

# VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

## Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

**JANUARY 2024 - PART 1**



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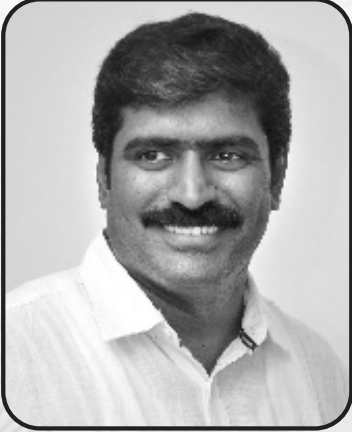
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# Preface



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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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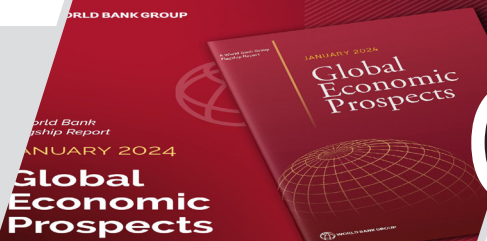
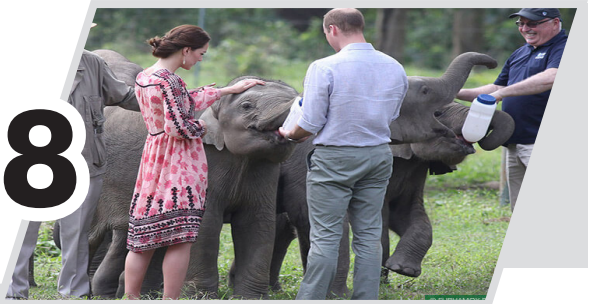
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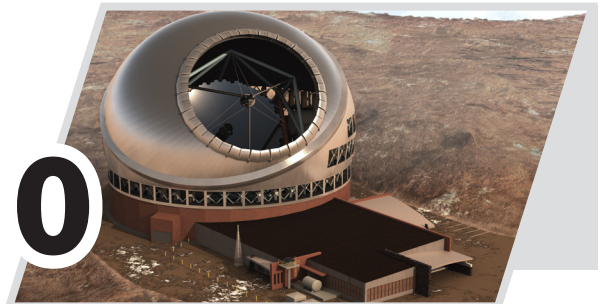
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# 1. HISTORY



## 1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>December 1</b>	<b>DRDO Foundation Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Recently, DRDO celebrated the <b>66th foundation Day on 1st January, 2024.</b></li><li>▪ It is the Research &amp; Development wing of the Ministry of Defence.</li><li>▪ It was formed in 1958.</li></ul>
<b>January 3</b>	<b>77th foundation day of BIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the National Standards Body of India</li><li>▪ It is a statutory body functioning under the <b>Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.</b></li></ul>
<b>January 4</b>	<b>World Braille Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>World Braille Day</b> is annually observed on January 4 to recognize the right of access to braille by blind people.</li><li>▪ The day commemorates the birth anniversary of <b>Louis Braille, the inventor of Braille.</b></li><li>▪ <b>Braille</b> is a tactile writing system used by visually challenged people.</li></ul>
<b>January 9</b>	<b>Pravasi Bharatiya Divas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Pravasi Bharatiya Divas</b>, also known as <b>Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day</b>, is celebrated on <b>January 9</b> to mark the contribution and achievements of the overseas Indian community to the development of India.</li><li>▪ The day also commemorates the <b>return of Mahatma Gandhi, from South Africa to India in 1915.</b></li><li>▪ The day was first celebrated in <b>2003</b></li></ul>

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>January 12</b>	<b>National Youth Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>National Youth Day 2024</b> is observed in India every year on <b>January 12</b> to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda who was born on <b>January 12, 1863, in Kolkata</b>.</li> <li>▪ Vivekananda delivered his famous speech at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago in <b>1893</b>.</li> <li>▪ <b>Theme 2024</b> : "MYBharat- Viksit Bharat@2047- By the Youth, For the Youth"</li> </ul>
<b>January 10 to January 18</b>	<b>Startup India Innovation Week</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry launched the <b>Startup India Innovation Week 2024</b> from <b>January 10 to January 18</b> to unite the nation's startups, entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, and stakeholders.</li> <li>▪ The National Startup Day is observed on <b>January 16, 2024</b>.</li> </ul>

## 1.2 DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

### C-130J Super Hercules aircraft

- The Indian Air Force successfully conducted a night landing of the **C130-J transport aircraft at the Kargil airstrip**.
- This marks the **first time a night landing** has been carried out at the airstrip, situated near the **Line of Control (LoC) in the Ladakh region**.
- It was manufactured by **US aircraft maker Lockheed Martin**.

### Sahyog Kaijin

- **Japan Coast Guard (JCG) Ship Yashima** arrived at **Chennai port** to participate in a joint exercise planned with the Indian Coast Guard, code-named as '**Sahyog Kaijin**'.
- The visit of the coast guard ship is part of the **Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC)** signed

between **India and Japan in 2006**, to promote interaction between the two coast guard organisations

### India, U.K. ink 2 deals

- **India and U.K.** recently signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for bilateral **International Cadet Exchange Programme** and also a **Letter of Arrangement (LoA)** on defence collaboration in Research and Development.
- The LoA on R&D was signed between **India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and **UK's Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL)**.

### Drishti 10 Starliner

- Indian Navy unveiled India's first indigenously manufactured **Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)** called **Drishti 10 Starliner**.

- It is an advanced intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) platform.

### Akash missile

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight test of the New Generation AKASH (AKASH-NG) missile at Chandipur in Odisha.
- It is a surface to air missile (SAM).

### MILAN 24 Exercise

- MILAN 24 which is Indian Navy's multi-national exercise is set to be held in Visakhapatnam from February 19 to 27 in 2024.
- MILAN is a biennial multi-national naval exercise which was started in 1995 with participation of four foreign countries (Indonesia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand) in consonance with India's 'Look East policy.

## 1.3 WORLD ORGANISATIONS – PACTS AND SUMMITS

### New members of BRICS

- Five new countries namely Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates formally joined the BRICS Grouping.
- It is multilateral group comprising the world's major emerging economies.
- The group comprising Brazil, Russia, India, and China was created in 2006.
- South Africa was added in 2010.

## 1.4 AWARDS & HONOURS

### M.S. Swaminathan Award 2024

- Prof.B.R. Kamboj, the Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University has been awarded the M.S. Swaminathan Award 2024.
- The Award was instituted in 2004 to recognize life time contributions of eminent persons who have made global impact in the field of agriculture in India.

### National Sports Awards 2023

- National sports awards were conferred by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award for 2023:
  - Chirag Shetty and Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy (badminton).

### Arjuna Award – 26 sportspersons

- Vaishali (Chess) from Tamil Nadu

### Dronacharya Award (regular category) for outstanding coaches:

- Lalit Kumar (wrestling)
- RB Ramesh (chess)
- Mahaveer Prasad Saini (para athletics)
- Shivendra Singh (hockey)
- Ganesh Prabhakar Devrukhkar (mallakhamb)

### Dronacharya Award (life-time category) for outstanding coaches:

- Jaskirat Singh Grewal (golf)
- Bhaskaran E (kabaddi)
- Jayanta Kumar Pushilal (table tennis)

- **Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievement:**
  - Manjusha Kanwar (badminton)
  - Vineet Kumar Sharma (hockey)
  - Kavitha Selvaraj (kabaddi)
- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2023:**
  - Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar
- **Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023**
  - The President of India Droupadi Murmu conferred **Swachh Survekshan awards 2023** at New Delhi recently which was hosted by
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).**
- **Surat and Indore** were ranked 1 in Overall category
- **Varanasi** was named as the **Cleanest Ganga Town.**
- **Maharashtra** was named as the **Best Performing State.**
- **Chennai** has been ranked **199 among 446 cities** in the country in Swachh Survekshan.
- The city has also been declared **ODF++.**

## 1.5 APPOINTMENTS

### Head of 16th Finance Commission

- The Central government appointed former NITI Aayog Vice Chairman **Arvind Panagariya** as Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission.
- It will recommend the tax revenue sharing formula between the Centre and the States for a **five year** period.
- Arvind Panagariya is the first Vice Chairman of the NITI Aayog, which replaced the Planning Commission, from 2015 to 2017.

### Rohit Kumar Singh Committee

- The **Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)** conducted its first meeting of the **Rohit Kumar Singh Committee.**
- The committee was constituted to **prepare Guidelines with respect to misleading advertisements in coaching sector on 8th January, 2024.**
- The Guidelines shall be applicable to all the coaching institutes whether **online or physical.**



# 2. POLITICAL SCIENCE

## 2.1 INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

### India and Pakistan

- **India and Pakistan** exchanged a list of their nuclear installations under a bilateral pact, 'Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations and Facilities'.
- The pact prohibits the two sides from attacking each other's atomic plants.
- It was signed in 1992.

### Free Movement Regime (FMR)

- India has decided to end **Free Movement Regime (FMR)** along international border with Myanmar.
- FMR allows people residing on either side of the **India-Myanmar** border to venture 16 km into each other's territory without visa.

### India – Nepal

- The **7th meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Commission** was held in Kathmandu recently.
- Nepal and India have inked an agreement setting the target to reach **10,000 megawatts** of electricity export to India in **next 10 years**.
- **New Space India Limited and the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology** signed

an agreement to help launch **Nepal's Munal satellite**.

### India - Saudi Arabia

- India and Saudi Arabia signed the **Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024**.
- Under this agreement, India has been allocated a quota of **1,75,025 pilgrims** for the annual Haj pilgrimage in 2024.
- **1,40,020 seats** being reserved for pilgrims to proceed through Haj Committee of India.

### India and UAE

- **UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan** hold bilateral meetings with the Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.
- **Four MoUs** were signed between India and the UAE.
  - **Three MoUs** were on investment cooperation in renewal energy sector, innovative healthcare projects and food park development.
  - **One MoU** was signed between **Gujarat** and the company based in **Dubai**.

## 2.2 LATEST COURT VERDICTS

### Bilkis Bano case

- The **Supreme Court** has struck down the remission granted to **11 men convicted in the Bilkis Bano** gang rape case of 2002.

### Note

- Under **Articles 72 and 161 of the Constitution**, the **President and Governors** of states can

pardon a convict, and can also suspend, remit, or commute a sentence passed by the courts.

- **The State governments** also have the power to remit sentences under **Section 32 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)**.

## 2.3 PUBLIC AWARENESS & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules of 2021 amended

- The Centre has amended the **Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules of 2021**, to allow women government employees and pensioners to **nominate their children for receiving family pension over their spouse**.

- Till now, the rules provided for the family pension to first go to the surviving spouse and the children became eligible to receive it only after the death of the spouse.

## 2.4 GOVT – WELFARE ORIENTED GOVT SCHEMES, THEIR UTILITY

### Aadhaar linked pay made mandatory for MGNREGS

- From January 1, 2024 it has been mandated that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers should be paid only through an **Aadhaar based payment system (ABPS)**.
- The first order to enforce the system was issued on January 30, 2023, followed by extensions till February 1, March 31, June 30, August 31, and December 31.

- The Scheme is focused on **Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs), Battery Electric Vehicle and Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicle**.

- The incentive under the scheme is applicable from **FY 2022-23 to FY 2026-27 (5 years' period)**.

- The PLI scheme was launched in **March 2020**.

### PRITHVI VIGYAN scheme

- The government has launched the scheme **PRITHVI Vigyan (PRITHVI)** recently.

- The scheme encompasses **five ongoing sub-schemes** namely

- Atmosphere and Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems and Services (**ACROSS**)

- Ocean Services, Modelling Application, Resources and Technology (**O-SMART**)

- Polar Science and Cryosphere Research (**PACER**)

- Seismology and Geosciences (**SAGE**)

- Research, Education, Training and Outreach (**REACHOUT**).

- **Objective** - To develop modelling systems for understanding and predicting weather, ocean, and climate hazards and understanding the science of climate change.

### 'Prerana' Programme

- **Department of School Education & Literacy** under the **Ministry of Education** has launched '**Prerana: An Experiential Learning program**'.

- It is an **experiential and inspirational learning program** for students with the best-in-class technology where heritage meets innovation.

- It is a week-long residential program for selected students of **class IX to XII**.

### PLI-Auto Scheme

- The Ministry of Heavy Industries to announce the extension of the tenure of the **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Automobile and Auto Components** by one year.

**'SMART 2.0' launched**

- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) along with National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) has launched 'SMART 2.0' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research among Teaching professionals) program recently.
- Objective - To promote robust clinical studies in priority areas of **Ayurveda**.

**Yuva Nidhi Scheme**

- Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launched the "Yuva Nidhi" scheme.
- The scheme aims to provide unemployment assistance to graduates and diploma holders.
- The scheme offers monetary assistance of ₹3,000 to graduates and ₹1,500 to diploma holders who passed out in 2022-23.





# 3. GEOGRAPHY

## 3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

### RTRCs in Coimbatore

- The Tamil Nadu government sanctioned ₹19.5 crore for the establishment of a **Rescue Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre (RTRC)** for wildlife at Pethikuttai near **Sirumugai in Coimbatore district**.
- TN Government already announced that RTRCs will be established in Coimbatore, Tiruchi, and Tirunelveli districts.
- **RTRC** will function as a centre of excellence to work on specialised treatment and care of injured and orphaned animals.

### Human- wildlife conflict

- The Tamil Nadu government has increased the compensation provided to those who suffer permanent incapacitation and to the families of those who lose their lives in instances of **human wildlife conflict** from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh.





# 4. ECONOMICS

## 4.1 CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS

### NSO data on India's growth

- India's real GDP growth in 2023-24 is estimated at 7.3%, compared to 7.2% the previous year as per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- The growth in Gross Value Added (GVA) in the economy is expected to ease slightly from 7% in 2022-23 to 6.9%

## 4.2 REPORTS AND INDICES

### Global Economic Prospects Report 2024

- World Bank released its flagship report 'Global Economic Prospects' recently.
  - The developing countries need to increase investments by about **\$2.4 trillion per year** to tackle climate change and achieve other key global development goals by 2030.
- Key Highlights**
- The report forecasts a deceleration in global GDP growth, from an estimated 2.7% in 2023 to 2.4% in 2024.





# 5. SCIENCE

## 5.1 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project

- An official delegation from the **Department of Science and Technology** visited **Mauna Kea**, an inactive volcano on the island of Hawaii in the U.S., to discuss about the **Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project**.
- It is a **30 metre diameter** primary mirror

optical and infrared telescope that will enable observations into deep space.

- It is a joint collaboration involving institutions in the **U.S., Japan, China, Canada, and India**.
- Indian participation in the project was approved by the **Union Cabinet in 2014**.

## 5.2 SPACE

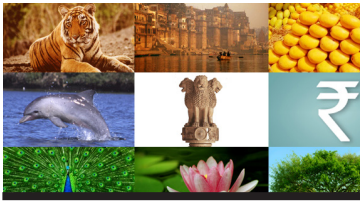
### XPoSat mission

- The Indian Space Research Organisation launched its first **Xray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat)** on January 1, 2024 to investigate the polarisation of intense X-ray sources.
- The XPoSat is designed for observation from a low earth orbit.
- It will carry two scientific payloads.
- The mission life is expected to be approximately **five years**.
- The primary payload was developed by the **Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru, with support from ISRO centres**.

- The secondary payload was developed by the **U.R. Rao Satellite Centre, ISRO**.

### SpaceX's Falcon 9

- **New Space India Ltd. (NSIL)** will launch **GSAT20 (renamed GSATN2)** on board **SpaceX's Falcon 9** rocket during the second quarter of 2024.
- NSIL is the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation.
- The **GSAT20** will be fully owned, operated, and funded by the NSIL..
- The satellite is primarily used for meeting the broadband and cellular service needs.



# 6. NATIONAL – DIARY OF EVENT

## 4G services

- The Home Ministry in its year end review stated that the Union government has approved 4G mobile services for more than 1,100 border outposts along India's international borders, including the border with China at a cost of ₹1,545.66 crore.
- The **Home Ministry** said it had signed a tripartite agreement with the **Department of Telecommunications and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited** to execute the project.

## Petro Capital of India

- Gujarat will now be recognised as the “**Petro Capital of India**”.
- Gujarat houses **two major Oil refinery** namely, **Reliance Industry Limited's Jamnagar refinery** and **ONGC Petro Additions Limited (OPAL)'s** state-of- the-art petrochemical complex at Dahej in Bharuch district.
- Reliance Industry Limited's Jamnagar refinery is world's largest and most complex refinery

## KLI-SOFC Project

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated **Kochi-Lakshadweep islands submarine optical fiber connection (KLI-SOFC)** project in Kavaratti, Lakshadweep.
- **Lakshadweep** will be connected through **Submarine Optic Fibre Cable**.

- The **KLI-SOFC** project will lead to an increase in internet speed.
- **Lakshadweep** will play a strong role in the creation of a **Viksit Bharat**.

## India's Longest Sea Bridge

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri–Nhava Sheva Atal Setu in Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- Atal Setu is the **longest bridge and also the longest sea bridge in India**.
- The bridge is about 21.8 km long six-lane bridge with about 16.5 km length over the sea and about 5.5 km of length on the land.

## Governing body of EPFO reconstituted

- The Union government reconstituted the **Central Board of Trustees (CBT)** of the **Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)** by excluding representatives of the **Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC)**, **All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)** and **All India United Trade Union Centrea (AIUTUC)** from the panel.
- In the place of **INTUC, AITUC and AIUTUC**, the Centre has newly inducted to the panel the **Trade Union Coordination Centre, Self Employed Women's Association and the National Front of Indian Trade Unions**.



# 7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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## **New PM of Bangladesh**

- **Sheikh Hasina** was re-elected as the **Prime Minister of Bangladesh**
- She was elected for the **fifth term**.
- She became the world's longest-serving female head of the State







# 8. TAMILNADU AFFAIRS

## T.N. govt. plans to borrow ₹37,000 crores

- According to the indicative calendar of market borrowings released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the Tamil Nadu government plans to borrow ₹37,000 crore in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2023-24.
- TN has remained the **top borrower** in the recent years.
- State Development Loans (SDLs) form a major component of Tamil Nadu's outstanding liability.

## 'TNEB Safety' App

- The Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) has rolled out a mobile application to enhance the safety of hundreds of maintenance staff engaged in **rectification work for any power disruptions**.
- **Objective** - To prevent electrocution by enforcing the adoption of safety procedures and use of safety equipments.

## Reaching Roots Programme

- Under this initiative, a group of **58 Tamil diaspora youths** were selected from **Canada, Fiji, Sri Lanka and Australia**.
- **Reaching Roots is a 2 week cultural tour programme** by Government of Tamil Nadu for **Tamil Diaspora Youth** to help reconnect the present with the past and establish the umbilical link between generations.

## Tamil Nadu Coir Policy 2024

- The **Tamil Nadu Coir Policy 2024** which was unveiled by the Chief Minister M.K. Stalin recently.

- It aims to attract investments worth **₹3,000 crore** in the sector by 2030 and generate 60,000 jobs.

## Key highlights

- Setting up of Centres of Excellence exclusively for new, innovative coir products.
- To establishing a coir park and a coir test laboratory.
- To promote entrepreneurs from marginalised sections
- To promote and facilitate green initiatives
- To provide a thrust for the scaling up and diversification of coir MSMEs.

## 'Thozhi' Hostels

- **Chief Minister M.K.Stalin** virtually inaugurated 'Thozhi', a State government run hostel for working women at **Tambaram Sanatorium**.
- **Tamil Nadu Working Women's Hostels Corporation Limited (TNWWHCL)** was created under **Social Welfare & Women Empowerment Department** to create high quality affordable self- sustaining chain of hostels across Tamil Nadu

## STEPS survey

- Tamil Nadu **STEPS Survey - 2** to estimate prevalence of Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) risk factors has started across the state.
- STEP wise approach to NCD risk factor surveillance (STEPS) is a simple, standardised method for collecting, analysing, and disseminating data on key NCD risk factors.
- The survey is funded by the **World Bank**.

### Blockchain to protect documents

- The **Registration Department has tied up with Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNEGA)** to shifting various registered documents to the blockchain system to prevent tampering.
- The Department has also started issuing certified copies stamped with the seal of Nambikkai Inaiyam (blockchain logo) - to document owners engaged in registering documents.

### Excavations in four new places

- Tamil Nadu has sought permission from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for carrying out excavations in four new places in 2024.
- The four sites would be:
  - **Marungur in Cuddalore**
  - **Kongalnagaram in Tiruppur**
  - **Thirumalapuram in Tenkasi**
  - **Chennanur in Krishnagiri.**

### Pilot study to determine population of Nilgiri Tahr

- The **Tamil Nadu government** has concluded a pilot study to determine the method to estimate the **population of Nilgiri Tahr.**
- The study was launched as the part of **Project Nilgiri Tahr.**
- According to 2015 report of WWF India **3,122 Nilgiri Tahrs** spread over 5,790 sq km in **Tamil Nadu and Kerala.**
- **Project Nilgiri Tahr** was launched in **October 12, 2023.**

### PICME software upgraded

- The **Pregnancy and Infant Cohort Monitoring and Evaluation (PICME)** software has been upgraded recently as **PICME 3.0.**
- The new **PICME 3.0** will promote self - registration for **RCH (Reproductive and Child Health) ID**, and share the data through **PICME**

with the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** scheme for monitoring of babies discharged from the **Special New born Care Units (SNCU).**

- The software captures the details of **nearly 11 lakh pregnant women** in the State every year.

### Global Investors Meet 2024

- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated the Global Investors Meet (GIM) 2024 in Chennai.
- Theme of the GIM 2024 is **'Towards a Resilient Economy, Sustainable Development, and Inclusive Growth'.**

### Key Highlights

- Tamil Nadu Vision \$1-Trillion report was released
- A comprehensive 'growth framework' has been designed to attract \$3.8 trillion to **\$4.3 trillion** in investments from the public as well as private sector to accelerate growth.
- Singapore announced plans to invest **₹ 31,000 crore** in Tamil Nadu.
- **Semiconductor and Advanced Electronics Policy 2024** was released.
- **Green Fuels Alliance India (GFAI) initiative** was launched to boost collaboration between the **India and Denmark** to achieve carbon neutrality.
- **'Tamil Nadu Repowering and Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects'** policy was released.
- A total of **₹ 6,64,180 crore** of investments were attracted.
- A total of **26,90,657 jobs** were expected to be generated.

### TN Semiconductor and Advanced Electronics Policy 2024

- **Semiconductor and Advanced Electronics Policy 2024** was released at the **Global Investors Meet 2024** recently.

### Key Highlights

- The policy seeks to attract anchor investments in semiconductor and advanced electronics manufacturing.
- Aims to create a skilled talent pool of over two lakh persons by 2030.
- Implementation will be facilitated by **Guidance Tamil Nadu**.
- Disbursement of incentives will be done by **State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Ltd. (SIPCOT)**

### Nalam Nandi app launched

- **Minister for School Education Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozi** unveiled the Nalam Naadi app.
- The app was launched by the **Tamil Nadu School Education department**.
- The app will help the special educators to **track students with learning disabilities**.

### World Tamils Economic Conference

- **10th World Tamils Economic Conference** is being held in Chennai.
- **Global Economic Summit** is also held on the side lines of the World Tamils Economic Conference.
- **The First World Tamils Economic Conference** was held in **Chennai in 2009**.

### World Tamil Diaspora Day – 2024

- **World Tamils Diaspora Day 2024** is inaugurated in Chennai Trade Centre by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.
- **Enadhu Grammam (எனது கிராமம்)** scheme which aims to **improve the infrastructure** of the hometowns of the **NRT's (Non Resident Tamils)** will be launched during the function.

### Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission

- The TN government has issued orders to implement the **Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission**.
- The mission will be implemented over the **next five years at a cost of ₹1,675 crore in 14 coastal districts** with the support of **World Bank**.

### The mission has four focus areas:

- Enhancing coastal biodiversity
- Coastal protection
- Improving livelihood through the creation of blue flag beaches and sustainable tourism
- Pollution abatement.

- **Tamil Nadu Blue Carbon Agency** will be established as a **special purpose vehicle**.

### Organ donations increase in T.N.

- According to the Health & Family Welfare Department of Tamil Nadu, there is a 14% increase in the number of organ donations in Tamil Nadu in 2023 when compared with 2022.
- The number of deceased donors rose from 156 in 2022 to 178 in 2023 owing to increased awareness on organ donations.
- Tamil Nadu received the Best State Award for the highest number of donations in 2022.

### TN plans to procure Paddy

- The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) is planning to procure more than 20 lakh tonnes of the crop as the paddy harvest season is set to begin shortly.
- In 2022-23, about 44.22 lakh tonnes of paddy was procured from around 5.22 lakh farmers in the State.

### CM honours scholars and writers

- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin presented awards instituted by **three government departments** to **nine individuals** for their contributions towards **Tamil language and social justice**.
- **Ayyan Tiruvalluvar Award** which was instituted by **Tamil Development Department** were presented to **Thavathiru Balamuruganadimai Swami for 2024**.
- **Perarignar Anna Award - 'Pathamadai' Parama Sivam (2023)**

- **Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award**  
- U.Balaraman (2023)
  - **Mahakavi Bharathiar Award**  
- Palani Bharathi (2023)
  - **Paavendar Bharathidasan Award**  
- M. Mutharasu (2023)
  - **Tamil Thendral Thiru Vi Ka Award**  
- S. Jayaseela Stephen (2023)
  - **Muthamizh Kavalal K.A.P. Viswanatham Award** - R. Karunanidhi (2023)
  - The **Thanthai Periyar Award** which instituted by the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department was presented to **Suba Veerapandian**.
  - The **Ambedkar Award** instituted by **Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department** for 2023 was presented to **P. Shanmugam**.
- Olive Ridley nesting season**
- Olive Ridley sea turtles have begun nesting along the coasts of Chennai and Chengalpattu.
  - The **Bay of Bengal coast** is one of the major nesting sites for Olive Ridleys.
  - The famed **mass nesting or arribadas** occurs on the **Odisha coast, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh coasts**.
  - Each Olive Ridley found and a total of **38,721** turtle lays about **100 eggs** which take around **45 to 60 days to hatch**.

