dialogue is Asia’s premier defence and security summit that brings together defence ministers, military chiefs, policy makers and strategic experts across the globe.
- ❖ The event has witnessed the leaders from over 40 nations addressing Indo-Pacific security challenges.

ICC Cricket Hall of Fame 2025 - MS Dhoni

- ❖ The International Cricket Council (ICC) inducted seven cricketers — five men and two women — in its Hall of Fame 2025.
- ❖ MS Dhoni has become an inductee at the ICC Hall of Fame and became the 11th Indian player to receive the accolade.
- ❖ Dhoni has a record with 17,266 international runs, 829 dismissals and 538 matches across formats for India.
- ❖ He led India to the T20 World Cup win in 2007, ODI World Cup victory in 2011 and the Champions Trophy in 2013

R.P.G.V. Govindan Chettiyar

- ❖ R.P.G.V. Govindan Chettiyar born at Chithode, a village in Erode Taluk, which was then part of the composite Coimbatore district.



- ❖ As a school student, he participated in the Non-Cooperation Movement of 1920–21.
- ❖ On February 28, 1941, he also led a Satyagraha near the Chithode Mariamman Temple, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to the nation's freedom.
- ❖ Between February 2, 1941 and March 9, 1941, he undertook a padayatra and made public discourse against British colonial rule.
- ❖ In 1941 he actively took part in the Individual Satyagraha movement.
- ❖ After independence, he had also served as a member of the advisory committee for the Erode National Expansion Scheme.

National e-Governance Awards 2025

- ❖ 19 Projects/ Initiatives are selected for the National Awards For E-Governance 2025 across 6 Award Categories.
- ❖ Rohini Gram Panchayat, Dhule District, Maharashtra wins the Gold at National e-Governance Awards 2025 for its groundbreaking digital initiative.
- ❖ West Majlishpur Gram Panchayat, West Tripura District, Tripura won silver.
- ❖ The Suakati Gram Panchayat, located in the Keonjhar district of Odisha, has been awarded the Jury Award.
- ❖ The other Jury Award winner is Palsana Gram Panchayat, Surat District from Gujarat.

Wimbledon's prize money 2025

- ❖ It has risen to a high record £53.5 million (about \$73 million) and the singles champions will each earn £3 million (\$4 million).
- ❖ All England Club officials announced this.
- ❖ This year, for the first time in the oldest Grand Slam, line judges will be replaced with electronic line-calling.

Former Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani

- ❖ Vijay Rupani, former Chief Minister of Gujarat, died in a tragic Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad.
- ❖ He was elected to the Rajkot Municipal Corporation in 1987, and served as the mayor of Rajkot from 1996 to 1997.
- ❖ He was elected as a member of parliament in the Rajya Sabha from 2006 to 2012.
- ❖ He served as a member of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly from 2014 to 2022.
- ❖ On 7 August 2016, Rupani was appointed chief minister of Gujarat and served until 2021 September.



Order of Makarios III

- ❖ During the visit to Cyprus Indian Prime Minister received the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III – the highest civilian honour of the Republic of Cyprus.
- ❖ It is awarded by that country which was named after the first President of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios III.
- ❖ This is the first-ever visit by an Indian PM to the Mediterranean nation.
- ❖ India and Cyprus have traditionally enjoyed strong diplomatic relations since the establishment of ties in 1962.
- ❖ Cyprus, a member of the EU is set to assume the ‘rotating presidency’ of the EU, early next year.

ISRO Scientist Nellai Su. Muthu

- ❖ Nellai Su.Muthu, a former scientist of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), passed away.
- ❖ He worked as a senior scientist at the ISRO’s Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- ❖ He is the recipient of the Kavi mamani Award presented by the World Tamil Poets Association of Malaysia.
- ❖ He has authored more than 70 books on topics varying from science, children’s literature, poetry, history, translation.
- ❖ Four of his books were honoured with the Tamil Development Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu’s Best Book Award and the Best Author Award.
- ❖ His book ‘Vinveli 2057’ (SKY 2057) won the best book award in the Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry categories for the year 2000.
- ❖ Another book, titled ‘Arivuttum Vigyaana Vilaiyaatu’ (Science Tricks That Provide Knowledge), clinched the best book award in the Children’s Literature category for the year 2004.
- ❖ The book, titled ‘Einsteinum Andaveliyum’ (Einstein and Space), won the best book award in the Biography and Personal History categories for the year 2005.
- ❖ He worked with the late former President APJ Abdul Kalam.

Bonn Climate Change Conference 2025

- ❖ The June Climate Meetings of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Bonn, Germany.
- ❖ It is also known as the 62nd meeting of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB 62).



- ❖ There are two permanent SBs of the UNFCCC,
 - The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and
 - The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA).
- ❖ UNFCCC is an international agreement, signed in 1992, that has provided a basis for climate negotiations.

Skytrax 2025 Awards

- ❖ The Skytrax World Airline Awards are widely regarded as the “Oscars of the aviation industry.
- ❖ India’s IndiGo Airlines has been ranked third among the world’s top very low-cost carriers in the 2025.
- ❖ Regionally, it ranked top for the Best Airline and Best Low-Cost Airline in South Asia for 2025.
- ❖ Qatar Airways has been named the World’s Best Airline 2025, claiming the title for the ninth time.

Sahitya Akademi awards 2025

- ❖ The Sahitya Akademi announced the names of 23 writers for its ‘Yuva Puraskar’ and 24 for ‘Bal Puraskar’ awards.
- ❖ The Yuva Puraskar would be given in 23 languages.
- ❖ The awardees include Advait Kottary in the English, Parvati Tirkey in Hindi, Latshmihar for Tamil and Prasad Suri for Telugu.
- ❖ There is no Yuva Puraskar in Dogri this year.
- ❖ Other winners include Suprakash Bhuyan for Assamese, Sudeshna Moitra for Bengali, R. Dileep kumar for Kannada, and Akhil P. Dharmajan for Malayalam.
- ❖ The Akademi has also announced the names of 24 authors for its Bal Sahitya Puraskar.
- ❖ Sreejith Moothedath is named for Malayalam, Vishnupuram Saravanan for Tamil and Gangiseti Sivakumar for Telugu.
- ❖ Sahitya Akademi is the only institution that undertakes literary activities in 24 Indian languages, including English.



Maruti Chitampalli

- ❖ Highly Noted environmentalist, wildlife expert, and Padmashree awardee Maruti Chitampalli of Maharashtra, passed away.
- ❖ He is fondly known as ‘Aranya Rishi’.
- ❖ Very fluent in 13 languages, he had used his linguistic prowess to engage with tribal communities and collect valuable ecological and environmental data.
- ❖ His diaries laid the foundation for his scientific works like
 - ‘Pakshikosha’ (Encyclopaedia of Birds),
 - ‘Pashukosha’ (Encyclopaedia of Animals), and
 - ‘Matsyakosha’ (Encyclopaedia Fish).

End of JCB Literary Award

- ❖ The JCB Prize for Literature has been discontinued after the seven years, with no future editions planned.
- ❖ The prize was known for promoting the linguistic diversity and recognising the translations.
- ❖ It was launched in 2018.
- ❖ The prize was sponsored by the JCB India and managed by the JCB Literature Foundation, a not-for-profit body.
- ❖ It honoured fiction written in English or Indian language works translated into English.
- ❖ Out of the seven winners from 2018 to 2024, five were translated works from languages like Malayalam, Tamil, and Urdu.

First Indian to Complete NASA’s Space Program

- ❖ Jahnvi Dangeti from Andhra Pradesh is the first Indian to complete NASA’s International Air and Space Program.
- ❖ She will join the Titans Space mission in 2029 as India’s first astronaut on the mission.
- ❖ Jahnvi has been recognised with the People’s Choice Award at the NASA Space Apps Challenge and the ISRO World Space Week Young Achiever Award.



SPORTS

Asian Athletics Championships 2025

- ❖ The 26th edition of the Asian Athletics Championships was held in Gumi, the Republic of Korea.
- ❖ The People's Republic of China topped the Asian Athletics Championships 2025 medal table with 32 medals.
- ❖ Indian athletes won 24 medals - eight gold, 10 silver and six bronze - and finished second in the medal tally.

Magnus Carlsen - Norway Chess 2025

- ❖ Carlsen claimed the Norway Chess title for the seventh time in his career.
- ❖ During the event, Gukesh has beat Magnus Carlsen and registering his first-ever Classical win over the World No.1.
- ❖ For the first time in history, four Indians are in the top 10 chess rankings end of the event.
- ❖ Alongside D Gukesh (5th), Arjun Erigaisi (4th), and R Praggnanandhaa (6th), Aravindh Chidambaram (9th) has climbed to this.

2025 French Open Tennis

- ❖ Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz of Spain once again clinched the French Open 2025 men's singles final.
- ❖ This final match was also the very longest-ever final, lasting five hours and 29 minutes.
- ❖ Before this, the longest-ever French Open final in the Open Era took place in 1982.
- ❖ Coco Gauff of USA beat Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in the final and won the women's singles title.
- ❖ She was the first American to win this after Serena Williams, a decade ago.
- ❖ The Italian pair Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini have won the Women's Doubles crown.
- ❖ Marcel Granollers of Spain and Horacio Zeballos of Argentina won the French Open men's doubles.



Tendulkar-Anderson Trophy

- ❖ The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and BCCI have decided to rename the trophy after James Anderson and Sachin Tendulkar.
- ❖ The series used to be called the Pataudi Trophy when played in England and the Anthony de Mello Trophy when held in India.
- ❖ James Anderson is England's leading wicket-taker in Tests with 704 wickets.
- ❖ Sachin Tendulkar is the leading run-scorer in Tests, with 15,921 runs to his name.

Mascot for 2025 Para Athletics Championships

- ❖ The 2025 World Para Athletics Championships will be held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The event is set to welcome the athletes from over 100 countries, making it the biggest Para sport event ever hosted in India.
- ❖ The official mascot, named Viraaaj, a lively young elephant with a blade prosthesis released recently.
- ❖ Viraaaj symbolizes strength, resilience, and optimism, reflecting the spirit of Para athletes.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Multiple Sclerosis Day 2025 - May 30

- ❖ It aims to raise the awareness about multiple sclerosis (MS), a chronic, often disabling neurological condition.
- ❖ Multiple sclerosis is a chronic neurological condition where the immune system mistakenly attacks the protective covering of nerve fibres.
- ❖ It leads to communication problems between the brain and the rest of the body.
- ❖ On this day in 2009, mountaineer Lori Schneider became the first person with MS to summit Mount Everest.
- ❖ This year's campaign is titled "My MS Diagnosis" with the tagline "Navigating MS Together."



World Dhole Day 2025 - May 28

- ❖ This day aims to promote the conservation of dholes.
- ❖ These endangered dogs (*Cuon alpinus*) are found across the forests of India's Western and Eastern Ghats, Central India and Northeast India.
- ❖ Dhole's 'whistle' is to communicate with each other.

World Milk Day 2025 - June 01

- ❖ This day highlights milk as a vital, accessible food source that nourishes billions.
- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations declared day in 2001.
- ❖ This year's theme is: "Let's Celebrate the Power of Dairy."
- ❖ India has been the number one milk producer since 1998.
- ❖ It now produces 25 per cent of the world's milk.

Telangana Day 2025 - June 02

- ❖ On June 2, 2014, Telangana was formed out of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill was passed in the Parliament in 2014.
- ❖ Hyderabad was chosen as the joint capital of both Andhra and Telangana for ten years.

World Environment Day 2025 - June 05

- ❖ It aims to encourage awareness and action for the protection of the environment.
- ❖ This day was established in 1972 during the UN Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm.
- ❖ In 1973, the first WED was held with the theme "Only one earth".
- ❖ "Putting an End to Plastic Pollution" is the theme for 2025.

International Level Crossing Awareness Day 2025 - June 05

- ❖ The International Union of Railways (UIC) leads the International Level Crossing Awareness Day (ILCAD).
- ❖ The first European Level Crossing Awareness Day was celebrated on June 25, 2009.
- ❖ ILCAD aims to raise public awareness of level crossing risks and improve safety.



- ❖ The 2025 ILCAD launch conference theme is 'Helping the people to make good decisions' with the slogan 'Safe decisions – every time.'

World Accreditation Day 2025 - June 09

- ❖ This day highlights the role of the accreditation in strengthening the very quality infrastructure, enabling global trade, and fostering economic development.
- ❖ The Quality Council of India (QCI) is the national custodian of accreditation in India.
- ❖ QCI was established in 1997 as an autonomous body under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- ❖ The theme for the year 2025 is "Accreditation: Empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)".

International Archives Day 2025 - June 09

- ❖ On this day in 1948, the International Council on Archives (ICA) was created under the auspices of UNESCO.
- ❖ This year's theme is "#ArchivesAreAccessible – Archives for Everyone".
- ❖ International Archives week is observed during 9-13 June 2025.

International Day of Play 2025 - June 11

- ❖ This day highlighted the crucial role of play in children's healthy growth and well-being worldwide.
- ❖ The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child formally has affirmed it as a very fundamental right under Article 31 for the children to rest, leisure and engage in play and recreational activities.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Choose Play – Every Day".

World Day Against Child Labour 2025 - June 12

- ❖ This year marks the 26th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'Progress is clear, but there's more to do: let's speed up efforts!'
- ❖ Africa ranks highest among regions both in the percentage of children in child labour (1/5) and the absolute number of children in child labour — 72 million.
- ❖ Asia and the Pacific ranks the second highest in both these measures — 7% of all children and 62 million in absolute terms are in child labour in this region.



- ❖ ILO Convention No. 138 deals with the Minimum Age and ILO Convention No. 182 deals with the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

International Albinism Awareness Day 2025 - June 13

- ❖ Albinism is an uncommon and genetically inherited condition that results in skin devoid of pigmentation, causing unusually pale skin, hair, and eyes.
- ❖ Individuals who have albinism are more vulnerable to ultraviolet (UV) rays.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2025 is “Demanding our rights: Protect our skin, Preserve our lives”.

World Blood Donor Day 2025 - June 14

- ❖ It is celebrated on the birthday anniversary of Karl Landsteiner on June 14, 1868.
- ❖ Landsteiner was awarded the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the ABO blood group system.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is ‘Give blood, give hope: together we save lives’.

International Day for the Fight against IUU Fishing 2025 - June 05

- ❖ It aims to protect the world’s fisheries, marine biodiversity, and the livelihoods of millions dependent on ocean resources by eliminating illegal and unsustainable fishing practices.
- ❖ This year is the ninth anniversary of the legally binding Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) that came into force on 5 June 2016.
- ❖ This agreement is to specifically target illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

World Food Safety Day 2025 - June 07

- ❖ It aims to increase public awareness of the risks associated with contaminated food and to encourage initiatives aimed at lowering risks across the food chain.
- ❖ The first worldwide commemoration was held on June 7, 2019.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Food safety – science in action”.

World Brain Tumor Day 2025 - June 08

- ❖ It aims to educating people about the seriousness, early detection, and prevention of brain tumours.



- ❖ A brain tumour is an unusual growth of the tissue in the brain or its covering (meninges) that may disrupt proper brain function.
- ❖ This day was first initiated by the German Brain Tumor Association in 2000.

World Oceans Day 2025 - June 08

- ❖ This day was first proposed in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.
- ❖ It catalyses collective action for a healthy ocean and a stable climate, working in collaboration with govts and organizations.
- ❖ This year's global observance events were hosted in Nice, in France.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Wonder: Sustaining what sustains us".

Coral Triangle Day 2025 - June 09

- ❖ The Initiative is a multilateral partnership of the six countries namely Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste.
- ❖ The Coral Triangle, often dubbed as the 'Amazon of the Seas,' is a marine bio diversity hotspot.
- ❖ It houses 15 unique species and boasts the highest diversity of reef fish in the world, with 37% of global reef fish species found here.
- ❖ Despite covering only 1.5% of the Earth's surface, the Coral Triangle contains 30% of the planet's coral reefs.
- ❖ This year's theme is "One Triangle, Infinite Beauty".

International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations 2025 - June 10

- ❖ This day was proposed by China and co-sponsored by over 80 countries in 2024.
- ❖ This day was underscoring the importance of respecting cultural diversity while highlighting the crucial role of dialogue in fostering global peace.
- ❖ This year's Hehe Civilization Forum will be held in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ❖ Theme of the event for this year is "Harmonious and Coexistence: Promoting the Prosperity and Progress of Civilizations".

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2025 - June 15

- ❖ It was created by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization.
- ❖ This day aims to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of the older persons by raising awareness.



- ❖ 2025 Theme was “Addressing Abuse of Older Adults in Long Term Care Facilities: Through Data and Action”.

International Day of Family remittances (IDFR) 2025 - June 16

- ❖ This day recognises the financial contributions made by 250 million migrant workers to sustainable international development.
- ❖ Globally, around 3.4% of population are international migrants who contribute approximately 9.4% of global GDP.
- ❖ This year, the IDFR campaign calls for a renewed and the expanded commitment to fully maximise the impact of remittances in achieving the SDGs in Low- and middle-income countries.

125th death anniversary of Birsa Munda – June 09

- ❖ The Tribal leader and the freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda’s 125th death anniversary, also known as ‘Balidan Diwas’ observed recently.
- ❖ He was born on November 15, 1875, in Ulihatu village – now in Jharkhand.
- ❖ His birth anniversary is observed as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (Tribal Pride Day).
- ❖ Birsa Munda is best known for leading the Ulgulan, which means “The Great Tumult” or rebellion, in the late 1800s.
- ❖ He is known as ‘Dharti Aaba’ or the ‘Father of the Earth’ by tribal communities.
- ❖ He was only 25 years old when he passed away on June 9, 1900, while in Ranchi Jail.

World Wind Day 2025 - June 15

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the power of wind energy, its potential to reshape our energy systems, and its vital role in combating climate change.
- ❖ This event led by Wind Europe, the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) in 2007.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Day of Community Action”.
- ❖ India has observed this day under the theme ‘Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India’.

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2025 - June 17

- ❖ It aims to raise an awareness about the urgent need to halt land degradation and build resilience against drought.
- ❖ On this day in 1994, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was adopted in Paris.



- ❖ The Republic of Colombia hosted this year's global observance.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Restore the land. Unlock the opportunities".

Autistic Pride Day 2025 - June 18

- ❖ This day highlights the very unique identities, strengths, and the perspectives of individuals on the autism spectrum.
- ❖ An Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental condition that affects the communication, social interaction, and how individuals process information.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Unapologetically Autistic".

Sustainable Gastronomy Day 2025 - June 18

- ❖ This day recognizes gastronomy as an important cultural expression tied to the natural and cultural diversity of our world.
- ❖ As of 2025, 56 cities have been recognized as Creative Cities of Gastronomy, each promoting local food heritage and sustainability.
- ❖ Hyderabad is the lone Creative City of Gastronomy in India.

World Sickle Cell Awareness Day 2025 - June 19

- ❖ This day aims to increase the public awareness about sickle cell disease.
- ❖ A Sickle cell disease is caused by an inherited gene mutation that results in the disfigured red blood cells (RBCs).
- ❖ The disfigured RBCs lack the flexibility required to move through the very blood vessels in a normal manner.
- ❖ India has the world's second-greatest sickle cell disease burden.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "A Global Action, Local Impact: Empowering Communities for Effective Self-Advocacy".

Asean Dengue Day 2025 - June 15

- ❖ The 10th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting in 2010 designated this Day.
- ❖ It aims to combat the dengue through a comprehensive prevention, control, and management strategies aimed at reducing both incidence and mortality.
- ❖ Dengue virus is primarily transmitted to humans through the bite of the infected mosquitoes.
- ❖ This year's theme for this day is "ASEAN United: Zero dengue deaths a future we build together".



International Domestic Workers' Day 2025 - June 16

- ❖ It is the anniversary of the adoption of the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).
- ❖ This the first time that domestic work was recognised as real work.
- ❖ Around the world, over 75 million domestic workers support the very fabric of our homes, families, and communities.
- ❖ As care needs rise - with 2.3 billion people expected to require care services by 2030.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Recognizing Care, Advancing Dignity and Rights for the Domestic Workers”.

World Crocodile Day 2025 - June 17

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about the conservation of crocodiles and alligators.
- ❖ It is an initiative of the Belize-based Crocodile Research Alliance.
- ❖ This event in 2025 also commemorated the 50th anniversary of India's Crocodile conservation project.
- ❖ The 3 main species of crocodiles are found in India,
 - Saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*),
 - Mugger crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*), and
 - Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*).
- ❖ Odisha is the only State to host the wild populations of all three native species.

World Kidney Cancer Day 2025 - June 12

- ❖ It is observed annually on the second Thursday of June.
- ❖ This day was created by the International Kidney Cancer Coalition (IKCC) to raise global awareness of the disease.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Show your kidneys some love”.

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict 2025 - June 19

- ❖ This day was established by the UN General Assembly in 2015 to address sexual violence in conflict zones.
- ❖ It aims to raise the global awareness about the need to eliminate conflict-related sexual violence and its devastating impact on peace and security.



- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Breaking the Cycle, Healing the Scars: Addressing the Intergenerational Effects of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence”.

National Reading Day 2025 - June 19

- ❖ It is observed to encourage reading habits and lifelong learning.
- ❖ This day honours Puthuvayil Narayana Panicker (P.N. Panicker).
- ❖ He is known as the “Father of the Library and Literacy Movement” in Kerala.
- ❖ It was officially declared a national observance by Prime Minister in 2017.

World Sauntering Day 2025 – June 19

- ❖ This day is meant to remind people to pause and slowdown from their busy lives.
- ❖ The day encourages everyone to take a leisurely walk, inspired by the word “sauntering.”
- ❖ It was created by W.T. Rabe in 1970, as a response to the growing popularity of jogging.

World Refugee Day 2025 - June 20

- ❖ The day aims to highlight the various challenges the refugees face and promote understanding and support for their safety and dignity.
- ❖ It was first observed globally on June 20, 2001 to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1951 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.
- ❖ The theme for 2025, “Solidarity with Refugees”.

Summer Solstice 2025 - June 21

- ❖ The summer solstice occurs because the Earth’s North Pole is tilted closest to the Sun.
- ❖ It is causing the Sun to reach its highest point in the sky.
- ❖ The term “solstice,” refers to the point when the Sun’s apparent motion in the sky pauses before changing direction.
- ❖ Due to Earth’s very tilted axis of approximately 23.5 degrees, the Northern Hemisphere receives sunlight at its most direct angle during the solstice.
- ❖ Also, the Southern Hemisphere enters winter, experiencing its shortest day and longest night.



International Yoga Day 2025 - June 21

- ❖ The day aims to raise the global awareness about the many benefits of practising yoga in daily life.
- ❖ On December 11, 2014, the UN officially proclaimed this day.
- ❖ June 21 is chosen as International Yoga Day as is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Yoga for One Earth, One Health”.

World Hydrography Day 2025 - June 21

- ❖ This day emphasizes the importance of understanding the physical features of water bodies such as oceans, seas, and rivers.
- ❖ It was officially established by the United Nations in 2005 to promote the global awareness of hydrography.
- ❖ The day also commemorates the anniversary of the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO).
- ❖ The IHO was also originally founded in 1921 as the International Hydrographic Bureau to support safe navigation and marine conservation.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Seabed Mapping: Enabling Ocean Action”.

International Olympic Day 2025 - June 23

- ❖ This day commemorates the birth of the modern Olympic Games.
- ❖ The day was first celebrated in 1948.
- ❖ It aims to commemorate the founding of the International Olympic Committee on June 23, 1894.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Let’s Move?”.

United Nations Public Service Day 2025 - June 23

- ❖ On 20 December 2002, the General Assembly designated this day.
- ❖ UN established the UN Public Service Awards (UNPSA) programme in 2003.
- ❖ It honours the vital contributions of the public servants and the public sector in driving development and improving the quality of life for citizens across the globe.
- ❖ The 2025 United Nations Public Service Forum was held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- ❖ The theme of the event was “Five Years to 2030: Accelerating Public Service Delivery for a Sustainable Future”.



International Day of Women in Diplomacy 2025 - June 24

- ❖ It aims to honour and recognize the essential role that women play in the field of diplomacy
- ❖ There are only 25 countries with a female head of the state or government as of January 2025.
- ❖ Colombia becomes the eighth country in the world with a feminist foreign policy.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'Eliminating the structural barriers to women's leadership in diplomacy'.

World Vitiligo Day 2025 - June 25

- ❖ This day aims to raise awareness of the social stigma and mental challenges faced by those affected by vitiligo.
- ❖ Vitiligo is a skin disorder in which the skin cell melanocytes that produce melanin are destroyed by the body's immune system.
- ❖ This led to the skin to lose its colour and resulting in whitish, smooth patches on the skin.
- ❖ This year's theme is "Innovation for Every Skin, Powered by AI".

International Day of the Seafarer 2025 - June 25

- ❖ This day was declared by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 2010.
- ❖ This day is recognizing the critical contributions of seafarers to the global trade, economies, and society.
- ❖ This year the IMO launched the campaign 'My Harassment-Free Ship'.
- ❖ IMO was established in 17 March 1948.
- ❖ It is headquartered in London, United Kingdom.

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2025 - June 26

- ❖ On December 7, 1987, the General Assembly declared this day.
- ❖ It aims to increase the action and collaboration in the effort to end illicit drug use throughout the globe.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Break the Cycle. #StopOrganizedCrime".

International Day in Support of Victims of Torture 2025 – June 26

- ❖ On this day in 1987, the UN Convention Against Torture came into effect.



- ❖ Today, there are 174 State parties to the Convention.
- ❖ In 2002, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture was adopted.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Torture: a crime against humanity”.

World Refrigeration Day 2025 - June 26

- ❖ It aims to raise the awareness about the importance of refrigeration technologies in everyday life and to raise the profile of the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector.
- ❖ The date was chosen to celebrate the birth date of Lord Kelvin on 26 June 1824.
- ❖ This year’s theme is “Cool Skills”.

Helen Keller Day 2025 - June 27

- ❖ This day recognises the importance of inclusivity, accessibility, and the equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their abilities.
- ❖ This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Helen Keller.
- ❖ Although Helen Keller was born deaf and blind, she became a writer, published numerous books.
- ❖ She founded the “American Foundation for the Blind.”
- ❖ Keller’s autobiography is named *The Story of My Life* (1903).

MSME Day 2025 - June 27

- ❖ The United Nations designated this day in 2017.
- ❖ It aims to highlight the vital role of the MSMEs in driving inclusive growth and sustainable development.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Enhancing the role of MSMEs as the drivers of Sustainable Growth and Innovation.”

National Statistics Day 2025 - June 29

- ❖ This day marks the birth anniversary of the father of Indian statistics - PS Mahalanabis.
- ❖ He played a central role in India’s second five-year plan.
- ❖ Mahalanabis laid the foundation for the Indian Statistical Institute in 1931.
- ❖ This day was first celebrated in India in 2007.
- ❖ The theme for this year is ‘75 Years of National Sample Survey’.



International Day of the Tropics 2025 - June 29

- ❖ This day recognizes the immense diversity and the critical role tropical regions play in shaping the global future.
- ❖ On this day in 2014, the first 'State of the Tropics Report' was released.
- ❖ A second edition of the report was published in 2020.
- ❖ The Tropics refer to the area between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'The future belongs to the Tropics'.

World Asteroid Day 2025 - June 30

- ❖ It aims to inform the public about how asteroid impacts can affect life on Earth.
- ❖ The day commemorates the Tunguska event of 1908.
- ❖ The largest asteroid impact flattened over 2,000 square kilometres of the Siberian Forest.

International Day of Parliamentarianism 2025 - June 30

- ❖ This day marks the anniversary of the founding of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 1889.
- ❖ Today, the Inter-Parliamentary Union unites around 181 national and 15 regional parliaments.
- ❖ This year's theme is 'Achieving gender equality, action by action'.

MISCELLANEOUS

INS Tarini 2025 - Completes World Voyage

- ❖ The Indian Naval Sailing Vessel returns after completing an eight-month circumnavigation of the globe.
- ❖ The vessel sailed over 25,400 nautical miles (approximately 50,000 km) across four continents, three oceans, and three Great Capes.
- ❖ The vessel is managed by two women officers, Lieutenant Commanders Roopa A and Dilna K.



ISSAR for 2024

- ❖ ISRO released the Indian Space Situational Assessment Report (ISSAR) for 2024.
- ❖ The Space Situational Awareness (SSA) activities involve the knowledge of the space environment, assessment of threats, and implementation of mitigation measures.
- ❖ ISRO successfully performed 10 Collision Avoidance Manoeuvres (CAMs) in 2024.
- ❖ It aims to protect its satellites from the potential collisions with other objects in space.
- ❖ In 2024, there were 261 launch attempts globally, with 254 successful missions resulting in 2578 operational satellites being added.
- ❖ Till 2024 end, India had launched 136 spacecraft, including 22 operational satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and 31 in Geosynchronous Orbit (GEO).

Menstrual Hygiene Survey 2025

- ❖ The survey reveals alarming misinformation on social media regarding menstrual health.
- ❖ 71.6% of Indian women find social media informative on periods, but only 11.5% trust it in emergencies.
- ❖ 82.7% experience menstrual pain, yet 41.5% use no pain relief.
- ❖ As per the UNICEF data, Globally, 500 million women lack access to menstrual hygiene facilities.
- ❖ It was released by the evertteen - the Feminine Intimate Hygiene Expert.

Monsoon Arrival 2025

- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences has retained its April forecast for 'above normal' rainfall from June to September.
- ❖ It expects the country to see about 92 cm of rainfall (106% of the long period average) during this southwest monsoon season, slightly higher than the 91.3 cm (105% of the average) rainfall.
- ❖ It said the southwest monsoon set in over Kerala on May 24, a week ahead of its normal onset.
- ❖ Normally, the southwest monsoon marks its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8.
- ❖ It starts retreating from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15.
- ❖ Not since the monsoon of 2009 has its arrival been this early.



- ❖ Since 1975, the earliest monsoon onset over Kerala occurred on May 19, 1990, 13 days ahead of schedule.
- ❖ Moreover, the monsoon also advanced to Mumbai early, breaking a 35-year-old record by reaching the city on May 26, two weeks ahead of the norm.
- ❖ The IMD officials said that a confluence of factors had played a role in “advancing the monsoon”, including a pre-cyclonic circulation and optimal temperatures in the Tibetan plateau, along with a couple of other global factors.
- ❖ The main factor favouring a good monsoon is the absence of an El Nino, which is associated with a warming of the Central Equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- ❖ It is also associated with weak monsoon rainfall about 60% of the years when it is in effect.

Countries with the highest life expectancy

- ❖ The world’s average life expectancy is estimated to be around 73 years in 2024.
- ❖ The majority of the top 25 countries by the life expectancy, a total of 16 countries, are in Europe.
- ❖ The small, rich country of Monaco tops the list with residents living an average of 86.5 years, and women living more than 88 years.
- ❖ Close behind Monaco are San Marino (85.8 years) and Hong Kong (85.6 years), both of which offer high standards of living and healthcare systems
- ❖ The East Asian countries are prevalent in the top 10, including Japan (4), South Korea (5), Singapore (10), and Hong Kong (3).
- ❖ The gender life expectancy gap is especially large in places like France (5.6 years) and Japan (6.1 years).
- ❖ Australia (8) is the only non-European, non-Asian country to make the top 10 for both sexes combined.
- ❖ In 2025, India’s life expectancy has increased to about 72.48 years.
- ❖ The Women live longer, with an average of 74.13 years, while men live around 70.95 years in India.

Results of Comprehensive Modular Survey - Telecom 2025

- ❖ In the rural areas approximately 96.8 per cent of persons in the age group 15-29 years used mobile phones at least once during the last three months.
- ❖ In the age group 15-29 years, around 95.5 per cent of persons own a smartphone in rural areas.
- ❖ In urban areas, about 97.6 per cent of persons own a smartphone in the same age group.



- ❖ In India, approximately 85.5 per cent of the households possess at least one smartphone.
- ❖ Around 86.3 per cent of households in India have access to internet within the household premises.
- ❖ 51.4 per cent of females in rural areas in the 15-24 years age bracket reported the ability to perform online banking transactions,
- ❖ This is more than double the 19.6 per cent in 2022-23.

Discovery of Ancient Astrolabe

- ❖ The Archaeologists have unearthed 'yantrraj' (astrolabe) at Raigad, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's capital fort.
- ❖ The upper surface of the astrolabe features inscriptions including two animal engravings in the centre resembling a tortoise or snake.
- ❖ The inscribed words "mukh" and "poonchh" indicate the head and tail positions, presumably used for determining north-south orientations.
- ❖ The rectangle-shaped instrument has inscriptions in the Sanskrit language and in Devanagari script - Shaka 1519 — meaning it was made in 1597.
- ❖ It was used at the time Raigad was renovated in 1656 and where Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was coronated in 1674.

Online Banking user Status in India

- ❖ The proportion of females that could perform them surged to 30.0 per cent in the first quarter of 2025.
- ❖ It is higher than 17.1 per cent in 2022-23.
- ❖ 51.4 per cent of the females in rural areas in the 15-24 years age gap reported the ability to perform online banking transactions.
- ❖ The Rural men who can do online banking, in the 15-24 years age bracket rising to 73.3 per cent from 40.2 per cent in 2022-23.

IDSP analysis 2018–2023

- ❖ The Researchers analysed a total of 6,948 outbreaks reported under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Program (IDSP) to identify trends.
- ❖ Of these, 583 (8.3 per cent) were zoonotic – the Japanese encephalitis was found to account for 29.5 per cent of zoonotic outbreaks.
- ❖ It is followed by leptospirosis (18.7 per cent) and scrub typhus (13.9 per cent).



- ❖ In the Region-wise, the northeast part of the country contributed 35.8 per cent of zoonotic disease outbreaks.
- ❖ It is followed by the southern (31.7 per cent) and western regions (15.4 per cent).
- ❖ Zoonotic outbreaks consistently peaked during June, July, and August.

Ahalya Bhai Holkar - 300th birth anniversary

- ❖ Born on May 31, 1725, Ahilyabai Holkar was the Holkar Queen of the Malwa kingdom.
- ❖ She is regarded as one of the most visionary female rulers of India.
- ❖ She was married to Khanderao Holkar in 1733, the son of Malhar Rao Holkar.
- ❖ Khanderao was died in 1745 in the siege of Kumher Fort.
- ❖ Ahilyabai took charge of Malwa and became the ruler of Indore in 1767.
- ❖ She had patronised scholars like Khushali Ram, Marathi poet Moropant, and Shahir Anantaphandi.
- ❖ Maharashtra has announced a memorial called 'Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar Smarak Sthal' to honour her legacy.

2024 ACI Hub Air Connectivity Ranking

- ❖ The Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in Delhi has been named among the top-10 hub airports across Asia-Pacific and Middle East.
- ❖ The Dubai International Airport leads the rankings, followed by Shanghai Pudong International Airport in second place.
- ❖ Hamad International Airport in Qatar and South Korea's Incheon International Airport hold the third and fourth positions, respectively.

India's AI Revolution: A Roadmap to Viksit Bharat

- ❖ The report named as 'India's AI Revolution: A Roadmap to Viksit Bharat' was released by the Union Ministry of Electronics & IT.
- ❖ India is poised to see a massive surge in the demand for Artificial Intelligence (AI) professionals.
- ❖ The projections are estimating the need for 1 million skilled individuals by 2026.
- ❖ The country aspires to become a USD 23-USD 35 trillion economy by 2047.
- ❖ As per the AICTE data, the number of approved B. Tech seats for the 2024-25 academic year has risen to 14.9 lakh - a nearly 16 per cent increase over the four years.



- ❖ The India Skills Report 2024 by Wheebox forecasts that India's AI industry will reach USD 28.8 billion by 2025.

Building Integrated Photovoltaics

- ❖ India has installed capacity of over 17 GW in rooftop solar systems as on April 2025.
- ❖ Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) can turn entire buildings into power generators by integrating solar elements directly into architectural elements.
- ❖ It has two purposes like generating electricity and working as a structural part of a building.
- ❖ This integration allows buildings to generate clean energy while maintaining their aesthetic appeal.
- ❖ India aims to install 300 GW of solar capacity by 2030.

800-year-old Shiva temple

- ❖ An 800-year-old Shiva temple of the later Pandya period has been unearthed at Udampatti, a village in Melur taluk.
- ❖ The two Tamil inscriptions found on the stone base, says they can be dated to 1217-1218 CE, during the reign of Maravarman Sundara Pandya.
- ❖ As per the inscriptions, the name of the village was Attur and the temple was called Thennavanisvaram.
- ❖ The inscriptions are a sale deed of a waterbody by one Alagaperumal, chieftain of Kalavalinadu, to one Nambi Perambala Kuthan alias Kangeyan.

Tamilisai Moovar of Sirkazhi

- ❖ Puducherry artist R. Rajarajan recreates portrait of Tamilisai Moovar of Sirkazhi.
- ❖ Tamilisai Moovar (the Tamil Trinity) — Muthuthandavar, Marimutha Pillai, and Arunachala Kavirayar — had composed traditional kritis in Tamil and made invaluable contributions to the evolution of Carnatic music.
- ❖ Muthuthandavar's life roughly dated back to the 15th century
- ❖ Arunachala Kavirayar (1711-1779) and Marimutha Pillai (1712-1787) came two centuries later.



Keeladi excavation findings status

- ❖ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has instructed Mr. K Amarnath Rama Krishna, the archaeologist who directed the first two seasons of the Keeladi dig (2014–2016), to rework his 982-page report.
- ❖ He had submitted the reports to the Director General of ASI on January 30, 2023.
- ❖ The centre has asked to revise and resubmit his report, citing the need for better classification, dating justifications, and clearer documentation.

Khankhuuluu mongoliensis - Dragon Prince

- ❖ The Scientists have discovered a new species of dinosaur - in the collection of a Mongolian museum.
- ❖ Two 86-million-year-old skeletons they studied belonged to a species that is now the closest known ancestor of all tyrannosaurs.
- ❖ They are the group of predators that includes the iconic T.rex.
- ❖ They have named the species called Khankhuuluu (as pronounced khan-KOO-loo) mongoliensis, meaning the Dragon Prince of Mongolia.
- ❖ 'Prince' refers to this being an early and smaller tyrannosauroid.

ILOSTAT database

- ❖ India's social security coverage has increased to 64.3 per cent in 2025 from 19 per cent in 2015.
- ❖ India now ranks second in the world in terms of beneficiary count, providing the social protection to around 94 crore citizens.
- ❖ India is also the first country globally to update its 2025 social protection coverage data in the ILOSTAT database.

Black box of Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner

- ❖ The black box, technically known as the flight data recorder, is expected to play a vital role in uncovering the cause of the disaster.
- ❖ It contains crucial information such as flight speed, altitude, engine performance, and cockpit audio, including communications between the pilots and air traffic control.
- ❖ These specialised devices are built to withstand the extreme temperatures, water, and severe impact, ensuring the survival of key data even under the catastrophic conditions.



- ❖ The black box is typically painted bright orange to make it easier to locate amid the wreckage.

Early Harappan settlement in Gujarat

- ❖ Archaeologists have unearthed a 5,300-year-old settlement near Lakhapar village in western Kachchh, Gujarat.
- ❖ The excavation has revealed an Early Harappan habitation site.
- ❖ It is located near the now-quiet Gandi River, once a perennial water source.
- ❖ The evidence of pottery from both Early and Classical Harappan phases, dating back to around 3300 BC.
- ❖ Among these finds is the very extremely rare Pre-Prabhas Ware, previously known from only three sites across Gujarat.
- ❖ They discovered a human burial in the vicinity of the settlement.
- ❖ The poorly preserved skeleton was also interred directly in a pit with no visible architecture or markers and accompanied by Pre-Prabhas Ware pottery.
- ❖ This is the first known burial to include this rare ware.
- ❖ It was suggesting a previously undocumented ritual practice or subgroup within the Early Harappan population.

Restricting AC Temperature

- ❖ The Indian government is planning a new rule to control the temperature range at which air conditioners can run in the country.
- ❖ The temperature standardisation for ACs will be set between 20°C to 28°C, which means we will not be able to cool below 20°C or heat above 28°C.
- ❖ Currently, the AC temperature goes up to 18°C (16°C in a few) with a maximum of up to 30°C.
- ❖ Every 1°C increase in AC temperature can cuts energy use by 6%.

Rinderpest Holding Facility in Bhopal

- ❖ The ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh has been designated as the “Category A Rinderpest Holding Facility”.
- ❖ It is designated by the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Food and Agriculture Organization.
- ❖ The announcement was made during the 92nd General Session of the WOAHA held in Paris.



- ❖ Rinderpest is once known as ‘cattle plague’.
- ❖ It was destructive livestock disease before its global eradication in 2011.

FASTag annual pass

- ❖ The Union government will introduce a FASTag-based annual pass for the private vehicles, priced at Rs 3,000.
- ❖ This pass has been introduced for non-commercial private vehicles.
- ❖ It will be valid for either a period of one year or 200 trips, whichever comes first.
- ❖ A dedicated link for activation and renewal will soon be made available on the Raj Marg Yatra App.

Captain Cook’s Long-Lost Ship

- ❖ After 250 years, the long-lost ship of Captain James Cook, HMS Endeavour, has been discovered off the coast of Newport Harbour, Rhode Island of USA.
- ❖ Originally the first European vessel to reach eastern Australia (1768-1771).
- ❖ It was later renamed as Lord Sandwich and sank during the American War of Independence in 1778.

First recorded strike in the cotton mills of South India

- ❖ By 1892, the very famous Madura Mills, a British-owned cotton spinning mill, was established in Madurai.
- ❖ Madurai women staged the first recorded strike in the cotton mills of South India.
- ❖ This strike, from April 14 to June 10, 1920, was the first recorded strike in the cotton mills of South India.
- ❖ The formation of the Communist Party and the All-India Trade Union Congress in 1920 further strengthened the demand for workers’ rights

50 years of National Emergency

- ❖ This year marks the beginning of the 50th year since the imposition of Emergency on June 25, 1975.
- ❖ It was proclaimed after the judgment of the Allahabad High Court on June 12, 1975.
- ❖ The court nullified the election to the Lok Sabha of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1971.
- ❖ The 21-month-long saga of Emergency was lifted on March 21, 1977.



- ❖ National Emergency is proclaimed by the President under Article 352 when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by War, External Aggression (external emergency), or Armed Rebellion (internal emergency).
- ❖ It continues for 6 months, and can be extended to indefinite period with approval of Parliament for every 6 months.
- ❖ The 38th Amendment Act of 1975 allowed the President to issue the Emergency proclamations on the very grounds of war, external aggression, armed rebellion, or imminent danger thereof.
- ❖ But, the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 replaced “the internal disturbance” with “armed rebellion”.

20 years of NIXI

- ❖ The National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) celebrated its 20th foundation day recently.
- ❖ It was set up in 2003 under the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- ❖ It currently operates 77 Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) across the country.
- ❖ This helps the domestic traffic stay within India’s borders — reducing latency, increasing speed, and enhancing security.

NAKSHATRA facility

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has introduced its first very high-performance computing facility at its National Institute of Virology (NIV) facility in Pune.
- ❖ It is named as NAKSHATRA.
- ❖ It enables an enhanced storage and optimises the pipeline for genomic research.
- ❖ It will ensure the better viral genomic surveillance capacity and high national preparedness for any future pandemic.
- ❖ It is developed under Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PMABHIM).

Fossil Discovery in Makum Coalfield

- ❖ Scientists have uncovered a 24-million-year-old Fossilized leaves in the coal beds of Assam’s Makum Coalfield.
- ❖ They are identified as the world’s oldest known record of the *Nothopegia* plant genus.



- ❖ The fossil leaves are dating back to the late Oligocene epoch (24–23 million years ago).
- ❖ They bear a striking resemblance to the modern *Nothopegia* species found today in the Western Ghats.
- ❖ Notably, the *Nothopegia* genus no longer grows in Northeast India.
- ❖ These findings reveal a warm, humid climate during the late Oligocene, which once supported *Nothopegia*'s growth in Assam.

First Indian Epigraphical Reference to Halley's Comet

- ❖ The earliest Indian epigraphical mention of Halley's Comet was discovered in the Srisailam Copper Plate Charter dated 1456 CE in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The inscription was in Sanskrit and Nagari script.
- ❖ It belongs to the reign of Vijayanagara king Mallikarjuna.
- ❖ It records the appearance of Halley's Comet and a resulting meteor shower.
- ❖ The charter states that on Monday, June 28, 1456 CE, a religious grant was made to pacify calamity caused by the comet and meteor shower.
- ❖ The inscription reflects traditional beliefs linking comet sightings to impending misfortune and calamities.

First printed Sanskrit grammar

- ❖ Prime Minister of India received a reprint of Vezdin's Sanskrit grammar from his Croatian counterpart Andrej Plenkovic.
- ❖ The first printed Sanskrit grammar was written in Latin in 1790 by the Croatian scientist and missionary Filip Vezdin (1748-1806).
- ❖ Filip Vezdin came to Malabar as a missionary in 1774 and later became the Vicar-General on the Malabar Coast.
- ❖ He is credited with publishing the first printed Sanskrit grammar in 1790.
- ❖ A plaque to commemorate him was unveiled in Trivandrum in 1999.

Ambubachi Mela 2025

- ❖ Ambubachi Mela, a religious festival, was held at Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ "Ambubachi" translates to "water flowing," linking the event to the monsoon rains and agricultural renewal.
- ❖ This festival was celebrated in June; it is a central ritual in Tantrik Shaktism.



Justice M.M. Ismail Commission

- ❖ This Commission had investigated allegations of harassment and beating of some Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) detenus at the Madras Central Jail between February 1976 and February 1977.
- ❖ It found the charges substantially correct and indicted certain jail officials.
- ❖ The Commission submitted its report to the first AIADMK government, headed by M.G. Ramachandran, on September 26, 1977.

Tawi River flood 2025

- ❖ Tawi River flash flood caused by heavy rainfall occurred in Jammu.
- ❖ Tawi River originates from Kailash Kund glacier near Bhaderwah in Doda district, Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ It flows through Doda, Udhampur, and Jammu districts before entering into Pakistan's Punjab.
- ❖ It joins Chenab River as a left-bank tributary, part of the Indus River System.
- ❖ River length is 141 km with a catchment area of 2,168 sq km up to Indian border.
- ❖ Major tributaries include Raji, Gou Karan, and seasonal streams are supporting perennial flow.

