

# VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

## Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

**NOVEMBER 2024 - PART 1**



An ISO 9001: 2015 Institution | Providing Excellence Since 2011

### Head Office

Old No. 52, New No. 1, 9<sup>th</sup> Street,  
F Block, 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Main Road, (Near Isha Siddhi Vinayakar Temple), Anna Nagar East – 600 102.  
**Ph: 044-2626 5326 | 98844 21666 | 98844 32666**

### Branches

#### SALEM

No. 189/1, Meyanoor Road,  
Near ARRS Multiplex, (Near  
Salem New Bus Stand),  
Opp. Venkateshwara Complex,  
Salem - 636 004.  
**Ph: 0427-2330307 | 95001 22022**

#### KOVAI

No. 347, D.S. Complex  
(3<sup>rd</sup> floor), Nehru Street,  
Near Gandhipuram Central  
Bus Stand, Ramnagar,  
Kovai - 641 009.  
**Ph: 75021 65390**

#### MADURAI

No. 199, Dharshini Tower,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Vaigai Colony,  
Anna Nagar,  
Madurai - 625 020.  
**Ph: 91500 21999**  
**91500 21998**

#### TIRUNELVELI

No. 58, IVY Towers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,  
Palayamkottai,  
Near Palai Bus Stand,  
(Next to Muthamil Hospital),  
Tirunelveli - 627 002.  
**Ph: 91500 10079**

#### THANJAVUR

Muthu Complex,  
(Pantaloons Showroom Basement)  
No. 243, Cauvery Nagar,  
Opp. New Housing Unit,  
Thanjavur - 613 005.  
**Ph: 78711 69099 | 78715 71819**

#### KOVILPATTI

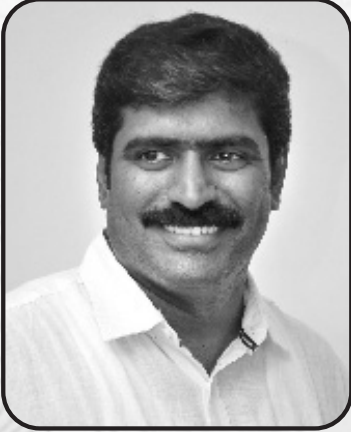
No. 15, Kathiresan Kovil Road,  
Behind Kaliamma Temple,  
Kovilpatti - 628 501.  
**Ph: 90037 90335**  
**81222 80685**

#### THIRUCHENGODE

Vivekananda Educational Institutions  
Elayampalayam (Po),  
Thiruchengode (TK),  
Namakkal (Dt) - 637205.  
**Ph: 7845779908**

[www.vetriias.com](http://www.vetriias.com)

# Preface



**M. SHUNMUGAM**

Director

Vetrii IAS Study Circle.

© All rights reserved with the publisher. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the written permission of the publisher, will be responsible for the loss and may be punished for compensation under copyright act.

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 !

Published by:

**VETRII IAS STUDY CIRCLE**

F Block New No. 1, 9<sup>th</sup> Street,  
1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Main Road, Chinthamani,  
Anna Nagar (E), Chennai - 102.

Phone : 044-2626 5326

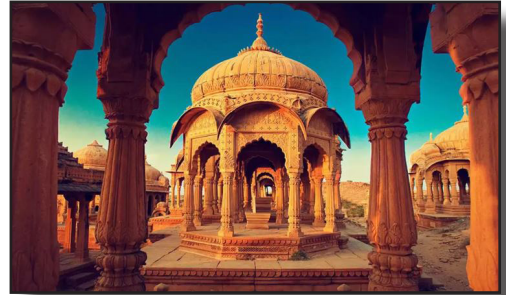
98844 72636 | 98844 21666 | 98844 32666

E-mail : [enquiry@vetriias.com](mailto:enquiry@vetriias.com)

Web : [www.vetriias.com](http://www.vetriias.com)

# CONTENTS

HISTORY 01



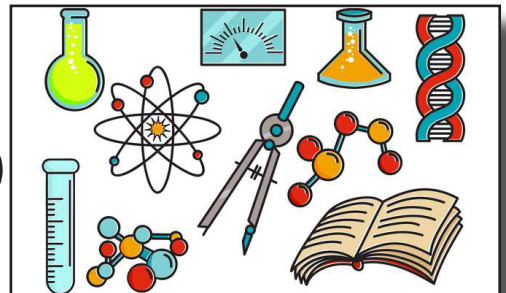
08 POLITICAL SCIENCE

GEOGRAPHY 12



14 ECONOMICS

SCIENCE 15



**NATIONAL-DIARY OF  
EVENT 18**



**21 INTERNATIONAL  
AFFAIRS**

**TAMILNADU AFFAIRS 23**



# 1. HISTORY



## 1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
<b>November 5</b>	<b>Tsunami Awareness Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The date <b>November 5</b> was chosen to commemorate the "<b>Inamura-no-hi</b>" (The Great Fire of Inamura) incident from 1854 in Japan</li><li>▪ India has established state-of-the-art <b>Tsunami Early Warning System at INCOIS, Hyderabad</b></li><li>▪ Regular tsunami mock drills are conducted in coastal states</li><li>▪ India is actively participating in Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System</li><li>▪ UN's Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 guides global tsunami preparedness</li></ul>
<b>November 8</b>	<b>World Radiology Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>World Radiology Day</b>, celebrated every year on <b>November 8</b>, honours the contributions of <b>Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen</b>, the German physicist who discovered <b>X-rays in 1895</b>.</li><li>▪ This monumental discovery has since revolutionized medical diagnosis and treatment by providing non-invasive ways to see inside the human body.</li><li>▪ Observing this day serves as a reminder of the importance of <b>radiology</b> in modern healthcare, recognizing the dedication of radiographers, and promoting a greater understanding of X-ray therapy in patient care.</li></ul>

Date	Day	Theme / Remark
November 12	<b>Public Service Broadcasting Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This day is observed to commemorate the <b>50th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's</b> visit to All India Radio center.</li> <li>▪ This was <b>Mahatma Gandhi's first</b> and only visit to All India Radio in Delhi in 1947.</li> <li>▪ After the partition of India, Mahatma addressed displaced people (refugees from Pakistan) who had temporarily settled in Kurukshetra, Haryana.</li> <li>▪ In <b>2001</b>, this day was officially declared as Public Service Broadcasting Day.</li> </ul>
November 12	<b>World Pneumonia Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Main Objective:</b> To create awareness among people about the risks of pneumonia, its prevention methods, and treatment.</li> <li>▪ <b>Theme: "Every Breath Counts: Stop Pneumonia in its Tracks"</b></li> <li>▪ Pneumonia is a lung infection that is particularly dangerous for children and the elderly. Numerous deaths occur globally every year due to this disease.</li> </ul>
November 13	<b>World Kindness Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ World Kindness Day is celebrated worldwide to promote the importance of <b>showing compassion</b> to one another, to yourself, and to the world.</li> </ul>
November 14	<b>World Diabetes Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This day was established to create awareness about diabetes, one of the diseases threatening the world.</li> <li>▪ The day was declared by the <b>United Nations</b> through a resolution passed on November 14, 2006.</li> <li>▪ <b>Frederick Banting</b>, along with <b>Charles Best</b>, discovered insulin for treating diabetes in <b>1921</b>. This day is commemorated on his birthday.</li> </ul>
November 14	<b>Children's Day in India</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Children's Day</b> is celebrated in India on November 14 in memory of <b>Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru</b>, the first Prime Minister of independent India.</li> <li>▪ Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14, 1889, in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh.</li> <li>▪ Before 1964, Children's Day in India was celebrated on November 20, which is the Universal Children's Day declared by the United Nations.</li> <li>▪ After Jawaharlal Nehru's death on May 27, 1964, India decided to celebrate his birthday as <b>Bal Diwas</b> (Children's Day) to honor him.</li> </ul>

## 1.2 DEFENCE, NATIONAL SECURITY AND TERRORISM

### Third edition of the high-level virtual interaction MAHASAGAR

- The third edition of the high-level virtual interaction MAHASAGAR was conducted by the Indian Navy on **05 Nov 24**.
- Heads of Navies/ Maritime Agencies and Senior Leadership from Indian Ocean Region littorals viz., **Bangladesh, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Tanzania**. Are present in this meeting
- MAHASAGAR which stands for vast ocean in Hindi, is the Indian Navy's flagship outreach for high-level virtual interaction between **Maritime Heads for Active Security and Growth for all in the region**.

### Unmanned vessel finishes 1,500-km voyage from Mumbai to Thoothukudi

- An autonomous surface vessel built by **Sagar Defence Engineering** has completed a 1,500-km voyage from Mumbai to Thoothukudi without human intervention, in an endeavour supported by the Indian Navy.
- It is supported by the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO), the Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC), and the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative under the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO).
- **Sagarmala Parikrama** journey was virtually flagged off on October 29

### 550 'Asmi' machine

- The Indian Army made an important advancement in its Atmanirbharta initiative.

The induction of 550 'Asmi' machine pistols into the Northern Command marks a pivotal moment for indigenous defence manufacturing in India.

#### **What is the Atmanirbharta Initiative?**

- Atmanirbharta, or self-reliance, is a campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **May 12, 2020**.
- The goal is to make India self-sufficient in various sectors, including defence. It encourages local production and reduces dependency on imports.

#### **Development and Manufacturing**

- The 'Asmi' was developed by Colonel Prasad Bansod of the **Indian Army**. It was created in collaboration with the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.

### 550 'Asmi' machine

- The Indian Army made an important advancement in its Atmanirbharta initiative. The induction of 550 'Asmi' machine pistols into the Northern Command marks a pivotal moment for indigenous defence manufacturing in India.

#### **What is the Atmanirbharta Initiative?**

- Atmanirbharta, or self-reliance, is a campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **May 12, 2020**.
- The goal is to make India self-sufficient in various sectors, including defence. It encourages local production and reduces dependency on imports.

#### **Development and Manufacturing**

- The 'Asmi' was developed by Colonel Prasad Bansod of the **Indian Army**. It was created in

collaboration with the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.

### **Successful Test of Long-Range Surface-to-Surface Missile**

- The **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** successfully conducted the first test of a long-range missile capable of hitting ground targets
- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh praised that this would serve as a model for future indigenously **manufactured missile projects**.
- The missile test, conducted at the Integrated Test Range in **Chandipur, Odisha**, performed better than expected and fulfilled the project's objectives, according to the Ministry of Defense.

### **According to the ministry's press release:**

- The missile's performance was monitored through radars, electro-optical tracking systems, and telemetry installed at various locations.
- It traveled accurately along the predetermined path to reach its target, demonstrating its capabilities at various altitudes and speeds.
- The missile is equipped with modern aviation technologies and software.
- Bharat Dynamics in Hyderabad and Bharat Electronics in Bangalore played crucial roles in the missile's development and production.

### **Nationwide Coastal Surveillance Exercise to Begin on Nov. 20**

- The Ministry of Defence announced that the Indian Navy will conduct a nationwide '**Coastal Surveillance - 24**' (Sea Vigil-24) exercise on November 20 and 21.

▪ These surveillance exercises have been conducted to strengthen coastal security following the **2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks**. The country has approximately **11,098 km of coastline** and an **Exclusive Economic Zone covering 2.4 million square kilometers** along the coastal region.

- This comprehensive exercise aims to create awareness about security threats from the sea by simultaneously engaging all maritime stakeholders, including the fishing community, coastal residents, and various coastal security infrastructure facilities.
- The exercise is conducted under the leadership of the Indian Navy's **CDSRE (Coastal Defence Security Readiness Evaluation)** team, which includes naval commanders from all coastal states and Union Territories (Lakshadweep, Andaman Islands). The exercise aims to assess and enhance coastal security and defense preparedness.

### **AFSPA reimposed in six riot-hit areas of Manipur**

- The Union Home Ministry has reimposed AFSPA (Armed Forces Special Powers Act) in six police station areas across five districts of **Manipur, declaring them as "disturbed areas."**
- The affected areas include police stations in Imphal West (Sekmai and Lamsang), Imphal East (Lamlai), Jiribam, Bishnupur (Moirang), and Kangpokpi (Leimakhong) districts.
- AFSPA had previously been withdrawn from these areas in April 2022 due to improved security conditions, but is now reinstated until March 31, 2025.
- The reimposition comes in response to



ongoing ethnic violence, with recent incidents including intermittent firing in violence-prone areas and increased insurgent group activity.

- Since May 2023, over 240 people have died in ethnic conflicts between the Meitei people (valley residents) and the tribal Kuki-Zo-Hmar people (hill residents), with 14 deaths reported just since November 7.
- The security presence in the region includes **22,000 Central Armed Police Force** personnel and approximately **140 Army columns**, with AFSPA allowing armed forces to conduct operations without waiting for magistrate or state police presence.

#### **About AFSPA:**

- **Objective:** Conferring certain special powers upon members of the armed forces in disturbed areas in North eastern States.

▪ **Section 3 of Act:** Governor of State or Administrator of Union territory or Central Government may declare whole/such part of such State/UT to be a disturbed area.

▪ Disturbed area is an area where use of armed forces in aid of civil power is necessary.

#### **Section 4 of Act:**

- Gives special powers to armed forces although they must be exercised with extreme caution.
- After giving due warning, it can fire upon/use force against any person acting in contravention of laws,
- If reasonable suspicion exists, can also arrest a person without a warrant;
- Unless otherwise authorized by the central government, Army soldiers operating under AFSPA are shielded from all legal actions.

## 1.3 SPORTS

### **India submits letter expressing interest to host 2036 Olympics to International Olympic Committee**

- The Sports Ministry sources indicate that this great opportunity will bring benefits in terms of economic growth, social progress, and youth development for India.

▪ Strong countries like Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Turkey are in the lead. India will have to compete with these countries.

▪ Regarding the 2036 Olympics, Ahmedabad is the leading candidate city to host the competition.

## 1.4 BOOKS AND AUTHORS

### **British Author Wins Booker Prize**

- British author **Samantha Harvey** has won this year's Booker Prize.
- She was awarded the prize for her novel 'Orbital'.
- Written for the first time with six astronauts living on the International Space Station as characters, the book became a bestseller in Britain.

▪ The judges stated that the Booker Prize, **one of the world's highest literary awards**, was given to this book for its compact size yet beautifully expansive ideas.

▪ Along with this prize, Samantha Harvey will receive a cash prize of 50,000 pounds (**approximately Rs. 53.63 lakhs**).

## 1.5 CULTURAL PANORAMA

### Sky is the limit for development of tribes: President Droupadi Murmu

- President Droupadi Murmu addressed the nation on the eve of Birsa Munda's birth anniversary (Janjatiya Gaurav Divas), emphasizing that India's true development depends on tribal communities' progress.
- She praised the government's commitment to tribal development, highlighting a 74% increase in the Tribal Affairs Ministry's budget to Rs.13,000 crore.
- Murmu recalled tribal freedom fighters who fought against British rule and shared her personal connection to tribal welfare, having started her public service career on the Tribal Advisory Council.
- She expressed optimism about tribal communities' future development prospects.

### About Bhagwan Birsa Munda (1875 - 1900)

- He was born in the Munda tribe at Ulihatu, Khunti district of the Chotanagpur Plateau region (Jharkhand). Also known as 'Dharti Aaba'.

### Contributions

- Started faith of Birsait and stressed the importance of prayer, staying away from alcohol, and having faith in God.
- Started a movement called 'Ulgulan (The Great Tumult)' against the exploitation of tribals by local authorities.
- This led to the enactment of the Chotanagpur Tenancy Act (1908) which restricted the transfer of land from tribal people to non-tribals.

### Legacy

- His birth anniversary (on 15th November) is celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

## 1.6 ARCHEAOLOGICAL DISCOVERY

### News: 6,000-year-old stones discovered in Vembakkottai excavation

- PLACE :** Sathur,
- During the ongoing Phase 3 excavation near Vembakkottai, stones called jasper and chert, which were used to make ornaments 6,000 years ago, were discovered on Friday.
- The Phase 3 excavation work has been ongoing since June 18.
- In this Phase 3 excavation, more than 2,800 archaeological artifacts have been discovered so far, including:
  - Gold coin
  - Copper coins
  - Broken terracotta figurine
  - Chess pieces
  - Glass beads
  - Circular discs
- The archaeologists continue to uncover evidence of ancient civilization and craftsmanship at this important historical site.

## 1.7 SASTRI'S TAKE ON DRAVIDIAN-ARYAN DIVIDE

### Sastri's take on Dravidian-Aryan divide

- According to historian K.A. Nilakanta Sastri, both Dravidians and Aryans came to India in **multiple waves over time, not in a single migration.**
- Oxford Professor J. Burrow suggested that Vedic speech was influenced by "**proto-Dravidian**" language that existed before both Dravidian languages and Aryan arrival in India - though this was disputed by some scholars like **Fürer-Haimendor**
- Sastri emphasized that using "Aryan" and "Dravidian" as racial terms is scientifically incorrect, citing Max Müller who strongly **discouraged inferring race from language.**
- He challenged the oversimplified notion that North India is purely Aryan/Brahmin/Sanskrit while South India is purely Dravidian/non-Brahmin/Tamil.
- Sastri **rejected** claims about **Tamil land being the origin of civilization** and the Indus Valley Civilization being created by Tamils, noting these weren't supported by scientific scholarship.

## 1.8 APPOINTMENTS

### Government appoints two Additional Advocate Generals

- Senior advocates **K.Chandramohan** and

**M. Sureshkumar** have been appointed as Additional Advocate Generals of the Madras High Court.

# 2. POLITICAL SCIENCE

## 2.1 INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

### The LAC agreement, the détetes and the questions

- A recent India-China détente (IMPROVEMENT) announced in October 2024, marked by a summit between PM Modi and President Xi Jinping at the 16 TH BRICS Summit in Kazan.
- While both sides have agreed to disengage troops at Depsang and Demchok, questions remain about the specific details of new patrolling arrangements and troop de-escalation along the LAC (Line of Actual Control).
- The article explores four theories behind China's 2020 LAC transgressions:
- China's policy to control "every inch" of its claimed territory
- A reminder of India's continental vulnerabilities despite US partnership
- Pushback against India's infrastructure development
- Reaction to India's 2019 reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir
- **Key disputed areas:** Depsang, Demchok, Yangtse, Arunachal Pradesh, Pangong Tso, Galwan
- **Infrastructure projects:** G695 highway through Aksai Chin, Karakoram-2 Highway
- **The recent agreement follows three other improvement :**
  - Elections in Jammu and Kashmir.
  - Agreements with Ladakhi protesters.
  - Diplomatic opening with Pakistan.

## 2.2 LATEST COURT VERDICTS

- **NEWS: SC overrules 1967 verdict against (Aligarh Muslim University) AMU's minority tag,** An educational institution established by a minority community will not lose its identity once it is recognised through a statute. SC declared in a 4:3 majority judgment by a seven-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice D.Y.Chandrachud.
- **Main Issue:**
  - Whether an educational institution established by a minority community loses its minority status once it is recognized through a statute/ law
- **Historical Context:**
  - AMU was established in 1875
  - Lost minority status due to 1967 Azeez Basha verdict
  - Regained it through 1981 AMU Amendment Act
  - Lost it again in 2006 due to Allahabad High Court decision

**Constitutional Aspect:**▪ **Article 30(1) has dual nature:**

- Anti-discriminatory provision
- Special rights provision for religious and linguistic minorities

▪ **Requirements for Minority Status:**

- Institution must be established by minority community
- The community must prove they

established it to preserve their cultural fabric

- Article 30 extends to secular education as well

▪ **Significance:**

- Impacts other minority institutions like St. Stephen's College and Christian Medical College, Vellore
- Protects minority institutions from discrimination

## 2.3 POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL SYSTEM IN INDIA

### The perfect cocktail of layered discrimination

- Delimitation involves recalibrating Lok Sabha seats per state based on population, currently frozen **since 1971 census** but may change **by 2026**.
- Non-Hindi states (Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal) have **lower fertility rates (1.6-1.8)** compared to Hindi heartland states (**Bihar, UP, MP**) with rates around **3.5**.
- Post-delimitation, southern states' parliamentary representation would **drop from 25% to 17%**, while Hindi heartland states would increase from **40% to 60%**.
- Developed states already receive only 30% of their tax contributions, while states like Bihar receive **250-350% of their contribution**.
- Hindi-speaking population has **grown from 36% to 43%**, while other linguistic groups have decreased, threatening India's federal structure.
- Possible solutions include extending the freeze or permanent **freezing of delimitation**, creating new federal structure, or preserving

current seat proportions while **increasing total seats**.

### **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)**

- TFR is "a demographic indicator that estimates the average number of children a woman gives birth to during her reproductive years." The replacement level TFR is 2.1.

### **Context**

- The delimitation of Lok Sabha seats in India is primarily addressed **under Article 81** of the Indian Constitution.
- **Article 82** complements this by stating that the Parliament must enact a Delimitation Act after each Census to readjust the number of seats in the Lok Sabha and their respective constituencies
- This process (delimitation) was suspended under **Indira Gandhi's government until 2001**
- Further suspended for **25 years by A.B.Vajpayee's government until 2026**
- The freezing was done to avoid disincentivizing states that effectively controlled their population

## 2.4 PUBLIC AWARENESS & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### Sanjiv Khanna Takes Charge as 51st Chief Justice of Supreme Court

- President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office. Sanjiv Khanna took charge today after D.Y. Chandrachud's retirement.
- Sanjiv Khanna will serve as Chief Justice of Supreme Court for 6 months. He will remain in office until May 13 next year
- Sanjiv Khanna began his career as a lawyer in 1983. He served as a lawyer for about 23 years. He was appointed as Delhi High Court Judge in 2016 and Supreme Court Judge in 2019.

### Important Judgments

- He was part of the **5-judge constitutional bench** that delivered historic verdicts including

cancellation of electoral bonds scheme for political party donations and confirmation of the abrogation of **Article 370** that granted special status to **Jammu-Kashmir**.

- A bench headed by him delivered a judgment on April 26 affirming the reliability and security of Electronic Voting Machines, refusing to ban their use in elections.
- He also ordered interim bail for **Aam Aadmi Party's National Coordinator and then Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal**, who was arrested in the Delhi excise policy case, to campaign in the Lok Sabha elections.

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

- Government health spending in low and lower-middle income countries shows a concerning downward trend after an initial pandemic-related spike, threatening progress toward SDG health targets.
  - Growth in health spending per capita from 2019-2023 has been minimal (0.4% in LICs (low income countries), 0.9% in LMICs (lower middle class income countries) compared to pre-pandemic growth (4.2% in LICs, 2.4% in LMICs), indicating a significant slowdown.
  - The share of health in government budgets is declining as overall government spending
- grows faster than health expenditure, reversing pre-pandemic trends where health was gaining priority.
- 35 nations, including India, face particular risks with declining per capita health spending and reduced budget share for health. India's health spending dropped below 2% of the budget post-pandemic.
  - Future outlook is concerning as 23 countries are projected to face government budget contractions from 2023-2029, which may force difficult trade-offs in maintaining health spending levels.

## 2.6 CENTER AND STATE RELATION

### Net Borrowing Ceiling (NBC) Caps Kerala's Borrowing at 3% of GSDP

- In 2023, the central government set a 3% Net Borrowing Ceiling (NBC) of GSDP on Kerala, covering all borrowing methods, restricting development and welfare funding.
- Kerala has petitioned the Supreme Court to challenge the NBC under Article 293 of the Constitution, arguing it limits the state's constitutionally guaranteed fiscal autonomy.
- The **Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM)** Act enforces fiscal discipline with deficit targets, aiming to reduce the fiscal deficit to below 4.5% of GDP by 2025-26; states argue this curtails their financial autonomy.
- Proposals suggest strengthening **Article 293** by creating a commission akin to the Finance Commission, setting clear guidelines for

the Center's control over state borrowing, ensuring transparency, consultation, and fairness to uphold cooperative federalism

### Role of Voluntary Organizations

- Women gig workers in India held a **first digital strike on Deepavali**, organized by the **Gig and Platform Services Workers Union (GIPSWU)**, protesting against exploitative labour practices by platform companies.
- Discounts offered by platform companies come at the expense of gig workers' wages, who face exploitative conditions.
- The narrative often highlights start-up job creation without examining the labour exploitation underlying rapid growth.
- **The absence of strong labour and data privacy laws** enables unchecked exploitation, with a call for grassroots organizing and policy reform.



# 3. GEOGRAPHY

## 3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

### First Global Tree Assessment

- First Global Tree Assessment was published as part of an update to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, with its findings announced at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP16) in Cali, Colombia.
- The 2024 UN Biodiversity Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held recently in Cali, Colombia with an objective to assess how countries are advancing towards the 2022 Montreal commitment to protect 30% of the planet's land and marine areas by 2030.
- The South Western Ghats of Kerala host *Buchanania barberi*, a small tree classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List since 2018.

### Asia-Pacific (APAC) Climate Report 2024

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) released its Asia-Pacific (APAC) Climate Report 2024, highlighting alarming economic impacts of climate change on the Asia-Pacific region.
- High-end greenhouse gas emissions, the APAC region could see a 17% reduction in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2070.
- By 2100, this figure may surge to 41% under high GHG emissions.
- India may experience a 24.7% GDP decline by

2070. Bangladesh faces a potential 30.5% loss, while Vietnam could see a 30.2% reduction, and Indonesia a 26.8% decline.

**NEWS: The tiger population in western Assam's Manas National Park, a major wildlife preserve stretching into Bhutan, tripled from 2011 to 2019.**

#### ▪ Location

- Manas National Park is in western Assam
- It's a cross-border preserve extending into Bhutan
- It's a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- One of Assam's two tiger reserves (the other being Kaziranga)

#### ▪ Context:

- Park previously suffered from prolonged armed conflict

#### Current challenges include

- **Poaching threats,** Habitat loss, Management of growing tiger population approaching carrying capacity.
- **Success Factors:** Increased funding, Improved protection infrastructure, Larger staff deployment, Tourism revenue support.
- **Collaborative efforts between:** Local communities, Government, Conservation agencies.



- This case study demonstrates successful wildlife conservation in a post-conflict zone.
  - Study suggests potential doubling of tiger numbers by **2023** (conditional on effective conservation measures).
  - **India's developing carbon credit mechanism, with focus on COP-29 Baku, Azerbaijan).**
  - India updated its **Nationally Determined Contributions in 2023**
  - Established the Energy Conservation Amendment Act in **2022** for **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS).**
- It emphasizes two key lessons:**
- Maintaining carbon credit integrity and aligning with global standards, particularly Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.
  - The framework faces challenges like greenwashing in the **voluntary carbon market (VCM)** and issues with the **Green Credit Programme (GCP).**
  - The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** plays a crucial oversight role, and the **Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative (VCMI)** introduces a tiered system for credit claim assessment.
  - It stresses the importance of transparency, third-party verification, and robust protocols to prevent double-counting while aligning with international standards.
  - Green washing? Greenwashing is when a company makes misleading claims or false advertisements to suggest that they are more environmentally friendly than they actually are.
  - **VCM - The voluntary carbon market (VCM)** is a decentralised market where private actors voluntarily buy and sell carbon credits that represent removals or reductions of **Green House Gases (GHGs)** in the atmosphere.
  - **The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** : To improve Energy Intensity of Indian Economy thereby contributing towards sustainable development of country.



# 4. ECONOMICS

## 4.1 REPORTS AND INDICES

### Henley Passport Index

- The Henley Passport Index revealed that Singapore holds the title of the world's most powerful passport.
- Singaporean citizens can travel to 195 countries without needing a visa.

### Henley Passport Index Overview

- The **Henley Passport Index** ranks passports based on the number of destinations their holders can access without a visa.
- The index is a useful tool for understanding global mobility and the strength of a country's passport.

### Top Rankings

- **Singapore:** 1st place, 195 countries.
- **France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain:** 2nd place, 192 countries.
- **United States:** 8th place, 186 countries.
- **India:** 83rd place, 58 countries. These rankings reflect the ease of travel for citizens of these countries.

## 4.2 CURRENT TRENDS IN INDIAN ECONOMY

### 10-year Sovereign Green Bonds

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has expanded the list of Government securities available for non-resident investment under the **Fully Accessible Route (FAR)** by designating **10-year Sovereign Green Bonds (SGRBs)** as 'specified securities.' These bonds will be issued by the government in the second half of the fiscal year 2024-25, aligning with the increasing global inclusion of Indian Government Securities

(G-Secs) in international bond indices, such as JPMorgan Chase's GBI-EM GD index, Bloomberg **EM Local Currency Government** indices, and FTSE Russell's EMGBI.

### 10-Year Sovereign Green Bonds in FAR

- The RBI's move to include **10-year Sovereign Green Bonds** under FAR comes as the government plans to issue these bonds as part of its borrowing program in **FY2024-25**.



# 5. SCIENCE

## 5.1 LATEST DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH SCIENCE

### Global Tuberculosis Report – 2024

- TB has likely returned to being the world's leading infectious disease killer in 2023
- **Five countries account for 56% of global TB cases:** India (26%), Indonesia (10%), China (6.8%), Philippines (6.8%), Pakistan (6.3%)
  - India accounts for 26% of global TB cases
  - Highest TB burden globally
  - Making significant progress in TB notification and treatment
- **Risk factors:** Key risk factors include undernutrition, alcohol use disorders, smoking, and diabetes.
  - Social determinants like poverty, income inequality, and poor living conditions significantly impact TB spread

### Telcos cast satellite Internet as a threat to terrestrial networks

- **CRUX:** The conflict between telecom operators (like Reliance Jio) and satellite internet providers (like SpaceX's Starlink) regarding
- Whether satellite internet services should require spectrum auctions in India
- **Spectrum Auction:** A process where government sells rights to transmit signals over specific bands of the electromagnetic spectrum)

- **Purpose:** Allocate scarce radio frequencies to telecommunication companies
- **Concerns over satellite capacity and coverage, with specific numbers being debated:**
  - Starlink's projected 35,000 satellites globally
  - Potential 500-600 satellites over India
  - **India representing 0.6% of world's surface area**
- **Wayforward:** This shows a significant policy debate in India's telecommunications sector regarding the regulation and implementation of satellite internet services.

### Scientists have discovered that mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) clade Ia has evolved to achieve sustained human-to-human transmission.

- Adding to growing concerns about the virus's evolution. This is particularly significant because previously, clade Ia only caused sporadic infections from animals to humans since its discovery in 1970.
- **There are four known variants of mpox:** Ia, Ib, IIa, and IIb
  - Clade IIb was responsible for the 2022 outbreak

- Clade Ib is currently causing infections in central Africa
- WHO has declared mpox a public health emergency twice in two year
- The evidence for human-to-human transmission comes from studying mutations in the virus's DNA.
- Researchers found that 63% of mutations in clade Ia infections were consistent with changes introduced by APOBEC (a human immune system protein family).
- This protein introduces random changes in foreign DNA as a defense mechanism.

### Food prices spur inflation to 6.2%

- **Overall Inflation Rate:** India's retail inflation jumped to **6.2% from 5.5%, hitting a 14-month high** and breaching RBI's upper tolerance limit.
- **Food Inflation Driver:** The main cause was a **10.9% surge in food prices**, with urban areas seeing food inflation cross **11.1% and rural areas at 10.7%**.
- **Vegetable Price Spike:** Vegetable prices saw a dramatic 42.2% increase - the highest in 57 months (nearly 5 years), up from 36% in September.
- **Edible Oil Crisis:** Edible oil prices increased by 9.5%, the highest in nearly two years, driven by a 27% rise in global prices due to Southeast Asian supply disruptions.
- **Regional Impact:** Rural India faced sharper inflation at 6.7% compared to urban areas at 5.6%.
- **RBI Implications:** This spike makes interest rate cuts unlikely in RBI's December review, challenging their Q3 (QUARTER ) projection of **4.8% average inflation**.
- **Reason :** disruption in South East Asia

### 210 Million People Affected in India: Lancet Study Reveals

- A long-term 32-year study was conducted on diabetes across 4 major population groups.
- The study covered a total population of 212 million people, including:
  - **India:** 146 million people
  - **China:** 36 million people
  - **USA:** 27 million people
- Various factors were examined including age differences, lifestyle changes, and dietary habits.
- This study helped understand the spread of diabetes and its impacts.
- It is considered a crucial study that will help develop new methods to control and prevent diabetes.

## 5.2 SPACE

### Rocket, Satellite Research Center: IIT Chennai - ISRO Agreement

- IIT Chennai has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ISRO regarding the establishment of a satellite and rocket temperature research center.

#### Press release from IIT Chennai regarding

- A special Fluid and Thermal Research Center will be established at IIT Chennai with ISRO's support. A Memorandum of Understanding for this was signed at IIT
- ISRO is providing financial assistance of Rs.

1 crore and 84 lakhs for establishing this research center.

- Temperature management research related to rockets and satellites will be conducted here. IIT professors will provide technical assistance for temperature-related issues that arise during the testing of rocket and satellite design and various components.

- It has been stated that this will greatly encourage collaborative efforts between ISRO scientists and IIT professors engaged in new discoveries in fluid and thermal sciences

## 5.3 NEW SCIENTIFIC LABORATORIES/ OBSERVATORIES/ CENTRES

### Alarming rate of decrease in African Elephant count

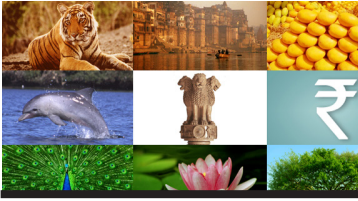
- African elephants, Earth's largest land mammals, face severe population decline across the continent, as revealed in a comprehensive study spanning 1964-2016.
- The research covered 475 sites across 37 African countries, examining both savannah and forest elephant species.

#### Population statistics show:

- Savannah elephants: 70% decline
- Forest elephants: 90% decline
- Overall average decline: 77%
- Primary threats identified: Poaching, Habitat loss.

#### Regional variations:

- Northern/Eastern Africa: Severe losses, especially in Mali, Chad, and Nigeria
- Southern Africa: Population growth in 42% of surveyed sites
- Improved areas : Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Namibia
- Forest elephants are particularly vulnerable, with population numbers approximately one-third of savannah elephants.
- As of 2016, the combined population estimate for both species was between 415,000 and 540,000 elephants.



# 6. NATIONAL – DIARY OF EVENT

## Proba-3 Spacecraft

- ISRO will launch the **European Union's Proba-3** spacecraft next month from Sriharikota using the PSLV-XL rocket.
- It will help study the corona, the bright halo region of the Sun.
- This will be the world's first mission to precisely study the Sun.
- India plans to establish a space station by 2035 and land the first Indian astronaut on the Moon by 2040.

## Shilp Samagam Mela 2024

- The Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the '**Shilp Samagam Mela 2024**' at Dilli Haat, New Delhi.
- This event aims to showcase and promote traditional handicrafts from various states in India.
- It is organized by three key corporations under the Ministry: NSFDC, NBCDFC and NSKFDC.

## The TULIP Initiative

- During the event, **Dr.Kumar** launched the 'TULIP' programme. This stands for Traditional Artisans' Upliftment Livelihood Programme. TULIP aims to empower marginalised artisans. It provides them with an online platform for global exposure and sales of their products. The initiative primarily targets artisans from Scheduled Castes (SC),

Other Backward Classes (OBC), sanitation workers, and persons with disabilities.

## Easy Educational Loans for Higher Education Students

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Prime Minister's 'Vidya Lakshmi Scheme' to facilitate easy educational loans for students gaining admission to the country's top government and private higher education institutions.

### **According to NIRF's recent rankings, the scheme will be launched in:**

- Government and private higher education institutions ranked in the top 100 overall and in other categories
- State government higher education institutions ranked between 101-200

### **The central government will provide:**

- 75% guarantee for loans up to Rs. 7.5 lakhs
- 3% interest subsidy on educational loans up to Rs. 10 lakhs for students from families with annual income up to Rs. 8 lakhs and who are not benefiting from any other scholarship or interest subsidy schemes

- This interest subsidy will be provided to one lakh students per year.

## First All-Women CISF Battalion: Central Government Approval

- The central government has approved the formation of the **country's first all-women battalion** in the **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** with over thousand personnel.

**CISF Act: March 10, 1969****CISF Establishment: June 15, 1983**

- The CISF, which has about 180,000 personnel, is responsible for protecting VIPs, Parliament, Delhi Metro stations, 68 airports nationwide, and important historical monuments.
- The Home Ministry has issued a notification approving the creation of the country's first all-women battalion comprising 1,025 female personnel under a senior commander.

**Debating the healthy longevity initiative**

- World Bank's 2024 report projects global deaths to increase from **61 million (2023)** to 92 million (2050), with **(Non Communicable Disease) NCDs** being the leading cause, especially in **Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)**.
- India has the world's second-largest elderly population (140 million aged 60 vs China's 250 million), with growth **rate 3 times higher** than overall population growth.
- NCDs in India are projected to account for **75% of all deaths by 2030**, with **cardiovascular diseases, cancer, respiratory illness, and diabetes causing 50% of current deaths**.
- **Key risk factors:** tobacco use, alcohol abuse, obesity, sedentary lifestyle, and diets high in simple carbohydrates and saturated fats.
- **Ayushman Bharat Scheme** aims to provide health insurance to bottom **40% households** but faces challenges like inadequate funding, strict eligibility criteria, and corruption (revealed in CAG 2023 report).
- Supreme Court directed central government to regulate hospital procedure rates due to inflated private healthcare costs.

**"Swami AI Chatbot" App to Help Sabarimala Devotees**

- In conjunction with the Mandala Puja pilgrimage, an **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**-powered conversational chatbot called Swami AI Chatbot is set to be introduced to assist



devotees visiting Sabarimala. The **logo** of this application was released by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

- To prevent overcrowding, the Kerala government has decided to allow only 80,000 devotees who register online daily and 10,000 walk-in devotees this year.
- The chatbot will provide detailed information about puja timings, railway and airport facilities in **Malayalam, Tamil, English, Hindi, Telugu, and Kannada languages**.
- During this year's holy pilgrimage season, the chatbot will ensure a more convenient, accurate, and safe pilgrimage experience for Ayyappa devotees.

**Constitutional Museum in Haryana**

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla is set to inaugurate India's first Constitutional Museum, which has

been magnificently established at Jindal Global University in Haryana.

- An **advanced guide robot**, developed by a team of **IIT Chennai students to assist visitors to this museum, was introduced in Chennai.**
  - The university has set up the Constitutional Museum spanning **10,000 square feet to create public awareness about the Indian Constitution.**
- Special Features:**
- The museum features statues and paintings of over 300 people including Ambedkar, Rajendra Prasad, K.M. Munshi, who were instrumental in creating the Indian Constitution. It also houses the original copy of the Indian Constitution,

descriptive sculptures, exhibitions, paintings, and commemorative postage stamps.

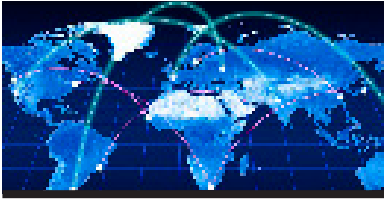
▪ The museum will be inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on November 26th, the day when the Indian Constitution came into effect.

▪ AI Technology... IIT Chennai has developed an advanced guide robot to assist visitors to this museum. The robot has been designed with Artificial Intelligence technology.

▪ It will explain the special features of the museum to visitors in Hindi and English languages and will also answer visitors' questions.







# 7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## India and France have been re-elected as the president and co-president of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- The **International Solar Alliance**, in a global collaboration with the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, the Government of India, the Asian Development Bank, and the International Solar Energy Society, organised the third edition of the High-level Conference on New Technologies for Clean Energy Transition.
- India and France have been re-elected as the president and co-president of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, respectively, at the seventh ISA assembly held in New Delhi. During the inaugural day of the assembly,
- The conference's overarching goal is to translate dialogue into action. Deep-dive sessions focusing on new-age solar technologies, emerging storage technologies,
- Global solar capacity is set to skyrocket to between 5457 and 7203 GW by 2030
- **NEWS : On September 21, 2024, the Quad nations (Australia, India, Japan, and the United States) issued the Wilmington Declaration, which underscores the Quad's commitment to sustainable energy solutions, particularly focusing on high-efficiency cooling systems.**

## International Cooperation

- India-US bilateral cooperation on clean energy supply chains
- Global Cooling Pledge at COP28 with 63 countries committing to reduce cooling emissions

## India's Position & Challenges:

- India is among most climate-vulnerable nations
- Projected to have world's highest cooling demand by 2050 (1.14 billion ACs)
- Temperatures started exceeding 50°C in 2024
- 160-200 million Indians could face deadly heatwaves annually by 2030

## Policy Framework:

- **India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) targets:**
  - 20-25% reduction in cooling demand
  - 25-40% reduction in energy consumption
  - Shift to low-GWP refrigerants
  - Kigali Amendment ratification (2021)- commitment to reduce HFCs by 85% by 2047

## SRILANKA

- President Anura Kumara Dissanayake of Sri Lanka made significant promises to the Tamil community in Jaffna
- Return of state-grabbed Tamil lands

- Addressing drug issues affecting Tamil youth
- despite his party's historical opposition to Tamil rights
- This proves the importance of Indian diaspora in vote sharing

## FRANCE

- France is evaluating India's Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launch (MBRL) system as a potential replacement for their M270 rocket systems
  - A French military delegation will visit India soon to assess both the launcher and ammunition
  - **Armenia** is currently the first and only export customer for Pinaka
  - Indian Army has **4 Pinaka regiments in service**, with 6 more on order
  - Pinaka Mk1 has 38km range; extended versions under development aim to reach 75km, 120km, and eventually 300km
- The 7th bilateral Army exercise 'Shakti' was held in Meghalaya; next exercise will focus on high-altitude warfare

## Prime Minister Modi is set to receive Dominica's highest honor

- Prime Minister Modi is set to receive Dominica's highest honor, the 'Order of Dominica'. The main reasons for this are
  - Providing 70,000 AstraZeneca vaccines to Dominica during the COVID-19 pandemic (February 2021)
  - Continued support in healthcare, education, and information technology sectors
  - Infrastructure development to prevent impacts of climate change

### Award Ceremony Details:

- **Location:** Georgetown, Guyana
- **Presenter:** President of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Sylvanie Burton
- Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit has expressed gratitude to Modi for helping during difficult times
- Modi has accepted this honor and assured that India will continue to work with Dominica and Caribbean nations to address geopolitical challenges and climate change issues.



# 8. TAMILNADU AFFAIRS

## Infrastructure Projects Worth Rs.187 Crore at Ports

- Union Minister for Ports and Shipping Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated infrastructure projects worth **Rs.187 crore** at **Chennai and Ennore Kamarajar ports** in Chennai.

## Mudhalvar Padaippagam

### Purpose

- To provide an affordable study environment for students preparing for competitive exams
- To serve as low-cost office space for entrepreneurs starting new businesses
- Built under the **North Chennai Development Project** by the Tamil Nadu government at a cost of Rs.2.85 crore
- Offers "**Shared Workspace Services**"
- Functions as an educational center

## Vigilance Awareness Week - 2024

- With the theme "**Culture of Integrity for a Prosperous Nation**," Vigilance Awareness Week was observed from **October 28 to November 3**. This initiative focused on promoting transparency and integrity as foundations for national development.

## Tamil Nadu Artificial Intelligence Mission

- The Tamil Nadu government has approved the Tamil Nadu Artificial Intelligence Mission report and issued an order allocating Rs. 13.93 crore for implementing the mission.

- Under the Chief Minister's leadership, the Tamil Nadu AI Mission will be established to provide constructive guidance on opportunities for using artificial intelligence in education, employment, industry, research, and medical fields, and to clearly define the frameworks needed to guide the implementation of this new technology.
- According to the report, the main objectives include solving administrative problems through AI, providing AI-based solutions to project implementation agencies, establishing laws for government data sharing, and providing solutions for data security. It has been announced that this mission will be implemented through the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency.

## M. Selvarasan to receive Semmozhi Tamil Award

- Tamil scholar M. Selvarasan, formerly with the Tamil Department of the University of Madras, is set to receive the Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi Semmozhi Tamil Award for 2024 in Chennai. The award carries a cheque for ₹10 lakh, a citation plaque, and a bronze replica of the donor – late leader and former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi.

## Innuyir Kappom-Nammai Kakkum 48 scheme

- The State government will soon increase funding under the Innuyir Kappom-Nammai Kakkum 48 scheme from ₹1 lakh to ₹2 lakh. The scheme, which funds the treatment of

persons injured in road accidents for the first 48 hours, has covered three lakh beneficiaries so far,

- After meeting the 3,00,000th beneficiary at Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital (RGGGH) on Thursday, the Minister said that the government had spent ₹261.46 crore on the scheme that was launched in December 2021.

### **Scheme**

- **Hospitals:** The scheme covers both government and private hospitals that are empaneled in the program.
- **Treatment:** The scheme covers 81 designated treatment packages, with each costing up to ₹1 lakh.
- **Eligibility:** The scheme is open to everyone, regardless of income, including those with the Chief Minister's Medical Insurance Card.
- The scheme was launched in December 2021 to reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by road accidents. Let me translate the features of the Innuyir Kappom-Nammai Kakkum 48 scheme into Tamil.

### **Safe Trekking Program in 40 Locations of Tamil Nadu: Forest Department Implements in 14 Districts**

- Forest Department The initiative covers a total 40 locations across 14 districts and 18 forest divisions
- This program was launched on October 24
- 300 tribal youth trained as guides (including 15 women)

### **Medical Services for Hill Village People Without Transport Facilities: Tamil Nadu Government Orders Purchase of 25 Two-Wheeler Ambulances for Rs.1.60 Crores**

- Government has ordered to provide 25 two-wheeler emergency medical vehicles worth Rs.1.60 crores to 10 districts
- These will function as support vehicles to 108 emergency ambulances and provide emergency **medical services to hill area residents**
- Services will include prenatal care, safe maternity transport, and mother-child health examinations
- All vehicles will be fitted with GPS devices for monitoring
- This program will be integrated into the existing 1,353 emergency 108 ambulance services

### **M. Selvarasan to receive Semmozhi Tamil Award**

- Tamil scholar M. Selvarasan, formerly with the Tamil Department of the University of Madras, is set to receive the Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi Semmozhi Tamil Award for 2024 in Chennai. The award carries a cheque for Rs.10 lakh, a citation plaque, and a bronze replica of the donor – late leader and former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi.

### **Innuyir Kappom-Nammai Kakkum 48 scheme**

- The State government will soon increase funding under the Innuyir Kappom-Nammai Kakkum 48 scheme from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.2 lakh. The scheme, which funds the treatment of persons injured in road accidents for the first 48 hours, has covered three lakh beneficiaries so far,
- After meeting the 3,00,000th beneficiary at Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital (RGGGH) on Thursday, the Minister said that the government had spent Rs.261.46 crore on

the scheme that was launched in December 2021.

### **Scheme**

- **Hospitals:** The scheme covers both government and private hospitals that are empaneled in the program.
- **Treatment:** The scheme covers 81 designated treatment packages, with each costing up to Rs.1 lakh.
- **Eligibility:** The scheme is open to everyone, regardless of income, including those with the Chief Minister's Medical Insurance Card.
- The scheme was launched in December 2021 to reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by road accidents. Let me translate the features of the Innuyir Kappom-Nammai Kakkum 48 scheme into Tamil:

### **Safe Trekking Program in 40 Locations of Tamil Nadu:**

- **Forest Department Implements in 14 Districts**
- Forest Department has introduced safe trekking program in 40 locations across 14 districts
- This program was launched on October 24
- 300 tribal youth trained as guides (including 15 women)

### **Medical Services for Hill Village People Without Transport Facilities**

- **Tamil Nadu Government Orders Purchase of 25 Two-Wheeler Ambulances for Rs.1.60 Crores**
- Government has ordered to provide 25 two-wheeler emergency medical vehicles worth Rs.1.60 crores to 10 districts

- These will function as support vehicles to 108 emergency ambulances and provide emergency **medical services to hill area residents**

- Services will include prenatal care, safe maternity transport, and mother-child health examinations

- All vehicles will be fitted with GPS devices for monitoring

- This program will be integrated into the existing 1,353 emergency 108 ambulance services

### **NEWS : Archana Patnaik is new Chief Electoral Officer of Tamil nadu**

- She is from Odisha state and was appointed as an IAS officer in Tamil Nadu cadre in 2002.
- Archana Patnaik is the **first woman Chief Electoral Officer of Tamil Nadu.**

- The position of **Chief Electoral Officer was created in 1948.**

- Since then, only male IAS officers from North Indian states had been serving as Chief Electoral Officers in tamil nadu cadare

### **Commodore Suresh Takes Charge as Chief of Tri-Services Ordnance Division**

- Commodore J. Suresh took charge as the head of the Ministry of Defense's Tri-Services Ordnance Division headquartered in Chennai.

- J.Suresh has experience in efficiently managing key national security responsibilities including coordinating precise military operations and tri-services cargo handling operations.

## **Raja Raja Cholan Award Announcement**      **Ramnath Goenka Sahitya Samman Awards**

- Five people were awarded the Mammannar Raja Raja Award at the Sathaya festival held at Thanjavur Big Temple.
  - The 1039th Sathaya festival of Emperor Raja Raja Cholan was held at Thanjavur Big Temple. District Collector P. Priyanka Pankajam presided over the Raja Raja Award ceremony.
  - **The Mammannar Raja Raja Award was presented to:**
    - Professor Ko. Theivanayagam
    - Dr. C. Gunasekaran
    - Cinematographer Ravivarman
    - Educationalist Punitha Ganesan
    - Social philanthropist Guru. Subramania Sharma
- Venue**
- Bharat Mandapam Reader's Lounge, Pragati Maidan, Delhi
- Awards:**
- Presented to outstanding contributors in the literary field
  - Lifetime Achievement Award will also be presented
  - Distinguished guests from various fields including: Society, Literature, Arts, Language, Culture, Writing, Judiciary, Administration.
  - This is a prestigious award presented by The New Indian Express Group to recognize and honor significant achievements in the literary world.

