

VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

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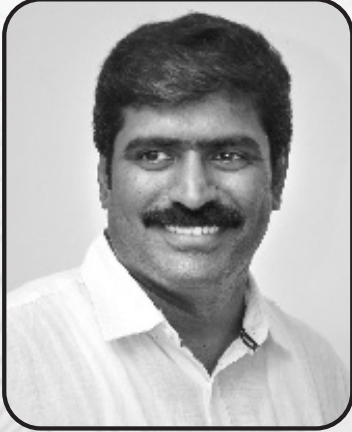
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Preface



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My Dear Aspirants,

Greetings to all of you! "What we think we become" Gautama Buddha. We all have dreams. To make dreams come into reality it takes a lot of determination, dedication, self discipline and continuous effort.

We at VETRII IAS Study Circle are committed to provide the right guidance, quality coaching and help every aspirants to achieve his or her life's cherished goal of becoming a civil servant.

The class room coaching at VETRII IAS Study Circle is meticulously planned to equip the aspirants with all the relevant facts and fundamentals of the subjects. Further the VETRII IAS Study Circle Study materials aim to support the candidate by providing the most relevant study material in a comprehensive manner.

We also thank other family members of Vetrii for making this effort a reality.

We wish the aspirants ALL THE VERY BEST for their journey in Civil Services !

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1. HISTORY



1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
February 1	48th Raising Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) celebrated its 48th Raising Day on February 1, 2024, in New Delhi, commemorating its origin on February 1, 1977▪ The day honours the relentless efforts of the Coast Guard officers and personnel in maintaining maritime security and responding to emergencies at sea.
February 2	World Wetlands Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ World Wetlands Day was celebrated annually on 2 February.▪ It aims to raise global awareness about the vital role of wetlands for people and planet.▪ The day commemorates the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in Ramsar, Iran.▪ Theme 2024: Wetlands and human wellbeing
February 4	International Day of Human Fraternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ International Day of Human Fraternity is observed every year on February 4 to emphasize the importance of the concept of unity in diversity.▪ The day was first observed by the United Nations General Assembly on 21 December 2020.
February 5	World Cancer Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ World Cancer Day is observed on February 5 every year to raise awareness about the disease and to encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment.▪ Theme 2024 : 'Close the care gap: Everyone deserves access to cancer care.'

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
February 9	Abolition of Bonded Labor Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Tamil Nadu Government has announced that February 9 will be observed as Bonded Labor Eradication Day every year. ▪ The State Government aims to make Tamil Nadu a Bonded Labor Free State by 2030.
10 February and 10 August	National Deworming Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Deworming Day (NDD) is observed twice in a year on 10 February and 10 August to raise awareness about the symptoms, causes, and harmful effects of parasitic worm infections in children, and the importance of deworming treatment. ▪ It is an initiative taken by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
February 10	International Day of the Arabian Leopard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Day is observed for the first time on February 10, 2024 as the International Day of the Arabian Leopard ▪ The day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly ▪ IUCN Red List - Critically Endangered.
February 11	World Unani Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Unani Day is celebrated every year on 11th February marking birth anniversary of famous Indian Unani scholar Hakim Ajmal Khan. ▪ It is officially recognized as one of the AYUSH systems.
February 12	National Productivity Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Productivity Day is observed every year on February 12 to mark the foundation day of the National Productivity Council (NPC). ▪ NPC aims to promote awareness towards increasing the productivity of the country. ▪ Theme 2024: Productivity, Green Growth, and Sustainability: Celebrating India's G20 Presidency.
February 12	International Epilepsy Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International Epilepsy Day is observed on the 2nd Monday of February every year. ▪ The day is observed to raise awareness about epilepsy, its diagnosis, treatment, and the challenges faced by those living with the condition. ▪ In 2024 the day was observed on February 12, 2024. ▪ Theme 2024: "Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey"

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
February 13	National Women's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Women's Day is observed every year on February 13 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu. Sarojini Naidu was a distinguished political figure as well as a distinguished writer. She was given the honour of being called the "Nightingale of India" by Mahatma Gandhi. <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Women's Day is observed every year on March 8.

1.2 DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

Sada Tanseeq Exercise

- The first joint military exercise, **Sada Tanseeq**, between the **India and the Saudi Arabia** was concluded at **Jaipur, Rajasthan**.

- The 12-day exercise aimed to achieve interoperability between the two forces.

1.3 EMINENT PERSONS

Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati (1824 - 1883)

- 200th Birth Anniversary of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati was observed recently.

- His original name was **Mula Shankar**.
- He was a disciple of **Swami Virajananda**.
- He founded the **Arya Samaj**.

1.4 SPORTS AND GAMES

Khelo India Youth Games 2023

- The 6th edition of **Khelo India Youth Games** was concluded at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai**.
- Maharashtra** bagged the overall championships for the **fourth time**.

- Tamil Nadu** finished second and **Haryana** finished third.
- Silambam** which is a **traditional sport of Tamil Nadu** was introduced as a demo sport for the first time.

1.5 AWARDS & HONOURS

Bharat Ratna

- Former Deputy Prime Minister L.K.Advani was announced **Bharat Ratna** which is India's highest civilian honour by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.
- In 2015, he was awarded the **Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian honour**.
- The **Bharat Ratna** was conferred on former **Prime Ministers P.V. Narasimha Rao** and **Chaudhary Charan Singh** and Green Revolution pioneer **M.S. Swaminathan**.
- **M.S. Swaminathan** - Played an instrumental role in Green Revolution and towards food self-sufficiency in India
- **P.V. Narasimha Rao** - Credited with steering the liberalisation of Indian Economy
- **Chaudhary Charan Singh** - Credited as a leader of farmers in North India

Grammy Awards

- **Shakti group** won the **2024 Grammy Award** for Best Global Music Album for the album. This Moment.
- **Shankar Mahadevan, Ganesh Rajagopalan, Ustad Zakir Hussain** and **V. Selvaganesh** are collaborators in the **fusion group 'Shakti'**.
- **Ustad Zakir Hussain** won two other awards – the Best Global Music Performance for 'Pashto' and Best Contemporary Instrumental Album for 'As We Speak'.

National Film Awards renamed

- **National Film Awards** have been renamed on the recommendation of the **Committee for Rationalisation of Film Awards**.
- The committee was set up by the **Information and Broadcasting Ministry** to rationalise the honours given in different categories.
- It was headed by **Neerja Sekhar**

1.6 APPOINTMENTS

CM of Jharkhand

- **Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)** leader **Champai Soren** took oath as the **twelfth Chief Minister of Jharkhand**.
- He is known as "**Jharkhand's tiger**," for playing a crucial role in the fight for the creation of a separate **Jharkhand state in the 1990s**.

Panel on simultaneous polls

- Union Law Minister **Arjun Meghwal** informed the **Lok Sabha** that **no specific time limit** had been provided for the high-level committee on simultaneous polls.
- The Panel was formed under the former

President Ram Nath Kovind to submit the **report on one nation, one election**.

16th Finance Commission

- The 16th Finance Commission held its **first meeting in New Delhi** recently.
- The Finance Commission is tasked with recommending a formula for sharing **divisible pool of taxes between the Centre and States** for the **five-year period beginning April 2026**.
- It was chaired by former NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman **Arvind Panagariya**.
- The panel has to submit recommendations by **October 31, 2025**.

2. POLITICAL SCIENCE

2.1 INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

UPI in France

- **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** was formally launched at the **Eiffel Tower in Paris**.
- This will enable the Indian tourists to buy tickets at **Eiffel Tower** through UPI.
- **NPCI International Payments (NIPL)** which is the international arm of **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** launched the facility.

Unified Payment Interface

- The **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** announced that India launched **UPI services in Mauritius and Sri Lanka** and also **RuPay card services in Mauritius**.

- This will boost digital transformation, promote tourism and strengthen bilateral economies ties with both countries

India - UAE

- **India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** signed eight pacts including a bilateral investment treaty and a framework deal on **India Middle East Economic Corridor (IMEC)** to foster regional connectivity during the Indian Prime Minister's visit to UAE.
- Currently, **bilateral trade** between the two countries stands at **\$85 million**.

2.2 PUBLIC AWARENESS & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024

- The Bill was introduced in the **Lok Sabha** to provide reservation to **Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** in panchayats and municipal bodies in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- The number of seats reserved for OBCs will be decided by a commission that will be formed after the legislation is passed by Parliament.

Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024

- The Bill was passed in the **Lok Sabha** to check malpractices and organised cheating in government recruitment exams.

- The Bill aims to prevent unfair means in order to **bring greater transparency, fairness and credibility to the public examinations system**.
- The Bill proposes a **minimum of three years imprisonment** and a **fine up to ₹1 crore**.

Rajya Sabha passes Bills to add PVTGs

- The Rajya Sabha passed the **Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order Amendment Bill, 2024** and **Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order Amendment Bill, 2024**.
- The Bill was passed to add **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)** of **Odisha and Andhra Pradesh** in **Scheduled Tribe lists**.
- The total number of PVTGs is **75**.

Parliament Passes Three Bills on Jammu and Kashmir

- The Parliament passed the Bills that added the Paddari Tribe, Gadda Brahmin, and Koli communities to the **Scheduled Tribes (ST) list**.
- **Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order (Amendment)**

Bill, 2024 was passed to add the **Valmiki community (including synonyms)** to the Scheduled Castes list of Jammu and Kashmir.

- The **Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024** which seeks to provide reservation to **Other Backward Classes in panchayats and municipalities** in Jammu and Kashmir was passed.

2.3 GOVT – WELFARE ORIENTED GOVT SCHEMES, THEIR UTILITY

One Stop Centres

- Union Minister Smriti Irani stated that **One Stop Centres** have been established in over **700 districts** across the country and around 8.3 lakh women have received help through them.
- The **One Stop Centre** is a **scheme** of the **Women and Child Development Ministry** and is set up under the **Nirbhaya Fund**.
- The scheme aims to **support and assist women facing violence in public and private spaces, including domestic violence**.

Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana

- **Pradhan Mantri Suryoday Yojana** is set to be launched as part of a renewed thrust to increase adoption of **household rooftop solar systems (hRTS)**.
- The Centre would bear the entire cost of setting up such systems for households that consume **less than 300 units of electricity a month**.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY)

- The Union Cabinet recently approved the **“Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY)”**.
- It is a **Central Sector Sub-scheme** under the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada**.
- **PM-MKSSY** aims to **formalize the fisheries sector** and support fisheries micro and small enterprises.

Initiatives under PMFBY

- **Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda** launched three initiatives under **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**. They are
- **Kisan Rakshak Helpline and Portal**
- **SARTHI Portal** : A digital insurance platform
- **Learning Management System (LMS) Platform** for the farming community.

Swachhata Green Leaf Rating Scheme

- **Swachhata Green Leaf Rating Scheme** which is a **Hygiene and sanitation rating system** for the hospitality sector is yet to take off in states.
- The ranking scheme was launched in **November 2023** by the **Union Tourism Ministry** in collaboration with the **Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation**.
- The scheme aims to ensure world-class hygiene and sanitation in hotels, resorts and homestays

SWATI Portal

- The **Indian National Science Academy (INSA)** launched the **SWATI Portal** recently.
- **SWATI** stands for **Science for Women-A Technology and Innovation**.
- It aims to create a **single online portal** representing **Indian Women and Girls in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine)**.



3. GEOGRAPHY

3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

New Ramsar sites

- India has recently added 5 Ramsar sites (Wetlands of International Importance) taking the total number to 80 from existing 75.
- The five wetlands include,
 - Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu
 - Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve, Karnataka
 - Longwood Shola Reserve Forest, Tamil Nadu
 - Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve, Karnataka
 - Aghanashini Estuary, Karnataka
- Longwood Shola covers 116.07 hectares. It is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area.
- Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary covers 453.7 hectares. It is also an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area.
- With the new addition the total number of wetlands in Tamil Nadu become 16 which is the highest in the country.

18th wildlife sanctuary

- The Tamil Nadu government has recently notified Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the State.
- The sanctuary stretches across 80,114.80 hectares of the reserve forests in Bargur Hills in Erode district.
- The sanctuary links the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve with the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The area has already been identified as a Tiger corridor by the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

Patna Declaration

- The Government of Bihar presented the 'Patna Declaration' at a three-day international workshop held at Patna recently.
- It aims to prevent illegal hunting of wild and migratory birds and recommend measures to strengthen their conservation efforts in countries along the Central Asian Flyway (CAF).

Wetland bird census

- According to the Synchronised Wetland Bird Census for the year 2024 there are 6,80,028 wetland birds in Tamil Nadu.
- It is estimated that there are 5,36,245 water birds (79 percent) and 1,43,783 terrestrial birds (21 percent) of the total bird population.

Artificial Intelligence monitoring System

- Tamil Nadu launches India's first Artificial Intelligence Surveillance System to prevent elephant deaths on railway tracks.
- The alert mechanism has been divided into 'three zones' - Red, Orange, and Yellow which is based on the projected distance between the track and elephant

New Biodiversity Heritage Site

- Gupteswar forest in Koraput district has been declared as Odisha's fourth Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) recently.
- BHS is declared under Section 37 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.



4. ECONOMICS

4.1 REPORTS AND INDICES

22nd Law Commission Report

- The **Law Commission** submitted its report to the Law Ministry recently.
- It has recommended that **criminal defamation** should be retained within the **scheme of criminal laws** in India.

Corruption Perceptions Index 2023 (CPI)

- India ranked **93 out of 180 countries** in the **Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)** for 2023.
- **Corruption Perceptions Index 2023** has been released by the **NGO Transparency International**.

AISHE 2021-22

- According to the latest report of the **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)** released by the **Ministry of Education**.

Key Highlights

- In **2021-22**, the **overall gross enrolment ratio (GER)** in higher education for the age group **18-23 years** increased to **28.4%**, from **27.3%** in 2020-21 and **23.7%** in 2014-15, the **base year**.
- The overall female enrolment increased to **2.07 crore** in 2021-22.
- **Tamil Nadu** consistently maintains the highest **Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER)** in higher education for five academic years between **2017-18 and 2021-22**.



4.2 PUBLIC FINANCE

Interim Budget

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented her sixth Union Budget and her first interim Budget recently.
- Tamil Nadu would receive ₹44,760.83 crore as its share of Central taxes as per the Interim Budget.
- The total expenditure is estimated at ₹47.66 lakh crore.
- Top Three Ministries**
 - Defence Ministry - ₹6.21 lakh crore
 - Road Transport & Highways - ₹2.78 lakh crore
 - Railways - ₹2.55 lakh crore.

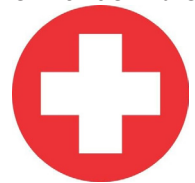


Key Announcements

- Social Sector:** Interim Budget allocates ₹86,000 crore (increased) for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).
 - Focus on four vulnerable sections of society – the poor, the youth, farmers, and women.
 - A highpowered committee will be constituted to consider the challenges arising from fast population growth and demographic changes.
- Agricultural Sector:** The allocation for the Agriculture Ministry is ₹1,17,528.79 crore (increased)
 - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana - ₹13,625 crore
 - PM Kisan Samman Nidhi - ₹60,000 crore (same as last Budget)
 - Fertilizer Department - ₹1,64,150.81 crore (decreased)
- Education Sector:** Both Higher Education and School Education received an increased budgetary allocation in the Interim Budget.



- Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) - ₹12,467.39 crore.
- PM SHRI - ₹6,050 crore
- Subsidies**
 - Food subsidy: Allocation was increased.
 - Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) - ₹2,05,250
 - Sugar Subsidy under Public Distribution System - ₹1 lakh crore
- Tax:** Tax demands of up to ₹25,000 pertaining to the period till FY 200910, and up to ₹10,000 for FY 2011 to 2015 will be withdrawn.
- Health Sector :** 10,000 crore allocated
 - AB-PMJAY: Health cover under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana will be extended to all Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and anganwadi workers and helpers.
 - Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination for girls in the 9-14 years age group for prevention of cervical cancer.
 - Anganwadi centres would be upgraded under 'Saksham Anganwadi',
 - Poshan 2.0 : It would be expedited to improve nutrition delivery and ensure early childhood care and development.
- Research and Development:**
 - A corpus of ₹lakh crore would be available on minimal or nil interest rates to encourage the private sector to invest in research and development in sunrise sectors.
 - National Quantum Mission - ₹,819 crore.
- Women**
 - Lakshpati Didi scheme: Target has been increased for the scheme which aims to train women self-help groups (SHGs) to



earn a sustainable income of **at least ₹1 lakh per annum** by setting up micro-enterprises within their villages.



• **Mission Shakti** - ₹3,145.97 crore

▪ **Energy**

• **Rooftop Solar Programme (PM Suryodaya Yojana):** One crore households will be enabled to obtain up to **300 units** of free electricity every month.

▪ **Housing**

• **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana PMAY-Rural :** Two crore more houses would be built.

▪ **Railways:**

• The **Ministry of Railways** has been allocated ₹2.55 lakh crore for 2024-25.

• **Three major economic corridor programmes,**

- **Energy Economic Corridor** - Energy, mineral and cement corridor.



➤ **Rail Sagar** - Port Connectivity Corridor.

➤ **Amrit Chaturbhuj** - High traffic density corridors.

▪ **Airways**

➤ **UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik)** has been slashed by **60%** when compared to last budget.

▪ **New Schemes Announced**

➤ A **new scheme of bio-manufacturing and bio-foundry** was announced to provide environment friendly alternatives such as biodegradable polymers, bioplastics, biopharmaceuticals and bioagriinputs.

➤ A scheme to help the sections of the **middle class living in rented houses or slums or chawls** and unauthorised colonies to buy or build houses was announced.





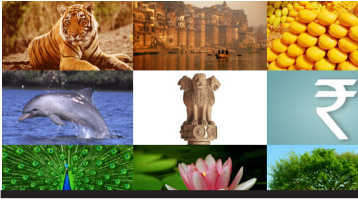
5. SCIENCE

5.1 SPACE

GSLV F-1 rocket

- ISRO is set to launch the INSAT-3DS satellite by GSLV F-14 rocket from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- The satellite is aimed at augmenting weather forecasting, disaster management, and related meteorological services.
- The INSAT-3DS satellite has a total mass of 2,275 kg.
- It is equipped with 25 different diagnostic payloads including 6 Channel Imager.





6. NATIONAL – DIARY OF EVENT

Bharat Mobility Summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered inaugural address at India's largest mobility exhibition - **Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024 in New Delhi.**
- He said that government initiatives such as **Rooftop Solar Scheme (PM - Suryodaya Yojana)** and **Clean Cooking Mission** would provide boost to the battery manufacturing industry and bring down the **cost of batteries for electric vehicle.**

India's first Robotic Elephant

- **Kerala temple** become **India's first state** to induct **robotic elephant** for ritual duties
- The **Irinjadappilly Sree Krishna Temple in Kerala's Thrissur district** has become the **first** in the country to use a mechanical, life like elephant for temple rituals.

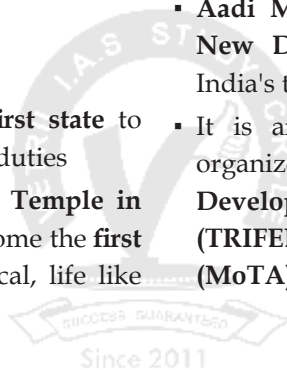
India Energy Week 2024

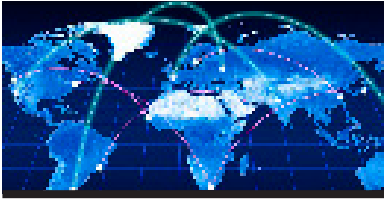
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **India Energy Week 2024 in Goa.**

- **India Energy Week 2024** is India's largest energy exhibition and conference bringing together the entire energy value chain to catalyze India's energy transition goals.
- India ranks **fourth** in the world in **Renewable Energy Installed Capacity.**
- India aims to achieve **Net Zero Emission by 2070.**

Aadi Mahotsav 2024

- **Aadi Mahotsav 2024** is being organized in **New Delhi** to showcase rich diversity of India's tribal heritage.
- It is an annual **National Tribal Festival**, organized by **Tribal Co-Operative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED)** under **Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA).**





7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Abu Dhabi's First Hindu stone temple

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **Abu Dhabi's First Hindu stone temple - Swami Narayana Temple**
- The temple was built by the organisation

- **Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS)**

- The temple is built on a **27-acre site in Abu Mreikhah, Abu Dhabi.**



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8. TAMILNADU AFFAIRS

Makkalai Thedi Aaivaga Sevai scheme launched

- State health minister Ma Subramanian launched the 'Makkalai Thedi Aaivaga Sevai' scheme at Thollavilai Primary Health Centre in Nagercoil.
- The scheme would support the 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' (Doorstep Healthcare Scheme) scheme by bringing the facilities of diagnostic labs to the public.

'KaniTamil 24' conference

- International Tamil Computing Conference 2024 (KaniTamil 24) was inaugurated at Nandambakkam Trade Centre, Chennai.
- Tamil is one of the oldest languages of the world and a language full of characteristics to adapt itself to the changing times and is aimed at strengthening the place of Tamil languages in this growing age of Technology.

Road accidents see an upward trend in TN

- According to the data from the State Crime Records Bureau (SCRB) a total of 18,074 persons died in 66,841 road accidents reported in 2023 in Tamil Nadu.
- In terms of the total number of accidents in 2023,
 - Chennai and Coimbatore cities are at the top with 3,642 accidents each.
 - Chengalpattu followed with 3,387 accidents.

T.N. notifies land pooling scheme rules

- The Tamil Nadu government has recently notified the Tamil Nadu Land Pooling Area Development Scheme Rules, 2024.

- Tamil Nadu Land Pooling Area Development Scheme provides for pooling together land owned by individual or individuals and developing it by the appropriate planning authority.

Pudhumai Penn Thittam

- The Governor's policy address which was written by the Tamil Nadu government highlights that 2.73 lakh girl students are benefiting every month under the Pudhumai Penn scheme in 2023-24.
- As a result of this initiative there has been an increase of 34 percent in the enrolment of girl students from government schools into colleges during 2023-24.
- The scheme aims to provide a monthly cash assistance of ₹1,000 to all girl students pursuing higher education, who have completed their studies in government-run schools from Class 6 to 12.

Two Resolutions passed

- The Tamil Nadu Assembly unanimously adopted two resolutions against the 'One nation, One Election' proposal and the proposed delimitation after 2026.
- Reasons for the resolution include,
 - 'One Nation, One Election' policy is impractical, and goes against the fundamentals of the Constitution.
- The delimitation proposed after 2026 would reduce the representation of the southern States, especially Tamil Nadu

T.N. increases allocation for meals under ICDS by ₹41 cr

- The Tamil Nadu government increased the financial allocation by **₹41.14 crore a year** for providing meals to children **aged 2 to 6**, under the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)**.
- The additional expenditure would benefit over **11.50 lakh children**.

Illam Thedi Kalvi scheme

- TN government allocated **₹100 crore** for the **'Illam Thedi Kalvi'** scheme run by the **School Education Department**.
- The additional funds have been allocated towards orientation, learning materials and incentivisation of volunteers for the scheme.

- The scheme was introduced in **2021** which is aimed at bridging learning gaps or losses the children would have experienced during the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

Kalaingar Sports Kit scheme

- **Sports Development and Youth Welfare Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin** announced that the State government will launch an initiative called the **'Kalaingar Sports Kit'** in **Tiruchi** on **February 7**.
- Under the initiative, the **sports equipment** will be distributed in **12,000 village panchayats** to mark former **Chief Minister M.Karunanidhi's birth centenary**.

