

VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

AUGUST 2025 - PART 2



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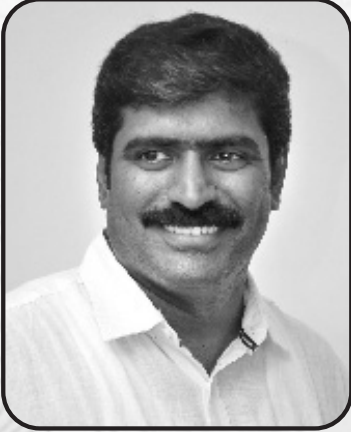
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Preface



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Director

Vetrii IAS Study Circle.

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My Dear Aspirants,

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

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

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

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

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

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GENERAL SCIENCE

Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM)

- **Context:** Two more persons in Kozhikode district of Kerala have been diagnosed with primary amoebic meningoencephalitis.
- PAM is caused by *Naegleria fowleri*, an amoeba that thrives in warm freshwater lakes, ponds, rivers and poorly maintained swimming pools.
- This free-living microorganism primarily feeds on bacteria but can become pathogenic in humans.
- This one-celled organism can infect the brain and destroy the tissues, also called 'brain-eating amoeba'.
- These rare infections are fatal, with 97% mortality. Most people die within one to 18 days.
- PAM does not spread from person to person.
- The amoeba enters the body through the nose and reaches up to the brain to infect it.

Phoenix roxburghii

- Recently, researchers have identified a new palm species and named it as *Phoenix roxburghii*.
- It is a new palm species named after William Roxburgh, considered the father of Indian Botany.
- **Distribution:** It is found on India's eastern coast and Bangladesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Pakistan.

Green Ammonia

- Ammonia (NH_3) is a nitrogen and hydrogen based chemical compound widely used in the production of fertilisers and industrial chemicals.
- Ammonia is currently produced from natural gas and, in its production process, emits 2 tonnes of CO_2 for every tonne of ammonia.
- For this reason, conventional ammonia is referred to as grey ammonia.
- Green ammonia, on the other hand, does not emit CO_2 in its production process.
- **Uses of Ammonia:** Essential for nitrogen in fertilizers, raw material for chemicals (nitric acid, fibres, explosives, dyes, pharmaceuticals), and as a fuel for engines and power generation.

Epilepsy

- **About:** Epilepsy is a chronic brain disorder caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain, leading to seizures—brief episodes of involuntary movement and loss of consciousness.
- It is recognised by the WHO as a neurological disorder.
- **Causes:** The disease has no identifiable cause in nearly 50% of the cases. However, it is linked to genetics, brain injuries, infections, stroke, tumors.
- **Symptoms:** convulsions and twitching movements.

Treatment:

- First-line treatment for epilepsy includes anti-seizure medications, while a ketogenic diet (high-fat) is effective for drug-resistant cases.

- Surgical options include removing seizure-affected brain regions or corpus callosotomy to prevent seizure spread.

supporting plant growth, particularly in marine ecosystems and agriculture

MakeGPT

- MakeGPT, an AI-powered platform that enables creation of Internet of Things (IoT) systems using natural language prompts, at the IIT Madras Research Park
- It is a product developed by Kochadai Technology Solutions, a start-up incubated within IIT Madras Research Park.

Methamphetamine

- Methamphetamine, commonly referred to as meth, is a powerful, highly addictive stimulant that affects the central nervous system.
- It takes the form of a white, odorless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder that easily dissolves in water or alcohol.
- It was developed early in the 20th century from its parent drug, amphetamine, and was used originally in nasal decongestants and bronchial inhalers.
- Like amphetamine, methamphetamine causes increased activity and talkativeness, decreased appetite, and a pleasurable sense of well-being or euphoria

Diazotrophs

- Diazotrophs are a diverse group of bacteria and archaea that perform biological nitrogen fixation (BNF), converting atmospheric nitrogen (N_2) into ammonia (NH_3) which can be used by other organisms.
- This process is vital for the biosphere, contributing to the global nitrogen cycle and

Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM)

- It is a rare, typically fatal brain infection caused by the microscopic amoeba *Naegleria fowleri*.
- Infection occurs when contaminated warm, fresh water is inhaled, allowing the amoeba to enter the brain and cause rapid inflammation.
- Symptoms, including headache, fever, and stiff neck, progress quickly, leading to coma and death within days of the initial infection

Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)

- Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) of India was first established in August 1948 under the Department of Scientific Research, with Dr. Homi J. Bhabha as its first chairman.
- The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) was formed under direct charge of the Prime Minister on August 3, 1954. since then atomic energy commission functioned under department of atomic energy.
- Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty was the current chairman Atomic Energy Commission

Pericarditis

- Pericarditis is swelling and irritation of the thin, saclike tissue surrounding the heart. This tissue is called the pericardium. Pericarditis often causes sharp chest pain. The chest pain occurs when the irritated layers of the pericardium rub against each other. Pericarditis often is mild

LATEST INVENTIONS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- By end of 2025, ISA to set up 17 Centres of Excellence in different countries.
- Long-term plan: establish a **Global Capability Centre (GCC)** in India, envisioned as a "Silicon Valley for solar".

Centres of Excellence

- To provide testing, lab training, start-up ecosystem.
- Located in IIT-like universities.
- GCC in India will act as a hub connecting these centres.
- Number could expand from 17 to 50, as several countries seek India's support for capacity-building.

About International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- Jointly announced by India and France in 2015 at the **UN Paris Climate Change Conference** (COP-21 of the UNFCCC).
- ISA Framework Agreement came into force in 2017.
- It is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization that is an action-oriented, member-driven, collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies.
- **Membership:** 119 Signatory members (100 ratified)
- It is headquartered in Gurugram, Haryana.

SPACE

Timeline for future space initiatives

- **2026:** An uncrewed space mission with a robot named "Vyommitra."
- **2027:** The maiden human spaceflight, "Gaganyaan."
- **2035:** Establishment of India's own "Bharat Antariksh Station" (Indian Space Station).
- **2040:** Indian astronaut is planned to land on the moon in 2040. This mission is envisioned as a symbol of "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047.
- The space sector reforms initiated by Prime Minister in 2014, including opening the sector to private players in 2020, have boosted India's space economy to \$8 billion and are projected to reach \$45 billion in the next decade.

ISRO'S advanced heavy-lift rocket

- ISRO is developing a heavy-lift rocket, referred to as the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV), which will be as tall as a 40-storey building.
- This rocket is being designed to carry a massive payload of 75,000 kg (75 tonnes) into low Earth orbit (LEO), a significant leap from the 35 kg capacity of India's first indigenous rocket, the SLV-3.
- **NGLV Features:** The new heavy-lift rocket will also have a "recoverable first stage," a feature aimed at making space launches more cost-effective.
- Currently, India has 55 satellites operational in space. This number will triple in the next 3 to 4 years.

Future Missions of ISRO

- TDS - Technology Demonstration Satellite
- GSAT-7R satellite - will assist Indian military communications
- GSAT-7 (Rukmini) - a satellite specifically designed for the Indian Navy as a replacement for the communication satellite
- A Venus Orbiter Mission has also been approved and we shall be sending a spacecraft to study planet Venus.
- The first crewed spaceflight is expected to take place before 2026.
- The success of the Gaganyaan mission will place India in the ranks of countries (USA, Russia and China) with human spaceflight capability.

Chandrayaan-1

- Chandrayaan-1, India's first lunar mission, was successfully launched from Sriharikota on October 22, 2008.
- This spacecraft orbited the moon at a height of 100 km from the lunar surface and provided chemical, mineralogical and photo-geological mapping of the moon.
- This spacecraft carried a total of 11 scientific instruments developed in India and other countries.

Crew Dragon

- Crew Dragon is a reusable spacecraft developed by SpaceX to transport astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) and to evacuate astronauts from space.
- The spacecraft Crew Dragon developed by SpaceX has successfully transported National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronauts to the International Space Station.
- SpaceX became the first private company to orbit human spaceflight, an achievement accomplished by the United States, Russia, and China.
- The Chandrayaan-2 mission was successfully launched on July 22, 2019 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) at Sriharikota via GSLV MkIII-M1.
- After successive Earth-bound maneuvers, the spacecraft entered the Lunar Transfer Trajectory (LTT) on August 14.
- On August 20, the Lunar Orbit Insertion (LOI) maneuver was performed, whereby Chandrayaan-2 was successfully inserted into an elliptical orbit around the moon.
- This was followed by successive lunar orbit maneuvers to reduce the orbit to a circular polar orbit around the moon.

Chandrayaan-2

Soyuz Spacecraft

- Soyuz is a Russian spacecraft that transports people and materials to the International Space Station (ISS).
- Up to three people can travel in it.

Gaganyaan Project

- The Gaganyaan mission is India's ongoing project that will send a mission with a 3-person crew to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) 400 km away for 3 days and bring them back safely to Earth.

Chandrayaan-3

- Chandrayaan-3, a follow-up mission to Chandrayaan-2, was successfully launched

on LVM-3 on July 14, 2023 to demonstrate complete capability for safe landing and roving on the lunar surface.

- It consists of lander and rover configuration.
- It will be launched by LVM3 from Sriharikota.
- The propulsion module will carry the lander and rover configuration to 100 km lunar orbit.

India in Space Exploration

▪ Historical Background

- 1962: The Indian National Committee for Space Research was established under the leadership of Dr. Vikram Sarabhai
- 1969: Renamed as Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- 1963: First rocket launch from Thumba
- 1975: India's first satellite Aryabhata was launched
- 1980: India's first indigenous satellite SLV-3 was successfully launched from Sriharikota under the leadership of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

▪ Future Plans:

- Chandrayaan-4 (2027): Mission to collect samples from the moon and bring them back to Earth
- Chandrayaan-5 (2028): Joint mission with Japan for 100-day lunar exploration

Model Indian Space Station (Bharatiya Antariksh Station)

- The model of India's proposed space station was displayed at an event held on Friday at Bharat Mandapam, Delhi, in commemoration of National Space Day.
- India plans to launch a part of this space station, named 'Bharatiya Space Station', into space in 2028.

▪ India plans to establish the complete space station weighing 52,000 kg by 2035.

Space Stations of Other Countries

- For the first time, the Soviet Union (Russia) established the 'Salyut-7' space station in space in 1982. It remained operational until 1991.
- Secondly, the United States, Russia, Europe, Japan, and Canada jointly established the International Space Station in 1998. It has been announced that this will remain operational until 2030.
- Thirdly, China established the 'Tiangong' space station in space in 2021, which is currently operational.

ISRO's Legacy and Milestones

- 1962: Formation of INCOSPAR by Dr. Vikram Sarabhai.
- 1969: ISRO was established.
- 1975: Aryabhata, India's first satellite, launched with Soviet help.
- 1980: Rohini Satellite launched by India's SLV-3.
- 1984: Rakesh Sharma became the first Indian in space.
- 1994: Launch of PSLV, ISRO's reliable satellite carrier.
- 2008: Chandrayaan-1 discovered water on the Moon.
- 2013: Mangalyaan (Mars Orbiter Mission) launched successfully on its first attempt.
- 2017: PSLV-C37 set a world record by launching 104 satellites in one go.
- 2019: Chandrayaan-2 orbiter continues to transmit data.
- 2022: Launch of SSLV for small satellites.

- 2023: Chandrayaan-3's South Pole landing.
- 2023: Aditya-L1 mission to study the Sun.
- 2024: ISRO expands collaboration with private space players.
- **Gaganyaan:** India's First Human Space Mission (Expected 2025)
- Establishing a permanent Indian space station by 2035.
- Sending Indian astronauts to the Moon by 2040.
- **Purpose:** Navic provides accurate location services to the military and civilian users within India and up to 1,500 km beyond its borders. It is intended to be a backup system in case access to foreign constellations like the American GPS is denied.
- **Other global navigation systems:** GPS (US), GLONASS (Russia), Beidou (China), Galileo (EU).

Kulasekarapattinam

ISRO's Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1) for Gaganyaan

- ISRO successfully conducted the first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1) on August 24, 2025.
- **Purpose:** To test the parachute-based deceleration system of the Gaganyaan crew module under real-world conditions.
- It is a part of India's maiden human spaceflight programme, Gaganyaan, targeted for late 2025-26.
- The Kulasekarapattinam launch pad can launch rockets weighing up to 500 kg.
- A rocket will be launched from Kulasekarapattinam by the end of 2026. Kulasekarapattinam plays a very important role in India's space history
- There are 2 launch pads in Sriharikota. Currently, work is underway to set up a third pad there at a cost of Rs 4,000 crore.
- The plan to send a robot to space is underway.

Navigation with Indian Constellation (Navic)

- **Context:** ISRO's Navic (Navigation with Indian Constellation) system, also known as the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), is facing issues with its satellite fleet.
- Covers ~1,500 km around India.
- Launched 9 satellites since 2013, but only 8 reached proper orbit.
- Last satellite (IRNSS-1I) launched in 2018.
- ISRO plans to launch at least three new satellites by the end of 2026 to replace the aging and impaired fleet.

Hyperspectral imaging satellites

- The successful launch of Pixxel's three hyperspectral imaging satellites by SpaceX represents a significant milestone for the Indian space startup ecosystem.

Recent Launch

- Pixxel successfully launched three more Firefly satellites on a SpaceX Falcon 9 mission, completing the first phase of its hyperspectral constellation Business StandardNews9live.
- This was accompanied by Dhruva Space's satellites, making it the first commercial flight of Dhruva's Polaris-30 (P-30) satellite bus

Indian startups Dhruva, Pixxel satellites ride to space on Falcon 9 | Science News - News9live.

from California | World News - Business Standard.

Technical Capabilities

- The information you shared about the technical specifications is accurate. Each Firefly satellite weighs around 50 kilograms and captures data in 135+ spectral bands at 5-meter resolution PixxelBusiness Standard, making them part of "the most advanced commercial hyperspectral imaging system ever deployed" Pixxel, Dhruva Space launch satellites on SpaceX Falcon-9

Future Constellation Plans

- Pixxel plans to build a constellation of 18 to 24 satellites to achieve daily coverage of Earth with hyperspectral imagery Pixxel and Dhruva Space Launch Satellites on SpaceX Falcon 9 Entrepreneur, with applications across agriculture, mining, oil and gas, and environmental monitoring.



GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Pamba River

- The central government recently initiated steps to include the Pamba River under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), a multi-crore initiative aimed at protecting major rivers in the country.
- It is the third longest river in the state of Kerala after the Periyar River and the Bharathappuzha River.
- Also called the 'Dakshina Bhageerathi' or the Ganga of Kerala, the significance of the river is associated with the Sabarimala temple.
- Pamba is also called Thriveni Sangam, as it is the meeting point for three rivers-Pamba, Achankovil & Manimala.

Subarnarekha River

- It originates at an altitude of 600 m near Nagri village in Ranchi district of Jharkhand.
- It flows for 395 km and empties into the Bay of Bengal.
- The Subarnarekha (meaning "golden line") flows eastwards through a copper mining area and exits the Chota Nagpur Plateau at the Hundrukbagh Falls.
- Tributaries: Its main tributaries are the Kanchi, Karkari and Karkai from the right.

PVTGs

- According to 2011 Census, 40 PVT groups were counted within the broader category of Scheduled Tribes (STs). Currently, there are 75 PVT groups across 18 states and one Union Territory.

- In 2023, the Centre launched the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) to provide basic facilities to PVTGs.

PM JANMAN

- Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan, is an initiative launched by the Indian government on November 15, 2023, to improve the socio-economic conditions of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) across 18 states and one Union Territory.
- The mission focuses on providing basic facilities like housing, drinking water, education, health, and connectivity, alongside creating sustainable livelihood opportunities through 11 key interventions implemented by nine ministries.

Godavari River

- It is India's second-longest river after the Ganga and the third-largest in India, drains about 10% of India's total geographical area.
- It is also called 'Dakshina Ganga', which translates into South Ganges River.

Course

- The origin of the Godavari River is in Brahmagiri Mountain at Trimbakeshwar in the Nashik district of Maharashtra.
- It runs for a length of about 1,465 kilometers.
- It finally empties itself into the Bay of Bengal at Narasapuram in West Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh.
- The river mainstem travels through three states: Maharashtra, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh.
- The Godavari basin receives its maximum rainfall during the Southwest monsoon.

Tributaries

- The principal tributaries of the river are the Pravara, the Purna, the Manjra, the Penganga, the Wardha, the Wainganga, the Pranhita (combined flow of Wainganga, Penganga, Wardha), the Indravati, the Maner, and the Sabri

ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY**Kadamba Tree**

- The Kadamba tree (*Neolamarckia cadamba*) occupies an important place in the diverse ecological landscape of India.
- It belongs to the family Rubiaceae and can grow up to 45 meters tall. Its highly fragrant flowers are shaped like tennis balls.
- In traditional Ayurvedic medicine, its leaves and flowers are used to treat many diseases.

Satpura Tiger Reserve

- It was established in 2000 and is located in the Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh, nestled within the Satpura ranges and south of the Narmada River

RICE VARIETIES

- Union government has introduced two varieties of Rice - "Pusa DST-1" & "Kamala", which have been created through 'gene editing'.
- The developers of these varieties have cut and deleted parts of the rice genome, with a claim that these varieties have increased the yield, and have tolerance to drought and salinity

Forest Rights Act, 2006

- Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition Of Forest Rights) Act, popularly known as FRA was enacted in 2006.

- **Objective:** To undo historical injustice occurred to forest dwelling communities; ensure their livelihood & food security etc.

Forest Rights Recognized Under FRA:

- Individual Rights: Rights of Self-cultivation & Habitation, In-situ rehabilitation etc.
- Community Rights: Grazing, Fishing & access to Water bodies in forests, right to intellectual property & traditional knowledge, right to protect traditional customary rights.

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958

- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958, is a landmark Indian law enacted to preserve and protect ancient and historical monuments, archaeological sites, and remains of national importance.

Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act of 1991

- Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act of 1991 is an Indian law that prohibits the conversion of any place of worship and mandates that the religious character of a place of worship must remain unchanged from its status on August 15, 1947

Sundarbans Tiger Reserve

- The Sundarbans Tiger Reserve (STR) has become India's second-largest tiger reserve after the National Board for Wildlife approved West Bengal's proposal to add 1,044.68 sq km.
- The reserve now covers 3,629.57 sq km, up from the earlier seventh rank.

- The Sundarbans Tiger Reserve is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and part of the world's largest mangrove ecosystem, located in West Bengal.
- It forms a crucial part of India's Project Tiger network and is globally renowned for its unique mangrove-tiger ecosystem.
- Declared a Tiger Reserve in 1973, under the first phase of Project Tiger.
- Became a Biosphere Reserve in 1989, recognized by UNESCO in 2001.
- Declared a Ramsar Wetland Site in 2019, adding global conservation significance.
- The largest tiger reserve in India is the Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve, located in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, covering an area of approximately 3,728 square kilometers.
- With the help of this organization, countries can share their experiences and pool resources in conserving big cat species

National Designated Authority (NDA)

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has announced a National Designated Authority (NDA), a mandatory requirement under the provisions of the 2015 Paris Agreement, to enable a carbon emissions trading regime.
- Within the Paris Agreement, a section called Article 6 defines the contours under which such an emissions trading regime or a market can take shape.
- A long-standing bone of contention among countries, Article 6 was finally passed at the 29th edition of the climate COP in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024.

India's NDC commitment:

International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- Neighboring Nepal has officially joined the India-led International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), which conserves 7 big cat species including tigers and lions.
- reducing its GDP's emission intensity by 45% by 2030 from 2005 levels
- achieving 50% electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030
- creating an additional carbon sink equivalent to 2.5-3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide by 2030 through afforestation.

About the International Big Cat Alliance:

- The IBCA is a multilateral alliance of over 90 countries and organizations dedicated to the conservation of 7 big cat species including tigers, lions, leopards, snow leopards, jaguars, leopards and puma.
- The alliance was launched by the Prime Minister in Mysore, Karnataka, on April 9, 2023.

Blue Flag Certification

- Each beach is awarded the Blue Flag certification considering 33 aspects such as water quality, environmental management, and safety.
- In that regard, in the current financial year, it was announced that steps will be taken to

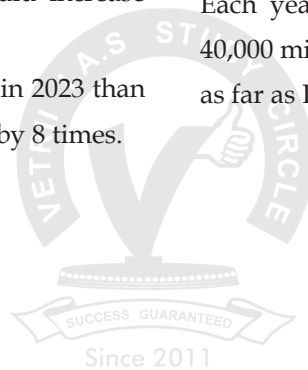
- award the Blue Flag certification to the beaches in Thiruvannamiyur, Palavakkam, Utthandi, Kulasekaranpattinam in Thoothukudi district, Kilputhupattu in Villupuram district, and Samiyarpettai in Cuddalore district.
- Beaches in Tamil Nadu that have received the Blue Flag certification
 - Kovalam Beach

Indians' lifespan will increase by 3.5 years

- A University of Chicago Energy Policy Institute report states that reducing India's air pollution to global standards could increase average lifespan by 3.5 years.
- Air pollution in India was higher in 2023 than 2022, exceeding WHO guidelines by 8 times.
- The northern plains, home to 38.9% of India's population, could see a 5-year lifespan increase if pollution is reduced to WHO standards.
- Delhi residents could gain 8.2 years.
- Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra are also significantly affected by air pollution.

Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary

- The Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, in Madurantakam taluk of Chengalpattu district, was established in 1936.
- It is the oldest water bird sanctuary in India.
- It was recognised as a Ramsar site in 2022. Each year, the sanctuary attracts more than 40,000 migratory birds, including species from as far as Europe and Central Asia.



INDIAN POLITY

excluded from the Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) scheme.

Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023

- Provides immunity to CEC & ECs for decisions taken in past and present.
- Removal only on same grounds as a Supreme Court judge (proved misbehaviour or incapacity).
- Requires two-thirds majority in both Houses of Parliament.
- At least 50 MPs must sign to initiate motion.

Overseas Citizen of India Scheme

- The Home Ministry has expanded rules for cancelling Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards, allowing revocation if a holder is convicted with imprisonment of 2 years or more, or is charge-sheeted for offences punishable with 7 years or more.
- The OCI scheme was launched in August 2005 by amending the Citizenship Act, 1955 to allow registration of Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs).
- An OCI card is given to foreign passport holders of Indian origin and serves as a multiple-entry, multi-purpose, lifelong visa for visiting India.
- However, OCI does not grant dual citizenship.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Citizens of India on/after 26 January 1950, or were eligible for citizenship on that date their descendants, and spouses (married for ≥ 2 years).
 - Individuals who are or have been citizens of Pakistan or Bangladesh are specifically

E-Jagriti Platform

- 10 States (Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Kerala, Puducherry, Chhattisgarh, and Uttar Pradesh) along with National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission have recorded a disposal rate of over 100 percent on E-Jagriti platform in July 2025.

About E-Jagriti platform

- **Launched on:** 1st January, 2025
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution.
- **Tamil Nadu** achieved the **highest disposal rate of 277%** on the e-Jagriti platform in July 2025.
- **Objective:**
 - Computerization and networking of all Consumer Commissions at the national, state, and district levels to ensure transparency, efficiency, and speedy resolution of consumer disputes.
 - e-Jagriti enables consumers to file complaints, track case statuses, and access judgments online.

Election Commission

- Election Commission (EC) listed 28 initiatives in past 6 months under 4 categories.
- Aimed at streamlining and improving the electoral process.
- **ECINET:** A new one-stop digital platform has been launched to combine more than 40 apps and websites for voters, officials, and political parties.

About Election Commission

- ECI is a permanent Constitutional Body established in on 25th January 1950.
- Constitutional Provision: Part XV of the Constitution entailing Articles 324 to 329.
- Statutory provisions: The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023 regulates their appointment, service conditions, tenure, etc.
- Key role: ECI Administers elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies and Offices of the President and Vice President
- Composition: It currently consists of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and two Election Commissioners (EC).

Vice President Election Process

- According to Articles 63 to 71 of the Constitution and the Vice President (Election) Rules, an election for the post must be conducted within 60 days of the Vice President's resignation.
- In India, the Vice President is elected by members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (elected and nominated MPs) either through election or unanimous decision. If there is a contest in the election, a secret ballot will be conducted based on ballot papers and results will be declared.
- The election is conducted under Article 66(1) of the Constitution using the Proportional Representation System by means of a single transferable vote through secret ballot.

Translation of Proceedings in 22 Languages

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla announced that henceforth, parliamentary proceedings will be translated into all languages (22 languages) included under the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. While proceedings have been translated into 19 languages so far, additional translations will be undertaken in Kashmiri, Konkani, and Santhali languages.

Central Information Commission (CIC)

- Established: The CIC was established by the Central Government in 2005, under the provisions of the Right to Information Act (2005). It is not a constitutional body.
- Members: The Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.
- Appointment: They are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.
- Tenure: The Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner shall hold office for a term of 3 years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. They are not eligible for reappointment (as per the amendments made in RTI Act, 2005 in 2019).

Power and Functions of CIC:

- It is the duty of the Commission to receive and inquire into a complaint from any person regarding information requested under RTI, 2005.

- The Commission can order an inquiry into any matter if there are reasonable grounds (suo-moto power).
- While inquiring, the Commission has the powers of a civil court in respect of summoning, requiring documents etc.
- In the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Meghalaya, English is the only official language.
- Apart from this, in more than 10 Indian states, English is the official language along with the mother tongue.

State Information Commission:

- It is constituted by the State Government.
- It has one State Chief Information Commissioner (SCIC) and not more than 10 State Information Commissioners (SIC) to be appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Appointments Committee headed by the Chief Minister.

Articles of the Constitution Relating to Language

- **Article 343 of the Indian Constitution** - Ensures the use of Hindi as the official language of the Central Government, along with English.
- **Article 345 of the Indian Constitution** - Explains the regional languages of the states.
- **Article 346 of the Indian Constitution** - Explains the language of communication between the Central and State Governments.
- Article 348 of the Indian Constitution mandates English as the language for proceedings in the Supreme Court and High Courts.
- While Article 348(2) allows for the use of Hindi or other state languages in High Court proceedings with Presidential consent, the final judgments, decrees, or orders must still be in English.
- In Tamil Nadu, English remains the sole language of the High Court to date.

Bills Passed in Parliament

- Tribal reservation bill 2025 in Goa Assembly
 - To Readjust ST Representation in Goa Assembly
- Manipur Goods and Services (Amendment) Bill 2025
 - It amends the Manipur Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017
- National Sports Governance Bill 2025
 - to provide for the development and promotion of sports, welfare measures for sportspersons, ethical practices based on basic universal principles of good governance
- National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill 2025
 - to strengthen the National Anti-Doping Act, 2022, granting greater autonomy to the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill 2025
 - to amend the Income-Tax Act, 1961 and the Finance Act, 2025.
- Indian Ports Bill 2025
 - establishes the Maritime State Development Council (MSDC) as a statutory consultative body to coordinate between the Centre and coastal States
- Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill 2025
 - strengthening the exploration and extraction of critical minerals
- IIM (Amendment) Bill 2025

- for setting up the 22nd IIM in the country at Guwahati
- Online Gaming Promotion and Regulation Bill 2025
 - bans real money games in India citing national security and welfare

42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976

- The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 introduced some major changes to the Indian Constitution. This act, also known as the Constitutional amendment Act, 1976, made the following changes to the Constitution:
 - Reducing the power of the Supreme Court and High Courts
 - Formulated fundamental duties for citizens
 - Words - Socialism, Secular and Integrity were added to the Preamble
 - The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act as 'Mini Constitution'
 - The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 changed the basic structure of the Indian Constitution
- Two eminent persons (selected by Prime Minister, Chief Justice and Leader of Opposition, one from SC/ST/OBC/Women/Minorities)

Why was NJAC struck down?

- In 2015, a 5-judge bench (4:1) ruled it unconstitutional as NJAC violated the basic structure doctrine.
- The court noted that judicial primacy in appointments is part of the basic structure, and NJAC allowed the executive to interfere through veto powers.
- Concerns about judicial independence and the possibility of 3-3 deadlocks led to the rejection of the law.

Census 2027 to retain urban area definition of previous count in 2011

- Urban Area Definition: The Census 2027 will use the same definition for urban areas as the 2011 Census. This is to ensure uniformity and allow for the comparison of urbanization trends.
- Statutory towns: Municipal corporations, cantonment boards, notified town area committees, town panchayats, nagar palikas.
- Definition of a "Census Town": A census town is a non-statutory urban unit defined by three criteria:
 - A minimum population of **5,000 persons**.
 - A population density of at least **400 persons per sq. km**.
 - At least **75% of the male working population** engaged in non-agricultural pursuits.

National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC)

Proposed Law

- The National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) was created through the 99th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2014 and the NJAC Act, 2014.
- It attempted to replace the Collegium system for appointing judges to SC and HCs with a multi-stakeholder system.

Structure of NJAC

- Chief Justice of India (Chairman)
- Two senior SC judges
- Union Law Minister

S.R. Bommai case (1994)

- The Supreme Court, in its judgment in S.R. Bom-mai case (1994), had held that the proclamation of President's Rule could be reviewed by courts to en-sure it was not motivated by mala fide reasons.

Article 356

- Article 356 of the Consti-tution covers the circum-stances leading to the Pre-sident's Rule in a State. The President's decision is based on a report given by the Governor about the fai-lure of the constitutional machinery of the State.

Article 200

- Article 200 deals with the Governor's power to deal with State Bills placed before him for assent.

Election Commission of India (ECI)

- The ECI is a high constitutional body that is entrusted with the task of superintending, directing and controlling the preparation of electoral rolls and conducting elections to Parliament, State legislatures and to the offices of the President and the Vice President of India.

Article 324 and Election Commission Powers

- Article 324 grants the Election Commission of India (ECI) extensive powers to conduct free and fair elections, which forms part of the Constitution's basic structure.
- The Supreme Court has recognized Article 324 as a "reservoir of powers" for the ECI to ensure electoral fairness, but it must operate within constitutional and legal bounds.

- The ECI's role is to prepare electoral rolls and conduct elections fairly, not to issue ultimatums to political leaders or engage in adversarial political discourse.
- When citizens report irregularities in electoral rolls, the ECI has a constitutional obligation to examine these complaints and rectify system faults.

Electoral Roll Revision

- The Representation of People Act 1950 provides for electoral roll revision before elections or annually, as directed by the ECI. Special revisions can be conducted in specific constituencies with recorded reasons (Section 21).
- The Registration of Electors Rules 1960 allows for either summary or intensive revision methods (Rule 25).

RTE Act 2009

- Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act or Right to Education Act (RTE), is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted on 4 August 2009 which came into force on 1 April 2010
- The Act makes education a fundamental right of every child between the ages of 6 and 14 and specifies minimum norms in elementary schools. It requires all private schools to reserve 25% of seats to children (to be reimbursed by the state as part of the public-private partnership plan).
- Kids are admitted in to private schools based on economic status or caste based reservations.

- It also prohibits all unrecognised schools from practice, and makes provisions for no donation or capitation fees and no interview of the child or parent for admission.
- The Act also provides that no child shall be held back, expelled, or required to pass a board examination until the completion of elementary education.
- There is also a provision for special training of school drop-outs to bring them up to par with students of the same age
- If a bill is returned for reconsideration and then passed again by the legislature, the Governor is bound to give assent.
- The Supreme Court has ruled that Governors cannot withhold assent indefinitely but must act "as soon as possible"

Article 32

- Article 32 of the Indian Constitution, known as the "Right to Constitutional Remedies," guarantees citizens the right to directly approach the Supreme Court for the enforcement of their Fundamental Rights.
 - This article gives the Supreme Court the power to issue directions, orders, and writs such as habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto, and certiorari to ensure these rights are upheld.
 - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar called it the "heart and soul of the Constitution" for making these rights real and enforceable
- Appointment as Supreme Court Judges**
- Bombay High Court Chief Justice Alok Arade and Patna High Court Chief Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi were both appointed as Supreme Court judges.
 - The Supreme Court Collegium recommended their appointment and the Union Law Ministry issued a notification for the appointment of the two judges.
 - With their assumption of office, the Supreme Court will reach its full strength of 34 judges.

Article 200

- Article 200 of the Indian Constitution outlines the powers of the Governor regarding a Bill passed by the State Legislature, allowing them to assent to it, withhold assent, return it for reconsideration, or reserve it for the President's consideration.
- 1969 - Justice B.V. Rajamannar
- 1983 - Sarkaria Commission
- 2007 - Punchi Commission
- 2025 - Kurian Joseph Committees

Central-State Relations Review Committees

INDIAN ECONOMY

GST 2.0 Reform Committee

- It is a group of State Finance Ministers on next-generation Goods and Services Tax (GST 2.0 reform).
- The Finance Ministry last week recommended to the GST review committee to reduce the existing four GST rates of 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28% into two slabs of 5% and 18%, and to retain a 40% tax rate only on 7 items.
- It also has a plan to provide GST exemption on insurance premium amounts.

Indian Passes

- Lipulekh Pass - Uttarakhand
- Shipki La Pass - Himachal Pradesh
- Nathu La Pass - Sikkim

Lion-tailed Macaque

- **Habitat:** It is omnivorous and eats a variety of foods, although fruits are a major part of their diet.
- Meanwhile, this animal is one of the world's smallest monkey species.
- It is native to the evergreen rainforests of the southern part of the Western Ghats, with its range extending through three states: Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- **Conservation Status**
- **IUCN:** Critically Endangered
- **CITES:** Appendix I
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule I

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** nominated its Executive Director Indranil Bhattacharyya as an ex-officio member of the **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)**.
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a statutory body established to set India's benchmark policy interest rate (repo rate).
- Formed in 2016 under the provisions of the RBI Act, 1934 (amended in 2016).
- It is an institutionalised inflation targeting framework in India.
- The Governor of RBI serves as the ex-officio Chairperson of the MPC.

Structure of Organisation

- **6 members in total:**
- 3 members from the RBI (Governor, Deputy Governor in charge of monetary policy, and one Executive Director).
- 3 external members nominated by the Central Government.

National Company Law Appellate

Tribunal (NCLAT)

- The NCLAT (National Company Law Appellate Tribunal) was established on June 1, 2016, under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013 to hear appeals against orders from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and other bodies like the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India and the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

- The tribunal plays a crucial role in India's corporate and insolvency dispute resolution process.

India - 2nd-largest economy by 2038 in PPP terms

- India's economy could reach \$20.7 trillion in terms of purchasing power parity (PPP) by 2030 and may emerge as the second-largest economy by 2038 with \$34.2 trillion GDP, according to report by an EY Economy Watch
- The report also said that with appropriate countermeasures, India can limit the adverse impact of higher US tariffs on selected Indian imports to about 10 basis points of real GDP growth.
- India is emerging as one of the most dynamic among the world's five largest economies, with strong economic fundamentals including high savings and investment rates, favourable demographics, and a sustainable fiscal position.

India's GDP Growth

- According to central government data, the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 7.8 percent in the first quarter (April-June) of the current financial year (2025-26).
- It is noteworthy that GDP grew by 8.4 percent in the January-March 2024 quarter.
- India continues to be a rapidly growing economy.
- The value of the Indian Rupee against the Dollar has declined to Rs. 88.19, reaching an unprecedented low.

Data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO):

- The country's GDP has achieved a growth of 7.8 percent in the April-June quarter of 2025-26. The growth in the agriculture sector and services sector including trade, hotels, finance, and real estate has been the main reason for this.

TAMIL NADU

ASI's underwater studies at Mahabalipuram

- The Underwater Archaeology Wing (UAW) of the ASI has resumed its underwater archaeological studies off the coast of Mahabalipuram after a gap of two decades.
- The new phase of fieldwork is a continuation of previous investigations carried out in 2001 and systematic excavations in 2004-2005.
- **New Phase of Study (2025):** Equipped with a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) for high-resolution imagery and video of submerged remains without disturbing them.
- Mahabalipuram monuments built during 7th-8th century Pallava dynasty. Served as a landmark to sailors for centuries.
- **Earlier Discoveries:** The underwater study conducted east of the Shore Temple and north of the Mahisasura rock revealed submerged remains, including three walls and carved architectural members of ancient temples.

Tamil Nadu Tourism

- Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation's revenue rose fivefold from Rs.49.11 crore (2020-21) to ₹243.31 crore (2023-24).
- **Policy Milestone:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, on September 26, released 'Tourism Policy 2023' which aims to attract investments of Rs.20,000 crore into this sector over the next five years.
- Major Projects Implemented:
- **Keeladi Museum:**

- Established to showcase findings from the Keeladi excavations (Sangam-era urban settlement).
- Exhibits artefacts such as pottery, beads, tools, and inscriptions that reveal the urban culture of ancient Tamil civilization (6th century BCE - 1st century CE).

Jallikattu Arena (Alanganallur, Madurai district)

- India's First Fiberglass Sea Bridge: (Kanniyakumari)
 - First of its kind in India, offering visitors panoramic views of the confluence of the Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal, and Arabian Sea.

Cauvery delta records highest-ever Kuruvai crop coverage this year

- The Cauvery delta has achieved its highest-ever Kuruvai crop coverage this year, exceeding six lakh acres.
- As of August 10, the coverage was 6.09 lakh acres, which is about 40% higher than the normal coverage of 4.4 lakh acres.
- This represents a 57% increase compared to last year's coverage of 3.88 lakh acres.
- The previous record was 5.6 lakh acres, set in 2023-24.
- Thanjavur and Tiruvarur districts alone account for nearly two lakh acres each of the total coverage.

District	Kuruvai coverage*	
	2025	2025
I. Delta (Kuruvai)		
Cuddalore	29,363	26,488
Tiruchi	13,170	13,086
Ariyalur	9,196	7,054
Thanjavur	194,283	141,385

Nagapattinam	74,636	4,261
Mayiladuthurai	96,703	96,836
Tiruvarur	191,603	98,622
Delta total	608,954	387,733
II. Non-delta		
Kar (southern districts)	96,342	81,752
Summer planting - April & May	102,952	74,337
Sornavari (northern districts)	424,470	405,008
Non-delta total	623,764	561,098
GRAND TOTAL	1,232,718	948,831

Instant crop loan scheme

- The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched an instant crop loan scheme under Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) on a pilot basis in Dharmapuri on 17, August 2025.
- Farmers can apply online, and loan amounts will be credited to their accounts on the same day.
- It replaces earlier system of in-person applications and long waiting periods.
- Tamil Nadu Semiconductor Mission 2030 (TNSM 2030)
- Tamil Nadu sanctioned the Semiconductor Design Promotion Scheme under its Rs.500-crore TNSM 2030 (Announced in the Tamil Nadu Budget 2025).
- **Aim:** To strengthen the fabless design ecosystem with subsidies and prototyping grants.
- **Goal:** Position Tamil Nadu as a hub for chip innovation.
- 1,000 engineering students to be trained under the India Semiconductor Workforce Development Program (ISWDP).

Mudhalvarin Kaakkum Karangal

- Chief Minister launched the 'Mudhalvarin Kaakkum Karangal' scheme on 19 August 2025 to help former servicemen take up entrepreneurship.
- Chief Minister launched the distribution of aid to 155 former servicemen, who would receive a total of ₹24.43 crore, including a 30% capital subsidy for their businesses.
- In the first phase of the scheme, a total of 348 beneficiaries would get ₹50.50 crore in aid, including a 30% capital subsidy and a 3% interest subsidy, which is expected to reduce the financial burden on former servicemen taking up entrepreneurship.

Objectives of the Scheme

- To promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among Ex-servicemen and their dependents.
- To offer financial support through loans with subsidies.
- To provide training for skill and entrepreneurial development

The Tamil Nadu government is planning to conduct an Inter-State migrant labour survey

- Tamil Nadu govt. to conduct an Inter-State migrant labour survey to study in-migration, its patterns, and economic implications.
- It aims to cover all 38 districts.
- **The proposed survey aims**
 - To understand migration (the process, mode of recruitment, and migration history)
 - Analyse the working and living conditions (accommodation, food, and other living expenses) of the migrants

- Understand their health condition (access to health check-ups and health centres)
- Understand their social welfare (social security schemes), and provide policy suggestions.
- **2015:** Tamil Nadu Migration Survey - Inter-State in-migration to Tamil Nadu is largely an urban phenomenon, with most migrants concentrated in cities.
- **2016:** Survey in Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur - About 85% of the respondents were from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Assam, West Bengal and Jharkhand.
- As per the 'Report on Life and Times of Migrant Workers in Chennai Region - 2024-25' released by the State Planning Commission: Migrants in Chennai region mainly from Bihar, Odisha, Assam.
- As of Aug 5, 2025, 93,15,434 unorganised workers (incl. migrant workers) registered on eShram portal in Tamil Nadu.

Breakfast Scheme

- The breakfast program is set to be expanded to government-aided schools in cities.
- Program providing breakfast to government school students
- Launch: Started on September 15, 2022 in Madurai.
- **Expansion:**
 - Thiruvallur district, in Thiruvallur
 - Subsequently expanded to government-aided primary schools in rural areas.

Health Improvement:

- The breakfast program has increased the number of male and female students coming to school, and has also improved children's learning abilities.

Farmer Welfare Service Center

- Agriculture Minister's call to apply for subsidy Farmer Welfare Service Centers
- Subsidy of Rs. 3 lakh to Rs. 6 lakh for establishing Chief Minister's Farmer Welfare Service Centers.

About Farmer Welfare Service Centers

- Various special programs are being implemented by the Tamil Nadu government to protect farmers' welfare. As a continuation of this, it was announced in this year's government budget that 1,000 Chief Minister's Farmer Welfare Service Centers will be established to help young people who have completed agricultural graduation.
- Under this scheme, 30 percent subsidy, i.e., Rs. 3 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh, will be provided to establish farmer welfare service centers worth Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh.
- Those between 20 to 45 years of age who have completed agriculture-related graduation and wish to benefit from this scheme can apply for appropriate subsidy on the website "AGRISNET "after obtaining loan approval from the bank.

Tamil Literature Aptitude Test

- Tamil language literature aptitude test will be conducted for Plus 1 students to improve Tamil literary skills and to receive scholarships.
- 1,500 students will be selected from across Tamil Nadu in this test and will be provided Rs. 1,500 per month for two years through the School Education Department.
- In this test, 50 percent will be given to government school students, and the remaining 50 percent will be given to other private school students including government-aided school students.

'Agalvilakku' (Light of Knowledge)

- Internet usage has brought about a huge change in daily life. Although there are numerous constructive uses in it, cyber crimes targeting women, school and college female students are increasing.
- Cyber criminals very easily deceive innocent people.
- To educate school female students about internet-related crimes, a handbook named 'Agalvilakku' has been recently released by the Tamil Nadu School Education Department.
- This explains in detail about online frauds such as hiding one's identity on the internet and threatening to extort money, obscene portrayal, hate speech, spreading illegal information.
- The idea arose that the steps to be taken for those caught in the grip of cyber criminals to recover from it should be taught at the school level itself.
- Accordingly, the methods for this have been mentioned in the currently released 'Agalvilakku' handbook.
- The 'Agalvilakku' handbook explains about dealing with sending obscene pictures by someone, sharing wrong news and photographs about a particular person on social media, and types of cyber crimes.
- If female students follow the 10 instructions mentioned in this, they can get safe internet usage.

Project School

- The 'Project School' scheme introduced by Coimbatore District Police helps prevent crimes against girl children and protect them from sexual harassment.

- Moreover, self-defense arts and awareness about sexual crimes are the main features of this scheme.

Police Akka (Police Sister)

- The Police Akka scheme started by Tamil Nadu Police to prevent crimes against women and children and ensure their safety was welcomed by college female students. In this scheme too, internet-related crimes were mostly investigated.
- Mobile phone numbers of female police officers are provided, and measures are being taken for affected female students to contact them and get solutions. Moreover, female police officers working under this scheme visit colleges at regular intervals and create awareness among female students about cyber crimes and other matters.

Toll-free Phone Number for Women

- After the Nirbhaya incident in New Delhi, based on the recommendation of Justice Verma Commission, the central government introduced a toll-free helpline number for women.
- Accordingly, the toll-free phone number '181' is in use in Tamil Nadu.

Vaalnthu kaatuvom

- 3,77,367 people living in 3,994 villages have benefited under the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Program called "Vaalnthu kaatuvom" which encourages Tamil Nadu Rural Entrepreneurs and Producers Collective Framework.

'Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana' Scheme

- Under the 'Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana'

scheme for agriculture and its allied sector rejuvenation, Rs. 8.98 crore has been provided to 85 agricultural enterprises since 2019.

- Addresses the financial needs of rural entrepreneurs in the form of subsidies
- Rural industrial estate infrastructure with information and application centers are designed to encourage rural entrepreneurial capabilities.

Uyavukku padi (Steps to Success)

- In government, Chennai, Adi Dravidar welfare higher secondary schools, among 4,691 students who studied Plus 2 in the academic years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 and passed, failed, did not write exams, dropped out, did not apply for higher education, applied for higher education but did not join college due to various reasons - to provide appropriate counseling and guidance to continue higher education studies, "Steps to Success" camp will be conducted in four phases in Chennai district under the "Naan Mudhalvan" higher education guidance scheme.

Kalaingar Mahalir Urimai Thogai scheme

- Introduced in 2023 by the Tamil Nadu government.
- Provides Rs.1,000 monthly assistance to women heads of families earning less than Rs.2.5 lakh annually.
- Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to recognise women's unpaid domestic and care work through financial compensation.
- Scheme benefits 1.14 crore women in Tamil Nadu.
- Followed later by Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Jharkhand with similar initiatives.
- **Time Use Survey 2024**

- 81.5% of women engage in unpaid domestic work vs 27% of men.

- Women spend **289 minutes/day** on unpaid domestic services vs **88 minutes for men.**

- Women spend **137 minutes/day** on caregiving vs **75 minutes for men.**

- **A King's College London** study on the Kalaingar Mahalir Urimai Thittam found that about 50% of women spent the aid on household goods or food, while others used it for medical expenses and cooking gas.

Illam Thedi Kalvi

- This scheme was launched on 27th October 2021 at Mudaliarkuppam near Marakkanam.
- Illam Thedi Kalvi scheme is being implemented to bridge the learning gap and losses of students studying in government schools from class one to eight during the lockdown due to the spread of the Corona pandemic.
- A form has been provided on this website for volunteers who want to provide teaching services at the 'Illam Thedi Kalvi' centres in the evenings after school.

Ennum Ezhuthum scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched an Ennum Ezhuthum' scheme in Tiruvallur.
- A scheme is aimed at ensuring that by 2025, all students from class 1 to 3 under eight years of age in Tamil Nadu are able to read with comprehension and have basic arithmetic skills.
- The scheme will be implemented in government and government-aided schools for three years starting this academic year.
- The scheme aims to bridge the learning gap.

Vasippu Iyakkam

- The Tamil Nadu government launched the Vasippu Iyakkam (Reading Movement) in July 2023 to encourage reading habits among students in government schools, starting with a pilot phase in the Thuraiyur block of Tiruchi district.
- The program was designed to promote reading for students in Classes 4 to 9, with books classified by complexity into "Nuzhai," "Nada," "Odu," and "Para" levels
- Launched by Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on August 25
- The index evaluated Chennai across 23 indicators grouped into three components – native biodiversity, ecosystem services, and biodiversity governance and management.
- CBI would be developed for five more cities in Tamil Nadu.

Uthiramerur inscription


- **Location:** Uthiramerur, Kanchipuram district, Chengalpattu district
- **King:** Paranthakan I
- **Regnal year:** 12 and 14
- **Language:** Tamil
- The first 12 lines of this inscription, which talk about the Kudavolai system, state

Awards and honors

- Periyar Award - Kanimozhi
- Anna Award - Mana Subha. Seetharaman
- Kalaignar Award - So.Ma. Ramachandran
- Pavendhar Award - Sivaraman
- Professor Award - Marudhur Ramalingam,
- M.K. Stalin Award - Pongalur Na. Palanisamy

First-ever Biodiversity Index for Chennai

- Conducted by ICLEI South Asia, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, and Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC).
- Known as the City Biodiversity Index (CBI) or Singapore Index, developed with the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat.
- Chennai scored 38 out of a possible 72 points.
- Guindy National Park and Pallikarandai Marsh (Ramsar site) identified as biodiversity hotspots. But only 5.02% of land is under legal protection.
- This is the first systematic study of fireflies in Tamil Nadu that included genetic analysis.
- The findings highlight the importance of minimizing light pollution around forest and wildlife areas, as fireflies can serve as an indicator species for the effects of light pollution on wildlife.



High and Low
Though the city scored high on indicators assessing the proportion of natural areas, it has no Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, says the study

Component	Indicators	Max Score	Chennai Score
Native biodiversity in the city	Natural areas, connectivity, native species, invasive species, protected areas	20	15
Ecosystem services provided by biodiversity	Water regulation, climate regulation, parks, education visits	16	6
Governance and management of biodiversity	Budget, projects, policies, institutional capacity, partnerships, awareness	36	17
TOTAL		72	38

Anamalai Tiger Reserve is home to 8 species of fireflies

- A recent study conducted by the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC) in Vandalur has identified eight species of fireflies in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) in the Western Ghats.

▪ **Eight species of fireflies identified:**

- *Abscondita perplexa*
- *Abscondita terminalis*
- *Asymmetricata humeralis*
- *Curtos* (three species)
- *Lamprigera* sp.
- *Pyrocoelia* sp.

IITM For All programme

- As many as 28 government school students from Tamil Nadu have received admission into IIT Madras (IIT-M) under the 'IITM For All' programme.

About

- "IIT For All" programme, known as Anaivarukkum IIT Madras, was launched in July 2022
- It aims to make IIT Madras accessible to all, especially for people in the rural areas due to their economic conditions, digital accessibility and other factors.

Vaikunda Swamikal

- Vaikunda Swamikal was a pioneer of social reform, fighting against caste discrimination and the rigid social hierarchies of his time to establish equality and social justice.

Ayya Vazhi:

- He introduced Ayya Vazhi, a unique religious way of life, and his followers affectionately called him "Ayya".
- This movement promoted unity and challenged divisions based on caste.

Religious & Social Institutions:

- He established Pathis and Nizhal Thankals, which served as temples for those denied entry into ordinary temples, fostering community and spiritual growth for the marginalized.

Equality in Practice:

- Through practices like sama panthi bhojan (community meals), he aimed to achieve unity and equality among all people, regardless of caste.



NATIONAL - NEWS

100 Years of Kakori Train Action

- On 9th August 1925, Indian revolutionaries carried out the Kakori train action on the Number 8 Down train from Shahjahanpur to Lucknow, aiming to seize British government funds to support the freedom struggle.
- After the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919) and suspension of Non-Cooperation Movement (1922), young nationalists formed Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) (1924) to fund revolutionary activities by seizing British treasury money transported by train.
- It was carried out by revolutionaries like Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, Rajendra Lahiri, Keshav Chakraborty, Mukundi Lal, Banwari Lal, and Chandrashekhar Azad (member of HRA).
- British crackdown after the Kakori robbery led to arrests of many, of whom 17 were jailed, four transported for life and four—Bismil, Ashfaqullah, Roshan Singh and Rajendra Lahiri were hanged. Kakori proved to be a setback.
- Chandrashekhar Azad was one of the few revolutionaries who managed to escape police charges.

Operation Sadbhavana

- Indian Army inaugurates 'Arogyam health & wellness centre' in Tawang under Operation Sadbhavana.

About Operation Sadbhavana

- **Launched by:** Indian Army in 1998 in Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Aim:** Apply "healing touch" and Win Hearts and Minds (WHAM) of people affected by terrorism and insurgency.
- **Purpose:** Extended Army's role from border defence & counter-insurgency to development and community welfare.
- **Focus Areas:** Education, healthcare, women empowerment, skill development, sports, infrastructure, ecology & environment.

India's first fully digitally literate State

- Kerala will officially be declared a fully digitally literate State on August 21.
- Marking the realisation of the first phase of the Digi Kerala project, a grassroots level intervention across all local bodies to bridge the digital divide.

NATIONAL SCHEMES

National Deep Water Exploration

Mission

- Prime Minister of India announced the National Deep Water Exploration Mission on the 79th Independence Day to boost offshore oil and gas discovery, targeting areas like the Andaman Sea and deep waters off the Andhra coast to achieve energy self-reliance.
- It is a **flagship energy security initiative** to explore untapped oil and gas reserves beneath India's seabed.
- It is designed to operate in **mission mode** for accelerated offshore exploration.
- Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- Supported by **Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH)** and allied research institutions.
- Objective:** Reduce import dependence on crude oil and natural gas, boost domestic hydrocarbon production, ensure long-term energy security, and promote Aatmanirbhar Bharat in the energy sector.

SWAYAM Portal

- The Ministry of Education is offering free Artificial Intelligence (AI) courses on the Swayam Portal to help students stay updated with the rising demand for AI skills.
- SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) is India's own MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course) platform of the Ministry of Education (MoE) initiative and was launched during 2017.

- It seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy.
- It is an indigenously developed IT platform that facilitates hosting of all the courses taught in classrooms from Class 9 till post-graduation to be accessed by anyone, anywhere, at any time.
- All the courses are interactive, prepared by the best teachers in the country, and are available, free of cost, to the residents in India.

PM Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana portal

- The Union government launched the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana portal on 18, August 2025.

About Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana

- The scheme, under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, aims to support the creation of over 3.5 crore jobs in two years.
- The Scheme has two key parts

Part A - Support to First-Time Employees:

- It targets first-time employees registered with Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).
- Incentive:** One-month EPF wage up to Rs 15,000 in two instalments.
- Eligible Employees:** Employees with salaries up to Rs 1 lakh per month.

Part B - Incentives for Employers

- Eligibility:** Employers will receive incentives in respect of new employees with salaries up to Rs 1 lakh.
- Incentive:** Up to Rs 3000 per month, for two years, for each additional employment, sustained for at least six months.

PM-POSHAN Scheme

- The PM-POSHAN Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by the Ministry of Education.
- **Launched In:** 2021-22 (replacing the 1995 Midday Meal Scheme)
- It aims to provide one hot cooked meal per school day to 11.20 crore children studying in Balvatikas (pre-primary) and Classes 1 to 8 across 10.36 lakh government and government-aided schools.
- The scheme addresses twin objectives:
 - Enhancing nutritional status of school-going children.
 - Improving enrollment, retention, and attendance in schools, especially among disadvantaged children.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)

- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) is a primary rural housing scheme of the Indian government.
- It was launched on April 1, 2016, with the aim of providing
 - This scheme has been extended until 2028-29, with a target to construct "Housing for All" by 2022. an additional 2 crore houses.

Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0)

- Launched in 2021, the SBM Urban 2.0 has the target of clearing around 2,400 legacy landfill sites in the country by 2025-2026.
- Legacy waste dumpsites are places that contain solid waste that has been collected and stored for years in an unscientific and uncontrolled manner.

- The Swachh Bharat Mission's "**Lakshya Zero Dumping Site**" initiative aims to remove old waste sites and create "**garbage-free cities.**"

Lakshpati Didi Initiative

- This was announced by the Prime Minister on August 15, 2023 with the aim of empowering women.
- **Objective:** Encouraging women to start small enterprises within their villages.
- Under the Lakshpati Didi initiative, the government aims to train two crore women.

UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme

- These Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) was launched on October 21, 2016.
- Rooted in the Prime Minister's vision that even a common man in slippers should be able to afford air travel
 - It aims to democratize aviation by making flying accessible and affordable for all.
 - Implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, this flagship scheme has since transformed India's regional connectivity landscape.

Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme

- India has announced plans for 27% ethanol blending in petrol (E27) by 2030, extending its successful Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme.
- Ethanol, an alcohol derived mainly from sugarcane, maize, and surplus food grains, is blended with petrol to create a cleaner, renewable transport fuel.
- The Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched in 2003, beginning with 5% blending.

NAMASTE Scheme

- The objective of the “National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem” (NAMASTE) scheme is to formalize and institutionalize the persons engaged in hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks and promoting safe and mechanized cleaning through trained sanitation workers.
- It is jointly being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- It is implemented by the National Safai Karmacharis Finance Development Corporation (NSKFD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE).
- It would be implemented for three years from FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26.
- **Target Groups:** Sewer and septic tank sanitation workers (SSWs) and waste pickers in urban areas of India.

One Nation One Subscription

- In response to the vision of making India Atmanirbhar and Viksitbharat@2047, the Government of India approved One Nation One Subscription scheme to provide country-wide access to international high impact scholarly research articles and journal publications to students, faculty and researchers of all Higher Education Institutions managed by the central government and state governments and Research & Development Institutions of the central government.
- The One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) intends to acquire national licenses for

e-journal/database subscriptions from most of the prominent journal publishers.

- ONOS is starting its operation from 1st January 2025. ONOS phase-I has been approved for the calendar years 2025, 2026 and 2027

Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA)

- Government of India has launched Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), a transformative initiative to drive inclusive and sustainable development in tribal regions
- DAJGUA aims to address critical gaps in social infrastructure, healthcare, education, and livelihoods through 25 targeted interventions implemented by 17 line ministries.
- By fostering convergence and expanding outreach, the initiative is committed to ensuring holistic development for tribal communities
- From June 15 to July 15, 2025, a nationwide Awareness & Benefit Saturation Campaign for Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) awareness, screening, and counseling will also be held in SCD-affected tribal states during this period.

Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs has officially launched Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan on August 2025
- It was envisaged as the world’s largest tribal grassroots leadership programme, aimed at empowering tribal communities, strengthening responsive governance, and creating local leadership opportunities across the country.

- This initiative forms a key part of the Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh and contributing towards the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.
- Designed to transform India into a global design and manufacturing hub, Make in India was a timely solution to a critical situation.

Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi

- Ministry of Women and Child Development launched Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi - an initiative that transforms Anganwadi Centres into vibrant early learning hubs.
- For the first time, Anganwadi workers are being systematically trained in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), focusing on activity-based and play-oriented approaches using local and indigenous materials.
- Budget allocations for teaching-learning materials have also been significantly enhanced, and monthly Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) days have been institutionalised

Aadharshila

- Ministry has introduced Aadharshila, the National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education for children aged 3-6 years.
- Aadharshila focuses on the holistic development of children emphasising not only intellectual growth but also emotional, physical, and social well-being.
- It approaches learning through structured play, allowing children to grow and thrive in a nurturing environment.

Make in India

- As part of the nation-building efforts, the Prime Minister launched the Make in India initiative in September 2014.

PM SVANidhi

- To improve the situation of street vendors who were severely affected by the lockdown imposed during the Corona pandemic, the Central Government introduced this loan scheme on June 1, 2020.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Department of Financial Services (DFS) are jointly implementing this scheme.
- While this loan scheme's period ended on December 31, 2024, it has now been extended until March 31, 2030.

Current Status:

- Under the PM SVANidhi restructuring scheme, the first installment loan limit for street vendors has been increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000. Similarly, the second installment loan has been increased from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000.
- The third installment loan will continue to be provided at Rs. 50,000 as before.
- Street vendors who repay their second loan on time will be eligible to receive a 'RuPay' credit card with Unified Payments Interface (UPI) facility.
- Additionally, vendors who opt for digital transactions in retail and wholesale trade will be provided with incentive amounts up to Rs. 1,600

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) This scheme was launched on 23rd September,

2018 in Ranchi to provide accessible and affordable healthcare to the common man

- This is the “world’s largest government funded healthcare program” targeting more than 50 crore beneficiaries.

MGNREGA scheme

- The MGNREGA scheme was launched with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act being enacted in 2005 (specifically, August 25, 2005) and implemented in phases starting from February 2006, with initial districts being covered in the financial year 2006-07

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)

- The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana was launched on August 28, 2014, with the objective of expanding financial services to all families in the country.
- This scheme aims to provide every family with at least one bank account, financial awareness, credit, insurance, and pension facilities.
- This represents India's National Financial Inclusion Program. This financial inclusion initiative has completed 11 years by connecting India's unbanked population with formal banking services through systematic policy implementation.

Skill India Mission

- Government of India launched on 15th July 2015 aimed to train over 400 million individuals by 2022.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)

- It was launched in the year 2015 to promote and encourage skill development in India.

- The scheme, overseen by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), provides free short-term training to youth and offers monetary rewards for skill certification

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKK)

- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) are physical centers established under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) launched in 2015 to provide skill development training

Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)

- It was launched in 1967, aims to provide skill training in a non-formal mode at the doorsteps of the beneficiary through registered Societies (NGOs) with 100% grant from the Government of India

Pradhan Mantri Yuva Yojana (PMYY)

- PM Yuva scheme, officially known as the Prime Minister's Young Authors Mentorship Scheme, was launched in 2021.
- The first edition, YUVA 1.0, was launched in May 2021. YUVA 3.0 was launched on March 11, 2025
- It aims to empower young authors and provide them with mentorship to develop their writing skills and perspectives on various aspects of India

Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP)

- It was launched on January 19, 2018, by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) with the help of the World Bank, and it concluded its implementation period in March 2023.

- The scheme's primary aim was to strengthen the skill development ecosystem in India, focusing on institutional mechanisms, quality assurance, and inclusive training for marginalized groups
- Chennai.
- This application has been developed in such a way that even if fishermen keep their mobile phones on silent mode, it will generate warning sounds about storms and other natural disasters.

MILMEDICON-2025

- India hosts international meeting on military medicine
- MILMEDICON-2025 International conference on physical and mental trauma in military settings" inaugurated at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi.
- The two-day event has been organised by the Directorate General of Medical Services (Army).
- Marking the Indian Army's 'Year of Reforms', it is positioned as a strategic initiative to strengthen international cooperation and enhance trauma care in operational settings.
- To receive all types of weather warnings, the National Disaster Management Authority's SACHET application or

Samudra App

- Developed by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services

BioCARE programme

- Department of Biotechnology's (DBT) BioCARE programme was launched in 2011 to support and advance women in biotechnology research, providing them with their first extramural research grant, particularly after career breaks.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was launched in India in 2001 by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The program aims to provide universal elementary education to all children in the 6 to 14 age group
- The programme aims to encourage women to re-enter the scientific mainstream and secure independent research funding and a launchpad for their careers in science

Mukhya Mantri Mahila Rozgar Yojana

SACHET App

- A mobile application that warns fishermen during storm periods is set to be implemented on a trial basis.
- A conference on various maritime hazardous operations in Indian coastal areas was held in
- to provide financial assistance to one woman from every family in the State to start a business of her choice.
- Under the scheme, a woman from every family would be provided ₹10,000 as the first instalment.s

REPORTS & INDICES

Rethinking Homestays: Navigating Policy Pathways Report

- NITI Aayog released the report "Rethinking Homestays: Navigating Policy Pathways" on 22 August 2025 in collaboration with IAMAI.
- The report aims to provide a strategic roadmap for strengthening India's homestay and BnB (Bed and Breakfasts) sectors.
- It is a policy-oriented document highlighting opportunities and challenges in India's homestay ecosystem.

UDISE+ 2024-25 Report

- In the academic year 2024-25, for the first time in the country, the number of school teachers has crossed 1 crore, as revealed by data from the Ministry of Education.
- Improvement in Student-Teacher Ratio: The National Education Policy recommends that schools should have one teacher for every 30 students.
- This leads to benefits in education such as providing additional attention to each student, strengthening interaction between teachers and students, contributing to enhanced learning experiences, and improving teaching effectiveness.

In Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu has one teacher for every 23 students. The number of single-teacher schools has decreased by approximately 6 percent.
- Similarly, the number of schools with no student enrollment has also declined by approximately 38 percent.

- In the academic year 2024-25, the student dropout rate has decreased significantly.

National Annual Report and Index on Women's Safety (NARI) 2025

- **Safest cities:**
 - Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kohima, Bhubaneswar, Aizawl, Gangtok, and Itanagar were ranked among top colleges
- **Unsafe/not safe:**
 - Patna, Jaipur, Faridabad, Delhi, Kolkata, Srinagar and Ranchi
 - Overall, six in 10 women surveyed felt "safe" in their city, but 40% still considered themselves "not so safe" or "unsafe".

Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2023-24

- Tamil Nadu was the top State in terms of the number of factories and people employed in the manufacturing sector, according to the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2023-24, released by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI)

According to the survey

- Tamil Nadu was third in Fixed Capital (8.09%), Output (10.11%), and Gross Value Added (10.26%).
- Tamil Nadu was home to 15.43% of the factories across the country, followed by Gujarat.
- Tamil Nadu accounting for 15.24% in terms of number of people were employed in factories across the country followed by Gujarat
- Tamil Nadu remained as the talent capital as well as the manufacturing capital of India.

EMINENT PERSONALITIES

200th birth anniversary of Jyotiba Phule

- Prime Minister of India announced a year-long series of events to mark the 200th birth anniversary of Jyotiba Phule, celebrating his legacy in social reform, women's empowerment, and caste equality.
- Jyotirao Govindrao Phule was born on 11 April 1827 in Satara, now in Maharashtra.

Contributions in Social Reform & Freedom Movement

- Women's Education Pioneer
 - Opened India's first school for girls (1848) in Pune.
 - Educated his wife, Savitribai Phule, who became India's first female teacher.
- Caste Equality Champion
 - Founded Satyashodhak Samaj (1873) to promote social justice, oppose Brahmanical dominance, and unite oppressed communities.
- Opened his well to all castes, symbolising social inclusivity.
- Abolition of Social Evils
 - Opposed child marriage and supported widow remarriage.
 - Established shelters for widows and orphaned children.
- Advocate of Rights through Literature
 - Authored Gulamgiri (Slavery, 1873) drawing parallels between caste oppression in India and racial slavery in America.
- Influence on Later Leaders
 - Inspired B.R. Ambedkar and several anti-caste and social justice movements in India.

Sri Aurobindo

- Prime Minister of India paid tribute to Sri

Aurobindo on his birth anniversary (15 August 1872), highlighting his role as a philosopher, spiritual leader, and freedom fighter who linked nation-building with spiritual evolution.

Contribution to Freedom Movement:

- Radical Nationalism – First Indian leader to demand complete independence through his paper Bande Mataram.
- Revolutionary Role – Member of Anushilan Samiti and involved in armed resistance against British rule.
- Alipore Bomb Case (1908) – Arrested but acquitted and transformed spiritually during imprisonment.
- Advocated direct action over moderate politics.

Literary Contributions:

- Philosophical Works – The Life Divine, the Synthesis of Yoga, Essays on the Gita.
- Poetry and Epics – Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol.
- Political and Cultural Writings – The Human Cycle, The Ideal of Human Unity

Durgabai Deshmukh

- Durgabai Deshmukh was a prominent freedom fighter, social reformer, and advocate for women's rights.
- She established Andhra Mahila Sabha in 1937 to promote education and welfare for women in Andhra Pradesh.
- The organization focused on empowering women through education, vocational training, and healthcare services.
- Durgabai Deshmukh was also instrumental in setting up several institutions for social welfare and development, such as hospitals and educational centers.

IMPORTANT DAYS

king and the guardian deity of his land and people.

World Photography Day 2025

- Every year on **August 19**, the world celebrates **World Photography Day**, a global tribute to the art, science, and impact of photography.
- **The 2025 theme** is "My Favorite Photo".
- The book "**M.S. Swaminathan: The Man who Fed India**", authored by Priyambada Jayakumar, is a biography of the renowned agricultural scientist.

World Humanitarian Day 2025

- **Date:** Observed annually on August 19.
- **Theme 2025:** "Strengthening Global Solidarity and Empowering Local Communities"

World Senior Citizens' Day 2025

- World Senior Citizens' Day is observed every year on **August 21**.
- **The 2025 Theme:** "Empowering Elderly Voices for an Inclusive Future"

August 20 - Maveeran Ondiveeran Memorial Day

- In South Tamil Nadu, among the brave warriors who fought against the British as Poligars and laid down their lives, the valiant Ondiveeran stands great.
- As the army commander of Puli Thevar of the Palayamkottai, Ondiveeran fought against the foreigners, serving as both the protector of his

August 23 - National Space Day

- 2025 Theme: "From Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Ancient Wisdom Boundless Possibilities."

August 22 - Chennai Day

- This is celebrated every year on August 22, which is the widely accepted date when East India Company factors Andrew Cogan and Francis Day purchased the village of Madraspatnam or Chennapatnam from Damarla Venkatadri Nayakar, who was the Viceroy of the Vijayanagara Empire, on August 22, 1639.

National Space Day - August 23

- India marks National Space Day on August 23, 2025, celebrating Chandrayaan-3's landing and the nation's space achievements from Aryabhata to Gaganyaan.
- The theme for 2025 is "**Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Ancient Wisdom to Infinite Possibilities**".

Women's Equality Day 2025

- Observed annually on August 26 in the United States.
- Marks the certification of the 19th Amendment (1920), granting American women the constitutional right to vote.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- The book “**Tiruvallikeni Muthal Tiruvarur Varai**” was authored by Thiruvarur ARA Thiruvidam.

Books written by late former Minister Raghumankhan

- 'Journey of Justice'
- Silent Sleeping Dewdrops
- Unknown Taj Mahals of the World
- Flowers... Blooming Autumn Season
- Stars That Don't Look at the Sky
- Thunder in Legislative Assembly speeches

Novels by Writer Su.Venugopal

- Nunveli Grahanangal (Micro-space Eclipses)
- Koondappanai
- Valasai (Migration)
- Aattam (Game/Performance)
- Nilam Ennum Nallaal (The Good Woman Called Earth)
- He has also written more than twenty books including short stories and essays.

Book

- ‘**Human Rights**’ - V. Pazhani
- **Godhanam Novel** - Premchand



DEFENCE

'Agni-5' missile

- The Agni-5 ballistic missile, which can hit targets at a distance of 5,000 km, has been successfully test-fired.
- The test was conducted at the Integrated Test Range in Chandigarh, Odisha.
- The missile SS has a range of up to 350 km, including northern China, and parts of Asia and Europe.
- Last month, India successfully tested the Prithvi-II, which can carry a warhead of 500 kg and can hit targets at a distance of up to 350 km, the Agni-1, which can carry a warhead of 1,000 kg and can hit targets at a distance of 700 to 900 km, and the Pralay, which can carry a warhead of 500 to 1,000 kg.

Country's First 'AI' Unmanned Combat

Aircraft

- India's first artificial intelligence (AI) technology-equipped unmanned combat aircraft, completely developed indigenously, was displayed at a press meet held in Bengaluru, Karnataka state.
- This unmanned combat aircraft has the capability to fly for long durations at medium altitude in the sky.

Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS)

- **Context:** DRDO successfully flight-tests Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) on August 23, 2025.

- IADWS is a fully indigenous integrated air defence system designed to protect critical assets and strategic locations from diverse aerial threats such as aircraft, drones, and missiles. It consists of,

- Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missiles (QRSAM): Designed for neutralizing high-speed targets at medium ranges.
- Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile: A shoulder-fired missile for close-range, low-altitude threats.
- Directed Energy Weapon (DEW): A high-energy laser weapon capable of destroying drones with precision.

Hydrogen Train

- For the first time in the country, a hydrogen train engine and 8 coaches manufactured by the Chennai Integrated Coach Manufacturing Company (ICF) were transported to the state of Haryana.

- In order to transform rail transport in accordance with environmental protection, it was planned to manufacture a hydrogen train engine and coaches on behalf of the Northern Railway Zone.

- Accordingly, the work to manufacture a hydrogen engine at a cost of Rs. 80 crore was handed over to the ICF company in Chennai

Exercise Maitree 2025

- 14th edition of India-Thailand Exercise Maitree.
- To be held from 1-14 September 2025.

- To enhance counter-terrorism operational capabilities in semi-urban & jungle terrain under UN mandate.
- Started in 2006 as an annual bilateral military exercise between the Indian Army & Royal Thai Army.
- The project will use cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, advanced computing, data analytics, and quantum technology.
- The project will be fully completed by 2035

'Sudarshan Chakram' Air Defence

System Shield

- The Sudarshana Chakram project will be implemented within the next 10 years to protect the country from any threat.

About SSudarshana Chakram:

- India's new air defence system is being developed under the Sudarshana Chakram project, announced in the Prime Minister's Independence Day speech.
- This system will help protect the country's important and national security centers. It is an integrated combination of sensors, missiles, surveillance devices, and artificial intelligence (AI) technology.
- Through this, it will be possible to repel enemy attacks and also carry out precise counter-attacks.

Need

- A high level of coordination is required for the successful implementation of this project.
- Information coming from various sectors will be analyzed in real time and a very accurate security system will be created.
- Information from all security platforms on land, air, sea and underwater will be integrated.

BrahMos missile

- BrahMos is long-range supersonic cruise missile .
- It was first successfully test-fired on June 12, 2001.
- The missile system was developed as a joint venture between India and Russia. It is named after India's Brahmaputra River and Russia's Moskva River.

INS Udaygiri and INS Himgiri

- Indian Navy is set to commission the latest state of the art Project 17A multi-mission stealth frigates Udaygiri and Himgiri at Naval Base, Visakhapatnam.

About INS Udaygiri and INS Himgiri

- Udaygiri, built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDL), Mumbai, and Himgiri, constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata, showcase the nation's growing shipbuilding prowess, as well as, the synergy between India's premier defence shipyards.
- Both frigates were designed in-house by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau (WDB)

SPORTS & GAMES

Asian Shooting Championship

- Asian Shooting Championship held in Kazakhstan
- **Winners**
 - **Senior Category** -Manu Bhaker (India) - Bronze Medal
 - **Junior Category** - Rashmika Sagal (India) - Gold Medal

Asian Shooting Championships - Shymkent, Kazakhstan

- **In the skeet final for the men's** - India's Anantjeet Naruka - Gold
- **10m Air Pistol Mixed Teams** - India's Sruchi Inder Singh, Saurabh Chaudhary pair - Bronze
- **Junior 10m Air Pistol Mixed Teams** - India's Vanshika Chaudhary, Kavin Antoshi pair - Bronze

World Wrestling Championship Competitions

- **Venue:** Bulgaria, Samokou
- U-20 World Wrestling
 - Kajal, Tapasya - Gold

Asian Shooting Championship Competition

- **Venue:** Shimkent, Kazakhstan
- Yashas Virathore, India - Silver
- **Junior Women's Skeet - India**
 - Mansi Raghvanshi - Gold
 - Yashaswi Rathor - Silver
- **Men's Skeet - India**
 - Harmeet Singh - Silver
 - Jyotiraditya - Bronze

- **10m Air Rifle Men's - India**
 - Himanshu Thalan, Ab0hinav Shah, Naren Pranav - Gold
- **10m Air Rifle Junior Men's Individual - India**
 - Abhinav Shah - Gold
- **10m Air Rifle Men's - India**
 - Arjun Babuta, Rudransh Patil, Kiran Ankushyaadav - Gold
- India ranks first in the medal table with a total of 26 medals including 14 gold and 6 silver.

16th Asian Shooting Championship

- **Venue:** Shymkent, Kazakhstan
- **Women's 10m Air Rifle - India**
 - Elavenil Valarivan - Gold
- **Junior Women's Air Rifle - India**
 - Shambhavi, Hridaya, Isha Anil Team - Gold

Khelo India Water Sports Festival (KIWSF) 2025

- The Khelo India Water Sports Festival (KIWSF) 2025 took place from August 21-23 at Dal Lake in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- First consolidated national-level water sports festival under Khelo India; builds on Gulmarg Winter Games legacy.

Rank	State/UT	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Madhya Pradesh	10	3	5	18
2	Odisha	4	5	1	10
3	Kerala	3	1	3	7
4	Uttar Pradesh	2	0	1	3
5	Delhi	1	2	0	3
6	Punjab	1	2	0	3
7	Jammu and Kashmir	1	1	1	3
8	Maharashtra	1	1	0	2
9	West Bengal	1	0	0	1
10	Uttarakhand	0	4	4	8

16th Asian Shooting Championship

- Venue: Shymkent, Kazakhstan
- Gold Medal (Individual and Team - Both Categories)
 - India - Sift Kaur Samra - Gold
- Senior Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol
- Team India's Anish, Adarsh Singh, Neeraj Kumar - Bronze
- Team India's Sift Kaur, Aasi Suchi, Anjum Mutgil - Champion

India's Performance at the Asian Shooting Championship

- Anish Banwala - Silver Medal
- In the 50 Meter Pistol Junior Men's Team category, India's team consisting of Abhinav Chaudhari, Umesh Chaudhari, and Mukesh Nelavalli - Gold
- In the Trap Junior Mixed Team category, India's partnership of Aryavansh Tyagi/Pavya Tripathi - Silver

16th Asian Shooting Championship

- Venue: Shymkent, Kazakhstan
- India's Performance at the Asian Shooting Championship:

25m Standard Pistol Men's Individual Category - India

- Gurpreet Singh - Gold
- Amanpreet Singh - Silver

Team Category - Indian Team

- Gurpreet, Amanpreet, Harsh Gupta team - Gold

Current Medal Standings

- India currently dominates the medal tally with 82 medals - 44 Gold, 20 Silver, and 18 Bronze.

At the Asian Shooting Championship held in Kazakhstan

- India finished with 103 medals across three categories - Senior, Junior, and Youth - winning 52 gold, 26 silver, and 25 bronze medals.
- In the Senior category alone, India secured first place with 31 medals - 14 gold, 8 silver, and 9 bronze.

INTERNATIONAL

UN Convention Against Torture (UNCAT)

- The UN Convention Against Torture (UNCAT) was adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1984, and came into force on June 26, 1987.
- It aims to prevent torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment worldwide.

International Atomic Energy Agency

- **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria
- **Founded:** 29 July 1957
- **About :** The International Atomic Energy Agency is an intergovernmental organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons.

'Bright Star' Joint Exercise – Egypt

- More than 700 personnel from the Indian Armed Forces will participate in the Bright Star joint exercise to be held in Egypt.
- It has been stated that the participation of Indian Armed Forces in this exercise demonstrates India's emphasis on regional peace, stability, security, and enhancing cooperation with friendly nations.

India – Japan -MOC

- India signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with Tokyo on a first-of-its kind Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM).

Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM)

- The JCM is a Japanese initiative, whereby the country implements and invests in lowcarbon technologies in developing countries and the resulting savings in emissions are credited to Japan's account as carbon credits, which it can use to meet its national emissions-reduction targets.
- The JCM will encourage the flow of investment, technology assistance, including technology transfer and capacity building support for the implementation of projects involving these low carbon technologies. It will also develop domestic ecosystem and partnerships to localise low carbon technologies and associated high technology interventions related to equipment, machinery, products, systems and infrastructure, paving the way for their large scale deployment

Amnesty International

- Amnesty International was founded in 1961 to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights, ensuring everyone lives with dignity, equality, and freedom, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.