

VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

JULY 2025 - PART 1



An ISO 9001: 2015 Institution | Providing Excellence Since 2011

Head Office

Old No. 52, New No. 1, 9th Street,
F Block, 1st 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

TIRUNELVELI

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

THIRUCHENGODE

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

KOVAI

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

THANJAVUR

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

TRICHY

No.48, Karur Bypass Road,
Chatram Bus Stand (Opp.to
St. Joseph College)
Trichy - 620 002.
Ph: 9500278085

MADURAI

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

KOVILPATTI

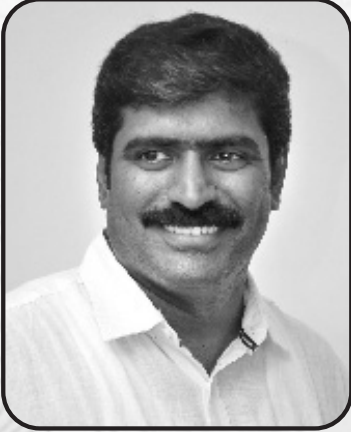
No. 15, Kathiresan Kovil Road
Behind Kaliamman Temple
Kovilpatti – 628 501.
**Ph: 90037 90335
81222 80685**

TIRUVANNAMALAI

MSTS Building
Vettavalam Main Road
Near Vijaya Mall
Tiruvannamalai - 606601.
Ph: 9884043666

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, 9th Street,
1st Avenue Main Road, Chinthamani,
Anna Nagar (E), Chennai - 102.

Phone : 044-2626 5326

98844 72636 | 98844 21666 | 98844 32666

E-mail : enquiry@vetriias.com

Web : www.vetriias.com

INDEX

SCIENCE

1. Nipah virus	01
2. DengiAll	01
3. Space Based Surveillance (SBS) Mission	01

GEOGRAPHY

1. Urban India	02
2. Jarawa tribe - Andaman and Nicobar Islands	02
3. India listed 683 new species, 433 taxa in 2024	02
4. World Bioproduct Day 2025	02
5. Great Hornbill	03
6. Genetic analysis of Assam rhino horn samples	03
7. Panna Tiger Reserve.....	03
8. Amarnath Yatra	03

INDIAN POLITY

1. Election Commission of India (ECI)	04
2. New criminal laws	04
3. Phone Tapping -Invasion of the Right to Privacy- Madras High Court.....	04
4. Question Hour and Zero Hour	04
5. Census 2027.....	05
6. Waqf	05
7. Indian diaspora	05
8. POCSO Act	05
9. National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025	06
10. National Commission for Minorities (NCM)	06
11. India's "First Digital Census"	06
12. National Population Register (NPR)	70

INDIAN ECONOMY

1. Industrial Production Index	08
2. World Bank Report - 'Poverty and Equality'	08
3. Wholesale and Retail Inflation	09

TAMIL NADU

1. Reservation for Differently - Abled in Local Government Bodies	10
2. UMIS Platform	10
3. Launch of Websites for Water Body Protection	10
4. Mobile PDS Shops	11
5. Nutrition Farming Mission	11
6. Mangrove Forests in Tamil Nadu	11
7. Ungaludan Stalin' initiative	11
8. Initiatives for the welfare of conservancy workers	12

9.	Transgenders under Pudhumai Penn Scheme	12
10.	“Magizhchi Muttram” program	13
11.	Paadham Kaappom Thittam	13
12.	State Planning Commission submits four reports to CM	13
13.	“Urban Growth and Thermal Stress: A Decadal Assessment of Built-Up Area and Climate Interactions in Tamil Nadu” Report	14
14.	Predictive model for estimating the risk of death among adults diagnosed with Tuberculosis (TB)	14
15.	Green Hydrogen Research Center	14
16.	Kaval Karangal Scheme	15
17.	Chief Minister Provides Rs. 2.15 Crores to Tamil Development Society.....	15
18.	Kalaignar Kanavu Illam Scheme	15
19.	Gingee Fort	16
20.	Coconut farmers deploy climate sensors to explore alternative crops	16
21.	T.N.’s Naan Mudhalvan scheme	16
22.	Tribal Eco-Cultural Village – A living museum on tribal culture	16
23.	Ungaludan Stalin programme	17
24.	Discovery of Ancient Ashram Inscriptions in Koogur	17

NATIONAL - NEWS

1.	DRDO Tests Indigenous Communication Systems	18
2.	Skin bank	18
3.	India’s first co-operative university	18
4.	Fourth foundation day celebrations of Ministry of Cooperation	18
5.	Plan to manufacture 15 Amrit Bharat trains at ICF factory within current financial year	19
6.	International Manuscript Heritage Conference	19
7.	Maratha fort systems get UNESCO heritage tag	19
8.	Godavari–Cauvery river interlinking project	20
9.	Indus Waters Treaty	20
10.	National Sample Survey (NSS)	20

NATIONAL SCHEMES

1.	National Overseas Scholarship Scheme	21
2.	Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme	21
3.	Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)	21
4.	Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme	21

REPORTS AND INDICES

1.	Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development Rashtriya Sarvekshen (PARAKH RS) Survey	22
2.	2nd Edition of the NER District SDG Index	22

3.	Comprehensive Update on Terrorist Financing Risks” report	22
4.	Global Gender Gap Index 2025	23
5.	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) released its 7th Frontiers report	23
COMMITTEES		
1.	One-man Committee	24
AWARDS AND HONOURS		
1.	K.M. Kader Mohideen receives ‘Thakasal Tamilar’ Award	24
IMPORTANT DAYS		
1.	National Doctor’s Day 2025	25
2.	19th National Statistics Day 2025	25
3.	World Rural Development Day 2025	25
4.	World Population Day – July 11	25
DEFENCE		
1.	INS Tamal	26
2.	INS Udayagiri	26
3.	Nistar	26
4.	Talisman Sabre 2025	26
SPORTS AND GAMES		
1.	National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025	27
2.	Digital India Program: Completes 10 Years	27
3.	Vetri Nichayam (Success Assured) Program	27
4.	Achievements of Naan Mudhalvan Program	27
5.	International Rapid Chess	28
6.	Wimbledon 2025- W	28
INTERNATIONAL		
1.	Pakistan Takes Leadership of UN Security Council	29
2.	India-Ghana Sign 4 Agreements	29
3.	BRICS	29
4.	WHO Launches Integrated Guidelines on Arboviral Diseases	29

SCIENCE

GENERAL SCIENCE

Nipah virus

- Nipah virus resurfaces in Kerala, two cases reported.
- Nipah virus (NiV) is a zoonotic virus that can be transmitted from animals to humans and can cause severe respiratory and neurological illnesses.
- The organism which causes Nipah Virus encephalitis is an RNA or Ribonucleic acid virus of the family Paramyxoviridae, genus Henipavirus, and is closely related to Hendra virus.
- The disease spreads through fruit bats or 'flying foxes,' of the genus Pteropus, who are natural reservoir hosts of the Nipah and Hendra viruses.
- There is no definitive treatment available for the virus.

LATEST INVENTIONS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DengiAll

- DengiAll - India's first indigenous tetravalent dengue vaccine.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Panacea Biotec Ltd. to initiate third phase trials.
- Tetravalent vaccine - effective against all four serotypes of the dengue virus (1 to 4).
- **Developer:** Panacea Biotec, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

- **Funding:** Primarily funded by ICMR, with partial support from Panacea Biotec.
- Dengue is a major public health concern in India, which ranks among the top 30 countries with the highest incidence of the disease.
- There is currently no antiviral treatment or licensed vaccine for dengue in India.
- In India, approximately 75-80% of infections are asymptomatic, yet these individuals can still transmit the infection through the bite of Aedes mosquitoes.

SPACE

Space Based Surveillance (SBS) Mission

- Union government has ordered the fast-tracking of the launch of 52 dedicated surveillance satellites under SBS - III Programme.
- SBS - III Programme will help in better land and maritime domain awareness for civilian and military applications.
- It will involve the launch of at least 52 satellites in low earth orbit and geostationary orbit for surveillance.
- 21 satellites will be built by ISRO and the remaining 31 by private companies.
- The SBS mission is being handled by the National Security Council Secretariat and Defence Space Agency under the Ministry of Defence.
- SBS 1 was launched in 2001, SBS 2 came in 2013.
- The SBS 3 mission will be supported by India's acquisition of 31 Predator drones from the US, joint construction of military satellites with France and anti-satellite missile capabilities.

GEOGRAPHY

SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY

Urban India

- India is projected to have 675 million urban residents by 2035 and 70 million more by 2045.
- Cities are not just population centres but economic engines driving growth, innovation, and jobs.
- Urban infrastructure (transport, housing, sanitation, waste, etc.) is critical to national productivity.
- India loses \$22 billion annually due to urban transport inefficiencies and poor infrastructure (ADB estimate).
- India's Initiatives for Promoting Growth and Sustainability in the Urban Sector.
 - Swachh Bharat Mission
 - Smart Cities Mission
 - National Urban Livelihood Mission
 - PM SVANidhi Scheme
 - Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)
 - Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)
 - Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment.

Jarawa tribe - Andaman and Nicobar Islands

- The Jarawas are one of the world's oldest surviving tribes and are mostly hunter-gatherers, living in nomadic bands of 40 to 50 individuals.
- The 2011 Census recorded 380 Jarawa individuals out of the 28,530 Scheduled Tribe individuals across Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- The communities counted under the ST population also included Andamanese, Nicobarese, Shompen, Onge, and Sentinelese.

- Except the Nicobarese, all communities have been classified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

India listed 683 new species, 433 taxa in 2024

- The maximum number of new discoveries of fauna in 2024 was recorded from Kerala with 101 species, followed by Karnataka - 82.
 - Tamil Nadu recorded 63 discoveries with 50 new species and 13 new records.
 - The details of new discoveries and new records were released by Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change.
 - In terms of plant discoveries, the highest number of flora discovered were from Kerala (58), followed by Maharashtra (45) and Uttarakhand (40).
 - The new plant discoveries for 2024 record 154 angiosperms, 4 pteridophytes, 15 bryophytes, 63 lichens, 156 fungi, 32 algae and 9 microbes.
 - The hotspot regions such as Western Ghats and North-Eastern regions have contributed 35% of total discoveries.
 - India has recorded and documented 56,177 species of plants – angiosperms, gymnosperms, pteridophytes, bryophytes, lichens, fungi, and algae etc.
 - The significant faunal discoveries for the year 2024 include two new genus and 37 species of reptiles and five new species of amphibians.
- ### World Bioproduct Day 2025
- The Department of Science & Technology (DST), along with BIRAC and iBRIC+, organized World Bioproduct Day 2025, focusing on Equity, Environment, and Economy to highlight the importance of inclusive public participation in biotechnology.
 - The event also reiterated the government's goal of achieving a USD 300 billion bioeconomy by 2030 under the BioE3 framework.

- Bioproducts are fuels, materials, and chemicals made from renewable biomass like crops, trees, algae, and agricultural waste.
- Bioproducts reduce reliance on fossil fuels, thereby addressing air pollution, deforestation, and biodiversity loss.

About BioE3 Policy

- The BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment), launched by the Department of Biotechnology in 2024 to promote high-performance biomanufacturing by integrating advanced biotechnological processes across key sectors.
- It aims to strengthen India's bioeconomy through sustainable practices, innovation, and employment generation.
- It supports India's broader goals of achieving a 'Net Zero' carbon economy and promoting sustainable growth through a circular bioeconomy.

Great Hornbill

- In a rare sighting, the Great Hornbill was spotted in Kannur's (Kerala) coastal region.
- Native to parts of South and Southeast Asia including India, Bhutan, Nepal, China, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Indonesia.
- In India, it is found in the Western Ghats, Eastern Himalayas, Northeast, and parts of Central India.
- It serves as the official State Bird of both Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh.
- The Hornbill festival celebrated in Nagaland is named after this, which is the most revered and admired bird for the Nagas.
- **IUCN Red List:** Vulnerable
- **CITES:** Appendix I
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972:** Schedule I

Genetic analysis of Assam rhino horn samples

- A specialised team has begun DNA analysis of 2,573 rhino horn samples in Assam.

- Verification and repackaging of samples done at Kaziranga (July 3–8).
- Samples sent to Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun for analysis.
- The WII's genetics laboratory is central to the RhoDIS (Rhino DNA Index System) India programme under the supervision of Samrat Mondol.
- This analysis aims to document the individual DNA profiles of the rhino horn and add them to the RhoDIS India DNA data library.
- **Kaziranga National Park (Assam)** – Largest population (~2,613 as of 2022).
- **IUCN Red List:** Vulnerable.

GEOGRAPHICAL LANDMARKS

Panna Tiger Reserve

- Vatsala', considered to be Asia's oldest elephant, died recently at the age of more than 100 years at the Panna Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
- Panna Tiger Reserve is located in the Vindhyan mountain range in the northern part of Madhya Pradesh.
- It is the only tiger reserve in the entire Bundhelkhand region.
- It was declared a Project Tiger Reserve by the Government of India in 1994.
- The Ken River flows from south to north through the reserve.

Amarnath Yatra

- The 38-day annual Amarnath pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine in South Kashmir will commence on 3rd July, 2025, and conclude on 9th August, 2025 (Raksha Bandhan).
- The pilgrimage will begin simultaneously from both routes – Pahalgam track (Anantnag district) and Baltal (Ganderbal district).
- Amarnath Peak, a part of the Himalayas is a mountain with a peak elevation of 5,186 meters, in the Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir, in the vicinity of Sonamarg.

INDIAN POLITY

Election Commission of India (ECI)

- During the special revision of voter lists in Bihar, the Election Commission (EC) announced that people born after 1987 do not need to show their parents' birth proof—if their parents' names are already on the 2003 voter list.

About Election Commission of India (ECI)

- The Election Commission of India is a permanent and independent constitutional authority, established under Article 324 of the Indian Constitution.
- ECI is responsible for conducting elections to the Parliament, state legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice President of India.
- The President of India appoints the Chief Election Commissioner and the two Election Commissioners. They serve for a term not exceeding six years or until the age of 65, whichever is earlier.
- Chief Election Commissioner of India - Gyanesh Kumar
- Chief Electoral Officer of Tamil Nadu - Tmt. Archana Patnaik (First Female)

New criminal laws

- One year after the new criminal laws replaced the old colonial-era laws in Tamil Nadu, the State government has sent its first list of suggested changes and is now preparing more such changes.
- Three new criminal laws Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA) are set to take effect from

1st July 2024, replacing the colonial-era Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and Indian Evidence Act.

Phone Tapping -Invasion of the Right to Privacy- Madras High Court

- High Court refused to expand the scope of Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act of 1885, and permit the Central and State governments to resort to phone tapping as a covert measure for detection of crimes.
- As per Section 5(2), the Centre or the State governments could authorise phone tapping only in case of two contingencies:
 - On the occurrence of any public emergency
 - In the interest of public safety.
- The court emphasized that these are strict thresholds, and its role is to verify if these are met.
- Phone tapping is an invasion of the right to privacy, a part of the fundamental right to life and personal liberty (Article 21) of the Constitution.

Question Hour and Zero Hour

- Mr. Birla proposed that municipal bodies incorporate procedures such as Question Hour and Zero Hour to allow elected representatives to raise issues concerning their constituencies.

Question Hour

- It is a one-hour time period provided to MPs to ask questions to the minister and hold them accountable for the functioning of their ministries.
- The questions can also be asked to the private members (MPs who are not ministers)

Zero Hour

- Zero hour commences directly after the question hour and extends until the

commencement of the day's agenda, signifying the interval between the two.

- Under this, Members of Parliament (MPs) can raise matters without any prior notice.
- Zero Hour is an Indian parliamentary innovation. The phrase is not mentioned in the rules of procedure.

Census 2027

- The first phase House Listing Operations and Housing Schedule (HLO) expected to begin on April 1, 2026.
- For Census 2021, which will now be known as Census 2027, as many as 31 questions were notified for the first phase.
- This will be the first digital Census and also the first to enumerate caste in Independent India.
- Caste will be counted in the second and the main phase: the Population Census which will be conducted in February 2027.

Waqf

- The Central Government has announced the Integrated Waqf Administration (IWA) Governance, Efficiency and Development Rules 2025.
- A Waqf is a property donated by Muslims for a specific religious, charitable, or private purpose.
- Waqf properties are governed by the Waqf Act, of 1995, which replaced the Central Waqf Act, of 1954.
- Waqf Amendment Act, 2025, renamed as the UMEED Act, aims to address several challenges in the administration and management of Waqf properties.
- Central Waqf Council (CWC): A statutory body established in 1964, oversees and advises state-level Waqf Boards across India.

- Waqf Boards act as custodians of Waqf properties in their respective states.

Indian diaspora

- Thirty-five million members of the Indian diaspora spread across the world.
- 6th generation Indian-origin citizens of Trinidad and Tobago will receive OCI cards.
- Trinidad and Tobago for being the first country in the Caribbean to adopt India's UPI (Unified Payments Interface) system.

About OCI Cardholders

- The OCI Scheme was introduced by amending the Citizenship Act, 1955 in 2005.
- Eligibility: Any foreign national, except a national of Pakistan or Bangladesh,
- OCI is not to be misconstrued as 'dual citizenship'. OCI does not confer political rights to vote.
- Not eligible to hold Indian constitutional posts: President (Article 58); for election of Vice-President (Article 66); Judge of the Supreme Court (Article 124) and High Court (Article 217).

POCSO Act

- It is the first comprehensive law in India dealing specifically with the sexual abuse of children, enacted in 2012.
- It is administered by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD).
- The Act was designed to protect children aged less than 18 from sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography offences and provide for the establishment of Special Courts for the trial of such offences and related matters and incidents.
- The Act was amended for the first time in 2019 to enhance the punishments for specific

offences in order to deter abusers and ensure a dignified childhood.

- This amendment enhanced the punishment to include the death penalty for aggravated penetrative sexual assault of the child.

National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025

About

- The new policy supersedes the existing National Sports Policy, 2001
- It lays out a visionary and strategic roadmap to establish India as a global sporting powerhouse and a strong contender for excellence at international sporting events, including the 2036 Olympic Games.

Key Features of NSP 2025

- The policy is anchored on five key pillars.
- Excellence on the Global Stage: To build India as a global leader in sports by nurturing talent and improving sports infrastructure.
- Grassroots Development: Establish a robust system for identifying and nurturing young talent.
- Sports Infrastructure: Develop world-class sports facilities in rural and urban areas.
- Sports Science & Technology: Integrate sports science, medicine, and technology to enhance athlete performance.
- Capacity Building of Sports Federations: Improve governance and operational capabilities of National Sports Federation (NSF).

National Commission for Minorities (NCM)

- Five members of the commission, including the Chairperson, have retired since December 2024, with no new appointments made so far.

▪ The NCM, which works under the Ministry of Minority Affairs and has quasi-judicial powers, should have seven members, including the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson.

▪ The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) is a statutory body established in India under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.

▪ Initially, five religious communities, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Zoroastrians (Parsis), were notified as minority communities by the Union Government.

▪ Further, with the 2014 notification, Jains were also notified as another minority community.

▪ As per the 2011 Census, The Six religious minority communities constitute around 20% of the country's population

▪ The delayed appointments at the NCM have impacted the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI), a quasi-judicial body that aims to safeguard the educational rights of minorities.

▪ The NCMEI is also an advisory body to the Union government on minority educational institutions.

▪ The NCMEI, which works under the Ministry of Education, should have three members, and a Chairperson of at least the rank of a retired judge from a High Court.

India's "First Digital Census"

▪ According to the Registrar-General of India (RGI) and Census Commissioner, Data from the 2027 Census will be "available early" as the exercise will be conducted digitally.

▪ The country's "first digital Census" will be conducted in two phases, and "for the first time, technology will be used to collect data and send it electronically to the central server".

- Census 2027 would offer the option of self-enumeration “through a dedicated web portal.
 - Data will be collected using Mobile Apps (both Android & iOS) in English, Hindi, and regional languages.
 - According to the constitutional mandate, the first Census after 2026 can be used as the basis to redraw Lok Sabha constituencies. The next general election is due in 2029.
 - The population census along with caste-wise enumeration will be conducted on October 1, 2026, in the snow-covered regions of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand states, Ladakh Union Territory, and Jammu-Kashmir Union Territory.
- "Final Administrative Boundary Demarcation"**
- The Registrar General of India (RGI) has planned that if changes are to be made to the administrative boundaries of districts, sub-districts, taluks, and police stations, they should be completed before December 31.
- National Population Register (NPR)**
- The National Population Register (NPR) is a database containing details of all usual residents in India.
 - The NPR is the first step towards the creation of a National Register of Citizens.
 - A “usual resident” is defined as an individual who has been residing in an area for six months or more or someone who intends to reside in that area for the next six months.
 - It is mandatory for all “usual residents” to register under the NPR.
 - The NPR was introduced as part of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.
 - The NPR was first created in 2010 and updated in 2015-16.
 - The NPR has details of household-wise database of 119 crore usual residents of the country.
 - It is maintained by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
 - NPR data can be shared with government agencies and States, unlike the Census data.

INDIAN ECONOMY

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX

- The Industrial Production Index (IIP) was recorded at 12 percent in May.
- This is a decrease compared to April when the country's IIP was 2.6 percent.
- The April IIP, which was initially announced at 27 percent, was later revised to 2.5 percent.

About Industrial Production Index

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is a key statistical tool used to measure the short-term changes in the volume of production in Indian industries.
- The IIP is published by the Central Statistics Office(CSO), which is part of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- Eight Core Industries (Weight in IIP: 40.27%) (2025 data)
 - Listed in decreasing order of weightage:
 - Refinery Products
 - Electricity
 - Steel
 - Coal
 - Crude Oil
 - Natural Gas
 - Cement
 - Fertilisers

World Bank Report - 'Poverty and Equality'

- According to a World Bank report, Inequality in India has come down significantly between

2011-12 and 2022-23, making it the fourth-most equal country globally.

- This is in addition to a sharp decrease in extreme poverty, which has dropped from 16.2% in 2011-12 to 2.3% in 2022-23.
- India's Gini Index stands at 25.5 in 2022-23 from 28.8 in 2011-12, making it the fourth most equal country in the world, after the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Belarus.
- The report also pointed to various government initiatives that have helped drive this transformation.
 - The PM Jan Dhan Yojana has widened financial inclusion with over 55 crore bank accounts.
 - Aadhaar, the national digital ID system, now covers more than 142 crore people, making welfare delivery through Direct Benefit Transfers more efficient and saving Rs 3.48 lakh crore by March 2023.
 - Schemes like Ayushman Bharat, which offers Rs 5 lakh health cover and has issued over 41 crore cards, has also improved healthcare equity.
 - Schemes like Stand-Up India support SC/ST and women entrepreneurs, while the PM Vishwakarma Yojana helps artisans with loans and training.
 - The PMGKAY(Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana) food security programme has supported more than 80 crore people

About Gini Index

- The Gini Index helps in understanding how equally income, wealth or consumption is distributed across households or individuals in a country.

- It ranges in value from zero (Perfect inequality) to 100 (Maximum inequality).
- The higher the Gini Index, the more unequal a country is.

Wholesale and Retail Inflation

- Inflation continued to cool in June with retail inflation coming in at a 77-month low of 2.1% and wholesale inflation registering a contraction after 20 months.

Wholesale Inflation

- It measures the changes in the prices of goods sold and traded in bulk by wholesale businesses to other businesses.
- Published by the Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- It is the most widely used inflation indicator in India.
- The base year of All-India WPI has been revised from 2004-05 to 2011-12 in 2017.

Retail Inflation

- Retail inflation, also known as Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation, tracks the change in retail prices of goods and services which households purchase for their daily consumption

Consumer Price Index

- It measures price changes from the perspective of a retail buyer. It is released by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- Four types of CPI are as follows:
 - CPI for Industrial Workers (IW).
 - CPI for Agricultural Labourer (AL).
 - CPI for Rural Labourer (RL).
 - CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined).
- Of these, the first three are compiled by the Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Fourth is compiled by the NSO in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- Base Year for CPI is 2012.
- Recently, the Ministry of Labour and Employment released the new series of Consumer Price Index for Industrial Worker (CPI-IW) with base year 2016.
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) uses CPI data to control inflation. In April 2014, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had adopted the CPI as its key measure of inflation.

TAMIL NADU

RESERVATION FOR DIFFERENTLY - ABLED IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES

- According to the Tamil Nadu Local Government Amendment Act, the Tamil Nadu government has called for application forms for the nomination of differently-abled persons as members to municipal corporations, municipalities, and town panchayats.
- Through this, 12,000 differently-abled individuals will get opportunities in local government bodies.
- In all local government bodies in Tamil Nadu - including village panchayats, panchayat unions, town panchayats, municipalities, and municipal corporations - differently-abled persons are being made members through nomination rather than directly contesting elections.
- Amendments have been made to the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1994 and the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act 1998. 650 differently-abled persons will be appointed in urban local bodies, 12,913 differently-abled persons in village panchayats, 388 differently-abled persons in panchayat unions, and 37 differently-abled persons in district panchayats.

UMIS Platform

- The Information Technology Minister has announced that 9.40 lakh students have benefited from the Tamil Pudhalvan and Pudhumai Penn schemes through the University Management Information System (UMIS) platform.
- The University Management Information System (UMIS) operates by integrating data

from all higher education institutions and students in Tamil Nadu.

- Similar to the Education Management Information System (EMIS), this platform is designed as a single-window system and carries out functions including automating processes and helping to conduct analyses required for the higher education sector.

About Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister on August 9, 2024, launched the Tamil Pudhalvan scheme in Coimbatore.
- Under this, boys of the state government schools and government aided schools who join colleges will get ₹1,000 per month.
- It is on the lines of Pudmaipen Scheme for girl students.

About Pudhumai Penn Scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister on September 5, 2022, launched the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance scheme titled 'Pudhumai Penn' at a function in Chennai, in the presence of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
- Under Pudhumai Penn scheme, girl students, who studied from Class VI to Class XII in state government schools and government aided schools, would be paid a monthly assistance of ₹1,000 till they complete their graduation or diploma or ITI courses.

Launch of Websites for Water Body Protection

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched websites for water body protection and water resource information management system based on satellite data and AI technology to identify encroachments in water bodies.
- Rs. 30 crores was allocated to develop the website for Tamil Nadu Water Resources Information Management System (TNWRIMS).

- To create this website, all data has been collected from various stakeholders who use water.
- This system, which provides real-time information, contains 11 modules including water supply, demand, quality, users, village water income-expenditure, drought and drinking water shortage status, water flow forecasting, reservoir operation improvement, groundwater information, inter-basin water transfer, and water conservation programs.
- This system has been integrated with the Tamil Nadu Water Resources Department

Mobile PDS Shops

- The Tamil Nadu State government launched a pilot project to deliver essential commodities directly to senior citizens and persons with disabilities (PwDs) in Chennai.
- This initiative aims to improve access to the public distribution system (PDS) for those who may struggle to visit traditional fair price shops
- The pilot project spans multiple districts, including Cuddalore, Tirunelveli, and Dindigul.

Nutrition Farming Mission

- Tamil Nadu government's nutrition farming mission was launched in Trichy and the delta districts on July 4, 2025.
- Farmers would receive farm inputs such as pulse seeds, vegetable seeds and fruit plants from the agriculture and horticulture departments as part of the mission to cultivate nutritious crops.
- Objective of the Mission: To encourage the cultivation and production of nutritious pulses, vegetables and fruits and also boost the income of farmers in the state.
- The government is encouraging the farmers to utilize the nutrition farming initiative as a

form of alternative farming to crops such as paddy, cotton, groundnut and sugarcane.

- Under the mission, the agriculture department is distributing five varieties of pulse seeds, while the horticulture department is providing five varieties of vegetable seeds and six varieties of fruit seedlings.
- In Trichy district, 2,000 farmers would receive pulse seeds, while 54,500 would receive vegetable seeds, and 32,900 would receive fruit seedlings in a total of 14 blocks under a one-hundred percent subsidy.
- The departments have fixed annual targets for the distribution of farm inputs.

Mangrove Forests in Tamil Nadu

- "Through the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, Tamil Nadu has planted 16 lakh mangrove plants in just the past 3 years and restored 707 hectares of mangrove area.
- Tamil Nadu has achieved a record by creating new mangrove forests covering 1,350 hectares in Tiruvarur district alone.

About Tamil Nadu Mission

- Tamil Nadu launched the Green Tamil Nadu Mission in September 2022, aiming to increase the state's green cover from 23.7% to 33% over the next ten years.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched the mission at Arignar Anna Zoological Park in Vandalur.

Ungaludan Stalin' initiative

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister is set to launch the first camp of the 'Ungaludan Stalin' (Stalin with You) initiative on July 15 at the Chidambaram Municipality in Cuddalore district.
- Under this initiative, 10,000 special camps will be organised across both rural and urban areas in all districts from July 15 to November.
- Medical camps will also be conducted at all these camps to provide health services.

- The initiative aims at directly addressing public grievances and brings government services and welfare schemes directly to people's neighbourhoods.
- Applications received at these camps will be processed within 45 days.
- Chief Minister Stalin has announced that hostels for poor students in schools and colleges operating throughout Tamil Nadu will henceforth be called 'Social Justice Hostels (Samuga Neethi viduthigal).'

Initiatives for the welfare of conservancy workers

- Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme - Through the scheme 100 sewage suction vehicles were distributed at a subsidised cost.
- Through the Sanitary Workers Welfare Board, the State government has provided 1,000 houses at a 90% subsidised cost to sanitation workers in Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Board tenements.
- The Deputy Chief Minister launched the official website of the Tamil Nadu Sanitary Workers Welfare Board and released hygiene related books for students from Classes 1 to 10 of the Greater Chennai Corporation schools.

About Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme (AABCS)

- The scheme "Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme (AABCS)" was launched by the Department of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of Tamil Nadu.
- In order to promote the economic development of SC/ST entrepreneurs, this scheme has been launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu.
- The new scheme will provide a 35% capital subsidy and offer a 6% interest subvention for loans to procure machinery and equipment.

Transgenders under Pudhumai Penn Scheme

- Transgenders will also receive ₹ 1000 per month under Pudhumai Penn Scheme

About Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister on August 9, 2024, launched the Tamil Pudhalvan scheme in Coimbatore.
- Under this, boys of the state government schools and government aided schools who join colleges will get ₹1,000 per month.
- It is on the lines of Pudmaipen Scheme for girl students.

About Pudhumai Penn Scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister on September 5, 2022, launched the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance scheme titled 'Pudhumai Penn' at a function in Chennai, in the presence of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
- Under Pudhumai Penn scheme, girl students, who studied from Class VI to Class XII in state government schools and government aided schools, would be paid a monthly assistance of ₹1,000 till they complete their graduation or diploma or ITI courses.
- Innuyir Kaappom - Nam Kakkum 48 Program (Life Protection - Our Protection 48 Program)
- Health Minister Ma. Subramanian has announced that the central government will implement the Innuyir Kaappom Nam Kakkum 48 program throughout India.
- The Chief Minister launched this program on December 18, 2021.
- The scheme ensures the government pays for the medical bills of all accident victims in enlisted hospitals for treatment within 48 hours of the accident.
- All medical care services will be covered under the scheme. The free treatment will be

provided in collaboration with the Department of Highways and Department of Transport.

"Magizhchi Muttram" program to be excellently implemented in government schools this year

- The School Education Department has ordered that the "Magizhchi Muttram" (Joy Courtyard) program should be excellently implemented in government schools this year.
- The "Magizhchi Muttram" student group was introduced in government schools during the 2024-25 academic year. This program is implemented with the aim of developing students' leadership qualities.
- In this program, students are divided into 5 groups named Kurinji, Mullai, Marutham, Neithal, and Palai, with responsible teachers appointed for each group.
- Each group should have both male and female students as group leaders.

Paadham Kaappom Thittam

- The Tamil Nadu Public Health Department has announced that artificial limbs are being provided to those who have lost their legs due to diabetes under the Paadham Kaappom Thittam.
- 10% of India's population is affected by diabetes. In Tamil Nadu, this rate is 12%.

About Paadham Kaappom Thittam

- The Department of Public Welfare has introduced the 'Foot Protection Program' in 2023, with the aim of preventing leg loss due to diabetes.
- Under this program, measures are being taken including awareness about foot protection, prevention of foot ulcers, foot surgery, and provision of artificial legs.
- So far, 21.74 lakh people have been examined at foot care centers established across Tamil Nadu, and 19,500 people have been diagnosed with complications and provided treatment.

- Foot examinations are being conducted across Tamil Nadu through healthcare workers who reach out to the people. For those requiring surgery, procedures are performed at government hospitals.

- If legs are lost due to foot ulcers, artificial limbs can be obtained under the Chief Minister's Insurance Scheme.

- Those who have undergone surgery at private hospitals can also apply to the government for artificial legs with proper medical documentation.

State Planning Commission submits four reports to CM

- The State Planning Commission submitted four detailed reports on various subjects to Chief Minister at the Secretariat in Chennai.

- One of the reports called for profiling and data organisation of all mines in Tamil Nadu urgently to facilitate large-scale land-use planning.

- The report 'Mapping Mines in Tamil Nadu – Assessing their Restoration Potential' said the process could begin with mines exceeding a certain size threshold.

- The report 'Child Nutrition – Key Challenges and Strategies' recommended emphasis on improving linear growth among children to reduce stunting, with a focus on early-life interventions.

- The report 'Urban Growth and Thermal Stress: A Decadal Assessment of Built-up Area and Climate Interactions in Tamil Nadu' called for a comprehensive heat mitigation strategy for the State.

- The 'Framework for Nature-based Solutions for Enhanced Urban Resilience in Tier 2 Cities of Tamil Nadu – Framework Report' suggested incorporating nature-based solutions into the urban planning systems of Tier 2 cities to mitigate climate risks that arise

as the cities undergo accelerated economic and demographic expansion.

“Urban Growth and Thermal Stress: A Decadal Assessment of Built-Up Area and Climate Interactions in Tamil Nadu” Report

- Tamil Nadu released the state’s first-ever block-level spatial analysis of heat exposure.
- The study conducted by the Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board and State Planning Commission.
- The study builds on the Tamil Nadu Heat Mitigation Strategy (2024), reveals that rising temperatures, driven by urban sprawl, deforestation, and changing land use, are putting people, ecosystems, and infrastructure at increasing risk.
- It integrates three decades of data, using satellite imagery, elevation models, and climate reanalysis to present, possibly for the first time, a block-level understanding of heat exposure across the State.
- Tamil Nadu could experience annual air temperature increases of 0.9°C to 2.7°C by 2050.
- Blocks such as Sriperumbudur, Poonamallee, and Kundrathur – peri-urban zones with little built-up area in 1985 – have rapidly urbanised and now record high heat intensities.
- Coastal districts, already vulnerable to sea-level rise and cyclonic activity, are doubly exposed to extreme heat, making integrated adaptation planning essential.
- A separate report titled ‘Framework for Nature-based Solution(NbS) for enhancing Urban Resilience in Tier 2 cities also by the state planning commission, highlights the potential of NbS to reduce disaster risks, improve urban liveability and restore ecosystem services.

Predictive model for estimating the risk of death among adults diagnosed with Tuberculosis (TB)

- Tamil Nadu has become the first state of India to use a predictive model for estimating the risk of death among adults diagnosed with Tuberculosis (TB).
- This model is integrated with the state’s existing TB SeWA application, which assists healthcare workers in triaging patients immediately at diagnosis.
- The predictive model was developed by the Indian Council of Medical Research’s National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE).
- It was launched recently and incorporated into Tamil Nadu’s TB SeWA (Severe TB Web Application).
- TB SeWA has been operational since 2022 under the Tamil Nadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam (TN-KET), a differentiated care model focusing on early identification of severe TB cases.
- Data from the past three years show that 10-15% of adult TB patients in Tamil Nadu are severely ill at diagnosis.
- The average time from diagnosis to admission for these patients is one day, but about 25% still face delays of up to six days.

Green Hydrogen Research Center

- Hyundai Motor Company, in collaboration with IIT Chennai, has unveiled the model design for a green hydrogen research center to be established in Chennai at a cost of ₹180 crores, as announced by the Industries Minister.
- The green hydrogen research center will be established at IIT Chennai’s Discovery satellite campus in Taiyur, spanning 65,000 square feet at a cost of ₹crores.

- Hydrogen fuel can be produced from waste materials.
- Agricultural waste products will also be utilized for hydrogen production.
- The first phase of testing is planned to be conducted within the next 2 years.
- Pollution will be reduced during hydrogen fuel production.
- This will serve as an encouragement for efforts to achieve net-zero carbon emissions in the country by 2070.
- The Tamil Development Society was established in 1946 by T.K. Avinashilingam Chettiar, who was then the Education Minister of Madras Province, with the primary objective of developing Tamil in all fields of knowledge.
- Subsequently, he announced the Encyclopedia Project, which was the noble goal of this organization, on Independence Day, August 15, 1947.
- A committee of scholars was formed under the leadership of A. Lakshmanaswamy to create the encyclopedia.

Kaval Karangal Scheme

- Since its inception in 2021, the “**Kaaval Karangal**” unit has rescued 8,498 individuals.
- **Launch Date:** April 21, 2021.
- **Ministry or Nodal Agency:** Chennai Metropolitan Police.
- The aim of the Kaval Karangal Scheme is to enhance public safety by rescuing and providing necessary assistance to vulnerable groups, specifically elderly people, women, children, and mentally ill individuals who are found wandering on the streets.
- This scheme ensures that these individuals receive the care and support they need, preventing them from facing potential dangers or exploitation.
- “Kaaval Karangal” operates round the clock through its helpline (94447 17100) to rescue abandoned, homeless, and missing individuals, with the support of NGOs, shelter homes, and hospitals.
- Professors M. Varadarajan, R.P. Sethu Pillai, and others were members of this committee.
- So far, 60 books and encyclopedia CDs have been published through the Tamil Development Society.
- It was announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly last April that Rs. 2 crores would be provided as aid to help the Tamil Development Society undertake projects to integrate Tamil with Artificial Intelligence and continue its activities without interruption.

Kalaigñar Kanavu Illam Scheme

- The Kalaigñar Kanavu Illam, a flagship rural housing scheme for the poor, is set to reach a major milestone with the completion of 1 lakh houses in the coming weeks.
- As of now, 81,811 houses have been completed.
- Launched in 2024-25, the scheme envisages the construction of one lakh houses annually.
- The main objective of the scheme is to make Tamil Nadu hut free by the end on 2030.
- However, the scheme is not new and was initially launched in 2010 under the name 'Kalaigñar Veedu Vazhangum Thittam'.
- The construction of houses under the scheme will be integrated with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee and Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin.

Chief Minister Provides Rs. 2.15 Crores to Tamil Development Society

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister presented a cheque for Rs. 2.15 crores to M. Rajendran, Chairman of the Tamil Development Society, to ensure the organization's activities continue without interruption.

Gingee Fort

- Gingee Fort has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- It is part of the Maratha Military Landscapes which includes 12 sites, with Gingee being the only one outside Maharashtra.
- Known as the “Troy of the East” for its strong fortifications and strategic importance.
- The nomination was submitted for the 2024–25 cycle.
- Located on three hillocks: Rajagiri, Krishnagiri, and Chandragiri.
- Originally built by Ananta Kon of the Konar Dynasty in 1200 CE.
- Fortified further by his successor in 1240 CE, naming the northern hill Krishnagiri.
- Spanning from the 17th to 19th centuries CE, this extraordinary network of forts demonstrates the strategic military vision and architectural ingenuity of the Maratha Empire.
- It is associated with good governance, military strength, cultural pride, and emphasis on social welfare.
- It becoming India’s 44th property to receive this recognition.
- Underwent further construction during the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Controlled by several powers over centuries:
 - Vijayanagara Nayaks
 - Marathas
 - Mughals
 - Nawabs
 - French
 - British
- Architectural & Cultural Features: Stepped well, Kalyana Mahal, Durbar hall, Cannon, Clock tower, Armoury, Elephant tank, Stable, Granary, Gymnasium, Venkataramana Temple, Sadathtulla Mosque
- Had two separate water supply systems (Nayaks and Nawab periods) enabling water to reach the topmost points of the fort.

Coconut farmers deploy climate sensors to explore alternative crops

- Coconut farmers in Pollachi region, Coimbatore district, have deployed real-time climate monitoring systems.
- This is the first-of-its-kind initiative in Tamil Nadu aimed at guiding future cropping decisions due to the threat of root wilt disease.
- The root wilt disease is severely affecting coconut cultivation.
- The initiative is aimed at generating consistent weather data to explore alternatives to coconut cultivation.
- The system, developed by Bengaluru-based Phytec, uses low-cost, solar-powered, sub-gigahertz sensors placed at one-kilometre intervals.
- The system records key environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity, rainfall, and solar radiation.

T.N.’s Naan Mudhalvan scheme

- VinFast has recruited 200 polytechnic students in Thoothukudi, trained under the Naan Mudhalvan scheme’s skill development programme.
- The Tamil Nadu government introduced the Naan Mudhalvan programme in March 2022.
- It is a dedicated initiative to provide effective and comprehensive guidance to youth on career development and boost employability.
- The Tamil Nadu government further launched the Naan Mudhalvan Upskilling Platform to develop skills and provide dynamic information to college students on various courses and industry-specific skills.
- This programme assists Tamil Nadu students in getting training in their preferred field of interest.
- Department: Department of Higher Education.

Tribal Eco-Cultural Village – A living museum on tribal culture

- **Location:** Karachikorai, near Bhavanisagar, Erode district, Tamil Nadu.

Objectives:

- To educate tourists on wildlife-compatible tribal livelihoods.
- Preserve tribal culture and traditions.
- Economically empower tribal communities by:
 - Creating markets for tribal artefacts.
 - Promoting ethnic cuisine.
- Offering employment to artisans through performances of traditional dance and music.
- To economically empower tribal communities by creating a market for tribal artefacts.
- It was also intended to serve as a value-based eco-tourism destination for tourists from Coimbatore, Erode, Tiruppur, and surrounding regions.
- Foundation lay: December 8, 2018.
- Funded by: State Innovation Fund (2018-19) with an allocation of Predictive model ₹7 crore.
- Developed by: Forest department.
- Planned to be completed by December 2019.
- Project Features (Planned): Model tribal houses, Tribal musical instruments, Traditional attire and antiques, Stone and wooden crafts, Sangam literature studio, Outdoor interpretation centre, Ponds and other natural features

Ungaludan Stalin programme

- Chief Minister is set to launch the Ungaludan Stalin programme during an official event in Chidambaram in Cuddalore district.
- 43 services from 13 departments would be offered in urban areas and 46 from 15 departments would be offered in rural areas under the programme.
- Mudhalvarin Mugavari programme was launched in 2021, Over 1.05 crore petitions had been received, and of these, 1.01 crore had been disposed of, as of June 30 this year.
- Under the Makkaludan Mudhalvar programme, launched in 2023, 9.05 lakh pleas were received in urban areas and 12.81 lakh were received in rural areas.

- Issues raised in about 95% of the petitions had been resolved
- Of the 10,000 Ungaludan Stalin camps, over 3,000 will be organised in urban areas and over 6,000 in rural areas.

Discovery of Ancient Ashram Inscriptions in Koogur

- 700-year-old ashram inscriptions have been discovered in Koogur, Pudukkottai district.
- Two ashram inscriptions (13th century script) revealing ancient administrative rights and one fragment inscription (14th century script style) which gives information about 'Thirunavasambanda Pillai's ashram" in the Siva Veerai kingdom were discovered.
- The third fragment inscription (15th Century), though lacking detailed information, clearly shows the word "Mullai.
- In Kunrandarkoyil, regions were divided based on hills as the foundation. In that manner, the area south of the hill is called Thenmalai Nadu. The inscription reveals that this was also called Thenkarai Nadu.
- In the Killanur area, shells of soft-bodied animals of the Kilinji type can still be seen in abundance. In that context, this inscription provides evidence that this village was called Kilinjalur in the 13th century based on the ancient symbols found here.
- Fewer than 100 ashram inscriptions have been recorded across Tamil Nadu.
- Among these, the majority of inscriptions have been recorded in Pudukkottai district.
- This inscription shares information about how the Koogur area, which was an ashram belonging to Kilinjalur Killanur Varangadhikar of Vadapanangkattu Nadu, was reclaimed by Thennudayal (also known as Thenkarai Nattu Thenmalai Nadu Velan) who was originally from Kumaramangalam.

NATIONAL - NEWS

DRDO Tests Indigenous Communication Systems

- The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted field trials of two advanced communication systems.
- The Defence Electronics Application Laboratory (DEAL) in Dehradun executed these trials in Joshimath, Uttarakhand. This initiative signifies a strong commitment to indigenous technologies that boost national security.
- The two systems tested are the Software Defined Radio (SDR) Manpack and the Compact Transhorizon Communication System (CTCS).
- Both systems are designed to improve communication capabilities in challenging environments

Skin bank

- The first skin bank in Kerala is ready at the Government Medical College in Thiruvananthapuram.
- A skin bank is a facility where skin is taken from an eligible donor, and processed, and stored under appropriate temperature for up to five years.
- Skin from a deceased person can be donated within six hours after death.
- Anyone can donate skin, irrespective of sex and blood group. The donor's minimum age should be 18 years.
- In India, Indian Army's Skin Bank was launched to help treat severe skin burn injuries

and other skin-related conditions for service personnel and their families.

- The first-of-its-kind facility established in the Armed Forces Medical Services is staffed with trained medical professionals, including plastic surgeons, tissue engineers, and specialised technicians.
- India's first skin bank was established in Mumbai at the Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital in 1978.
- In August 2016, the first skin bank under the government in Tamil Nadu was opened at the Government Stanley Hospital in Chennai.

India's first co-operative university

- Union Minister of Cooperation and Home Affairs laid the foundation stone for India's first national cooperative university.
- The university will offer specialised courses in cooperative management, finance, law, and rural development.
- The university has been named after Tribhuvandas Kishibhai Patel, a pioneer of the cooperative movement in India and a key figure behind the foundation of Amul.
- The cooperative movement that began in 1946 under Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's guidance has now grown into a ₹80,000 crore enterprise involving 36 lakh women.

Fourth foundation day celebrations of Ministry of Cooperation

- Cooperatives Minister introduces five-point road map for cooperative growth on the fourth foundation day celebrations of Ministry of Cooperatives.
- Cooperative Ministry – Established in 2021.
- **A five-point road map for cooperative growth**

- People, meaning every initiative must benefit ordinary Indians.
- PACS, strengthening our primary cooperative networks.
- Platforms, meaning digital infrastructure.
- Policy reforms
- Prosperity, not just for individuals but for entire communities, especially our farmers and labourers.

Plan to manufacture 15 Amrit Bharat trains at ICF factory within current financial year

- ICF factory is planned to complete manufacturing 15 Amrit Bharat trains within this financial year.
- Efforts were made to manufacture Amrit Bharat trains (regular Vande Bharat trains) - non-AC Amrit Bharat trains with common facilities for long-distance travel.
- Accordingly, 2 Amrit Bharat trains were manufactured and handed over to the Railway Board in November 2023.
- This 22-coach train includes non-AC seating compartments and sleeping berth compartments.

About Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

- ABSS, introduced by the Ministry of Railways in December 2022, aims to redevelop 1,309 railway stations into modern integrated transport hubs across India.
- It is also aimed at integrating regional architecture, enhancing passenger amenities, promoting inclusivity, and supporting urban development.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of railways.

International Manuscript Heritage Conference

- India will host the first international Manuscript Heritage Conference in September, which will be attended by global scholars, thought leaders, and cultural custodians.
- The three-day conference, titled “Reclaiming India’s knowledge legacy through manuscript heritage”, is being organised from September 11 to 13 in the national capital as part of the launch of the “Gyan Bharatam Mission”s.
- The conference will also commemorate Swami Vivekananda’s Chicago address (September 11, 1893), symbolising India’s intellectual and spiritual global vision.
- There will be numerous side events such as an exhibition on Indian manuscripts, one on manuscripts inscribed in the UNESCO Memory of the World, live demonstrations, and workshops.

Maratha fort systems get UNESCO heritage tag

- Maratha Military Landscapes of India were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List during the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee in Paris.
- Its 12 components are – Salher Fort, Shivneri Fort, Lohgad, Khanderi Fort, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala Fort, Vijay Durg, and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, and Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.
- Built mostly between the 1600s and 1800s, they show how Marathas used military skills to build powerful defense structures.

- There are more than 390 forts in Maharashtra out of which only 12 forts are selected under the Maratha Military Landscapes of India, of these 8 forts are protected by the Archaeological Survey of India.
- In the Maratha Military Landscapes of India Salher Fort, Shivneri Fort, Lohgad, Raigad, Rajgad and Gingee Fort are hill forts, Pratapgad is a hill-forest fort, Panhala is a hill-plateau fort, Vijaydurg is coastal fort whereas Khanderi fort, Suvarnadurg and Sindhudurg are island forts.
- The Maratha Military ideology originated in the 17th century under the rule of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in 1670 CE, extending through subsequent rulers until the Peshwa rule concluded in 1818 CE.

Godavari–Cauvery river interlinking project

- The Godavari-Cauvery river interlinking project aims to utilize unutilised water from the Godavari River.
- The link has three components:
 - Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link
 - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link
 - Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link
- Tamil Nadu: Major beneficiary of the project.
- Nodal Agency for the project: National Water Development Agency (NWDA).

Indus Waters Treaty

- Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar stated that they will approach international organizations to receive water from India under the Indus Waters Treaty.
- Indus Waters Treaty was signed on September 19, 1960, between India and Pakistan and was brokered by the World Bank.
- According to the agreement,
 - India has control over the eastern rivers - Ravi, Beas and Sutlej
 - Pakistan gets the water from the western rivers - Indus, Jhelum and Chenab.

National Sample Survey (NSS)

- The National Sample Survey (NSS) is in the news due to the celebration of 75 years of its establishment during the 19th National Statistics Day.
- The National Sample Survey (NSS) is a nation-wide, large-scale socio-economic data collection program conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- It serves as the principal data source for policy planning, development programs, and research in India.
- The NSS was launched in 1950, inspired by the vision of Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis, to provide reliable, timely, and comparable socio-economic statistics through sample surveys.

NATIONAL SCHEMES

National Overseas Scholarship Scheme

- Context: The Union Social Justice Ministry is in the process of seeking additional allocation for administering the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) scheme for marginalised students.
- National Overseas Scholarship Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme to facilitate the low income students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans category to obtain higher education by studying abroad.
- The Scheme provides financial assistance to the selected candidates for pursuing Masters level courses and Ph.D. courses abroad in the Institutions/Universities accredited by the Government/an authorized body of that country in any fields of study.
- In each Selection Year, 125 fresh awards, subject to availability of funds, will be given under the Scheme.
- Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- 30% of the awards for each year are earmarked for women candidates.

Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme

- The Union Cabinet approved a ₹1-lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) scheme.
- It aims to provide long-term financing or refinancing with long tenors at low or nil interest rates to spur private sector investment in RDI.
- It is an initiative of the Ministry of Science and Technology to boost private sector investment in basic and applied research to drive the development of innovative technologies and products.

- The scheme has been designed to overcome the constraints and challenges in funding of private sector.
- It seeks to provide growth & risk capital to sunrise and strategic sectors to facilitate innovation, promote adoption of technology and enhance competitiveness.

Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

- Context: About 600 Eklavya school students cracked IIT-JEE, NEET exams.
- It is a flagship intervention of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, to provide quality residential education to Scheduled Tribes students from Class 6th to 12th in remote areas to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population.
- The programme has been in operation since 1998 and was revamped during the year 2018-19 to expand the geographical outreach and enhance the quality of facilities.
- EMRSs will be set up in every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons.

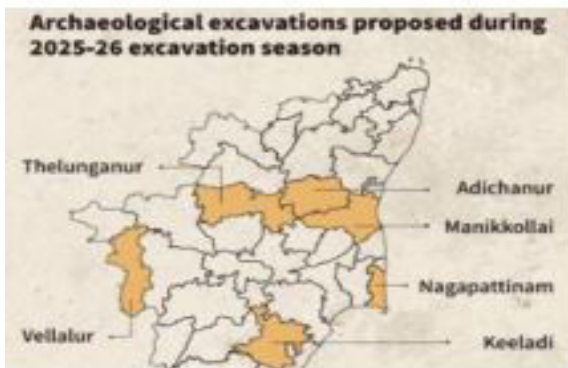
Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme to provide benefits to the newly registered employees with less than 1 lakh wages, and employers.
- It will support employment generation, enhance employability and social security across all sectors, with special focus on the manufacturing sector.
- The ELI Scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2024-25 as part of PM's package of five schemes to facilitate employment, skilling and other opportunities for 4.1 Crore youth with a total budget outlay of Rs 2 Lakh Crore.
- It aims to incentivize the creation of more than 3.5 Crore jobs in the country, over a period of 2 years.

REPORTS & INDICES

Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development Rashtriya Sarvekshen (PARAKH RS) Survey

- Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development Rashtriya Sarvekshen (PARAKH RS), formerly National Achievement Survey (NAS).
- Countrywide survey reveals deficits in student learning.



- It has revealed that Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu and Chandigarh are the best performing States and Union Territories in school education.
- PARAKH RS assessed the performance of 21,15,022 children in Grades 3, 6, and 9 from 74,229 schools across 781 districts in the country.
- The assessment covered language and mathematics (for Grades 3, 6, and 9), 'the World around us' (for Grades 3 and 6), and science and social science (for Grade 9).
- According to the survey, only 31% could explore and understand sets of numbers, such as whole numbers, fractions, integers,

rational numbers, and real numbers, and their properties.

2nd Edition of the NER District SDG Index

- NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) has launched the 2nd edition of the North Eastern Region (NER) District Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index for 2023-24.
- First edition launched in 2021.
- The NER District SDG Index is a composite tool designed to monitor district-level progress on selected SDG indicators.
- Developed collaboratively by NITI Aayog, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MoDoNER), and with technical support from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- Mizoram has the highest-scoring district in the entire NER (Hnahthial at 81.43) and Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest-scoring district in the entire region (Longding at 58.71).
- All districts in Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura have achieved Front Runner status, with no districts falling in the Aspirant or Achiever categories.

Comprehensive Update on Terrorist Financing Risks" report

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), in a report, highlighted that digital platforms—including online payments, VPNs, social media, and e-commerce—were misused in the Pulwama (2019) and Gorakhnath Temple (2022) terror attacks.

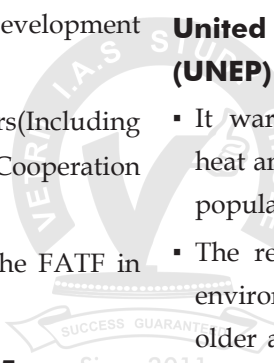
- The report, titled 'Comprehensive Update on Terrorist Financing Risks', serves as a global alert on the evolving and increasingly complex methods of terrorist financing.
- FATF is an intergovernmental policy-making body established in 1989 at the G7 Summit in Paris.
- Its primary objective is to develop policies to combat money laundering (ML), terrorist financing (TF), and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.
- Headquarters – FATF is headquartered in Paris, France, and functions out of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) headquarters.
- FATF comprises 39 members (including European Commission and Gulf Cooperation Council).
- India became a full member of the FATF in 2010.

Global Gender Gap Index 2025

- The World Economic Forum has recently published the Global Gender Gap Report 2025.
- India has slipped to the 131st position out of 148 countries in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2025, a fall of two places compared to its 129th rank in 2024.
- Published annually since 2006, it is the longest-standing global index for assessing gender equality, measuring countries' progress in closing gender gaps across 4 key dimensions:
 - Economic Participation and Opportunity
 - Educational Attainment
 - Health & Survival
 - Political Empowerment
- Each dimension is scored on a scale from 0 to 1, where 1 represents full gender parity and 0 denotes complete inequality.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) released its 7th Frontiers report

- It warns of growing threats from extreme heat and toxic pollution to the world's ageing population.
- The report marks how climate change and environmental hazards increasingly endanger older adults, especially in urban and low- to middle-income regions.
- Heat-related deaths among people aged 65 and above have surged by 85% since the 1990s.
- If global temperatures rise by 2°C, deaths could increase by 370% by 2050.



COMMITTEES

One-man Committee

- The Tamil Nadu government has constituted a one-man committee under retired **Madras High Court judge K. Sathyanarayanan**.
- To examine the three new criminal laws and suggest State amendments to them.
- The committee would examine, among other issues, the **“change in nomenclature”** of the new laws at the State level, and submit its recommendations to the Tamil Nadu government.

AWARDS & HONOURS

K.M. Kader Mohideen receives 'Thakasal Tamilar' Award

- K.M. Kader Mohideen, leader of the Indian Union Muslim League, has been selected for this year's **'Thakasal Tamilar'** (Distinguished Tamil) award by the Tamil Nadu government.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister will present him with a cheque for Rs. 10 lakhs and a certificate of appreciation during the Independence Day celebrations.
- The 'Thakasal Tamilar' award has been given since 2021.
- Over the past 4 years, this award has been presented to Sankarayya, Nallakkannu, K.Veeramani, and Kumari Ananthan.
- K.M. Kader Mohideen is the editor of **'Manissudar'** magazine and has worked throughout his life for social harmony.



IMPORTANT DAYS

National Doctor's Day 2025

- National Doctor's Day 2025 is observed on **July 1** to honour doctors and healthcare professionals across India.
- **The theme for 2025** - "Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?".
- **National Doctor's Day** was officially established in 1991 by the Government of India to honour the legacy of **Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy**, one of the most prominent figures in Indian medical history.
- His commitment to both medicine and public service earned him the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.

19th National Statistics Day 2025

- **Every year on 29th June**, India celebrates **National Statistics Day** to mark the birth anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, a pioneer in the field of modern statistics in India.
- The theme for National Statistics Day 2025 was 75 years of National Sample Survey.

International Day of Cooperatives 2025

- The International Day of Cooperatives is observed every year on the first Saturday of July.

- It brings attention to the important work done by cooperatives across the globe.
- This year's theme is "**Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World**".

World Rural Development Day 2025

- The UN General Assembly declared July 6 as World Rural Development Day to show its commitment to the 2030 **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
- This move focuses on helping those living in rural areas—especially women, youth, and Indigenous communities—who often suffer the most from poverty, hunger, and lack of services.
- The theme for 2025 - "**Rural Empowerment - Global Impact**".

World Population Day – July 11

- World Population Day, observed annually on July 11, is more than a reminder of the rising global headcount.
- **Founded by:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **First observed:** July 11, 1989
- **2025 Theme:** 'Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world.'

DEFENCE

INS Tamal

- The missile-carrying warship 'INS Tamal', manufactured in Russia for the Indian Navy, was commissioned to the country from Kaliningrad, a coastal city in Russia.
- This 125-meter-long, 3,900-ton warship was built using the best practices of warship construction with Indian and Russian advanced technologies.
- 26 percent of the technology, capabilities, and equipment in this ship, including the ability to carry the long-range 'BrahMos' missile capable of targeting both sea and land targets, have been upgraded in India.
- This is the 8th 'Krivak' class warship to join the Indian Navy from Russia in the last 20 years.
- 2 warships are being manufactured at the Goa Shipyard in India with Russian technical assistance.
- Under this project, the Indian Navy will have 10 ships operational in 4 different categories including 'Tushil', 'Talwar', and 'Teg' with similar capabilities and equipment, weapons, and sensor systems with common characteristics.

INS Udayagiri

- The second ship 'Udayagiri' of the 'Nilgiri' class (P17A) warship was handed over to the Navy.
- The P17A warships equipped with advanced weapons and sensor technology are 4.54 percent larger compared to the previous P17 warships.
- Moreover, they are capable of operating in deep seas to counter threats to India's maritime interests.
- It was announced that a total of 7 P17A warships will be manufactured at Mumbai's 'Mazagon' and Kolkata's 'Garden Reach' shipbuilding companies.

Shakti exercise

- The eighth edition of the Indo-French Army exercise, 'Shakti 2025', concluded in France
- The exercise involved more than 500 legionnaires and military personnel from various units of the French Army, the Foreign Legion, the French Air and Space Force, and the French Navy.
- The Indian contingent of 90 personnel comprised a battalion of the Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, besides personnel from other services.

Nistar

- Recently, the 'Nistar' vessel was delivered by Hindustan Shipyard Limited to the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam.
- It is the first indigenously designed and constructed Diving Support Vessel.
- The ship's name, 'Nistar', originates from Sanskrit and means liberation, rescue or salvation
- The ship is highly specialised and can undertake Deep Sea Diving and Rescue Operations - a capability with select Navies across the globe.
- The ship, measuring 118 m with a tonnage of nearly 10,000 tons, is installed with state-of-the-art Diving Equipment and has the capability to undertake Deep Sea Saturation Diving up to 300 m depth.

Talisman Sabre 2025

- Talisman Sabre 2025 is the largest and most complex warfighting exercise held in Australia.
- It began on 13 July 2025 and involves 35,000 military personnel from 19 nations.
- The event is led by Australia and includes India among other key partners.
- For the first time, parts of the exercise are conducted outside Australia, in Papua New Guinea.

SPORTS & GAMES

National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025

- The new policy supersedes the existing National Sports Policy, 2001, and lays out a visionary and strategic roadmap to establish India as a global sporting powerhouse and a strong contender for excellence at international sporting events, including the 2036 Olympic Games.

Key pillars

- Excellence on the Global Stage
- Sports for Economic Development
- Sports for Social Development
- Sports as a People's Movement
- Integration with Education (NEP 2020)

Digital India Program: Completes 10 Years

- The Digital India program has completed 10 years and has transformed into a people's movement.
- The Digital India program was launched on July 1, 2015.
- India's 5G program is one of the fastest programs in the world. Under this program, 4.81 lakh base stations have been established in 2 years.
- The platforms under India's digital infrastructure - Aadhaar, Co-WIN, DigiLocker, FastTag, PM WANI, One Nation One Subscription - are now being studied and adopted globally.
- Digital India has become a people's movement and serves as a center for creating a self-reliant

India and making India a trusted partner in innovation and discoveries worldwide.

- The Digital India program has brought about a revolution in agriculture through the electronic National Agriculture Market (eNAM).
- This helps connect consumers and farmers directly across the country. With trade worth Rs 4 lakh crores in over 1,400 mandis and empowering 1.7 crore farmers, its impact has been substantial.

Vetri Nichayam (Success Assured) Program

- The 'Vetri Nichayam' program will provide short-term skill training by identifying educated unemployed youth and school dropouts.
- Priority will be given to all socially and economically backward classes in this program.
- Selected candidates will be provided incentives up to Rs 12,000. Accommodation facilities with food will also be provided for students from distant areas.
- Through the newly launched Vetri Nichayam program, 75,000 students will be provided skill training annually.
- Rs 100 crores has been allocated for the first phase of this program.

Achievements of Naan Mudhalvan Program

- Tamil Nadu stands as the number one state in India with the highest growth rate of 9.69 percent.
- 41 lakh people have benefited from the Naan Mudhalvan program so far. They are provided training that includes technical skills,

information technology, language knowledge, hackathons, and internships suitable for the growing modern industrial sector.

- In the past 3 years, 3.28 lakh students have secured employment in leading companies through this program.
- Out of 57 people from Tamil Nadu who succeeded in the Civil Services examination this year, 50 were trained under the Naan Mudhalvan program.

International Rapid Chess

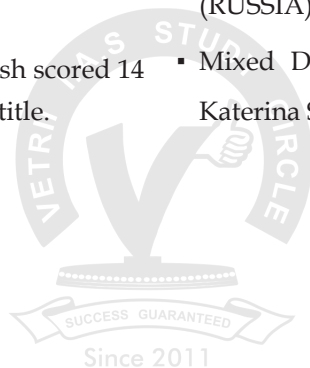
- The Super United Rapid and Blitz International Chess Tournament, part of this year's Grand Chess Tour, is being held in Zagreb, Croatia's capital.
- At the end of the 9th round, Gukesh scored 14 points to claim the championship title.

▪ Polish player Jan Krzysztof Duda finished second, and former world champion Magnus Carlsen took third place.

▪ Indian Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa tied for fourth place with America's Fabiano Caruana.

Wimbledon 2025- W

- Men's Singles - Jannik Sinner (Italy)
- Women's Singles - Iga Świątek (Poland)
- Men's Doubles - Julian Cash / Lloyd Glasspool (UK)
- Women's Doubles - Veronika Kudermetova (RUSSIA)/ Elise Mertens (BELGIAN)
- Mixed Doubles - Sander Verbeek (Dutch)/ Katerina Siniaková (CZECH)



INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan Takes Leadership of UN Security Council

- Pakistan has announced that it has assumed the presidency of the UN Security Council for the month of July.
- Pakistan has been appointed as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, which serves as an important body for discussing global security affairs, for a 2-year term starting from January 1st.
- Additionally, Pakistan has also taken on the leadership responsibility of the Taliban Sanctions Committee and the deputy leadership role of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee.

About UN

- The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945.
- It is currently made up of 193 Member States.
- The name "United Nations", coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- The five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

India-Ghana Sign 4 Agreements

- Four important agreements were signed between the two countries in sectors including Ayurveda and traditional medicine.
- The BRICS summit is scheduled to be held on July 6-7 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. En route to participate in this summit, Prime Minister Modi is undertaking a tour of Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, and Namibia.
- India is ready to share UPI digital payment transaction technology with Ghana. India will

support Ghana's agricultural program called 'Feed Ghana'.

- Medicines will be provided to the Ghanaian people at affordable prices through Jan Aushadhi (People's Pharmacies).
- Yesterday, Ghana's President John Dramani Mahama presented Prime Minister Modi with the country's highest honor, the 'Officer of the Order of the Star' award.

BRICS

- Indonesia joined BRICS as a full member as of January 2025.
- Belarus, Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Nigeria, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Uganda, and Uzbekistan are recognized as partner countries of the BRICS alliance.
- BRICS Summit in India: The BRICS alliance provides full support for India and Brazil to play key roles in the UN Security Council.
- India will chair the BRICS alliance in 2026.
- The 18th BRICS Summit will be held in India.

WHO Launches Integrated Guidelines on Arboviral Diseases

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has introduced its first comprehensive guidelines for the clinical management of arboviral diseases.
- These include dengue, chikungunya, Zika, and yellow fever.
- The guidelines aim to standardise treatment and improve patient outcomes globally.
- They also assist health policymakers in preparing for epidemics and pandemics in regions affected by mosquito-borne viruses.
- Arboviral diseases are viral infections transmitted mainly by Aedes mosquitoes.
- The key diseases are dengue, chikungunya, Zika, and yellow fever.