

VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

NOVEMBER 2025 - PART 2



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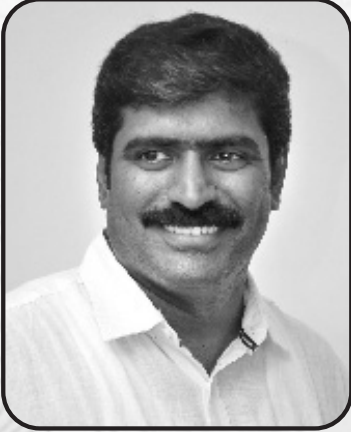
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Preface



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My Dear Aspirants,

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

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

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

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

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

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SCIENCE

GENERAL SCIENCE

Leptospirosis Infection

- Two deaths due to leptospirosis have been reported in Ernakulam district of Kerala.
- Early antibiotic treatment can prevent leptospirosis deaths
- Deaths often occur when patients seek medical help late or when diagnosis is delayed

What is leptospirosis?

- Leptospirosis is caused by a type of bacteria called Leptospira.
- It is a zoonotic disease, meaning it can infect humans from animals.
- The bacteria that cause leptospirosis are spread through the urine of infected animals, which can survive in soil or water for weeks to months.

Types of Leptospirosis

- **Anicteric Syndrome**
 - Anicteric syndrome is the initial stage of leptospirosis.
- **Icteric Syndrome**
 - If people recover and then get sick again, they may enter the second stage of leptospirosis.
 - This form is called icteric syndrome or Weil's disease.

LATEST INVENTIONS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BIRSA 101 Gene Therapy

- India has launched its first indigenous CRISPR-based gene therapy for Sickle Cell Disease,

named BIRSA 101, marking a major milestone in affordable genomic medicine.

- The therapy is named "BIRSA 101", dedicated to the tribal freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda, whose 150th anniversary was recently observed.
- Developed by CSIR-Institute of Genomics & Integrative Biology (IGIB)
- BIRSA 101 uses CRISPR technology like "precise genetic surgery" to edit defective genes inside the patient's cells.
- It corrects the mutation responsible for producing sickle-shaped red blood cells, thereby enabling normal haemoglobin production.
- Once edited, the corrected stem cells are infused back into the patient, offering a potential one-time, and lifelong cure.

Key Features:

- Fully indigenous CRISPR platform (enFnCas9) engineered by IGIB.
- Low-cost alternative to global therapies costing crores.
- Developed under India's Atmanirbhar Bharat push for medical self-reliance.
- Backed by a public-private partnership ensuring scalability, safety, and regulatory readiness.

R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine

- Gavi and UNICEF signed a new agreement to make the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine more accessible and affordable.
- UNICEF is the world's largest vaccine buyer, procuring nearly 3 billion doses annually.

WHO has prequalified two malaria vaccines:

- **R21/Matrix-M** – co-developed by University of Oxford + Serum Institute of India, using Novavax's Matrix-M adjuvant.
- **RTS,S/AS01** – developed by GSK, PATH and partners.

About GAVI the Vaccine Alliance

- It is an independent public-private global health partnership established in 2000.
- Its core mission is to improve access to new and underused vaccines for children in the world's poorest countries.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- It brings together developing country and donor governments, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the vaccine industry, research and technical agencies, civil society organizations, and private philanthropists.

Solaras S2 nano satellite Mission

- Grahaa Space, a Bengaluru-based spacetech startup, has received authorisation from IN-SPACe to launch its first nano satellite mission, Solaras S2.
- The mission is a technology demonstration, planned for launch by the end of November.
- The launch will happen from Alcântara Space Center (CEA) located in Brazil through the **Hanbit-Nano launch vehicle developed by Korea-based Innospace.**

JUNO and INO

- Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory (JUNO) (China) has been completed and has already released its first scientific results,

marking major progress in determining neutrino mass ordering.

- India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) (India) remains stalled due to prolonged delays.
- Both JUNO and INO were designed to study neutrinos – especially to determine the ordering of neutrino masses by observing how neutrinos oscillate as they travel through matter.

About India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO):

- Jointly funded by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- **Location:** Bodi West hills of Theni District of Tamil Nadu.

India's first global-level aircraft engine

- Prime Minister inaugurated India's first global-level aircraft engine MRO facility on 26 November 2025 in Hyderabad.
- The facility is named Safran Aircraft Engine Services India (SAESI) and was developed by Safran, a French aerospace giant.
- Supports India's goal to become a global aerospace hub under Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiatives
- **Capacity & Employment:**
 - Up to 300 engine overhauls annually by 2035
 - Employ 1,000+ highly skilled Indian engineers and technicians
- India is the 3rd largest domestic aviation market globally.

Inland Shipping Management System

- IIT Madras has set up the first Inland Shipping Management System for ports.
- Researchers from IIT Madras, through its National Technology Centre for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC) have developed an Inland Shipping Management System for ports and brought it to use at the Kollam Vizhinjam International Port.
- **Objective:** To provide appropriate solutions to various challenges and fast track innovations. It has also been developed to mitigate other operational financial risks associated with dealing with private vendors.

Delay in Samudrayaan Mission

- Samudrayaan is India's first manned submersible dive, aiming to send a crew of three people in the MATSYA 6000 sphere to a depth of 6,000 meters into the ocean.
- The mission is considered **pivotal** to India's future exploration plans, particularly for mining precious metals from the high seas.
- A crucial final set of trials is delayed until mid-next year (originally scheduled for December 2024) due to a delay in the procurement of syntactic foam cladding.
- This specialized foam is essential as it provides the submersible with buoyancy, enabling it to float and withstand the immense pressure of the deep sea.
 - It is being **developed in France** and tested in **Norway**.
- Delivery is hoped for by the end of the year (2025).

- **Development Agency:** The project is led by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

SPACE

ISRO's CE20 cryogenic engine

- **ISRO successfully demonstrated a bootstrap mode start test on the CE20 cryogenic engine**, which powers the **upper stage of LVM3**.
- This achievement is a major step toward enhancing restart capability and mission flexibility for future **LVM3 flights**.
- The CE20 engine is already qualified for **19–22 tonne thrust, single-start operation** and for **Gaganyaan** missions.
- Bootstrap mode start allows the engine to reach steady operation without external start-up assistance, making it crucial for multi-orbit missions.

Skyroot's First Orbital Rocket

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Skyroot's Infinity Campus in Hyderabad via video conference and unveiled the spacetech startup's first orbital rocket, Vikram-I.
- Vikram-I is scheduled to debut in early 2026, aiming at the small-satellite market amid a projected \$77 billion Indian space economy by 2030.
- This highlights India's progress in space technology and the government's support for youth research opportunities, exemplified by creating the National Research Foundation.
- Prime Minister mentioned that more than 300 space startups are contributing to India's space future.

Skyroot Aerospace's New Infinity Campus

- The new facility spans 2,00,000 square feet and is designed for designing, developing, integrating, and testing multiple launch vehicles.
- It can produce one orbital rocket per month.
- Skyroot Aerospace, established by IIT alumni Pawan Kumar Chandana and Naga Bharath Daka, is a pivotal player in India's private space sector.

Vikram-I Rocket

- Named after Vikram Sarabhai, the Vikram-I is India's private orbital-class launch vehicle.
- It stands 20 meters tall, 1.7 meters in diameter, and produces 1,200 kN of thrust.
- Emphasizes simplicity, reliability, and rapid launch capabilities within 24 hours from any location.

NISAR Satellite Enters Science Phase

- NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite has entered its final science phase, ISRO announced.

About NISAR

- The satellite, launched in July, has officially entered the final science phase, announced by ISRO.
- First joint Earth observation mission between ISRO and NASA.
- Provides all-weather, day-and-night data for a wide range of applications.
- Five-year mission: phases include launch, deployment, commissioning, and science.
- Science phase involves maintaining science orbit, manoeuvres to avoid observation conflicts, and extensive calibration and validation.

- **Key Component:** A 12-metre diameter antenna reflector was deployed post-launch, which is crucial for both ISRO's S-Band and NASA's L-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Payload.

Chandrayaan-4 Mission

- ISRO Chairman, V. Narayanan, announced plans to launch the Chandrayaan-4 mission by 2028.
- The mission aims to land a rover on the Moon, collect samples, and bring them back to Earth for experiments – India's first sample-return lunar mission.
- **International Collaboration:** Japan has partnered with India for this mission.
- **Major design upgrades compared to Chandrayaan-3:**
 - Lander weight: 6,800 kg (vs. 1,600 kg in Chandrayaan-3)
 - Rover weight: 350 kg (vs. 25 kg earlier)

Future ISRO Plans

- ISRO is building a 52-tonne space station, targeted for completion by 2035.
- A manned mission to the Moon is planned for 2040.
- A new heavy-lift rocket, as tall as a 40-storey building, is under construction for future missions.

Current Satellite Capabilities

- India currently has 57 satellites in orbit.
- They support: broadcasting, telecom, tele-education, telemedicine, earth observation, disaster management, real-time train tracking, and fisheries monitoring.

GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Fujiwhara Effect

- Two potential cyclonic storms are forming in the Bay of Bengal, with global forecast models indicating a possible Fujiwhara interaction between them.

About Fujiwhara Effect:

- It is a rare meteorological phenomenon where two nearby cyclonic systems begin to rotate around a common centre due to interaction of their wind circulations.
- Identified by Sakuhei Fujiwhara (1921), it occurs mostly in the tropical cyclone belt when storms are within ~1,400 km of each other.

Conditions necessary for the effect to occur:

- Two tropical cyclones formed around the same time in the same ocean region.
- The distance between the centres (or eyes) of the cyclones is less than 1,400 km.
- An intensity that could vary between a depression (wind speed under 63 km/hour) and a super typhoon (wind speed over 209 km/hour).

Hayli Gubbi Volcano

- A massive volcanic ash cloud from Ethiopia's Hayli Gubbi volcano—which erupted after nearly 10,000 years—has drifted toward India, raising concerns over air quality and aviation.
- Hayli Gubbi is a shield volcano in Ethiopia's Afar Region, known for broad, gently sloping

volcanic structures formed by low-viscosity basaltic lava typical of the East African Rift system.

Impact on India:

Air Quality:

- Ash is at high altitudes, limiting ground-level mixing; Delhi is unlikely to see major AQI deterioration.
- Skies may appear hazy/darker but pollutants will remain mostly aloft.

Health & Climate:

- SO₂ can contribute to acid rain regionally, but concentrations over India appear limited.
- Volcanic particles may briefly affect solar radiation and visibility.

Ningaloo Reef

- A new survey finds nearly 70% of corals at UNESCO-listed Ningaloo Reef have died.

About Ningaloo Reef

- It is located on Western Australia's remote coast along the East Indian Ocean.
- It is Australia's largest fringing coral reef, extending across 300 kilometres of coastline.
- It is one of the world's most pristine, longest, and largest coral reefs.
- However, it is unusually narrow and covers an area of about 50 sq.km.
- It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Abujhmadiya Tribe

- Recently, the Bastar Olympics' tournament has seen increasing participation of the Abujhmadiya tribe

About Abujmadiya Tribe

- They are an ancestral and patriarchal tribe primarily residing in the Abujmarh region in Chhattisgarh, India.
- Abujmadiya tribal community is a sub-group of Gond tribe of Central India region.
- It is a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).
- **Language:** They speak Abuj Maria, Hindi or Chhattisgarhi.
- **Festivals:**
 - Saja Festival: A traditional festival celebrating agricultural success and honoring nature spirits.
 - Bastar Dussehra: Which features traditional dances, rituals, and community gatherings.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

Green tugboat

- As part of the wider initiative of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways to shift to diesel-powered tugboats at major ports in India, the Chennai Port Authority is set to get its first “green tugboat” to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Key features of the development:

- **Target** - The primary objective is to reduce air pollution and achieve the government’s target of reducing emissions from port vessels by 30% by 2030
- **Green tugboat specifications** - Chennai Port plans to procure a green tugboat powered by clean fuels such as ammonia, hydrogen

or methanol, which will significantly reduce emissions compared to traditional diesel tugboats

- **Procurement process** - The Port Authority has floated bids to select a supplier to supply, operate and maintain the green tugboat for 15 years.
- **Other Ports Involved** - Many major Indian ports like Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Deendayal Port, VO Chidambaranar Port and Paradeep Port have started the process of purchasing green tugboats.

Amur Vulture-Long-Distance Bird Species

- **Context:** The Amur Vulture from Manipur completed an exceptional 5,600 km non-stop journey over six days.
- The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has launched a special tracking project to monitor their long-distance migration.

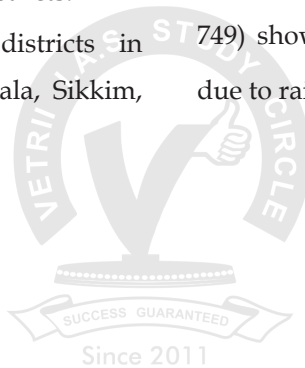
- As part of the project, three vultures – Appabang, Alang, and Ahu – were tagged with radio transmitters on November 11.

About Amur Vulture

- They are small and agile birds (raptors) locally known as ‘Kahuaipuina’ in Manipur and ‘Molulem’ in Nagaland (Amur Falcon capital of the world).
- Their distinctive features include dark plumage, white wing linings, and reddish-orange eyes and feet.

Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA)'s Study Report

- A new analysis shows that 60% of India's districts (447 out of 749) experience year-round exposure to unhealthy levels of PM_{2.5} air pollution, not just in winter.
 - None of the districts met the WHO air quality guideline of 5 µg/m³ for PM_{2.5}.
 - India's own limit is 40 µg/m³, which is eight times higher.
 - Most polluted regions: Delhi (11 districts) and Assam (11 districts) together account for almost half of the top 50 most polluted districts.
 - Cleaner regions: Majority of districts in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Sikkim, Goa, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu fall within national safety limits.
 - This highlights a clear pollution divide: northern and eastern States are hotspots, while southern and coastal regions remain relatively cleaner.
- Seasonal patterns:**
- Winter (Dec–Feb): 82% of districts (616 of 749) exceed national standards due to increased emissions and stagnant weather.
 - Monsoon (June–Sept): 90% of districts (675 of 749) show pollution levels within safe limits due to rain and atmospheric cleansing.



INDIAN POLITY

Personal Data Protection Act Rules Released

- The Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has released the Digital Personal Data Protection Act Rules, 2025.
- The rules provide for citizens to have control over their data and ensure that that data is not misused.
- These rules will be implemented in a phased manner over a period of 12 to 18 months and will come into full force after 18 months.
- The rules are being notified as the Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 comes into full force.
- According to these rules, data controllers (social media platforms like Facebook, Google, and other social media platforms) will have to publish a notice clearly explaining why a person's personal data is being processed and used, and to obtain consent from the person concerned in a simple manner.
- The Data Protection Board will act as a fully-fledged agency to help track the progress of the complaints.
- Individuals will have the power to withdraw their consent to the use of data at any time under these regulations.
- It is expected that these regulations will help the public avoid calls made with the intention of advertising or fraud and prevent their personal data, video and voice recordings from being obtained without permission in any way.

Lokayukta Member Appointment

- Former Madras High Court Judge R.Hemalatha has been appointed as the Judicial Member of the Lokayukta.
- Governor R.N. Ravi has issued an order in this regard.
- As a Judicial Member, he will hold office for a period of five years.
- In 1966, the Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) headed by Morarji Desai was set up to recommend institutions for addressing citizens' grievances against administrative errors and abuses by the Union, States, and other authorities.

Tamil Nadu Lokayukta Act, 2018

- The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly has passed the Tamil Nadu Lokayukta Act, 2018 under section 63 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013.
- This Act came into force on 13.11.2018.
- The Tamil Nadu Lokayukta is an independent quasi-judicial body constituted under the above Act.
- **Aim:** To investigate allegations of corruption against certain categories of government servants and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

SC strikes down provisions of Tribunal Reforms Act

- The Supreme Court (SC) struck down provisions of the Tribunal Reforms Act of 2021.
- The Act was designed to alter the tribunal system and give the Union government a dominant role in the appointments, functioning, and fixing of salaries of chairpersons and members.
- Reason for Striking Down: The SC ruled that the law undermined constitutional requirements such as independence, impartiality, and

- effective adjudication by enabling executive control over appointments, curtailing tenure arbitrarily, and weakening institutional autonomy.
- Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai stated that a law that undermines these foundational values "strikes at the core of the constitutional arrangement."
 - The SC directed the Centre to establish the National Tribunal Commission within four months.
 - The National Tribunal Commission is considered an "essential structural safeguard" to ensure independence, transparency, and uniformity in the functioning, appointment procedure, and administration of tribunals.
 - The Court held that the 2021 Act was essentially a "legislative override" of its earlier 2021 judgment, with the Chief Justice describing it as merely a repackaged version of the previously struck-down Tribunal Reforms Ordinance.
 - Chief Justice Gavai reaffirmed that judicial review is a basic feature of the Constitution.
 - The Bench cited B.R. Ambedkar: "If the executive is honest in working the Constitution, it must act in accordance with the judicial decisions."

Supreme Court Calls for Uniform National Policy on Organ Transplants

- The Supreme Court stressed the need for a uniform national policy to ensure transparency and fairness in organ transplantation across India.

- The Court asked the Centre to persuade Andhra Pradesh to adopt the 2011 amendments to the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994.
- It also directed Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Manipur to adopt the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014.

About Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994

- Before 1994, India lacked a unified law on organ transplantation, relying on scattered state acts like the Bombay Corneal Grafting Act (1957) and Maharashtra Kidney Transplantation Act (1982).
- The 1994 Act was framed on the recommendations of a committee led by Dr. L.M.Singhvi (1991) to ensure ethical and transparent transplantation.
- THOTA, 1994 was enacted to regulate the removal, storage, and transplantation of human organs and tissues for therapeutic purposes, and to prevent commercial dealings in human organs.
- The act defines the terms donor, recipient, and near relative to prevent misuse.

About Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014.

- Expands access to organ, tissue, and eye donation services across regions, aligning with the goals of the National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP).
- Encourages more institutions to participate in eye donation and corneal transplantation, increasing the availability of donor tissue.

India and Tamil Nadu's Position

- India ranks 3rd globally in total organ transplants, behind the US and China, and 1st in living donor transplants.
- Tamil Nadu has been recognised as the best-performing State in organ donation for the eighth consecutive time.
- Tamil Nadu accounted for one-fourth (24%) of all organ transplants performed across 36 states/UTs in the country last year.
- Dr.N.Gopalakrishnan**, Member Secretary of the State Organ Transplant Commission, oversees the program.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister had announced State honours for the mortal remains of deceased donors on September 23, 2023.

Judiciary cannot tie President, Governor to timelines: Supreme Court

- The Supreme Court (SC) stated that the judiciary cannot set "one-size-fits-all" timetables for the President and Governors to dispose of State Bills (under Articles 200 and 201).
- The concept of 'deemed consent' (where a Bill is assumed to be passed after a court-ordered

time frame) is considered unconstitutional by the SC.

- Implementing 'deemed consent' would usurp the constitutional functions of the President and Governor.
- Such usurpation is deemed "antithetical" to the Constitution and specifically violates the doctrine of separation of powers, which is part of the basic structure of the Constitution.
- While rejecting deemed consent, the SC cautioned that President and Governors should not delay Bills indefinitely through "prolonged and evasive inaction."
- The ruling responds to a 16th Presidential Reference under Article 143, which sought clarity after the SC's April 8 judgment that had imposed a 3-month limit.
- The 14 questions in the Reference were termed a "functional reference" involving day-to-day constitutional functioning between legislatures, Governors, and the President.
- The court stated it has the "institutional responsibility" to clarify "general questions of law" and "iron out constitutional creases" through this "functional reference."


Governor's Options (Article 200)

- Three Options Clarified: The court confirmed that a Governor has three constitutional options under Article 200:
 - Grant assent to the Bill.
 - Reserve it for the consideration of the President.
 - Withhold assent and return the Bill to the State Legislature with comments (if it is not a Money Bill).
- A Governor cannot simply withhold a Bill indefinitely without returning it with reasons.
- Judicial review cannot assess the merits of a Governor's decision, but courts may issue

Supreme Court's advisory opinion

Breaking down the court's response to 14 questions raised by the President asking if a constitutional court can impose timelines for Governors and the President to give assent to Bills passed by legislatures

<p>Governor's discretion under Article 200</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May assent to the Bill May withhold assent, but must communicate reasons to the State legislature May refer the Bill to the President for consideration under Article 201 	<p>Judicial limits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SC cannot impose timelines for assent or create a concept of 'deemed assent' under Article 142 <p>President's role under Article 201</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When a Bill is referred, the President need not seek SC's advisory opinion under Article 143 every time 	<p>Governor's accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governors cannot indefinitely sit on a Bill; if they do, limited judicial review applies Courts can direct Governors to decide within a reasonable time frame, but not dictate the outcome
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- a limited mandamus if there is prolonged, unexplained, indefinite inaction.
- Governors enjoy personal immunity from court proceedings under Article 361.
- Imposing uniform timelines on Governors/President is unconstitutional because Bills differ in complexity and the Constitution prescribes no schedule.
- The President need not consult the SC on every Bill reserved under Article 143; consultation is discretionary.
- Courts cannot review or adjudicate the contents of a Bill before it becomes law; legislative will becomes final only after gubernatorial or presidential assent.
- Directed the government to handle such pleas in a time-bound manner.

Centre notifies four new Labour Codes

Four Labour Codes Notified:

- Code on Wages (2019)
- Industrial Relations Code (2020)
- Code on Social Security (2020)
- Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSHCW) Code (2020)

- Replaces 29 fragmented labour laws, many dating back to 1930s-1950s (pre- and early post-Independence).
- The Codes have defined gig work, platform work, and aggregators for the first time.

HC Ends Interim Bail Practice in Premature Release Cases

- Madras High Court ends long-standing practice of granting interim bail to convicts awaiting the State government's decision on premature release.
- Court rules that only the government can grant both premature release and suspension of sentence, not the judiciary.
- Bench questioned the legality of the interim-bail practice that existed since 2016.
- As per Section 473 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and TN Suspension of Sentence Rules, 1982, only the State government can act.
- The judges stressed that the State government cannot "shirk its responsibility" by simply giving a 'no objection' to courts granting interim bail.
- Additional systemic reforms include:
 - Inspector-cum-facilitator model for supportive compliance
 - Faster dispute resolution through two-member tribunals
 - A National Occupational Safety, Health (OSH) Board to harmonise safety standards.
- Key Reforms Introduced:
 - Universal social security coverage for gig workers.
 - Gender pay parity.
 - Expanded rights and safety for women workers.
 - Statutory backing for minimum wages.
 - Introduction of fixed-term employment.
 - Free annual medical check-up for workers above 40 years of age.

Geological Survey of India (GSI)

- The Union Minister of Coal & Mines inaugurated GSI's International Seminar in Jaipur to mark 175 years of the Geological Survey of India (GSI).

About Geological Survey of India (GSI)

- GSI is India's premier national geoscientific organisation, responsible for geological surveys, mineral exploration, and creation of national geoscience databases.
- It functions as an attached office under the Ministry of Mines.
- **Established In:** Formally established in 1851.
- Founded primarily to locate coal resources for expanding Indian Railways during British rule.

Historical Evolution:

- **Early 1800s:** Initial geological work done by Survey of India and Army officers like W. Voysey (first geological map of Hyderabad, 1818-23).
- **1837:** Committee for "Investigation of Coal and Mineral Resources" created; John McClelland used the term "Geological Survey of India" in 1848.
- **1851:** Under Sir Thomas Oldham, continuous institutional geological work started, marking the true beginning of GSI.
- Over 175 years, it evolved into a national repository of geological and mineral data and a globally respected scientific institution.

SC Report Calls for Ending Discriminatory Job Titles in Judiciary

- A Supreme Court report urges the judiciary to stop using archaic and discriminatory job titles

such as halalkhor, dhobi, scavenger, coolie, masalchi, malan, and others.

- The report, titled "Reforming administrative nomenclature in the Indian judiciary: Embedding dignity and equity in service rules," argues that these terms perpetuate a "grammar of inequality" rooted in feudal, colonial, and caste-based systems.
- The report aims to "align the language of the administration with the language of the Constitution" to reaffirm that language is the judiciary's "first act of justice."
- The report notes that terms such as halalkhor and scavenger violate constitutional protections against caste-based discrimination.

53rd Chief Justice of India

- Justice Surya Kant will take oath as the 53rd Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- He will succeed Justice **B.R. Gavai**.
- He was appointed on October 30 and will serve for nearly 15 months, demitting office on February 9, 2027 upon turning 65.

Chief Justice of India

- **Appointment:** A Supreme Court judge, including the CJI, is appointed by the President under Article 124 (2).
 - The outgoing CJI recommends the senior-most Supreme Court judge based on length of service as the next CJI (a customary practice, not a legal requirement).
- **Qualification:** To qualify as CJI, one must be a citizen of India, have served as a High Court judge for 5 years or as an advocate for 10 years, or be a distinguished jurist in the President's opinion.

- **Tenure:** The CJI holds office until the age of 65 years, with no fixed tenure, as it depends on the judge's date of appointment and retirement.
- The CJI can only be removed by the President after an address by Parliament, supported by a **special majority** in both Houses.

National Judicial Appointments

Commission (NJAC)

- Context: Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant orally stated that the court will consider a plea seeking to revive the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC).

About National Judicial Appointments

Commission (NJAC)

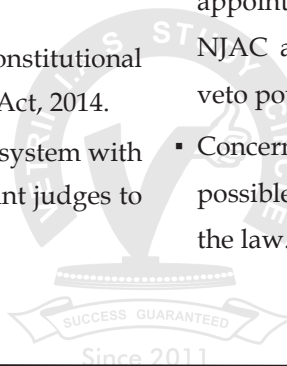
- It was created through the 99th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2014 and NJAC Act, 2014.
- It sought to replace the collegium system with a multi-stakeholder body to appoint judges to the SC and HCs.

Composition of NJAC:

- Chief Justice of India (Chairperson)
- Two senior-most SC judges
- Union Law Minister
- Two eminent persons (selected by PM, CJI, and LoP, with one from SC/ST/OBC/women/minorities)

Reasons for Striking Down the NJAC

- In 2015, a 5-judge Bench (4:1) ruled NJAC unconstitutional as it violated the Basic Structure Doctrine.
- The Court observed that judicial primacy in appointments is part of the basic structure and NJAC allowed the executive to interfere via veto powers.
- Concerns over independence of judiciary and possible 3-3 deadlocks led to the rejection of the law.



INDIAN ECONOMY

Index of Eight Core Industries

- India's core infrastructure output stagnated in October 2025, recording 0% growth—the worst performance in 14 months.

About Index of Eight Core Industries:

- The ICI measures the combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity.

- These sectors collectively make up 40.27% of the weight of the entire IIP.
- Released by: The Office of Economic Advisor, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Industry & Weight (In percentage): Petroleum & Refinery production (28.04 %), Electricity generation (19.85 %), Steel production (17.92 %), Coal production (10.33 %), Crude Oil production (8.98 %), Natural production Gas (6.88 %), Cement production (5.37 %), Fertilizers production (2.63 %).

TAMIL NADU

Free food scheme for sanitation workers

- This scheme has been launched for the first time in the country in Chennai Corporation
- The Chief Minister launched the scheme to provide free food to sanitation workers in the Chennai Metropolitan Corporation on 16.11.25.
- The event for this was held at Kalaivanar Arangam.
- A fund of Rs. 64 crore has been allocated annually for this scheme.
- Food will be provided to sanitation workers working in rotation in the Chennai Metropolitan Corporation in the morning, afternoon and night.
- This scheme has been brought in to appreciate the incomparable work of sanitation workers during times of disaster such as heat, rain and flood
- For the welfare of sanitation workers, many schemes have been implemented such as the establishment of the Sanitation Workers Welfare Board in 2006, provision of loans to entrepreneurs through TADCO, and medical insurance.
- This scheme, which has been launched in Chennai, will be expanded to all the corporations and municipalities of Tamil Nadu from Dec. 6, the Chief Minister said.

Tribal Welfare Department

- The Tribal Welfare Directorate was formed to formulate and implement appropriate schemes for the development of the tribal people and

has been functioning with full financial and administrative powers since 01.04.2018.

- Tribal people constitute 1.17 percent of the total population.
- Tribal project offices have been opened in 7 districts namely Salem (Yerkadu, Pachamalai, Arunuthumalai and Kalvarayan Malai), Namakkal (Kollimalai), Kallakurichi (Kalvarayan Malai), Tiruvannamalai (Javvadumalai), Tiruchirappalli (Pachamali), Dharmapuri (Sittheri Malai) and Tirupattur Jawvadu and Yelagirimalai) which have 10 Integrated Tribal Development Project Areas where tribals live for 50 percent or more of the total population. Welfare schemes are being implemented in these districts.
- The main objective of the department is to improve the socio-economic status of the tribals by providing them with welfare assistance for the educational advancement and livelihood of the tribals and by creating basic facilities in their settlements.
- There are 37 types of tribes in Tamil Nadu.
- Out of these, 6 tribal groups namely Thoda, Kotha, Kurumbas, Irular, Baniya and 41 Kattunayakan have been classified as Threatened Tribes (PVTGs).
- The Tribal Sub-Plan has been implemented since 1976-77.
- One percent of the amount allocated to all departments under the Annual Action Plan of the State Government is used for the welfare of the tribals.

Tribal Research Centre

- The "Tribal Research Centre" was established in 1983 at Muthorai Palada in Udthagamandalam,

Nilgiris district with the financial assistance of the Union Government to collect information about the tribals and to conduct research on their lifestyle, culture, language, socio-economic status and educational status.

- The centre is functioning under the leadership of a Director with expertise in anthropology.

'Meendum Manjapai' Scheme

- The 'Meendum Manjapai' scheme was launched by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to encourage the public to use cloth bags and to discourage the use of plastic bags.
- The 'Meendum Manjapai' scheme was launched by the Chief Minister at the Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai on December - 21.
- This awareness campaign on the use of 'yellow' cloth bags or 'manjapai' as it is called in Tamil, aims to encourage people to use this eco-friendly bag and to dispose of plastic bags.

'Nalam Kaakum Stalin'

- Public Welfare Department officials have said that 8.21 lakh people have benefited under the 'Nalam Kaakum Stalin' scheme so far.
- The Chief Minister launched the 'Nalam Kaakum Stalin' scheme in all the districts of Tamil Nadu on August 2.
- This scheme is implemented by the Public Welfare Department.
- Examinations and special treatments are provided by medical experts under the departments of general medicine, general surgery, heart health, orthopedics, neurology, skin health, ear-nose-throat and obstetrics, physiotherapy, dentistry, mental health, child

health, pulmonary medicine, and Indian medicine.

Tamil Nadu's survival rate has improved

- By setting up specialized centers for pediatric emergency care, Tamil Nadu has significantly improved the survival rates of children in recent years.
- The state's **Pediatric Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine (PREM)** initiative has strengthened pediatric emergency care through dedicated protocols and appropriate infrastructure in government secondary care institutions, district headquarters hospitals and taluka hospitals.
- The PREM (Pediatric Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine) initiative of the Tamil Nadu National Health Mission and the Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project has strengthened pediatric emergency care by placing protocols, necessary infrastructure, equipment, medicines and trained personnel
- The data shows a steady rise in child survival rates from 93.44% in 2021 to 96.26% in 2024. In the current year (till August 2025), the survival rate is 94.34%. PREM Skills Laboratory, ICH, Madras Medical College Regional Collaborative Centre. 'Guidelines have been developed'

Neelam Cultural Centre - Honors Scholar

- Researcher and scholar V. Geetha has been awarded the 'Scholars Raj Gauthaman Memorial Award' presented by Neelam Cultural Centre, Chennai.

- Vasuki Bhaskar, editor of Neelam magazine, has already established a fellowship scheme in the name of the renowned scholar for students.

Neelam Cultural Centre

- The centre was established in 2015.
- Founder - Director P. Ranjith
- Category - Socio-political organisation
- Headquarters - Tamil Nadu, India
- The Vaanam Art Festival has been organised annually since 2018 to promote artists from marginalised communities.

Kalaivitakar Award

- The Tamil Nadu government has announced that film industry professionals who wish to receive the Kalaivitakar Award can apply by November 28.
- The 'Kalaingar Memorial Kalaivitakar Award' will be presented in the name of former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi to a lifetime achiever in the Tamil film industry from 2022.
- The recipient selected for this award will be given a prize money of Rs. 10 lakhs and a certificate of appreciation.
- Eligibility for the award: This award is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to the world of Tamil cinema such as actors, actresses, directors, producers, screenwriters, dialogue writers, music composers, lyricists, playback singers, cinematographers, film editors, art directors, sound engineers, stunt trainers, dance teachers, makeup artists and tailors.

Subsidy scheme for Farmers Welfare Service Centers

- The Chief Minister has announced that the Agriculture Department will launch the Chief

Minister's subsidy scheme for Farmers Welfare Service Centers in December.

- The Tamil Nadu government recently announced a scheme to provide 30 percent subsidy to 1,000 'Chief Minister's Farmers Welfare Service Centers' to benefit youth between the ages of 20 and 45 who have completed their agricultural degrees and diplomas.
- Under this scheme, 30 percent subsidy i.e. Rs. 3 lakh to Rs. 6 lakh will be provided to service centers set up at a cost of Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh. A fund of Rs. 42 crore has been allocated for this.
- Under this scheme, detailed project reports were prepared and submitted to the banks for 973 beneficiaries among the applicants to get loans from banks.
- Of these, 413 have received bank loans so far.
- Appropriate training will be provided by the government for 15 days to effectively manage the welfare service centers.

Single Cell Omics' Applied Research Laboratory

- IIT Madras is setting up the Single Cell Omics' Applied Research Laboratory (SCOT) for Health Ecosystem with the help of Indian Railways Finance Corporation.
- IRFC has provided Rs. 10.83 crore to the Department of Medical Sciences and Technology, IIT Madras for setting up this laboratory, which will be the first of its kind in the country.
- The SCOT laboratory, equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, will facilitate early diagnosis, biomarker discovery and drug

testing for cancer, heart disease, infection, inflammation, metabolism and other non-communicable diseases.

Rs. 50,000 monthly scholarship to conduct historical research on Tamil society

- The Higher Education Minister has announced that researchers who study rare documents of the Tamil Nadu Archives and uncover the glorious history of Tamil Nadu will be provided with a research scholarship of Rs. 50,000 per month for one year.
- Books from the year 1633 onwards in the Tamil Nadu Archives. Government department documents dating back to 1670 are being maintained.
- The Tamil Nadu Historical Research Council was started in 1973 with the aim of making everyone aware of the history of Tamil Nadu.
- It was announced in the Legislative Assembly that 10 to 15 studies will be conducted every year to keep it updated with the changing times.

VOC Port sets new record

- Thoothukudi VOC Chidambaranar Port has set a new record in handling cargo, said Port Authority Chairman Sushantha Kumar Purohit.
- VOC Port has handled 3.94 million tonnes of cargo and 75,110 DEUs in October this year alone.
- Compared to 3.55 million tonnes of cargo and 62,158 DEUs handled in October last year, these are 10.94 percent and 20.83 percent growth respectively.

▪ Cargo ship arriving at Thoothukudi Port. In the financial year 2025-26, the port has handled a total of 25.23 million tonnes of cargo and 5,03,204 DEUs till October.

▪ This is a 2.71 per cent increase in total cargo traffic to 24.56 million tonnes of cargo handled till October in the financial year 2024-25 and a 8.44 per cent increase in cargo volume to 4,64,060 TEUs.

▪ 1,064 vessels have been handled till October this year

▪ 1,004 vessels were handled during the same period last financial year.

Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam

Feature	Description
▪ Starts	05 August 2021 (Krishnagiri)
▪ Purpose	To provide home-based medical services to improve and treat conditions that commonly affect non-communicable diseases.
▪ Implementing Department	Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Health and Family Welfare

▪ Services Testing, Medication, Physical Therapy, Patient Support Service, Dialysis Assistance

▪ Target group People over 45 years of age, people with disabilities, people who have challenges in taking medication consistently

Handicrafts Development Department Award

▪ On behalf of the Handicrafts Development Corporation of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Minister of Handicrafts Development

Department honored 131 people selected as the best artisans with cash prizes, gold medals and certificates on 17.11.25.

- The Poompuhar Awards 2025 ceremony was held at a private hotel in Mamallapuram, Chengalpattu district, to present the best artisans from 38 districts of Tamil Nadu.

Poompuhar District Handicraft Award

- 131 people, including 70 women artisans, were awarded in 16 types of handicrafts from all districts of Tamil Nadu.

Ancient Port City Excavation in Egypt

- This is a news article about archaeologists joining an international team for excavations in the ancient port city of Perenike in Egypt.
- The aim is to find more evidence of ancient maritime trade links between the Tamils and the Romans.
- Previous excavations at the site have already found pottery shards inscribed with Tamil-Brahmi scripts, which confirms these historical links
- Two archaeologists from Tamil Nadu have joined the excavation team at Berenike, Egypt.
- The project aims to find more evidence of ancient trade between the Tamils and the Romans.
- Previous excavations at Red Sea ports such as Berenike and Qusayr al-Khadim have found pottery shards with Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions.
- The current excavation season is scheduled to continue until December 17

Virtual Tumour Boards (VTBs) for Cancer Care

- The Tamil Nadu Health Department will establish Virtual Tumour Boards (VTBs) in

a hub-and-spoke model across tertiary care institutions and district hospitals.

▪ Purpose:

- To ensure specialist cancer opinions reach smaller or remote hospitals.
- To provide proper diagnosis, timely treatment, and standardised cancer care anywhere in the State.

- Institutional-level Tumour Boards, which provide treatment plans and suitable directions, are already functioning in several key centres.

Third 'TN Rising Conclave'

- Tamil Nadu will host the **3rd TN Rising Conclave on November 25 in Coimbatore.**

- The conclave will focus on key sectors including electronics, general manufacturing, textiles, and aerospace and defence.

- The event is the **third regional investment summit** (following Thoothukudi and Hosur), reinforcing the government's commitment to shifting the spotlight away from the capital city of Chennai.

- **Coimbatore is emerging as a holistic economic engine, with:**

- 25+ Global Capability Centres (GCCs)
- Rapid expansion of IT firms

South India Natural Farming Summit

- The **Prime Minister will inaugurate the 3-day South India Natural Farming Summit at Coimbatore Kodisia Complex (Nov. 19)**

- Farmers from Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, organic farming scientists, distributors and sellers of organic agricultural products will participate in the conference.

- **Aim:** To promote the adoption of sustainable, environmentally friendly and chemical-free practices and to accelerate the adoption of organic and fish-based farming as a viable and climate-friendly, economically sustainable model for India's agricultural future
- **Headquarters:** Located in Taramani, Chennai.
- **Current Chairman:** R.Balakrishnan, I.A.S. (Retd.)
- **Focus areas:** Conducting advanced Tamil research, supporting researchers, and promoting Tamil studies across **literature, culture, science, medicine, and global Tamil research.**

DigiArivu – Empowering Students Through Tech Initiative

- The initiative was launched in Chennai on 19.11.2025 by the Tamil Nadu School Education Minister.
- **Partners:** Samsung (the electronics giant) in partnership with the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI).
- **Goal:** To strengthen digital learning and STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) in select government schools in Tamil Nadu.
- **Coverage:** The initiative will upgrade infrastructure in 10 government schools in Kancheepuram and Ranipet districts.
- **Beneficiaries:** Over 3,000 students are expected to benefit from the programme.

World Tamil Research Institute

- Started due to the efforts of former Chief Minister Perarignar Anna Tamilaringar, Thaninayagam Adigal and others.
- The establishment was officially announced by then Chief Minister Perarignar Anna at the Second World Tamil Conference held in Chennai in 1968.
- The aim was to create a high-level research centre for Tamil that would be in good condition, similar to the French Language Arts Institute in France.

Centre for Heat Resilience in Tamil Nadu

- Set up within the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company.
- Part of the U.K. Climate Action for a Resilient Asia Programme.
- **Main Objective:** Develop high-resolution, city-based heat maps for all cities in Tamil Nadu to enable targeted interventions.
- Enhance government and private institutional capacity to manage heat risks scientifically.
- Collaborative initiative involving Tamil Nadu Government, UN Environment Programme, World Resources Institute, and the U.K. government.
- Tamil Nadu recognized for climate innovation: first state to establish a State Green Climate Fund and the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company, and for treating heat waves as state-specific disasters.

Home Delivery of Cervical Cancer Testing Kits

- Home-based cervical cancer screening kits will be delivered by health workers as many women hesitate to visit hospitals for diagnosis.
- The National Health Commission will distribute kits to 25,000 women under 35 in Dharmapuri as a pilot project.

- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the primary cause of cervical cancer.
- If undetected, cervical cancer can spread from the cervix to lungs, liver, bladder, and rectum.
- As per Adyar Cancer Institute, cervical cancer is most prevalent in Dharmapuri and Perambalur in Tamil Nadu.
- Incidence rates: Ariyalur - 29.9 per lakh, Chennai - 13 per lakh, Tamil Nadu overall - 14 per lakh.
- **Paddy production** in the 2024-25 **Kharif season** has reached a record high of 122.77 million tonnes.
- **Soybean output** reached **15.26 million tonnes**, and **groundnut** production stood at **11.9 million tonnes**, both at new highs.

Centre for Heat Resilience in Tamil Nadu

- Set up within the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company.
- Part of the U.K. Climate Action for a Resilient Asia Programme.
- MoU signed in Chennai on 23.11.2025.
- Project duration: till September 2026.

Main Objective:

- Develop high-resolution, city-based heat maps for all cities in Tamil Nadu to enable targeted interventions.
 - Implement special heat-reduction projects across Tamil Nadu's cities and districts.
 - Enhance technical capacity in health, urban development, disaster management sectors.
 - Collect climate-related data and support the government in developing heat-resilience plans.
- The International Hockey Stadium at MGR Stadium, Madurai will be inaugurated on 22.11.2025 by the Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.
 - The 14th Junior Men's World Cup Hockey Tournament will take place in Chennai and Madurai.
 - The tournament is scheduled from November 28 to December 10.
 - It is jointly organised by the **International Hockey Federation (FIH), Hockey India, and the Tamil Nadu Sports Development Authority.**
 - Enhance government and private institutional capacity to manage heat risks scientifically.
 - Collaborative initiative involving Tamil Nadu Government, UN Environment Programme, World Resources Institute, and the U.K. government.
 - Tamil Nadu recognized for climate innovation: first state to establish a State Green Climate Fund and the **Tamil Nadu Green Climate**

Record Foodgrain Production (2024-25)

- The production of food grains including paddy, wheat, soybeans and groundnuts has reached a record high of 357.32 million tonnes in 2024-25.
- This is 7.65 percent more than the previous food grain production of 332.29 million tonnes in 2023-24.

Company, and for treating heat waves as state-specific disasters.

Shoreline management plan

- Tamil Nadu Water Resources Department (WRD) has submitted **41 project proposals worth RS.755 crore** to mitigate coastal erosion.
- WRD seeks funds through the State Disaster Management Authority under the 15th Finance Commission for implementation.
- Proposals are awaiting approval from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The projects are likely to take off next year (2026).
- The projects were prepared based on the draft shoreline management plan and a shoreline changes report from the **National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)**.

Vulnerable Districts Identified

- WRD has listed five coastal districts as high-priority erosion hotspots:
 - Mayiladuthurai
 - Worst-hit, with nearly 71% of its shoreline facing erosion.
 - Large sections of coast lost in villages like Vanagiri, Naickerkuppam, Pudukuppam (≈50 m lost in a decade)
 - Kanniyakumari, Tiruvallur.
 - Chengalpattu, Chennai.

Status of T.N. Coastline (NCCR Report)

- The NCCR study analyzed 992 km of the Tamil Nadu coastline.
- 41% of the coastline is in a stable condition.
- 39% of the coastline is facing sea erosion risk.
- Remaining coastline experiences accretion or moderate changes.

Proposed Mitigation Measures

- WRD plans a combination of nature-based and engineered solutions:
 - Nature-Based Solutions: Beach nourishment, Bio-plantation, Palm bioshields, Coral reefs, Coir structures, Oyster shell beds and “Living shoreline” systems (use natural vegetation and sediment to stabilise coast).
 - Engineered Measures: Installation of geo tubes, Groynes (recommended for densely populated high-risk locations)

T.N. Rising Summit

- Tamil Nadu will sign several MoUs in aerospace and defence at the T.N. Rising Summit in Coimbatore on November 25.
- Coimbatore is being positioned as a high-tech industrial & innovation hub.
- Focus areas of this year’s conclave:
 - Drones and small aircraft
 - Data centres
 - Digital infrastructure
 - Global Capability Centres (GCC)

About T.N. Rising Summit

- Coimbatore edition is the third T.N. Rising Summit (following Thoothukudi and Hosur), reinforcing the government’s commitment to shifting the spotlight away from the capital city of Chennai.
- The summit aims to attract investments to tier-2 and tier-3 cities.
- **Goal:** Promote balanced and inclusive industrial growth across Tamil Nadu.

Curriculum Revision Committees in

Tamil Nadu

- High-Level Committee formed under School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh to revise and develop curricula as per Tamil Nadu State Education Policy 2025.
- **Members:** 13 members, including ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan, School Education Secretary P. Chandramohan (Vice Chairman), and Finance Secretary Udayachandran.
- Curriculum Design Committee led by environmental scientist Sultan Ahmed Ismail.
- Draft curriculum expected to be ready in December 2025.

TNRising Conclave Highlights

- 111 MoUs signed, bringing ₹42,792 crore in investments.
- 47 MoUs signed by MSMEs worth ₹1,052 crore.
- Tamil Nadu now has 12,663 startups, compared to 2,146 in May 2021.
- The Central Government recognized Tamil Nadu as a top performer in four categories for investment-friendly states.
- Over the past four years, Tamil Nadu has achieved an economic growth rate of 11.19%, which is the highest among all Indian states.

Tamil Nadu's Organ Donation Performance

- Tamil Nadu has recorded 240 deceased donors so far this year, nearing last year's total of 268 donors.
- The State contributed nearly 24% of India's total deceased donors in 2024.

- In 2024, India recorded 1,128 deceased donors, with 80% coming from five States:

- Tamil Nadu (268)
- Telangana (188)
- Maharashtra (172)
- Karnataka (162)
- Gujarat (119)

- In 2024, Tamil Nadu achieved a record 268 deceased donors, enabling 1,446 organ and tissue transplants.

- The Tamil Nadu government began conferring State honours for deceased organ donors in September 2023, recognising their contribution to saving lives. It is the first-of-its-kind initiative in India.

- Tamil Nadu was the first Indian state to establish an organ sharing registry through TRANSTAN (Transplant Authority of Tamil Nadu).

Naan Mudhalvan Programme Expansion

- TN Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) will expand the Naan Mudhalvan programme to Nursing and Allied Health Sciences students to improve employability in healthcare.
- Students will receive specialised training in communication skills and digital skills, tailored for hospital environments.
- Curriculum designed with inputs from MGR University, Nursing Council, and other stakeholders.

TNSkill Registry

- A new TNSkill Registry portal allows students to upload profiles for employers to access; consent-based system.
- 14 lakh students have benefited from the Naan Mudhalvan scheme so far.
- Over 600 companies registered across 30 sectors, including textiles, life sciences, power, telecom, BFSI, tourism, and manufacturing.
- The initiative aims to unify all trained students under a single skill registry, enhancing employment opportunities and industry connectivity.

For Folk Arts and Skill Development

- 'Naan Mudhalvan' programme will be expanded to benefit music and fine arts students.
- The programme would help them hone their spoken English and digital skills.

Urban Tree Census and Green Space Survey

- Forest Department to launch a comprehensive tree census and green space survey in six major cities: Chennai, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Madurai, Tiruchi, Salem.
- The Forest Department has allocated ₹90 lakh for the project.

Purpose of the survey:

- Map extent, distribution, and density of green spaces.
- Use high-resolution satellite imagery and advanced geospatial technologies.

Urban Tree Inventory:

- Geo-tagging and identifying each tree species.
- Record details such as species, trunk diameter, height, canopy width, and health condition.
- Special focus will be given to indigenous and heritage trees and Trees Outside Forests (TOFs).

- Ecological services assessment: Measure benefits like carbon sequestration, air pollution reduction, storm-water management, and urban heat island mitigation.

- Web-Based Dashboard: A major component is the development of a dashboard that integrates satellite data, GIS mapping, AI-powered image processing, and ecosystem service modelling to provide real-time insights for data-driven planning.

- Integration: The results and recommendations will be incorporated into city master plans and climate resilience strategies to enhance biodiversity and climate adaptation efforts.

NATIONAL - NEWS

UNICEF ambassador

- Actress Keerthy Suresh has been appointed as the ambassador of UNICEF India, the UN organization for children's rights
- Keerthy Suresh, who has received praise for her acting in languages including Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam, has now joined the group of celebrities supporting UNICEF's efforts for affected children.
- Cynthia McCaffrey is the representative of UNICEF India.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

- Nobel Peace Prize for 1965.
- Year founded: 1946,
- Place founded - New York, USA
- An international aid organization founded by the UN.
- It seeks to promote unity among nations and to reduce the gap between rich and poor nations."
- Since the early 1950s, the organization has set long-term goals aimed at developing countries.

Hamara Shauchalaya, Hamara Bhavishya Campaign

- The Ministry of Jal Shakti launched the nationwide "Hamara Shauchalaya, Hamara Bhavishya" campaign on World Toilet Day 2025.
- Aim:** To upgrade rural toilets, enhance their maintenance, and promote community-led sanitation responsibility across Gram Panchayats

Second Regional Open Digital Health Summit 2025

- India is hosting the second Regional Open Digital Health Summit (RODHS) 2025 in New Delhi, bringing together WHO-SEARO nations to advance interoperable digital health systems.

About Second Regional Open Digital Health Summit 2025

- The Regional Open Digital Health Summit 2025 is a three-day multilateral platform convened by India, WHO-SEARO, UNICEF, and partner governments to accelerate standards-based digital health transformation in South-East Asia.

Indian Railways Freight

- Indian Railways' total freight traffic crossed 100 crore tonnes in the current financial year as of 19.11.2025, marking a new record.
- Freight traffic from April–October 2025 reached 93.51 crore tonnes, up from 90.69 crore tonnes in the same period last year.
- Growth reflects Railways' enhanced capacity to support industrial growth and infrastructure development.
- Indian Railways has introduced major reforms to boost cement freight capacity.
 - Launch of a new policy for bulk cement depots.
 - Tariffs for bulk cement transport rationalised to improve efficiency.

Environmental & Economic Benefits

- Reduced carbon emissions and highway congestion
- Provides eco-friendly transport solutions for industries, including MSMEs
- Supports India's goal of achieving zero carbon emission targets

Operation Sagar Bandhu

- India launched “Operation Sagar Bandhu” to provide relief to cyclone-affected Sri Lanka (battered by Cyclone Ditwah).
- First tranche of essential relief supplies delivered via INS Vikrant (aircraft carrier) and INS Udaygiri (stealth frigate).
- **Prime Minister affirmed that the aid is guided by:**
 - India’s Neighbourhood First policy
 - Vision MAHASAGAR (Mutual And Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions).

Indian Navy International Fleet Review 2026

- Indian Navy to hold International Fleet Review (IFR) in Visakhapatnam, February 2026.
- **Theme:** “United through Oceans” and strengthening “Bridges of Friendship”.
- This IFR coincides with the 75th anniversary of the Republic of India.
- India last conducted an IFR in 2001 (at Mumbai) and the most recent one was in 2016

(at Visakhapatnam), making the 2026 event the third International Fleet Review hosted by India.

- Indian Navy participates in nearly 20 bilateral exercises, including SIMBEX, Varuna and CORPAT, and several multilateral engagements such as QUAD, MILAN, Malabar and Konkan.

Population in A&N and Lakshadweep

- The populations of both island territories are projected to increase by 2051, according to the report 'Unravelling India’s demographic future: population projections for States and Union Territories 2021-2051.'

▪ Title: “Unravelling India’s demographic future: population projections for States and Union Territories 2021-2051.”

- Lakshadweep Islands population expected to rise by 9.68%, from 67,642 (2016) to 74,194 (2051).
- Andaman & Nicobar Islands population projected to grow by 5.73%, from 3,98,310 (2016) to 4,21,135 (2051).

NATIONAL SCHEMES

Electronic Components Manufacturing

- The Central Government has approved 17 new projects with an investment of Rs. 7.172 crore under the Electronic Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), which was introduced with an aim to increase the production of electronic components in the country.
- Through these 17 projects. The total value of production of key components like camera module connector gun, multi-layer PCB (Ach Sub-Board) oscillators, power enclosures etc. is expected to be Rs. 65.111 crore.
- IPL Circuit India, Agus Consumer Products Uno Minda. Axs Safety Components India, Jetfab India, TE Connectivity India, Meena Electrotech are the major players involved in these projects to be implemented in the states.
- India is poised to become a major electronics manufacturing hub.

Import agreement

- India's public sector oil companies have successfully concluded a one-year agreement to import liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) from the US Gulf Coast, the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas said.
- India will import about 2.2 million tonnes per annum from the US Gulf Coast for the contract year 2026. (MTBA) will get LPG, he said
- This marks the "first structured deal of US LPG for the Indian market".

- The move comes against the backdrop of India facing 50% duties on exports to the US and several Indian ministers saying that India wants to import more energy from the US.

16th Finance Commission report submitted to the President

- The report of the 16th Finance Commission, which is responsible for formulating tax sharing policy between the Centre and states, has been submitted to the President.
- The report will define new criteria for how much funds and subsidies should be allocated to states from the total tax revenue of the Centre.
- The report will come into effect for the next 5 years from 2026-27.
- Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, Ravind Panagariya and other members, met the President at his residence and submitted the report.
- Earlier, the N.K. Singh-led 15th Finance Commission. It had recommended sharing 41 percent of the total tax revenue of the Central Government to the states for the 5-year period from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- 16th Finance Commission. It was constituted on December 31, 2023.

Digital Initiatives to modernize the Public Distribution System (PDS)

- Union Food & Public Distribution Ministry launched several digital platforms to modernise PDS operations, warehousing and logistics.

Anna Sahayata Holistic AI Solution (ASHA)

- AI-based platform enabling PDS beneficiaries to share feedback via AI-enabled multilingual calls.
- Features: multilingual translation, sentiment analysis, automated grievance categorisation, real-time dashboards.
- Reaches 20 lakh beneficiaries per month.

Bhandaran 360

- Central Warehousing Corporation's (CWC) new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system with 41 integrated modules (HR, finance, warehouse management, contracts, projects, etc.).
- Implemented ahead of schedule.

Smart EXIM Warehouse System

- For container freight stations and general warehouses.

ANNA DARPAN

- New **microservices-based platform** replacing the older Depot Online System.
- It integrates and connects all key grain operations.
- It serves as a single unified source of truth for both the FCI and the Department of Food & Public Distribution.

National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2.0 (NAP-AMR 2.0)

- India has launched the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2.0 (2025–29) at the start of WHO's World AMR Awareness Week.
- **Launched by:** Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- NAP-AMR 2.0 is India's updated five-year strategic framework (2025–29) to combat

rising antimicrobial resistance through a One Health approach covering human, animal, agriculture, and environmental sectors.

- It builds upon the gaps identified in the **first National Action Plan (2017–2021)** and aligns with the Global Action Plan on AMR by the WHO.
- It includes specific action plans of each key stakeholder ministry/department with timelines and budget to enable effective monitoring of progress in implementation.

Scheme for Rare Earth Permanent Magnets (REPM)

- The Union Cabinet approved a ₹7,280 crore scheme to manufacture Rare Earth Permanent Magnets (REPM) in India.

- The scheme, named "Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Sintered Rare Earth Permanent Magnets", is the first-of-its-kind initiative in India.

- 5 factories will be set up to produce 1,200 metric tons of magnets per year.

- The objective is to establish 6,000 metric tonnes per annum (MTPA) of integrated REPM manufacturing, enhancing self-reliance and positioning India as a key player globally.

- Applications of REPMs include electric vehicles, renewable energy, electronics, aerospace, and defence.

- The scheme supports end-to-end REPM manufacturing: conversion of rare earth oxides → metals → alloys → finished REPMs.

- **Total Scheme Duration:** 7 years (2 years for setup, 5 years for incentive disbursement)

EMINENT PERSONALITIES

V.O.Chidambaranar - (1872 - 1936)

- V.O.C.'s birthplace was Ottapidaram (Thoothukudi district). V.U.C.Valliyappan Ulaganathan Chidambaram, popularly known as V.U.C., was an Indian freedom fighter.
- He started the first indigenous Indian shipping company to compete with British ships.
- The indigenous steamship company he started operated between Thoothukudi and Colombo.
- He was accused of sedition by the British government and sentenced to life imprisonment and imprisoned. His lawyer's license was also revoked.

Tamil and community service

- V.O.C. was well-versed in Tamil and English.
- He was a lawyer, writer, orator, trade union leader, and freedom fighter.
- His political career was full of high morals, honesty, and energy.
- He was a man of love, courage and openness.
- He read many Tamil literatures and wrote articles and poems about them, and translated English books.
- He used to discuss the freedom struggle and Tamil literature with his friends.
- V.O.C. In 1892, he was impressed by the powerful and courageous writings of Bal Gangadhar Tilak and became his disciple.
- He himself participated in the Indian freedom struggle and made others participate. He fought against the oppression of the British.



He gave a heroic speech to the people about their cruel laws.

- The 89th Memorial Day of the Tamil sailor V.O. Chidambaranar is observed as the Day of Sacrifice on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

N. Jagadeesan (Erode Tamilanban)

- Received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2004 for his poetry collection "Vanakkam Valluva", based on the Tirukkural.
- Tamilanban has authored over 90 books, including poetry works such as "Tivagal Karaiyerukin Suriya Raayal Vaaran Tha Tehvalam," "Bani Peiyum Pagal," and "Iraup Padagan."
- He was a major figure in the Vaanampadi poetry movement, following the literary tradition of Bharathidasan.
- Recipient of several honours:** Kalaimamani, Sahitya Akademi Award, Bharathidasan Award, Tamil Nadu Government Best Book Award, Kuranpita Award, Kalaigarnar Award (Murasoli Foundation), and the Kaviko Award.

AWARDS & HONOURS

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan Awards

- About 40 librarians across Tamil Nadu received the awards from School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi at the Anna Centenary Library.
- 25 librarians received Library Enthusiast Awards (readers circle).
- 12 libraries received trophies for securing the highest donations and patrons.
- The awards are instituted in memory of Dr.S.R.Ranganathan, known as the Father of Library Science in India.
- They are presented annually to selected librarians in the State.
- Award-winning librarians were conferred a special certificate, a 50-gram silver medal, and a cash prize of Rs. 5,000.

Ilakkiya Maamani Awards

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister presented the 2024 Ilakkiya Maamani Awards to Tamil scholars:

Name	District	Category
Prof. T. Gnanasundaram	Chennai	Traditional Tamil
Dr.R. Kamarasu	Thiruvarur	Research Tamil
Somasundaram (A) Kalapriya	Tenkasi	Creative Tamil

- **Award Details:** Each award includes a cheque for Rs.5 lakh, a one-sovereign gold medal.
- **Purpose:** The awards, presented annually since 2021 by the Tamil Nadu government, recognize scholars who have contributed to the enrichment of Tamil and its literature.

- The award was instituted following the CM's announcement on 03.06.2021 (Karunanidhi's birthday), to honour 3 scholars each year across: Traditional Tamil, Research Tamil and Creative Tamil

- A total of 12 scholars have received the Ilakkiya Maamani Award so far.

Tamil Isai Sangam Awards

- Dancer Chitra Visveswaran has been selected for the Tamil Isai Sangam's Music Master Award for the year 2025, and Thirumurai Isaivanar Kudanthai V. Lakshmanan has been selected for the Pan Music Master Award.
- Chitra Visveswaran, who will receive the Music Master Award, has received the Central Government's Padma Shri Award and the Tamil Nadu Government's Kalai Mamani Award.

International Transport Project Award

- Chennai Metro Rail Corporation has been awarded the International Transport Project Award.
- The Global Energy and Environment Organization has awarded the award for the best sustainable urban transport in the world.
- The award was presented to M.A. Siddique, Managing Director of Chennai Metro Rail Corporation, at the recently held Global Sustainable Development Summit 2025 in New Delhi.
- The award was given on the basis of the implementation of environmentally friendly activities.

Children Welfare Service Awards

- As announced in the Legislative Assembly by the Social Welfare Department, the Child Welfare Service Awards are given to recognize and encourage institutions and units operating under the Directorate of Child Welfare and Special Services.
- Date of announcement of the awards scheme: November 27, 2025.
- The Minister had announced this during the grant request of the Social Welfare and Women's Rights Department for the financial year 2025-2026.

Awards for this year

Sections	Districts	Name of the homes
Government Children's Homes	Thanjavur	Annai Sathya Ammaiyar Memorial Government Children's Home
Children's Homes operating under voluntary organizations	Thoothukudi	St. Marianne's Home
Homes for children considered to have acted contrary to the law	Chennai	Government Foresight Home
District Child Protection Unit	Ramanathapuram	District Child Protection Unit

The Chief Minister has given awards and presented cheques of Rs. 1 lakh each as prize money.

REPORTS & INDICES

QS World University Sustainability Rankings 2026

- 103 Indian universities feature in the QS World University Rankings for Sustainability 2026.
- India ranks **4th globally** in number of institutions included – after the **U.S., China and the U.K.**
- India has 12 universities placed in the global Top 500, matching countries like China and the Netherlands.
- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi**, is the highest-ranked Indian institution, placed globally at 205.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Press Day

- **November 16** is a symbol of free and responsible journalism in India.
- This is the day when the Press Council of India began to act as a moral watchdog to ensure that the press is not only maintained at the high standards expected from a powerful media outlet but also is not controlled by the influence or threats of any external factors.
- While there are many press or media councils around the world, the Press Council of India is unique in that it is the only body that has the authority even over the instruments of the state in the duty of protecting press freedom.
- people, including children, move out of poverty between 2013-14 and 2022-23.
- As a result, the country's multidimensional poverty rate has declined from 29.2% to 11.3%.
- Strong social sector investments drove major poverty reduction.
- Key schemes contributing to progress: Poshan Abhiyan, Samagra Shiksha, PM-Kisan, Mid-Day Meal, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Swachh Bharat, Jal Jeevan Yojana.
- India's robust digital public infrastructure enabled efficient delivery of welfare services at scale.

World Fisheries Day 2025

- World Fisheries Day, observed annually on **21st November**, traces its origin to the formation of the World Fisheries Forum in 1997.
- The theme for 2025 is "India's Blue Transformation: Strengthening Value Addition in Seafood Exports."
- India is the second-largest fish-producing country and among the world's top shrimp producers.

World Children's Day

- **Observed on:** November 20
- **UNICEF's 2025 Theme:** "My Day, My Rights" and "For Every Child, Every Right"
- First observed in 1954.
- **1959:** UN adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child.
- **1989:** Adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – the most widely ratified human rights treaty (196 countries).
- **India's Children's Day:** November 14 (Birth Anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru)
- **International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women 2025**
 - It is observed annually on **November 25**.
 - Theme for 2025: "UNiTE to End Digital Violence Against All Women and Girls"

National Constitution Day of India (Samvidhan Divas)

India's Achievement

- According to the National Multidimensional Poverty Index, India has helped 2.8 crore
- National Constitution Day is observed every year on 26 November to mark the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1949.

- The Indian Constitution took 2 years, 11 months, and 18 days to draft—from 9 December 1946 to 26 November 1949.
- The day emphasises the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chairman of the Drafting Committee and principal architect of the Constitution.
- Drafting Committee formed under Ambedkar: 29 August 1947.
- Final draft presented for debate: 4 November 1948.
- Constitution adopted: 26 November 1949.
- Constitution came into force: 26 January 1950.

History

- Officially declared Constitution Day on 19 November 2015, during Dr. Ambedkar's 125th birth anniversary year.
- Before 2015, the day was observed informally as Law Day.

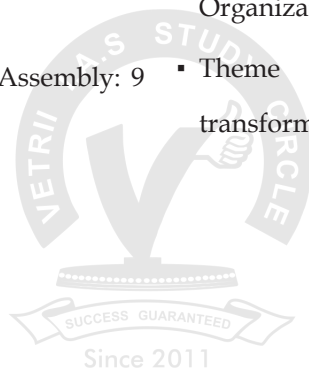
Drafting Timeline

- First meeting of the Constituent Assembly: 9 December 1946.

World AIDS Day

- World AIDS Day is observed on December 1 every year.
- It was first marked in 1988 by the World Health Organization (WHO).

- Theme 2025: Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response.



DEFENCE

New Guard Establishment

- The Indian Army has strengthened its eastern border by setting up three new guard posts.
- The new establishments include the Lachit Bor Phukan military station in Assam's Dhubri district and forward posts at Kish Anganj in Bihar and So-Phra in West Bengal, all located close to the India-Bangladesh border.
- The Siliguri corridor, a short land link to India's eight northeastern states, is strategically important, and the additional guard posts will improve surveillance in the region, the official added.
- Wing Commander Hi-Manshu Tiwari, Chief PRO, Ministry of Defence, Kolkata, also laid the foundation stone for the Lachit Bor Phukan military station in Pamunikhana
- Named after an Ahom commander.
- The Indian Army has appreciated the support extended by the Assam government and local administration for the speedy establishment of the station.

Exercise Ajeya Warrior-2025

- A **biennial India-UK military** exercise focusing on counter-terrorism.
- The 14-day bilateral exercise is scheduled from November 17-30.
- **Aim:** To enhance tactical proficiency, joint mission planning, and coordinated responses in semi-urban counter-terror settings.
- **Host:** Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan (Foreign Training Node).

7th Meeting of the National Security Advisers (NSAs)

- Colombo Security Conference (CSCR) held in Delhi on 20 November 2025.

- The conference was chaired by India's National Security Advisor (NSA), Ajit Doval.
- NSAs from Maldives, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh; Seychelles invited as visiting country, Malaysia as guest country.
- **Agenda:** Discussions on maritime security, terrorism, transnational organized crime, cyber security, critical infrastructure security, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief.
- The discussions will focus on reviewing activities under the five core pillars of cooperation and formulating the Action Plan for the year 2026.
- **Purpose:** Enhance cooperation among member countries to improve security in the Indian Ocean region. 6th NSA Conference held in Mauritius, December 2023.

Exercise 'Sagar Kavach'

- 'Sagar Kavach' is a biannual multi-agency coastal security exercise conducted along India's coastline to assess real-time preparedness against seaborne threats, intrusions, and infiltration attempts.
- Conducted in **Cuddalore and Villupuram districts**, covering coastline, fishing harbours, and vital installations.
- Held as a two-day exercise November 20 - 21, 2025.
- Jointly carried out by the **Indian Coast Guard, Indian Navy, district police, Coastal Security Group (Tamil Nadu Police)** and other coastal security stakeholders.

Mahe-Class Ship

- **First Mahe-class anti-submarine warfare (ASW) ship** to be commissioned on 24.11.25.
- Marks induction of the **first shallow-water ASW ship** of this class into the Indian Navy.

- Begins a series of indigenously built shallow-water ASW ships.
- It is deployed to prevent terrorist activities using drones along the India-Pakistan border.
- Over 80% components are made in India, highlighting indigenisation.
- Developed by the company Indrajal, the vehicle is named 'Indrajal Ranger'.

HAMMER Precision Weapon System

- Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and France's Safran Electronics & Defence have signed a Joint Venture Cooperation Agreement to manufacture the HAMMER precision Weapon System.
- The HAMMER (Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range) is a smart, precision-guided, air-to-ground weapon designed to strike hardened targets with high accuracy from stand-off ranges.
- Developed by: Originally developed by Safran (Sagem), France, and now set for joint manufacturing with BEL in India.
- Its objectives are to save lives, neutralize enemy drones, and strengthen national security.

Roadmap for a Future-Ready Integrated Force

- Indian President inaugurated the Indian Army's Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2025 and praised the armed forces for their professionalism and patriotism.
- Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi unveiled a comprehensive three-phase road map to transform the Army into an integrated, future-ready force by 2047.
- The plan is aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat and the government's push for reforms and technological advancement.
- The declaration of 2025 as the "Year of Reforms" by the Defence Minister has accelerated the Army's modernisation efforts.

Exercise Suryakiran

- India and Nepal will launch the 19th edition of Exercise Suryakiran from November 25 to December 8 in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.
- Exercise Suryakiran is a bilateral, annual, battalion-level military exercise conducted alternately by India and Nepal to enhance defence cooperation, coordination, and military preparedness.
- Aim: To improve operational synergy in jungle warfare, counter-terrorism operations, mountain warfare, and integrate modern technologies for improved interoperability and tactical coordination.

Three Phases of Transformation

- **Phase 1 (till 2032):**
 - Forms the core of the Army's "Decade of Transformation".
 - Focus on capability development, force restructuring, and enhanced operational readiness.
- **Phase 2 (2032-2037):**
 - Consolidation phase to strengthen and stabilise gains achieved in the first decade.
- **Phase 3 (2037-2047):**
 - Envisions a fully integrated force design prepared for next-generation warfare.

AI-Enabled Anti-Drone Patrol Vehicle

- India has introduced its first anti-drone patrol vehicle equipped with AI technology.
- The vehicle can detect and destroy enemy drones in motion.

SPORTS & GAMES

Deaf Olympics Competition

- The Deaf Olympics for the deaf is being held in Tokyo, Japan.
- Indian athlete Dhanush Srikanth won gold in the men's 10-meter air rifle event by finishing first.
- Indian athlete Mohammad Murtaza Vaniya won silver in the same category by finishing second.
- Anuya Prasad has won gold in the 10m air pistol women's category in the Deaflympics pistol shooting competition for the hearing impaired in Japan
- In the same, Pranjali Prashant Dhumal has won silver.
- Anuya, Pranjali This is the 2nd gold at the international level for Anuya, who won gold in the World Championship held last year.
- Meanwhile, India's Abhinav Deshwaal won a silver medal by finishing 2nd in the 10m air pistol men's category.
- Abhinav Deshwaal, who won gold in the last 2022 Deaflympics, this time came first with a world record and advanced to the finals.
- With this, India's medal tally in shooting alone has reached 7, with 2 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze.
- At the Deaflympics in Japan, Indian mixed pairs won gold and bronze medals in shooting.
- In the 70m air rifle mixed event, the pair of Dhanush Srikanth and Mahit Sandhu defeated South Korea's Jeon Dion and Kim Woorim to win gold.
- The duo of Mohammed Murtaza Vaniyakomal and Milind Waghmare beat Ukraine's Violeta Lykova and Alexander Kostyk to secure the bronze.
- **Location:** Japan
- **Gold Medal:** India - Abhinav Deshwal & Pranjali Prashant Dhumal defeated Chinese Taipei's Ya Zhu Qavi and Ming Jui
- **Bronze Medal:** Iran - Mahla Sami & Bijan
- Deaflympics 2025 is being held in Tokyo, Japan.
- India's Mahid Sandhu won her third medal in rifle shooting.
- She secured a silver medal in the women's 50m rifle prone event.
- Eliska Svobodova (Czech Republic) won gold; Mira Kaszana (Hungary) won bronze.
- The Deaf Olympics are being held in Bokyoo, Japan.
- In the men's 50m 3 Positions rifle shooting event, India's **Saurya Saini** secured **2nd place** and won the **silver medal**.

Gold Medalists

- o Meenakshi, Nupur, Preeti, Arundhati, Jasmine, Nikhat, Parveen (Women)
- o Hitesh, Sachin (Men)

Silver Medalists

- o Jatumani Singh, Bhavnyardwal, Abinash Jamwal, Ankush Pangwal, Narendra (Men)
- o Pooja Rani (Women)

Bronze Medalists

- o Dheeraj Phogat, Saweeti Pura, Sumit Kundu, Jugnu, Naveen (Men)

- India's **Abhinav Deshwale** has won a **gold medal in the 25m pistol** individual event at

the Deaflympics for the hearing impaired in Japan.

- **India's Mahit Sandhu** has won her **4th medal in the women's 50m pistol** event at the Deaflympics.
- The Deaf Olympics are being held in Bokojo, Japan.
- In the men's 50m 3 Positions rifle shooting event, India's **Saurya Saini** secured **2nd place** and won the **silver medal**.
- India's **Abhinav Deshwale** has won a **gold medal in the 25m pistol** individual event at the Deaflympics for the hearing impaired in Japan.
- **India's Mahit Sandhu** has won her **4th medal in the women's 50m pistol** event at the Deaflympics.

World Abilitysport Games

- Held in Thailand from 17th to 24th.
- Chennai ICF player **Sonai Murugan** participated in the javelin and discus throwing competitions.
- Accordingly, he won a gold medal in javelin throwing and a silver medal in discus throwing.

Shooting World Championship

- India's **Gurpreet Singh** has won a silver medal in the competition held in Egypt.
- This is Gurpreet's 2nd individual medal in the World Championship.

World Tennis League Series

- The World Tennis League will be held in India for the first time, from December 17 to 20, at the S.M. Krishna Tennis Stadium in Bengaluru.

▪ The four-day tournament is organised by Iconic Sports.

Indian Pickleball League

- The Deputy Chief Minister unveiled the teams participating in the Indian Pickleball League.
- India is launching the Pickleball League for the first time.
- The tournament will be held from December 1 to 7 at the KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

National Fencing

- **Location:** Delhi
- **Women's Foil Gold:** Tamil Nadu defeated Manipur
- **Women's Sabre Bronze:** Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

World Boxing Cup

- India created history by winning 20 medals (9 Gold, 6 Silver, 5 Bronze) at the World Boxing Cup Finals.
- The event was held in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, organized by the World Boxing organization in collaboration with the Boxing Federation of India (BFI).
- 7 Indian women boxers and 2 men won gold, setting a new record.

Australian Open Super 500 Badminton Tournament

- **Lakshya Sen** won the men's singles title.
- The tournament was held in **Sydney, Australia**.

Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025

- India won the Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025, defeating Chinese Taipei 35-28 in the final held in Bangladesh.
- This is India's second consecutive championship, retaining the trophy as defending champions.
- First edition held in 2012 by the International Kabaddi Federation. India won the inaugural championship by defeating Iran.

Track Asia Cup Cycling Race

- **Dates:** January 29 to January 31, 2026
- **Venue:** Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University campus, Vandalur, Chennai
- **Significance:** This is the first time that the Track Asia Cup Cycling Race is being held in India.
- **Participants:** Over 100 athletes from 15 countries, including India, Hong Kong, Iran, and Malaysia.

Sultan Azlan Shah Cup

- The Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament is being held in Ipoh, Malaysia.
- On **28.11.2025**, India faced New Zealand in the tournament. The Indian team won the match.

Syed Modi Super 300 international badminton tournament

- In the Syed Modi Super 300 International Badminton Tournament, India's Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly won the championship title in the women's doubles category.
- The tournament was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- Srikanth finishes second: In the men's singles category, India's Kidambi Srikanth lost to Hong Kong's Jason Ho-shue and missed the opportunity to win the title

INTERNATIONAL

Global Big Cats Summit

- India announced that it will host the Global Big Cats Summit in New Delhi in 2026, reaffirming global leadership in wildlife conservation.
- Global Big Cats Summit is a high-level international summit dedicated to strengthening global cooperation, policy coordination, and scientific collaboration for the conservation of big cat species across continents.

UN Security Council

- Context:** The UN Security Council approved the U.S.-drafted resolution outlining Donald Trump's plan for post-war Gaza governance.

About UN Security Council

- The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is a group of 195 nations formed in October 1945 to maintain international peace and security.
- The Security Council is the successor to the previously created League of Nations.
- India's participation in the Security Council has been as a non-permanent member during the periods of 1950-51, 1967-68, 1972-73, 1977-78, 1984-85, 1991-92, 2011-12, and 2021-22.
- The Council comprises 15 members, including 5 permanent members (P5) - China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States—who possess veto power, and 10 non-permanent members elected for 2-year terms by the UN General Assembly (UNGA).

G-20 Summit

- The G-20 summit was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, marking the first time the

grouping has been hosted in an African country.

India's Proposals/Initiatives:

- Proposed initiatives to reconsider global growth parameters to balance growth and promote "**integral humanism**."
- Announced the G-20-Africa Skills Multiplier Initiative to impart skill development to "one million" people across the African continent.
- Proposed a **G-20 Global Healthcare Response Team**.
- Proposed a **G-20 Initiative on Countering the Drug-Terror Nexus**.
- Proposed a **Global Traditional Knowledge Repository**: To transmit sustainable and "eco-balanced ways of life" to future generations.
- Proposed a **G-20 Open Satellite Data Partnership**: To share information related to agriculture, fishing, and disaster management.
- Proposed a **G-20 Critical Minerals Circularity initiative**: To promote recycling and sustainable mining methods.
- Australia-Canada-India Technology & Innovation (ACITI) Partnership**:
 - The goal is to deepen cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, resilient supply chains, clean energy, and artificial intelligence (AI).
- Note:** United States boycotted the summit; no U.S. leader attended due to tense ties with South Africa.

COP30 (Belem, Brazil)

- Summit Outcome**
- COP30 concluded with a consensus agreement titled "Global Mutirão: Uniting humanity in a global mobilisation against climate change."

- COP President Andrei Lago announced two major global road maps to be prepared:
 - Road map to halt and reverse deforestation.
 - Road map to transition away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly, and equitable manner.
 - This Mutirão refers to a consensus on the most contentious climate-talk issues:
 - **Article 9 (Paris Agreement):** Developed nations must mobilise finance for developing countries' energy transition.
 - Measures against trade-restrictive unilateral climate actions (a key concern among developing countries).
 - Progress on **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**.
 - Addressing the **1.5°C ambition and implementation gap**.
 - The final consensus text, the Mutirão Agreement, includes:
 - A two-year work programme on climate finance.
 - A call to at least triple adaptation finance by 2035.
 - A new systematic dialogue with UN trade bodies (ITC, UNCTAD, WTO) to ensure climate measures do not hinder trade or growth in developing countries.
 - The adaptation goal falls under the **New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)**:
 - Developed countries must mobilise **\$300 billion per year by 2035**.
 - Aim to scale up to **\$1.3 trillion annually** from all sources in later years.
 - The Mutirão agreement does not mention fossil fuels or a phase-out road map.
 - **India and several developing/petroleum-exporting countries stand:**
 - **Opposed inclusion of a timeline** for complete phase-out of fossil fuels.
 - Argued for flexibility as economic growth and energy needs remain high.
 - **Developed Countries' Stand:**
 - A **clear fossil-fuel transition pathway** is essential to limit warming to 1.5°C by 2100.
 - **Climate finance** for mitigation and adaptation must come from both **public and private sources**.
- ### WHO's New Global Guideline on Fertility Care
- The WHO called on countries to make fertility care safer, fairer, and more affordable for all.
 - This is First-ever global guideline on prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infertility.
 - The guideline includes 40 recommendations aimed at strengthening the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infertility.
- ### About World Health Organisation
- The WHO is the United Nation's specialized health agency and is mandated to coordinate the world's response to global health threats.
 - The International Health Conference held in New York in 1946 adopted the Constitution of WHO, which entered into force in 1948.
 - WHO coordinates the world's response to health emergencies, promote well-being, prevent disease and expand access to health care.
 - **Membership:** 194 member states grouped into 6 regions (Africa, Americas, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, South-East Asia, and Western Pacific).

MISCELLANEOUS

Cooperative Society – History

- While the cooperative movement emerged and developed globally in the mid-19th century, the seeds for it in India were planted at the end of that century.
 - Its history began in Tamil Nadu. Farmers were dependent on landowners and moneylenders. The successive famines made farmers indebted.
 - The debt problem of farmers was also a major reason for the Deccan Rebellion of 1875, following which the British government brought the Deccan Farmers Relief Act (1875) and the Farmers Loan Act (1884)
 - In this situation, the then Madras Provincial Government appointed an officer named Sir Frederick Augustus Nicholson to study and report on the establishment of organizations like the agricultural credit societies operating in the West in India.
 - Nicholson submitted his report in two large volumes in 1895 and 1897. He suggested that organizations like the Roybeson Societies operating in Germany could be established to provide credit to the farmers.
 - The 1901 Famine Commission also made similar recommendations to the government. Based on these, the British government passed the Cooperative Societies Act, 1904.
 - The Act was amended in 1912 to remove the shortcomings in these.
- ### Cooperative Society in India
- The first cooperative society in India was registered in Tirur village in Tiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu, on 30.08.1904, as the Tirur Village Cooperative Society.
 - This society was started through the efforts of Adhi Narayanayya, a retired Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, from Tirur village, and the initiative of P. Rajagopalachari, the first Registrar of Cooperative Societies in the Madras Province.
 - Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister P.S. Kumaraswamy Raja, who was also its chairman, started the Bhupathi Raja Cooperative Bank in Rajapalayam in 1925 and was also its chairman. He brought Gandhiji to this bank in 1934.
 - Gandhi visited the Thiruvallikeni Cooperative Society in Chennai in 1925.
 - Gandhi, who had started and run Phoenix Farm and Tolstoy Farm while in South Africa, had a natural interest and involvement in cooperatives.
 - He was very keen on strengthening the Indian cooperative movement.
 - Various leaders of the Nehru-Dravidian movement have contributed to the development of the cooperative movement, including Pitti Thiagarayar, Pitira A.D. Panneerselvam, V.V. Rama and U.P.A. Soundarapandian. Justice Party N.R. Samiyappa, Tamil Nadu He supported the development of the Cooperative Training Institute.
 - The institution is named after him and he started the Erode Nagar Bank.
 - Not only economic development, but also the cooperative societies have played a major role in bringing about social development among various backward communities. People from various strata of society
 - The Public Distribution Scheme of Tamil Nadu, which is functioning in the best way in India, is implemented through cooperative societies.

- Currently, public welfare schemes have increased to the extent that essential commodities from the fair price shop are delivered to the homes of the elderly and the differently abled.

Cooperatives and State Autonomy

- When the Montagu Chelmsford Reforms were brought in 1919, the cooperative sector came under the control of the states.
- Following this, the then British provinces took steps to strengthen the cooperative movement.
- In 1927, the Madras Provincial Government reviewed the progress of the cooperative movement and made recommendations for its improvement. Townsend Committee.
- The Madras Province Cooperative Societies Act was passed in 1932. This Act broadened the scope of the cooperative movement beyond the 1912 Act.
- The Vijayaraghavachari Committee (1939) and the Santhanam Committee (1968) formed after this gave the government recommendations for the development of the cooperative movement.

The first district to be created after States were reorganised

- The first district created in Madras State after the Reorganisation of States was Dharmapuri in 1965.
- Historically known as Thagadoor, it became a new administrative unit with Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Hosur, and Harur taluks, all carved out of Salem district.
- In 2004, Dharmapuri was bifurcated to create Krishnagiri district.

Seven Tamil kings noted for generosity and charitable deeds

- Noted for their generosity and charitable

deeds, the Kadai Ezhu Vallalgal were a group of seven kings of ancient Tamilagam mentioned in Sangam literary texts such as Sirupanatrupadai and Purananooru.

- These monarchs were called Velir and ruled small kingdoms.
- They were Pari, Ori, Kari, Athiyaman, Pegan, Aay, and Nalli.

The capital of the early Cholas is now a part of Tiruchi city

- Uraiyur (Woraiyur- part of Tiruchi city), was the capital of the early Cholas.
- Ashokan inscriptions in Odisha mention Uraiyur as the Chola capital.
- This ancient city, with its fortress and walls on the Cauvery's southern bank, flourished during the Sangam Age.
- Excavations in the 1960s uncovered 20 fragmented potsherds.

Adavinainar Dam forms part of the Thamirabarani basin

- The Adavinainar Dam, at the foothills of the Western Ghats on the Kerala border, is built across the Hanumanadhi at Mekkarai in Tenkasi district.
- The picturesque dam is part of the Thamirabarani basin.

Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP)

- It is a UNFCCC initiative launched at COP27 (2022) and operationalised at COP28 (in 2023) through the Sharm el Sheikh Implementation Plan.
- It aims to ensure climate actions are fair, equitable, and aligned with national development goals, especially for workers and communities affected by moving away from fossil fuels.