

VETRI IAS STUDY CIRCLE

Current Affairs

(A book for TNPSC Examination)

SEPTEMBER 2025



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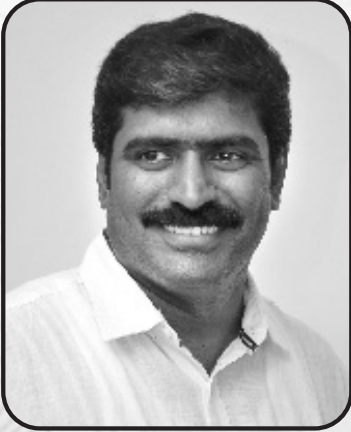
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Preface



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Vetrii IAS Study Circle.

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My Dear Aspirants,

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

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

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

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

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

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SCIENCE

GENERAL SCIENCE

Dry eye syndrome

- Dry eye syndrome is a common condition where your eyes don't produce enough tears or the tears are of poor quality, leading to insufficient lubrication of the eye's surface and symptoms like dryness, burning, redness, and blurred vision.
- It can be caused by factors like age, certain medical conditions and lifestyle choices like prolonged screen time

LATEST INVENTIONS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CEREBO Tool

- **CEREBO Tool** is a hand held, portable, non-invasive diagnostic device for Traumatic Brain injuries (TBIS)
- **Developed by:** ICMR + MDMS + AIIMS BHOPAL + NIMHANS Bengaluru + Bio scan Research.

Features:

- Detects intracranial bleeding and edema, Radiation - free, safe, Colour-coded, cost-effective results, Usable by paramedics and unskilled personnel

SPACE

Transfer of SSLV technology

- The Indian Space Research Organisation signed a formal agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. for the transfer of technology for production of small satellite launch vehicles (SSLV).

- The agreement will be the 100th transfer of technology agreement facilitated by INSPACE.
- The agreement would allow the HAL to independently build the SSLV for both domestic and international markets.

Note

- **ISRO Chairman** - V. Narayanan
- **IN-SPACe** - Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) aims to promote the participation of private companies in space sector.
- **NSIL** - NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) is the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and a wholly owned Government of India company.

Vyommitra: ISRO's AI Half-Humanoid for Gaganyaan

- ISRO will launch Vyommitra, an AI-enabled half-humanoid female robot, aboard the uncrewed Gaganyaan mission in December 2025 to simulate human spaceflight conditions.
- **Name Origin:** Derived from Sanskrit — Vyoma (sky) + Mitra (friend).
- **Purpose:** To replicate human physiological functions during flight, helping scientists assess crew module conditions before India's first manned space mission in 2026.

Key Features

- **AI-enabled:** Capable of speech, environmental monitoring, system control, and human interaction
- **Half-humanoid:** Upper body only — designed to mimic key human functions relevant to space missions

- **Sensory capabilities:** Monitors parameters like temperature, pressure, humidity, and CO2 levels inside the crew module
 - **Command execution:** Can operate switch panels and interact with ground control. Astrosat, India's first space observatory
 - AstroSat was launched on September 28, 2015.
 - It is India's first multi-wavelength space observatory and completed a decade of service in September 2025.
 - **Launch Site:** Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota
 - Astrosat allowed scientists to simultaneously track stellar flares, black hole outbursts, and neutron star activity, revealing astrophysical processes that single-wavelength observatories couldn't.
- Laser Interferometer Lunar Antenna (LILA) Project**
- **Overview:** Proposed by Vanderbilt Lunar Labs, USA, to build a gravitational-wave detector on the Moon.
 - **Ideal Conditions:** The Moon's polar shadow zones provide ultra-low seismic activity, natural vacuum, and no atmospheric or radio interference.
 - **Focus:** Sub-hertz gravitational waves, vital for studying intermediate-mass black holes and the early universe.
 - These Project on the Moon to bypass seismic noise, atmosphere, and frequency limits faced by Earth-based detectors like Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO)



GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Dalbergia latifolia (Indian Rosewood)

- Only 17.2% of India's suitable habitat for Dalbergia latifolia Indian rosewood lies in protected areas.
- The species, native to Tamil Nadu's Nilgiris, Anamalai, and Parambikulam ranges, now finds itself largely unprotected and increasingly vulnerable to exploitation as the State government decided not to renew the Tamil Nadu Rosewood Trees (Conservation) Act, 1995, beyond February 2025.

About Dalbergia latifolia

- Often called the 'ivory of the forests', Indian rosewood is prized for its rich grain, deep colour, and exceptional durability.
- It is a premium timber resource for the furniture and handicraft industries as well as a keystone ecological species. Rosewood trees improve soil fertility through nitrogen fixation, support bird and insect diversity, and act as long-term carbon sinks.

Protection status:

- CITES - in Endangered
- IUCN - Vulnerable

Gangotri glacier

- Gangotri glacier is located in Uttarkashi District, Uttarakhand, India in a region bordering Tibet.
- This glacier, one of the primary sources of the Ganges, has a volume of over 27 cubic kilometers. The glacier is about 30 kilometres long and 2 to 4 km wide.

Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project

- Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project is a multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River in Kaleshwaram, Bhupalpally, Telangana, India.
- Currently the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project, its farthest upstream influence is at the confluence of the Pranahita and Godavari rivers

Earthquake in afghanistan

- A 6.1-magnitude earthquake that killed 1,000 people in the eastern region of Afghanistan

Earthquake zones in india

- India is one of the highly earthquake affected countries because of active young fold mountains - Himalaya.
- India has been divided into four seismic zones (II, III, IV, and V) based on scientific inputs relating to seismicity, earthquakes occurred in the past and tectonic setup of the region.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

Biomining

- Biomining is a waste management strategy to excavate and process legacy waste (aged, unsegregated landfill waste) to recover valuable resources like metals and plastics, convert organic matter into compost, and produce energy.
- It involves excavating old dumpsite waste, treating it to accelerate biological decomposition by introducing microbes, and then mechanically segregating the materials using screens and separators

Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) 2025

- North Indian cities such as Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Kanpur are notorious for their air pollution, almost everyone living in India

breathes air dirtier than what World Health Organisation (WHO) has deemed safe.

- According to the Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) 2025 annual update, all of India lives in areas where the annual average particulate pollution level (PM_{2.5}) exceeds the WHO annual average limit of 5 µg/m³.
- Worldwide, the global PM_{2.5} concentration in 2023 was 1.5% higher than in 2022 and almost 5x times over the WHO limit.
- Indeed, the report identified particulate pollution as the "greatest external threat to human life expectancy" in 2023.

Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control)

Rules 2000

- It promulgated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, were designed to control noise from various sources like industries, construction, and loudspeakers to protect public health and ensure a healthy atmosphere for living

Elathur Lake - 3rd Biodiversity Heritage Site of Tamil Nadu:

- The Tamil Nadu government has declared Elathur Lake in Erode district as the 3rd Biodiversity Heritage Site of the state
- Declared as a Biodiversity Heritage Site under the Biodiversity Act:
 - 2022 - Aritapatti, Madurai district
 - 2025 - Kasampatti, Dindigul district

About Elathur Lake

- Elathur Lake has an area of more than 37 hectares. It is an important habitat for a variety of birds, aquatic animals and a variety of wetland systems.
- More than 5,000 different species of birds are found here during the migratory season. So far, 187 species of birds have been sighted here.

Vulture conservation portal

- India's first vulture conservation portal was launched in Assam
- Developed by We Foundation India in collaboration with Gauhati university
- **Aim:** To build a National Network of conservationists, researchers, academicians, students and citizens to save vultures

Conservation Efforts

- National Action plan for vulture conservation (2020-2025)
- **Aim:** To promote safe zones, captive breeding, awareness and monitoring

IUCN status of Indian vultures

- White-rumped vulture, slender-billed vulture, Red-headed vulture are listed under critically endangered list.

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement

- The Ministry of Earth Sciences has set up a 12 member panel to implement a new law to safeguard its interests in international ocean waters.
- It aligns with the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement (High Seas Treaty) agreement.
- The BBJN Agreement or High Seas Treaty is a legal framework under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to safeguard the ecological health of oceans.

About BBJN Adoption -2023

- **Aim-** To curb pollution, conserve biodiversity, and ensure sustainable use of marine resources

Environment Audit Rules, 2025

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has notified the

Environment Audit Rules, 2025 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- **Objective** -To establish a comprehensive framework for environmental accountability across India.
- Under the new rules, Environment Auditors (EAs) are to be Certified and Registered by the Environment Audit Designated Agency (EADA).

Red-Necked Phalarope

- The Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*), a rare shorebird, was recently spotted at Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary in Tirupur city, Tamil Nadu, for the first time.
- It is unusual for this bird to make a stopover in an inland water body.
- This marks the 192nd bird species recorded in the sanctuary.
- The species is found in boreal and tundra ecosystems across the world.
- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, it is classified as Least Concern.

India's Forest Environmental Accounting Advances in 2025

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the 8th issue of Environmental Accounting on Forest 2025 on 25th September 2025.
- The publication aligns with the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounts (SEEA) framework.
- It offers a detailed view of India's forest ecosystem accounts at national and state levels.
- This marks the first dedicated forest accounting report under SEEA.

- The report was revealed during the 29th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (CoCSSO) in Chandigarh.

Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve

- The Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve is the world's safest address for the one-horned rhino and is known for its 'Big Five' species (Indian rhinoceros, Bengal tiger, Asian elephant, wild water buffalo, and eastern swamp deer).

- It holds the most one-horned rhinos on earth (2,613 individuals as per the last estimation).
- It has the third-highest density of tigers (18.65 individuals per 100 sq. km).

- A new rapid survey documented a rich community of insects and spiders in a woodland habitat of the reserve.
- The survey was conducted by entomologists with the Corbett Foundation and Kaziranga's frontline forest personnel.

- The findings highlight the urgent need for insect conservation, especially as climate change threatens to accelerate species loss (globally, nearly 40% of insect species are in decline).

Significance/Importance:

- The findings highlight Kaziranga's "overlooked" **micro-faunal richness** and its status as a **true hotspot of invertebrate diversity**.
- These small life forms play a **vital ecological role** as pollinators, soil aerators, natural pest-controllers, and are crucial for **seed dispersal and soil health**.
- They form the foundation of the **food web** that sustains Kaziranga's iconic wildlife.

INDIAN POLITY

Article 48A

- Article 48A of the Indian Constitution is a Directive Principle of State Policy that mandates the State to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.
- This directive was added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 and forms a key part of the State's responsibility for sustainable development.
- A five - **Judge constitutional Bench** is examining a Presidential Reference regarding the powers of governors in giving assent to state bills.

Why in the news?

- States (TN, WB) argue that governors are delaying or withholding Bills auditorily

The SC observed

- Governors cannot delay infinitely

Judges said

- Not justified to extend the deadline for the president and governors to approve bills.

National Conference on Transgender Rights

- The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) hosted a National Conference on Transgender Rights.
- It is aimed at addressing systemic discrimination, strengthening institutional support, and reaffirming constitutional guarantees for transgender persons in India.
- As per the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, a transgender person is someone whose gender identity does not match the gender assigned at birth.

- India has around 4.8 million transgender persons as per Census 2011.

National Bio-Enablers or Mulankur

- The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is setting up 16 biomanufacturing hubs across India.
- These hubs are also known as National Bio-Enablers or Mulankur.
- Aim** - To boost domestic production of bioproducts such as APIs, biofuel enzymes, reagents for biofertilizers.
- Established under its BioE3 Policy

About BioE3 Policy

- BioE3 stands for "Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment".
- It is India's first comprehensive biotechnology policy aimed at fostering high-performance biomanufacturing.
- Launch** - 24 August 2024

Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025

- The Parliament has recently passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025
- Act aims to establish a framework to promote the online gaming sector for innovation and economic growth.
- It was introduced as a Finance bill under Article 117(1) and 117(3) which requires the recommendation of the President.

Supreme Court Issues Uniform DNA Evidence Guidelines

- The Supreme Court of India issued comprehensive national guidelines for the collection, storage, and handling of DNA evidence in criminal cases.

- **Aim:** To standardise forensic procedures across all states, prevent contamination, and reduce delays in forensic analysis.

Election Commission Delists 474

Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) has de-listed 474 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs).
- Reasons for De-listing
- Primary Reason: Non-participation in elections for six consecutive years.
- Financial Non-Compliance: Failure to submit annual audited accounts for three financial years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24).
- Expenditure Lapse: Failure to file election expenditure reports even after contesting elections.
- Overall Violation: These lapses violate ECI guidelines and undermine transparency and accountability.

Mana Mitra: Andhra Pradesh's

WhatsApp Governance Model

- Andhra Pradesh expanded its WhatsApp Governance platform 'Mana Mitra' to offer 200+ citizen services, now covering 738 services across 36 departments, and the Centre plans to replicate this model nationwide after recognizing it as a best practice.
- Mana Mitra is India's first WhatsApp-based governance platform, launched by the Andhra Pradesh government in January 2025 to deliver public services digitally.
- It integrates 36 state departments into a single window for citizens, reducing the need to visit government offices.

Presidential Reference to Supreme Court on Articles 200 and 201

- The Supreme Court is examining a Presidential reference from May 2025, which seeks clarity on 14 questions regarding Articles 200 and 201 of the Indian Constitution.

- This follows a Supreme Court judgment in April 2025 concerning timelines for Governors and the President to act on State legislature-passed Bills.

Article 200: Governor's Role

- When a Bill is presented, the Governor has four options:
 - Assent to the Bill.
 - Withhold assent, effectively rejecting the Bill.
 - Return the Bill for reconsideration by the State Legislature.
 - Reserve the Bill for the President's consideration.
- The Governor must act on the advice of the Council of Ministers, except in rare discretionary cases.
- No specific time limit exists for the Governor's decision-making, but it should be "as soon as possible."

Article 201: President's Role

- No timeline is specified for the President to decide on reserved Bills, but the judgment prescribes a three-month period.

NHRC Launches Online Internship on Human Rights

- The National Human Rights Commission of India started its Online Short Term Internship Programme for September 2025.
- It aims to deepen youth understanding of human rights promotion and protection in India.

About NHRC

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- It is a statutory body, established under the

Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993 as amended in 2006 and in 2019.

- Chairperson and Members of the Commission are appointed by the President of India, on the recommendations of a committee, headed by the Prime Minister, consisting of:

- Speaker of Lok Sabha
- Minister-in-Charge of Ministry of Home Affairs
- Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
- Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha

- Chairperson and members of NHRC will hold office for three years or till the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier. The Chairperson and members both are eligible for reappointment.

GST 2.0 – Rate Rationalisation and Structural Reforms

- GST 2.0, the latest round of reforms, effective September 22, 2025, and termed “GST Bachat Utsav”, aims at simplifying the rate structure.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST), India’s landmark indirect tax reform launched in July 2017, has undergone multiple tweaks.
- The latest round of reforms, effective September 22, 2025, termed “GST Bachat Utsav” by the Prime Minister of India, aims at simplifying the rate structure.
- This will resolve classification disputes, correct inverted duty structures, and boost household consumption.

Election Commission Launches Aadhaar-Based E-Sign Verification

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) introduced a new e-sign feature on its ECINET portal and app in September 2025.

- ECINET is a unified platform integrating over 40 previous Election Commission mobile and web applications.

- It was launched during the June 2025 by-elections in Kerala, Gujarat, Punjab, and West Bengal.

- The platform streamlines election-related processes and data management for better efficiency.

Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal

- The Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) was formally launched in New Delhi in 2025.

- This new institution marks advancement in India’s indirect tax system.

- It aims to provide a fair, transparent, and efficient platform for resolving GST-related disputes.

- GSTAT is expected to strengthen the GST regime and support the government’s vision of ease of doing business.

- A key feature of GSTAT is its digital-first approach. The GSTAT e-Courts Portal allows taxpayers and practitioners to file appeals online, track case progress, and attend virtual hearings.

- Developed by the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC)

About GST

- GST was introduced in India in 2017 to unify the tax structure across the country.

- It replaced multiple indirect taxes with a single tax to create one market.

Appointment of DGPs in state:

- The Director General of Police (DGPs) are the highest-ranking police officers in states and union territories.

DGP Appointment process:

- The UPSC guidelines (2009, amended in 2023) and a recently introduced "Single Window System" by the Union Government, involves the following steps:
- Sending List of Eligible Officers to UPSC : State governments must send a list of eligible IPS officers to the UPSC for consideration.
- **Eligibility Criteria**
- Officers must have a minimum of 25 years of service.
- Should hold the rank of Additional Director General (ADG) or equivalent.

UPSC's Role

- Selection committee, chaired by the UPSC Chairman, evaluates the candidates.
- The UPSC prepares a panel of three officers deemed most suitable for the DGP position.
- Shortlisted names are sent back to the respective state government.
- The state government appoint one of the officers as the DGP.

Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA):

- UAPA was passed in 1967.
- It aims at effective prevention of unlawful activities associations in India.

- Unlawful activity refers to any action taken by an individual or association intended to disrupt the territorial integrity and sovereignty of India

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

- National Human Rights Commission is an independent statutory body, established on October 12, 1993, under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- **Purpose:** commission serves as a guardian of human rights in India, overseeing the rights associated with life, liberty, equality, and the dignity of individuals. These rights are guaranteed by the Constitution of India

Sahyog Portal

- X Corp (formerly Twitter) has filed a lawsuit in the High Court against the Indian government, challenging alleged censorship and content regulation through Section 79 of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 and the newly introduced Sahyog portal.
- X argued that content regulation orders be issued only under Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000.
- The Sahyog Portal has been launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to enhance collaboration between government agencies and social media intermediaries for easy compliance and safer cyberspace

INDIAN ECONOMY

GST Council approves two-rate tax slab effective September 22

- GST council, during its meeting, decided to revamped the tax structure into a primarily two-rate system, as proposed by the central government.

Rates

- 0% rate – Individual life and health insurance policies
- Two main slabs – 5% and 18%
- Special 40% rate – Tobacco, panmasala, luxury cars, yachts, private aircraft
- Effective from 22 September 2020

GST Council

- **Article 279 A** - President of India to constitute a joint forum of the centre and state called the GST council
- **Chairperson** - Union Finance Minister
- **Member** - The Union Minister of State, in-charge of Revenue of finance
- The minister in-charge of finance or taxation or any other minister nominated by each state government

Function

- GST council is an apex committee to modify, reconcile or to make recommendations to the union and the state on GST.
- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched BHARATI in 2025.
- This initiative aims to empower 100 agri-food and agri-tech startups.
- It supports innovation and creates new export opportunities.

- BHARATI aligns with India's goal to reach \$50 billion in agri-food exports by 2030.

Note

- BHARATI stands for Bharat's Hub for Agritech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement.
- It is designed to accelerate startup growth in agriculture and food processing sectors.

NITI AAYOG RECOMMENDS TAILORED STRATEGIES TO BOOST PULSES PRODUCTION

- NITI Aayog has recommended tailored agricultural strategies to address specific constraints faced by each state and its districts to ensure balanced and sustainable growth in national pulse production.
- **In a report** : "strategies and pathways for accelerating growth in pulses towards the goal of atma nirbharta"

NITI Aayog's recommendations

- Area retention and diversification – region specific pulse clusters
- Technology Adoption – Agro-ecology based customised technologies
- Seed Quality and Distribution- high quality seed kits
- Cluster-based hubs- "one block-one seed village"
- Mission for Atmanirbharta in pulses- six-year plan
- Projection – 2030:30.59 MT, 2047:45.79 MT
- **Goal**: Self- sufficiency in pulses and reduced import dependence by 2047
- **India is the world's largest producer, consumer and importer of pulse**

TAMIL NADU

'Massive Plastic Clean-up Drive' - TN

- Tamilnadu Department of Environment, Climate Change, and Forests launched a 'Massive Plastic Clean-up Drive' across all bird sanctuaries and waterbodies near forest areas in the State.
- It was launched at the Pallikaranai Marshland in Chennai - one of India's Ramsar sites to remove plastic waste and reclaim wetlands to protect biodiversity.

Mahout Village

- Tamil Nadu recently opened its second Mahout Village at Kozhikamuthi Elephant Camp in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve.
- On May 14, 2025, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated India's first Mahout Village at Theppakadu, inside the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve.

Note

- Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to set up dedicated Mahout Villages.
- This initiative is being hailed as a blend of conservation, social welfare, and eco-tourism.
- Cabinet Approves Rs.1,500 Crore Incentive Scheme for Critical Mineral Recycling
- On September 3, 2025, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved a Rs.1,500 crore incentive scheme under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) to develop recycling capacity for extracting critical minerals from secondary sources.
- The scheme will run for six years, from FY 2025-26 to FY 2030-31.

About National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)

- Approved by the Union Cabinet in January 2025.
- Announced in Union Budget 2024-25.
- Duration: 7 years (FY 2024-25 to 2030-31).

Note

- As of 2023, the Government of India identified 30 critical minerals in the report "Critical Minerals for India"

Portrait of periyar at Oxford Universitys

- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin is set to unveil a portrait of the late social reformer, Periyar E.V.Ramasamy, on the University of Oxford campus in the UK.
- Chief minister M.K. Stalin unveils portrait of Periyar at Oxford University.
- He also released two books
 - The Cambridge Companion to Periyar
 - Editors - A.R. Venkatachalapathy, Karthick Ram Manoharan
- The Dravidian Pathway
 - Author - Vignesh Rajahmani

Overseas Scholarship Programme

- The Tamil Nadu government has introduced a new overseas scholarship programme.
- The scheme will aid 10 students from the Muslim community every year pursue higher studies abroad with assistance of up to Rs.36 lakh per student.
- The scholarship will assist their higher studies if they are admitted to institutions ranked within the top 250 in the Global rankings.

- The scholarship programme will be implemented through the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board on a pilot basis.
- The applicants' total family income from all sources must not exceed Rs.8 lakh per annum.
- The applicant must have obtained 60% marks or equivalent grade in the foundation degree in the eligible disciplines.
- Applicants must not exceed 30 years of age.
- The scholarship will have two components – tuition fee and other expenses.

Note

- The scheme is similar to Padho Pardesh scheme implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs

Prosopsis Juliflora

- The Tamil Nadu government has informed the Madras High Court that 517 villages spread across 32 districts have become free of seemai karuvelam (*Prosopsis Juliflora*), an exotic and invasive plant species considered harmful to the ecology and maintenance of the groundwater table.

Disadvantages

- This tree absorbs more than four litres of water to obtain one kilogram of biomass.
- It cannot even shelter birds as it produces less oxygen and more carbon dioxide.
- It can also turn the groundwater poisonous.
- It causes land erosion due to the loss of the grasslands that are habitats for native plants and animals.

TNMRF

- Tamil Nadu government recently launched the Tamil Nadu Marine Resources Foundation (TNMRF)

- **Aim** - To protect and restore marine biodiversity by safeguarding endangered species, rehabilitating ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass, and expanding the protected areas.

MERRC

- TN Government recently launched the Manali Ennore Restoration and Rejuvenation Council (MERRC).
- It is a special purpose vehicle.
- **Aim** - To restore the environmentally sensitive Manali-Ennore region which was established after a major oilspill in December 2023.

Cyber fraud complaints in TN

- So far, 1,09,608 cyber fraud complaints have been received in Tamil Nadu in 2025 through the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP).
- In 2024, there were 1,27,041 complaints registered on the NCRP portal. Over 13,287 investment scams and 4,439 digital arrest scams were reported.

About NCRP

- Launch - 2019
- Established under Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C)
- NCRP helps to report all kinds of cybercrimes.

Tamil Academy (Valarchi Kazhagam)

- Tamil Academy takes up project to make Tamil content AI-searchable.
- It has taken up a project to convert the content available on the internet into searchable matter, using optical character recognition (OCR).
- Tamil Academy is a non-governmental body of scholars.

Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2021-2023

- It was recently released by the Sample Registration System under Office of the Register General.
- According to the bulletin, Tamil Nadu's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), which has been on a gradual decline, fell by another three points.
- Tamil Nadu's MMR dropped from 38 per 1,00,000 live births during 2020-2022 to 35 during 2021-2023.
- With this, Tamil Nadu now has the second lowest MMR in the country, behind Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, both at 30.
- India's MMR stood at 88.

Note

- The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is the number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.

TN Rising Investment Conclave

- The T.N. Rising Investment Conclave was held in Hosur recently.
- Investment Deals worth Rs.26,000 crore was signed in the event.
- Earlier T.N. Rising Europe tour was held in London.

Global Startup Summit-2025

- Tamil Nadu Government is planning to conduct Global Startup Summit-2025 in Coimbatore on October 9 and 10.
- The event will held at CODISSIA Trade Fair Complex in Coimbatore.
- The event is organised by StartupTN
- **Theme** : Disrupt to Rise

- **Aim** - To connect startups with investors, industry leaders, and global ecosystem stakeholders, fostering meaningful collaborations and business opportunities.
- Over 30,000 delegates including entrepreneurs, startups, investors, academia, policy makers etc are expected to participate in the event.

Note

- StartupTN (Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission - TANSIM) is the nodal agency of the Government of Tamil Nadu under the MSME Department.

Anbukkarangal initiative

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K.Stalin launched the Anbukkarangal scheme.
- **Aim** - To financially support the education of children, who have lost their parents, till they complete 18 years of age.
- Under the initiative, each of these children would receive a monthly aid of Rs. 2,000 till they complete their school education.
- The initiative is part of the Thayumanavar scheme
- **Aim** - To identify and aid the livelihood of those in poverty.
- The Anbukkarangal programme also aims to ensure that these children complete their school education, provide support for their higher education, and impart appropriate skills, among others

Tamil Nadu sees gradual rise in skin and bone donations

- Tamil Nadu has recorded a steady increase in skin and bone donations over the last three years due to improved awareness and acceptance.

Expert Committee on AI in Healthcare, Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu has formed an expert committee to explore the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare, announced by Tamil Nadu Health Minister.
- Objective:** The committee will explore the use of AI in the health sector and submit a report.
- The state aims to be "ahead of the curve," as AI is expected to make a significant impact on the health sector in the coming years.

Current AI Initiatives & Pilot Programs:

- Tuberculosis (TB) Detection:** The Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation (TNMSC) is leveraging AI for the detection of TB by analyzing X-rays. AI is noted for high accuracy in this, especially in early stages.
- Cancer Detection:** AI has an established role in the early detection of cancer, particularly difficult-to-detect diseases like lung cancer.
- Pilot Implementation:** An initiative using AI-powered models is being implemented on a pilot basis at two centers:
 - Government Royapettah Hospital
 - Government Hospital in Periyar Nagar

Committee Composition:

- The committee is a large body comprising various government officials and experts:

Key Government Officials:

- Health Secretary
- Managing Director of TNMSC
- Project Director of Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project
- Mission Director of National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu

- Directors of Medical Education and Research, Medical and Rural Health Services, Public Health and Preventive Medicine
- State TB Officer
- 20 experts including professor of radiology.
- Experts from Anna University, IIT Madras, and other engineering institutions will also be involved.

'Anbu Karangal' scheme

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched the 'Anbu Karangal' programme in Chennai on 15.09.2025.
- The launch coincided with the birth anniversary of former Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai.
- 'Anbu Karangal' is part of the Tamil Nadu government's larger 'Thayumanavar' programme, which aims to support the livelihoods of those living in poverty.

'Anbu Karangal'

- Purpose:** The scheme provides financial aid for the education of children who have been orphaned or have lost one parent.
- Eligibility Period:** The aid is provided until the child turns 18.
- Financial Aid:** Each eligible child will receive a monthly assistance of ₹2,000.
- Initial Beneficiaries (First Phase):** A total of 6,082 children will receive the monthly aid until they complete their schooling.

Tamil Nadu MoU with Centre-Val de Loire

- Tamil Nadu government signed an MoU with the French region Centre-Val de Loire to promote cultural exchange and tourism.

Areas of Cooperation:

- Artiste exchanges between Tamil Nadu and Centre-Val de Loire
- Sharing best practices in tourism and public policy
- Conservation of traditional knowledge and archaeological practices
- Museum maintenance and heritage preservation

New Scholarship launched in Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister launched a scholarship programme aimed at helping 2,000 Muslim students pursue higher education every year.
- A scholarship of Rs.10,000 each would be provided to the beneficiaries through the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Inauguration of Industrial Estates

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister virtually inaugurated four industrial estates.
- **Developer:** Established by the Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation (TANSIDCO).
- **Locations:** Kaverirajapuram (Tiruvallur), Muthur (Tirunelveli), Kadambadi (Chengalpattu), and Korukkai (Tiruvarur).

Old Fish Net Collection Centres in Tamil Nadu

- The Scheme to collect old and damaged fish nets to be extended to all 14 coastal districts under the TN-Shore project.
- Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN-SHORE)

- TN-SHORE, approved in September 2025, is an ambitious ₹1,675-crore project, largely funded by the World Bank, designed to strengthen Tamil Nadu's coastal economy and resilience.
- TN-SHORE (Neithal Meetchi Iyakkam) is announced to restore coastal resources across 14 districts, spanning 1,076 km.
- The scheme will also help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 14 (Life Below Water).

Tamil Nadu becomes the first state to issue identity cards to Women Self-Help Group (SHG) Members

- Tamil Nadu's Deputy Chief Minister distributed identity cards to women Self-Help Group (SHG) members in Karuppur, Salem district.
- Tamil Nadu is the first State in India to issue identity cards to women SHG members.
- The demand for ID cards was raised by SHG members at a government function in Tiruvarur five months ago.
- With these cards, women can carry products free up to 100 km in government buses and avail discounts in Aavin, Co-optex, and Mudhalvar Marunthagam.
- Tamil Nadu was also the first State to start Women SHGs in 1989.

'Chennai One' - All-Access Pass

- The 'Chennai One' mobile application, developed by the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA), will allow commuters to use a single pass across transport systems. It was launched by Chief Minister on 22.09.2025.

- In the works for long, the application has been developed by integrating the digital ticketing platforms of the Chennai Metro Rail and suburban trains including the Mass Rapid Transit System — along with the electronic ticketing system of the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC).
 - Mapping of soil quality at industrial hotspots across Tamil Nadu
 - Tamil Nadu is conducting soil quality mapping at industrial hotspots across the State to ensure industrial activities do not compromise environmental health.
 - M. Jayanthi, Chairperson of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), highlighted the exercise and collaboration with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.
 - Tamil Nadu hosts 31 operational Special Economic Zones (SEZs), the highest in India, presenting both opportunities and environmental challenges.
- Objective: To conduct deep-sea archaeological explorations between Poompuhar and Nagapattinam, a medieval maritime trade hub with links to Southeast Asia.
- Technology Used:**
- Side-scan sonar
 - Echo sounders
 - Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV)
 - Sub-bottom profilers
 - (used to map and document underwater anomalies)
- Significance:**
- Poompuhar was an ancient Chola port city and an early capital mentioned in Sangam and post-Sangam literature.
 - This is the first underwater survey in over two decades; the last was conducted in the 1990s.

Sarcophagus

- The first-ever AMS radiocarbon dating of a sarcophagus from Kilnamandi village, Tiruvannamalai district, (Tamil Nadu) dates it to 1692 BCE, placing it in the Late Harappan period.

- Findings suggest south-north trade links between Tamil Nadu and Harappan regions (Gujarat, Maharashtra) and push back the timeline of Tamil Nadu's graffiti tradition.

Sarcophagus:

- A terracotta coffin used for burials, containing charcoal, pottery, and grave goods.
- Acts as key archaeological evidence for burial practices and socio-cultural life of ancient Tamilakam.

Key Features:

- Date: 1692 BCE (Late Harappan period).

Underwater Archaeological Survey off Poompuhar Coast

- The underwater archaeological survey off the Poompuhar coast was launched by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) in collaboration with the Indian Maritime University on September 20, 2025.
- Location: Off the coast of Poompuhar (ancient Kaveripoompattinam), in the Mayiladuthurai district.
- Last Survey: The previous underwater survey in Poompuhar was conducted in the 1990s (more than two decades ago).
- The initiative was announced in the Tamil Nadu Budget 2025–26 by Finance Minister.

- **Grave Goods:** Etched carnelian beads (originating from Gujarat/Maharashtra), iron tools, pottery.
- **Graffiti Marks:** Fork-like symbols, semi-concentric 'U'-shaped circles, vertical lines with wavering lines - ~90% similarity with Indus Valley symbols.
- **Clan Burial Indication:** Graffiti limited to certain burials suggesting clan-based identity.
- **Associated Finds:** Iron spears (7-8 feet), collective urn burials in slab enclosures, high-tin bronze objects.

World-Class Shipyard on East Coast

- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) has signed an MoU with Government of Tamil Nadu to develop a world-class greenfield shipyard on India's eastern coast.
- This initiative, part of the Government's Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, aims to boost shipbuilding capabilities.
- The MoU was signed on 19 September 2025 during a ceremony led by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, with Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal present.

India's First Dugong Reserve in Palk Bay Gains Global Recognition

- Established on September 21, 2022, by the Tamil Nadu government under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, the Dugong Conservation Reserve covers 448.34sq. km. in northern Palk Bay.
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has formally adopted a motion recognising India's first Dugong Conservation Reserve in Palk Bay, marking a major

international endorsement of the country's marine conservation efforts.

Tamil Nadu Global Startup Summit (TNGSS) 2025

- Coimbatore will play host to the inaugural of Tamil Nadu Global Startup Summit(TNGSS) 2025, billed as one of the country's largest platforms for entrepreneurs and investors.
- The two-day summit, a flagship initiative of StartupTN, will be inaugurated on October 9 by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.
- Close to 35 countries are participating in this summit that will be held at Codissia Trade Fair Complex, Coimbatore.

Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN-SHORE)

- The Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN-SHORE), launched in 2025, is a major initiative funded by the World Bank to enhance coastal resilience in Tamil Nadu.
- It aims to restore 30,000 hectares of seascapes and support endangered species like turtles and dugongs.
- The mission integrates community participation through village mangrove councils empowered to manage funds directly.
- TN-SHORE is a ₹1,675-crore project.
- The World Bank provides about ₹1,000 crore, while the Tamil Nadu government funds the rest.
- The mission targets coastal protection by restoring natural ecosystems and promoting eco-friendly livelihoods.
- It emphasises mangrove plantation, plastic waste management, and eco-tourism

to strengthen the coastal economy and environment.

India's First Dugong Conservation Reserve Recognised Globally

- India's Dugong Conservation Reserve in Palk Bay has received formal recognition from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- The motion was adopted at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025 held in Abu Dhabi.
- This marks global endorsement of India's marine conservation efforts.
- Tamil Nadu's initiative is now seen as a model for dugong protection and marine ecosystem restoration.
- The Dugong Conservation Reserve was established by the Tamil Nadu government on 21 September 2022.
- IUCN members praised the reserve for pioneering innovative restoration techniques, specifically the use of bamboo and coconut rope frames to rehabilitate seagrass meadows.
- Model for Conservation: The initiative was lauded for integrating scientific methods with community participation, setting a model for conservation across South Asia and encouraging its replication globally.
- Dugong (Dugong dugon), listed as Vulnerable to Extinction on the IUCN Red List.

Pallikaranai Marsh

- The Southern Bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has recently ordered a

suspension of all construction activities within one kilometre of the Pallikaranai Marshland.

- This directive aims to protect the ecologically sensitive wetland until a detailed scientific study defines its precise zone of influence.
- About Pallikaranai Marsh
- Pallikaranai Marsh, declared a Ramsar Site in 2022, is one of the last remaining natural wetlands in Chennai.
- It plays important role in flood control and maintaining local biodiversity.
- Role of Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority
- The Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (TNSWA) has provisionally identified a one-kilometre buffer zone around the marsh using topographical and hydrological models.
- This zone marks the marsh's ecological influence area.
- The Integrated Management Plan (IMP), which will formalise this zone, is under revision and expected to provide clear guidelines for future activities.

Apterichtus kanniyakumari

- Apterichtus kanniyakumari is a newly discovered species of finless snake eel found off the Colachel coast.
- Named after Kanniyakumari, it belongs to the genus Apterichtus and is distinguished by its golden-yellow body, pale white ventral head with yellow lines, and three unique black blotches.

Tamil Nadu's agriculture Trend

- Increase in Paddy Cultivation (Current Year): Paddy has been cultivated on 5.66 lakh hectares,

an additional 1,28,494 acres compared to the previous year.

- Increase in Food Grain Productivity: Food grain productivity has increased from 2,835 kg per hectare three years ago to 2,857 kg per hectare now.
- Beneficiaries of Key Scheme: 52 lakh people in 10,187 village panchayats benefited through the Kalaignar's All Village Integrated Agricultural Development Scheme.
- Ranking Achievements (in the past four years):
- First in India: Crop productivity.
- Second in India: Maize, oilseeds, and sugarcane production.
- Third in India: Millets and groundnut cultivation.

Other Achievements Listed:

- 1.45 lakh metric tonnes of cotton marketed in delta districts.
- Turmeric Export Centre set up in Erode.
- Mega Food Park built at Gangaikondan in Tirunelveli.
- Formation of the Tamil Nadu Cashew Board.
- Rs.1,630 crore provided as compensation to 21 lakh farmers for crop losses due to natural calamities.
- Rs.5,720 crore paid to 32 lakh farmers under the crop insurance scheme.

Ennum Ezhuthum Scheme

- Teachers have been advised to participate in the 'Ennum Ezhuthum' training camp
- About the "Ennum Ezhuthum Scheme" scheme:

Launched:

- Started in the academic year 2022-23 to address the learning gap caused by the Covid-19 pandemic

Objective:

- To improve basic literacy and numeracy among young students from classes 1 to 3

Goal:

- To ensure that all children under the age of 8 years learn basic Tamil reading and basic arithmetic well by 2025.

Tholkudi Digital Archive:

- A 'Tholkudi Digital Archive' has been launched to document and preserve the linguistic resources and cultural traditions of the tribal people.
- In the 2024-2025 budget statement of the Legislative Assembly, it was stated that the tribal language and sound forms will be documented and preserved for ethnographic purposes for the benefit of future generations.
- A fund of Rs. 2 crore has been allocated for this.

Assistance Grant for Elderly Tamil

Scholars

- The Tamil Development Department is implementing a scheme to provide assistance grants to elderly Tamil scholars who have rendered invaluable service to the Tamil language.
- A total of Rs.8,000 is provided, comprising a monthly assistance grant of ₹7,500 and a medical allowance of Rs.500.

NATIONAL - NEWS

Semicon India-2025

- Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the Semicon India 2025, which was attended by over 20,000 participants, including CEOs of semiconductor companies, industry experts, innovators, and 2,500 delegates from 50 countries, as well as students from various states.

First indigenous semiconductor chip

- The first indigenous semiconductor chip developed by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** was presented to Prime Minister Modi by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw at the Semicon India-2025 International Symposium.
- The chip, called "**Vikram-32**" (officially 'Vikram3201'), is India's first fully indigenous chip designed to operate in all the harsh environmental conditions of a missile.
- Based on a 32-bit architecture, this chip will play a significant role not only in the aerospace sector, where it can efficiently handle large amounts of data, but also in the defense, automobile and energy sectors.

CEO conference

- The **Election Commission (EC)** held a conference of **Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs)** of all States and Union Territories to assess the preparedness for rolling out a nationwide special intensive revision (SIR) of voter lists.
- The commission was planning to roll out the SIR.
- The conference was inaugurated by Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar in the

presence of Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi.

- The conference indicated that the SIR will be carried out in Tamil Nadu also.

FTITTP

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently launched the **Fast Track Immigration-Trusted Traveller Programme (FTITTP)**.
- Aim** - To accelerate the immigration process for preverified Indian nationals and **Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)** cardholders.
- It was first rolled out at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in July 2024.
- The FTI-TTP will eventually be launched at 21 major airports in the country.

Samudra Pradakshina

- Samudra Pradakshina is a tri-service all women circumnavigation sailing expedition.
- The expedition is the first of its kind in the world.
- The expedition was flagged off from the Gateway of India in Mumbai virtually by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- 10 women officers from the Army, Navy and Air Force will sail onboard the indigenously built **Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV)** Triveni.
- They will follow an easterly route covering nearly 26,000 nautical miles, crossing the Equator twice and rounding the three great Caspes – Leeuwin, Horn and Good Hope.
- They will return to Mumbai in May 2026.

Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026 (VBYLD-2026)

- It is a platform launched by the Government of India under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

- **Purpose:** To engage youth in India in meaningful discussion, idea generation, and sharing visions to contribute toward a Viksit Bharat (developed India) vision.
- It involves mechanisms such as quizzes, essay/presentation/PPT challenges, state-level competitions, culminating in a national level event.
- First edition of VBYLD was conducted in 2025.

India's First bamboo-based ethanol plant

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first bamboo-based ethanol plant in Assam's Golaghat district.
- The plant will be launched by Assam Bio-Ethanol Private Ltd. (ABEL) in Numaligarh Refinery Plant.
- Five lakh tonnes of green bamboo would be sourced yearly from four northeastern States, including Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, to produce 48,900 tonnes of ethanol, 11,000 tonnes of acetic acid, 19,000 tonnes of furfural, and 31,000 tonnes of food grade liquid carbon dioxide.

77th anniversary of Operation Polo

- 77th anniversary observed on 13 September 2025.
- Marks the Indian Army's military action that integrated the Hyderabad princely state into the Indian Union in 1948.
- Hyderabad was one of the largest princely states, ruled by Nizam Mir Usman Ali Khan.

Muzaffarpur Leads in Student Innovation

- The district of Muzaffarpur in Bihar has emerged as the top contributor in the INSPIRE Award Standard Scheme in 2025.

INSPIRE Award Scheme

- The INSPIRE Award is a government initiative by the Department of Science and Technology.
- It aims to nurture creativity and innovation among students from classes 6 to 10.

Chhath festival

- The Government of India has begun the process to nominate Chhath Mahaparva for inclusion in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
- About Chhath festival
- Chhath Mahaparva is a four-day festival dedicated to the Sun God and Goddess Chhathi Maiya.
- It is mainly observed in Bihar, Jharkhand, eastern Uttar Pradesh, and parts of West Bengal.
- The festival involves rituals like fasting, bathing in rivers or ponds, and offering prayers to the rising and setting sun.

Surajpur – Model for Child Marriage Eradication

- Surajpur district in Chhattisgarh has declared 75 village panchayats as "Child Marriage-Free", marking a major milestone in the fight against child marriage.
- It is a district-level social reform initiative aimed at eliminating child marriage through awareness, community participation, and strict monitoring.
- Recognized as a model for other districts and states seeking to eradicate child marriage.
- It aims to end child marriage through education, awareness, and enforcement of legal provisions. Improve maternal and child health outcomes by delaying early pregnancies.

Seven Natural Heritage Sites Added to UNESCO's Tentative List

- Seven new natural heritage sites from India have been added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites, raising India's total to 69 properties under consideration.
- Sites Nominated
- Deccan Traps, Maharashtra - Among the world's best-preserved lava flows, located in Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary (also a UNESCO site).
- St. Mary's Island Cluster, Karnataka - Rare columnar basaltic rock formations from the Late Cretaceous period (85 mya).
- Meghalayan Age Caves, Meghalaya - Includes Mawmluh Cave, the global stratotype for Meghalayan Age in the Holocene Epoch.
- Naga Hill Ophiolite, Nagaland - Exposes oceanic crust uplifted on land, crucial for understanding plate tectonics.
- Erra Matti Dibbalu, Andhra Pradesh - Red sand dunes with paleo-climatic evidence, showcasing coastal geomorphology.
- Natural Heritage of Tirumala Hills, Andhra Pradesh - Home to the Eparchaeon Unconformity (1.5 billion years old) and Silathoranam arch.
- Varkala Cliffs, Kerala - Spectacular coastal cliffs exposing Warkalli Formation, with natural springs and scenic value.

India-AI Impact Summit 2026

- The Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) has unveiled the logo and flagship initiatives for the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, scheduled for February 19-20, 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

- It is a global platform to showcase AI's transformative role in inclusive growth, sustainability, and social good.
- Organised by: Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India.

Surajpur Child Marriage-Free Panchayats

- Surajpur district, Chhattisgarh, declared 75 village panchayats as Child Marriage-Free Panchayats in 2025.
- Absence of any child marriage cases in these 75 panchayats for over two years.
- It is the first major success of the broader state-level initiative launched in March 2024 to make Chhattisgarh a Child Marriage-Free State, supported by UNICEF.
- Preventing child marriage directly improves maternal and child health and nutrition outcomes, aligning with the "Healthy Women, Empowered Families" campaign.
- Other districts in Chhattisgarh are working to replicate the Surajpur model by identifying areas with no child marriage cases for similar recognition.

National Conference on e-Governance

- The 28th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2025 was held on 22-23 September 2025 in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The event was organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) in collaboration with the Andhra Pradesh government.

- The theme was 'Viksit Bharat – Civil Service and Digital Transformation', focusing on the role of digital innovation in public administration and governance.
- This election followed a multi-stage voting process and is step for India in enhancing regional cooperation on critical security challenges.

Project Vijayak

- Recently, the Project Vijayak of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrated its 15th Raising Day at Kargil, Ladakh.
- It was launched by the Border Roads Organisation in 2010.
- It drew its name from Operation Vijay, signifying the congruence between the Theatre of Battle and the Project Area of Responsibility.
- Objective: It was entrusted with the responsibility of providing road connectivity in the areas of Kargil and Zaskar, which previously were under Project Himank.
- The committee will meet annually to discuss security issues and guide coordinated actions among member countries.
- India's representation was led by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the national central bureau responsible for Interpol matters.

Global Food Regulators Summit 2025

- The Global Food Regulators Summit (GFRS) 2025 was inaugurated in New Delhi from 26 to 27 September.
- Organised by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the summit runs alongside World Food India 2025.
- The event focuses on evolving food systems and global collaboration for safer food standards.

Maitri 2.0

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched the second edition of the Brazil-India Cross-Incubation Programme in Agritech, known as Maitri 2.0, in New Delhi.
- This initiative aims to strengthen innovation and cooperation between Indian and Brazilian agritech sectors.
- It marks step in the 77-year agricultural partnership between the two nations.
- The programme focuses on co-creation, knowledge exchange, and building resilient food systems.
- India Joins Interpol Asian Committee to Boost Security
- India was recently elected as a member of the Interpol Asian Committee during the 25th Asian Regional Conference held in Singapore.
- The theme, Evolving Food Systems Yatha Annam Tatha Manah, emphasises the link between food quality and mental, physical, and social well-being.
- The summit revealed the 'Eat Right Thali' book, celebrating India's culinary heritage and balanced diets.

25 years of India's Solid Waste Management

- India marks 25 years since its first Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Management Rules in 2000.

- Despite evolving regulations and infrastructure, many cities still face severe waste management issues.
- The upcoming 2025 draft Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules aim to address these challenges with new goals like four-way source segregation and digital monitoring.
- India's MSW Rules originated from a Supreme Court order in 2000.
- Since then, the framework expanded with the 2016 SWM Rules and additional regulations for plastic, e-waste, biomedical, hazardous, and construction waste.
- These aimed for cleaner cities through mandatory segregation and landfill bans.

Telangana to launch breakfast scheme in schools, Inspired from Tamil Nadu

- Telangana Chief Minister announced that the **Telangana government** will introduce a Chief

Minister's Breakfast Scheme in schools in the next academic year, taking inspiration from Tamil Nadu's scheme.

- Telangana Chief Minister lauded Tamil Nadu's education and welfare model, specifically mentioning schemes like the **Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme, Tamil Pudhalvan, Pudumai Penn, Naan Mudhalvan** and the **free bus ride scheme for women (Vidiyal Payana Thittam)** as models for the entire country.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister highlighted the success of state schemes

- The breakfast scheme has increased student attendance.
- **Tamil Pudhalvan and Pudumai Penn** have increased enrolment in higher education by 75%.
- 1,878 students from government schools have joined **premier higher education institutions**



NATIONAL SCHEMES

Vishwakarma Jayanti: Vishwakarma Jayanti falls on September 17th.

- **Background:** Carpenters, blacksmiths, sculptors, architects, pottery makers and others who continuously carry forward traditional handicraft skills and experiential knowledge from one generation to another have always been the source of the nation's wealth.
- To support them, the government is implementing the Vishwakarma scheme

PM Vishwakarma

- PM Vishwakarma is a Central Sector Scheme launched on 17th September, 2023 to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople of 18 trades who work with their hands and tools Reports and Indices

UPSC PRATIBHA Setu

- UPSC PRATIBHA Setu (Professional Resource And Talent Integration - Bridge for Hiring Aspirants) is a platform launched by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) to connect verified employers with highly qualified UPSC aspirants who cleared UPSC Prelims exam but did not make the final merit list.
- Formerly known as the Public Disclosure Scheme (PDS), this initiative empowers candidates who qualify in written exams and interviews but fall just short of selection by broadening their employment opportunities
- It was first introduced on August 20, 2018, when the UPSC introduced the Public Disclosure Scheme for a limited number of exams, starting with the Combined Medical Services exam.

- This exposed a database of willing non-recommended candidates who cleared written and interview stages

Aadi Vaani

- The beta version of AadiVaani, a translation model based on artificial intelligence for Adivasi languages, will be released
- The application will be tested by the Tribal Affairs Ministry as part of the Adi Karmayogi initiative for capacity building in tribal districts across India.
- The app will be launched with capabilities to translate Bhili (Bhil language), Mundari (Munda), Gondi (Gond), Santali (Santal), Kui (Kandha), and Garo (Garo), officials said. It will help translate speech and text in Hindi and English to these languages and vice versa.

Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana

- Union Cabinet on 1st July 2025 approved the Employment Linked Incentive Scheme, named as Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana. With an outlay of ₹99,446 Crore, the scheme aims to incentivize creation of more than 3.5 Crore jobs in the country, over a period of two years.

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM)

- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) was launched in September 2013 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- It was renamed as Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) in 2016.

- It aims to provide gainful self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities to the urban poor, thereby reducing urban poverty and improving their livelihoods.

Adi Sanskriti

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs recently launched the Adi Sanskriti.
- It is a digital learning platform.
- **Aim** - To preserve the tribal artforms, preserving heritage, enabling livelihoods, and connecting India's tribal communities with the world.
- It is designed to become world's first Digital University to preserve and promote the culture and knowledge of tribal communities.
- The platform consists of three components:
 - Adi Vishwavidyalaya (Digital Tribal Art Academy)
 - Adi Sampada (Socio-Cultural Repository)
 - Adi Haat (digital marketplace)

PLI Scheme

- The Union government recently reopened the application window for Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for White Goods (PLI-WG).
- The white goods include items like Air Conditioners & LED Lights.

About PLI Scheme

- **Launch:** March 2020.
- Initially for launched mobile & electronic manufacturing)
- **Objective** - To boost domestic manufacturing and make India a global hub for production.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry

India's First Bamboo-Based Ethanol Plant

- India's first bamboo-based bioethanol plant inaugurated at Golaghat, Assam.
- Marks a major step in India's green energy transition and industrial expansion in the Northeast.
- A polypropylene plant foundation was also laid to boost regional manufacturing capacity.

Significance of the Project

- Bioethanol is a renewable, high-octane biofuel derived from biomass such as bamboo, sugarcane, and grains.
- Bamboo chosen for its fast growth, abundance in the Northeast, and sustainability.
- Plant will process about 5 lakh tonnes of bamboo annually.
- Supports India's goals to reduce fossil fuel dependence and promote clean energy under the energy transition mission.

Policy Reforms Enabling Bamboo Use

- Earlier, bamboo was classified as a tree under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, restricting its harvest and trade.
- Amendments removed bamboo from the "tree" category, allowing free cultivation and sale.

Gyan Bharatam Portal

- The Gyan Bharatam Portal was launched by Prime Minister in September 2025 during the International Conference on Gyan Bharatam held in New Delhi.
- **Objective:** To digitise and preserve India's vast manuscript heritage, estimated at nearly one crore manuscripts in around 80 languages.
- The portal will make manuscripts accessible globally and protect them from intellectual piracy.

Gyan Bharatam Mission

- Announced during the 2025 Budget Session.
- Focus: Cataloguing, digitising, and providing public access to manuscripts across India and abroad.

'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan'

- The campaign 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan' (Healthy Woman, Strong Family Campaign) will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 17 September 2025.
- **Objective:** To improve healthcare service for women and children.
- It will be launched along with the eighth 'Poshan Maah' (nutrition month).
- It is a joint initiative led by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

National Policy on Geothermal Energy 2025

- MNRE launched the National Policy on Geothermal Energy (2025) to accelerate exploration and deployment of geothermal energy resources.
- It is a comprehensive framework issued by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) to harness India's 10 GW geothermal potential, integrate it with renewable energy goals, and build a public-private ecosystem for sustainable development.
- Launched By: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
- This policy aims to tap into the country's largely unexplored geothermal resources.

- It aligns with India's commitment to achieve its Net Zero target by 2070.

Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS) 3.0

- The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, launched the Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS) 3.0 in New Delhi.
- This event marked milestone during the decade-long celebrations of the Make in India initiative.
- Developed by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- IPRS 3.0 aims to enhance India's industrial infrastructure and competitiveness.
- The system will benchmark industrial parks across the country, promoting best practices and attracting investments.

Make In India Launches Advanced Logistics Data Bank

- India has taken step in enhancing its logistics sector with the launch of Logistics Data Bank (LDB) 2.0.
- This development was announced by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, as part of the decade-long Make in India celebrations.
- LDB 2.0 aims to transform India's logistics ecosystem by providing real-time data and improving supply chain efficiency.
- LDB 2.0 is an upgraded digital platform developed by NICDC Logistics Data Services.
- It offers comprehensive tracking of export containers, including high-seas tracking beyond Indian ports

Clean Plant Programme

- It was conceptualized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank.
- It was launched as a major initiative to provide farmers with access to high-quality, virus-free planting material of key fruit crops.
- Implemented by: It is implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB) in association with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Establishment of Nine Clean Plant Centers (CPCs): These centres will offer disease diagnostics and treatments, develop mother plants for nurseries, and quarantine all domestic and imported planting materials intended for commercial propagation and distribution.

Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in collaboration with the United Nations in India, launched the Adi Yuva Fellowship and the Adi Karmayogi Volunteers Programme in 2025.
- These initiatives form part of the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan, the world's largest tribal grassroots leadership movement.
- The campaign was inaugurated by Prime Minister on 17 September 2025 during Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh (15 November 2024 – 15 November 2025).
- It aims to engage 11 crore citizens across 100,000 tribal villages in 550 districts of 30 States and Union Territories.
- The Abhiyan promotes responsive and accountable governance rooted in citizen

participation, supporting India's vision for Viksit Bharat 2047.

A decade of Make in India

The Big Leap

- India is now the world's 2nd largest mobile phone manufacturer
- Electronics production jumped from Rs.1.9 lakh crore to Rs.11.3 lakh crore

A Proud Defence Exporter

- India is now exporting defence equipment to over 100 countries
- Production rose 225% - from Rs.46,430 crore to Rs.1.5+ lakh crore

A Historic Surge

- Exponential growth in vehicle production with over 2.8 crore units manufactured in 2023-24
- Auto components industry almost doubled in the last 5 years

A Swadeshi Revolution

- India proudly made its first swadeshi semiconductor chip
- 276,000 crore Semiconductor Mission boosting self-reliance

Pharmacy of the world

- India is the world's 3rd largest drug producer by volume
- Indian medicines reach 200+ countries

An Era of Innovation

- From Job-seeker to Job-giver, India's 1.8+ lakh startups have created 17.6+ lakh jobs
- India is now home to 118 unicorns

Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025

- The Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025 is a landmark national innovation event launched by the Union Minister for Education.

- It aims to engage students from schools across India in a large-scale hackathon focused on creativity and problem-solving.
- Organised by the Department of School Education & Literacy in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, and AICTE, the Buildathon seeks to inspire young minds to contribute to India's development through innovation.
- The Buildathon promotes four key themes – Vocal for Local, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Swadeshi, and Samriddhi.
- These themes encourage students to create solutions that support self-reliance, local products, and national prosperity.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)

- It is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2017 to create modern infrastructure for the food processing sector, improve supply chain management, reduce agri-waste, and increase farmer incomes and food exports.
- The scheme is an umbrella initiative that provides assistance for establishing Mega Food Parks, Food Processing Clusters, and Cold Chain Infrastructure, with the goal of boosting the food processing industry and creating employment

FAO Food Loss App (FLAPP)

- FAO Food Loss App (FLAPP), launched in 2023, allows farmers, organisations and governments to track losses across the value chain. It is used in more than 30 countries.

PM E-DRIVE Scheme

- Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) will deploy electric buses under the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme, with a focus on major cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Delhi, and Ahmedabad.

About PM E-DRIVE Scheme:

- **About:** The PM E-DRIVE is a flagship scheme approved by Cabinet with Rs. 10,900 crore outlay; effective from October 2024, to March 2026.
- The primary objective of this initiative is to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) across various categories, build robust EV charging infrastructure, and develop a strong domestic EV manufacturing ecosystem aligned with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- PM E-DRIVE Scheme builds on earlier programs like Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India (FAME-I) (2015), FAME-II (2019) to accelerate adoption of electric two- and three-wheelers.

REPORTS & INDICES

State Energy Efficiency Index 2024 (SEEI 2024)

- The report was released by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in collaboration with the Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE).
- The report covers Energy efficiency performance across 36 states and Union Territories for FY 2023-24.
- This is the 6th edition, featuring an implementation-focused framework with 66 indicators

Key Highlights

- **Front Runner States:** Five in total-Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu retained this status (down from seven in 2023)
- **Achievers:** Assam and Kerala entered this category with scores between 50-60%
- **Contenders:** States like Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh are in this middle tier.

TFEC Group Top Performer Category

- Group 1 (>15 MToE) Maharashtra Front Runner
- Group 2 (5-15 MToE) Andhra Pradesh Front Runner
- Group 3 (1-5 MToE) Assam Achiever
- Group 4 (<1 MToE) Tripura Front Runner

NIRF Rankings

- 10th edition of NIRF - National Institutional Ranking Framework was recently released by union Education Ministry

- IIT Madras has topped the NIRF for the 7th straight year. It also remained the country's best engineering college for the 10th straight year.

- Top higher educational institutions in the overall ranking

- 1st - IIT, Madras
- 2nd - IIT, Bengaluru
- 3rd - IIT, Bombay

NIRF

- Launched in 2015 by Ministry of Education
- Provides annual Rankings of higher education Institutions in India.
- 2025 -10th edition of NIRF

Sample Registration survey Statistical Report -2023 recently released:

- India's crude Birth Rate (CBR)
- The number of children born per 1000 people in the population in a year, has declined 0.7
 - 2022 -19.1
 - 2023 18.4
 - Highest state - Bihar (25.8)
 - Lowest state - Tamil Nadu (12)

Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

- 2021 - 2.0
- 2022 - 2.0
- 2023 - 1.9
- Highest state - Bihar (2.8)
- Lowest UT - Delhi (1.2)

Elderly population (people above 60) - 9.7%

- 2023 growth rate of country - 0.7
- Highest proportion of elderly population state - Kerala (15%)

▪ **Lowest proportion state**

- Assam (7.64.), Delhi (7.74.), Jharkhand (7.6%)

TFR -Total Fertility Rate

- Average number of children a women would bear over her reproductive span (15-49 year)

India's first Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE)

- Uttar Pradesh launched India's first Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) Index to track and address gender gaps in economic participation through data-driven district-level insights.
- First district-level tool in India to track women's participation.
- The index shifts the focus from mere participation to addressing structural challenges and identifying barriers to women's inclusion.
- It covers five economic levers:
 - Employment, Education & Skilling,
 - Entrepreneurship, Livelihood & Mobility
 - Safety & Inclusive Infrastructure.

Findings of the WEE Index

- Women currently contribute only 18% to India's GDP.
- Nearly 196 million employable women are outside the labour force.
- Although female labour force participation has improved to 41.7%, only a small fraction of women hold formal jobs.
- Gender gap limits India's ambition to reach \$30 trillion economy by 2047.

World Trade Report 2025

- The World Trade Organization (WTO) released its World Trade Report 2025, highlighting that Artificial Intelligence (AI) could raise global

trade by 34-37% and GDP by 12-13% by 2040 if digital divides are bridged and inclusive policies are adopted.

- Published by the World Trade Organization (WTO) to analyse trade trends, policies, and the multilateral trading system's future.
- **2025 Theme:** "Making Trade and AI Work Together to the Benefit of All" – explores AI's impact on global trade and inclusive growth.
- **AI as a Trade Multiplier:** AI adoption could boost global trade in goods and services by nearly 40% by 2040, driven by lower trade costs and productivity gains.

Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025

- The WIPO Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025 ranked India 38th globally out of 139 economies, retaining its position as the top performer in Central & Southern Asia.
- Launched by: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in collaboration with Portulans Institute and partners.
- **Objective:** Measures countries' capacity and success in innovation, guides policymakers and industry leaders.
- **Global top 3 nations:** Switzerland (1st), Sweden (2nd), and United States (3rd).

Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2025

- Union Commerce & Industry Minister launched Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2025 in New Delhi during the decade-long celebrations of Make in India.
- LEADS is a national index and survey that ranks and assesses the logistics ecosystem of Indian States and UTs, identifying gaps and best practices to enhance supply chain performance.

- **Ministry:** Released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Aim:

- To benchmark logistics performance of States/UTs.
- To lower logistics costs and improve efficiency.
- To guide States/UTs in infrastructure planning, policy reforms, and capacity building.

Mitigating River Pollution in India

- The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) study indicates a slight decrease in unfit and highly polluted river stretches (PRS) in India.
- However, the report highlights persistent challenges, with many PRS still needing immediate remediation.
- The polluted locations in a continuous sequence are defined as PRS.
- Key Findings of the CPCB on Polluted River Stretches
- The total number of river locations unfit for bathing fell slightly from 815 (2022) to 807 (2023), and Polluted River Stretches (PRS) declined from 311 to 296.
 - A Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) greater than 3 mg/L indicates rising pollution and is considered unfit for bathing.
 - BOD measures organic matter in water; low BOD indicates a healthy river.
- **State-wise River Pollution:** Maharashtra leads with 54 PRS, followed by Kerala (31), Madhya Pradesh & Manipur (18 each), and Karnataka (14).
- States with the most Priority 1 (highest urgency) PRS are Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand (5 each).

- Priority 1 rivers have Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels above 30 mg/L and require immediate remediation.

Children in India 2025

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India, released the fourth edition of the publication Children in India 2025 on 25th September 2025.
- The report provides a comprehensive analysis of the status of children across India.
- It marks improvements in health, education, child protection, and social indicators.
- The data is drawn from multiple government sources and aims to support evidence-based policy making.

Infant and Child Mortality Trends

- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has declined from 44 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 25 in 2023.
- Under-five Mortality Rate (U5MR) also improved from 30 in 2022 to 29 in 2023.
- Rural areas show higher mortality rates compared to urban areas.
- Male infants have a slightly higher IMR than females.
- The overall birth rate is decreasing, with rural birth rates at 20.3 per 1,000 population and urban rates at 14.9 in 2023.

Child Marriage

- The percentage of women aged 20-24 married before 18 years dropped from 26.8% in 2015-16 to 23.3% in 2019-21.
- This indicates slow but steady progress in reducing child marriage.

AWARDS & HONOURS

Ramon Magsaysay Award

- The Indian NGO 'Educate Girls' has been awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award.
- The Indian NGO 'Educate Girls' (Educate Girls) has been selected for the Ramon Magsaysay Award for the year 2025.

Background:

- The Ramon Magsaysay Award is considered equivalent to the Nobel Prize in Asia.
- This award is given annually to individuals and organizations to recognize those who provide selfless public services to people living in the Asian continent.

National Good Teacher Award

- The National Good Teacher Award was given to teachers who have done excellent work in education, was presented by President Draupadi Murmu to four people from Tamil Nadu.
 - V. Vijayalakshmi
 - Abhum Mubasira Tapasum
 - Revathi Parameswaran
 - Shankar Sriram Sankaran

Manjappai Awards 2025

- The Manjappai Awards 2025 were given to three schools and three colleges that successfully created single-use plastic-free campuses and promoted traditional eco-friendly alternatives.
- The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) instituted the Manjappai Awards

in 2025 to recognize schools, colleges, and businesses actively promoting reusable cloth bags.

- In the school category, the awards were presented to
 - Government Higher Secondary School, Belarahalli, Dharmapuri district (First place)
 - Government High School, Siruvalur, Ariyalur district (second place)
 - Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Perundurai, Erode district (third place).
- In the college category, the recipients were
 - Jamal Mohamed College, Tiruchi (First place)
 - JKK Muniraja College of Technology, T.N.Palayam, Erode district (second place)
 - Holy Cross College, Tiruchi (third place).

Note

- Meendum Manjappai scheme was launched on December 2021
- 14 types of Single Use Plastic was banned in January 1, 2019
- International Plastic Bag Free Day is observed every year on July 3.

Karnataka Rathna

- 'Karnataka Rathna' was awarded posthumously on popular Kannada actors Vishnuvardhan and B. Saroja Devi.
- It is Karnataka's highest civilian award.
- It is awarded in recognition of a person's extraordinary contribution in any field.

Note

- The award was instituted in the year 1992 by Chief Minister S Bangarappa.

Living Craft Treasure Award

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister presented the Living Craft Treasure Award to seven artisans.
- The award, which recognises skilled artisans aged above 65, carries a cash prize of ₹1 lakh, an 8-gram gold medal, a 'Thamirapathiram', and a certificate.
- Artisans N. Rani Vincent, K.B. Veezhinathan, Ilavarasi Chokkar, Kuppu Subramani, D. Ramani, N. Poovammal, and N. Durairaj received the award for 2024-25.

Poompuhar State Award

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister presented the Poompuhar State Award to 10 artisans aged above 30.
- It carries a cash prize of ₹50,000, a 4-gram gold medal, a 'Thamirapathiram', and a certificate.
- Artisans J. Venkatraman, C. Ramesh, M. Kuppusamy, T. Gopalakrishnan, K. Murugan, R. Harikrishnan, S. Rehmath Meeral Beevi, C. Sri Kumari, P. Megantu, and R. Gokulnath Reddy received the award for 2024-25.

UNEP Young Champions of the Earth 2025

- The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in partnership with climate tech CEO

Chris Kemper announced the 2025 Young Champions of the Earth.

- This year's winners come from India, Kenya, and the United States.
- Their innovations contribute to a global circular economy and tackle urgent environmental challenges such as wastewater treatment, plastic pollution, and sustainable material alternatives.
- The award includes seed funding, mentorship, and a platform to scale their solutions globally.
- Origin: Launched by UNEP in 2017, the Young Champions of the Earth is a flagship initiative to engage youth in environmental protection.

National Geoscience Awards

- The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, conferred the National Geoscience Awards 2024 at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, recognizing outstanding contributions in geosciences.
- This year, 20 geoscientists received 12 awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award to Prof. Shyam Sundar Rai for seismological research, and the Young Geoscientist Award to Shri Susobhan Neogi for tectonic studies.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Puli Thevar's Birthday - September 1

- On **September 1st**, the birthday of the valiant son Puli Thevar, the nation pays heartfelt tribute to him.
- Puli Thevar, a fearless warrior, stood firm against the tyrannical British colonial rule and led one of the earliest and most powerful struggles for the country's independence.
- His sacrifices, traditions, and freedom struggle laid a strong foundation and united the people.

Teachers' Day 2025 - September 5

- India celebrates Teachers' Day on **September 5** each year to honor the birth anniversary of Dr.Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
- The country's second President (1962-1967) and a revered philosopher and educationist.
- World Teacher's day is observed on October 5
- It was established by UNESCO in 1994 to mark the adoption of the 1966 ILO

TN Police Day - September 6

- The Tamil Nadu Government had announced that **September 6** would be observed as Police Day every year across the state in the 2025-2026 Budget session
- The day marks the enactment of the Madras District Police Act of 1859.
- The Act came into force on September 6, 1859.
- The Act laid the foundation for the modern system of policing.

World Ozone Day 2025

- World Ozone Day is officially known as the

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

- It is observed annually on September 16.
- The day is dedicated to raising awareness about the crucial role of the ozone layer in protecting Earth from harmful UV radiation.
- 2025 Theme: The theme for World Ozone Day 2025 is "From science to global action".
- The 2025 theme marks 40 years since the global community first united under the Vienna Convention to begin protecting the ozone layer.

World Bamboo Day

- World Bamboo Day is celebrated every year on 18th September.

- Theme of 2020: 'Bamboo Now'

Indian Scenario:

- According to the National Bamboo Mission, India has the highest area (13.96 million hectares) under bamboo.
- It is the second richest country after China in terms of bamboo diversity with 136 species.

World Pharmacists Day

- World Pharmacists Day 2025, observed on September 25, celebrates the vital role of pharmacists in ensuring medication safety, patient care, and strengthening health systems.
- The 2025 theme, "Think Health, Think Pharmacist", underscores pharmacists as integral healthcare providers—not just medicine dispensers.

World Environmental Health Day

- World Environmental Health Day, observed annually on September 26, was initiated by the International Federation of Environmental

Health (IFEH) in 2011 to emphasize the critical link between environmental conditions and human health.

- The 2025 theme, "Clean Air, Healthy People," underscores the role of air quality in preventing respiratory diseases and fighting climate change.

World Tourism Day

- World Tourism Day 2025, observed on 27th September, carries the theme "Tourism and Sustainable Transformation."
- Led by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the day emphasizes tourism's role in cultural exchange, economic growth, peace-building, and sustainable development.
- It promotes eco-friendly travel, inclusivity, community participation, and heritage preservation.

September 29 - International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLOW)

- The theme for 2025 IDAFLOW is "Investing in partnerships and voluntary agreements to tackle food loss and waste"

▪ These day Target SDG - 12.3 of Sustainable Development Goals:

- The day supports efforts to halve per capita global food waste by 2030 and reduce food losses in production and supply chains.

12 September 2025 - The United

Nations Day for South-South

Cooperation

- It was commemorated today at UN Headquarters, marking the adoption of the historic 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA) – a cornerstone for cooperation among developing countries and all partners
- Theme: "New Opportunities and Innovation through South-South and Triangular Cooperation"

September 30 - International

Translation Day

- Every year on September 30, the world observes International Translation Day to honour the invaluable contributions of translators, interpreters, and language professional

EMINENT PERSONALITIES

Jagdeep Dhankhar

- Elected as the vice president in 2022 .
- First vice president to be born after India's becoming a republic in 1950.
- Resigned on 21st July 2025 citing health reasons.

First women PM of Nepal

- Sushila Karki was sworn in as the first woman Prime Minister of Nepal.
- Nepal President Ramchandra Paudel appointed her and announced fresh parliamentary elections for the 21st of March, next year.
- She was the former Chief Justice of Nepal.

DEFENCE

Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0

- The Indian Army has conducted Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0 in the high-altitude Kameng region of Arunachal Pradesh, show-casing its preparedness for next-generation warfare in extreme Himalayan conditions.
- The exercise featured largescale manoeuvres with drone surveillance, precision strikes, realtime target acquisition, air littoral operations and synchronised battle field tactics.

Exercise Bright Star 2025

- Indian Armed Forces personnel are participating in the 19th edition of Exercise Bright Star 2025, which is being held in Egypt.
- It is a biennial multilateral military exercise, recognized as one of the largest and longest-running tri-service drills in the Middle East-North Africa (MENA) region.
- Hosted by Egypt in partnership with the US since 1980, it has evolved from a bilateral US-Egypt initiative into a full-scale multilateral military exercise.
- **Objective:** It aims to enhance jointness and interoperability among participating nations, promote regional peace, security, and stability, and strengthen multi-domain warfare preparedness through joint training.
- To strengthen strategic partnerships, improve readiness for joint operations, and conduct

training in command-post exercises, field training, and senior leader seminars

INS Aravali

- Indian Navy commissioned INS Aravali, a new shore establishment at Gurugram, Haryana.
- It strengthens India's maritime security architecture.
- It is aligned with MAHASAGAR Vision (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions).

5th Coast Guard Global Summit 2027

- The 5th Coast Guard Global Summit 2027 will be held in Chennai.
- The decision was announced at the 4th CGGS in Rome (Sept 2025)
- Around 115 countries & international organisations participated in the 4th CGGS

Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR 25)

- India is participating in Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR 25), commencing on 15 September 2025, under Eastern Fleet command.
- XPR 25 is a biennial submarine rescue exercise
- It is hosted by Singapore with 40+ nations as participants or observers

Freedom Edge Exercise

- The trilateral military exercise "Freedom Edge" began on 15 September 2025.
- South Korea, the United States, and Japan are conducting the five-day drills in international waters near Jeju Island.

- This marks the third round of these joint exercises.
- **Objective:** To enhance trilateral interoperability and demonstrate a shared commitment to regional peace and stability.
- It aims to test operational readiness against new aerial threats.
- Madhya Pradesh is the likely venue.

Agni-Prime Missile

Exercise Amogh Fury

- The Indian Army's Sapta Shakti Command recently conducted a major integrated firepower exercise named 'Amogh Fury' at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan's Thar desert.
- This drill tested combat power, coordination, and operational readiness in simulated battle conditions.
- It showcased the Army's preparedness for multi-domain operations using advanced technology and combined arms tactics.
- India recently achieved milestone by successfully test-launching the Agni-Prime intermediate-range ballistic missile from a rail-based mobile launcher system.
- This launch is the first of its kind in the country and marks India's advancing strategic deterrence capabilities.
- Agni-Prime is a next-generation missile with a strike range of up to 2,000 kilometres.
- It is solid-fuelled and three-staged, which allows for quicker launch readiness and better control.
- The missile uses a canister launch system, improving storage, handling, and rapid deployment.

Cold Start Exercise

- India is set to conduct its largest joint military exercise focused on drones and counter-drone systems in early October 2025.
- The exercise, named Cold Start, will involve the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- Earlier in 2024, India successfully tested the Agni-5 missile under 'Mission Divyastra'.
- Agni-5 is a longer-range missile capable of carrying Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicles (MIRVs).

INTERNATIONAL

5th Coast Guard Global Summit 2027

- The 5th Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) 2027 will be hosted by Chennai, India.
- Scheduled to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Indian Coast Guard.
- The decision was taken unanimously at the 4th CGGS held in Rome in 2025, which saw participation from 115 countries and international organisations.
- The summit aims to enhance international maritime cooperation and address emerging challenges at sea.
- The Coast Guard Global Summit is a biennial international forum for coast guards worldwide.

SPORTS & GAMES

Badminton World Championship – France

- India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy/Chirag Shetty pair - Bronze.

11th Asian Aquatics Championship 2025

- Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad will host the 11th Asian Aquatics Championship from 28th September to 11th October 2025, marking the first time the event is being held in India.
- Organized by Asia Aquatics and the Swimming Federation of India, with support from the

Sports Authority of Gujarat, the championship will feature over 900 athletes from 29 countries competing in swimming, diving, artistic swimming, and water polo.

World Para Athletics – India

- New Delhi: The 12th World Para Athletics Championships for differently-abled athletes is being held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Delhi.

Javelin Throw:

- In the Men's Javelin Throw (F46) - India:
 - Rinku Hooda - Gold
 - Sundar Singh Gurjar - Silver medal

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Soundara Kailasam Literary Award

- The novel 'Devadas' written by author Atmaarathi has been selected for the Soundara Kailasam Literary Award for the year 2024 (Rs. 2 lakhs), presented by the Tamil literary organization 'Ezhuthu' (Writing).
- **Book:** "Demography, Representation, Delimitation: The North-South Divide in India."
- **Author:** Ravi K. Mishra
- **Book Focus:** Examines delimitation debates and the complexities of redrawing Lok Sabha constituency boundaries in India.

"Why the Constitution Matters."

- Former Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud released his debut book titled "Why the Constitution Matters."
- The author is Justice Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud, who served as the 50th Chief Justice of India.
- The book explores constitutional values, the rule of law, democracy, rights, and justice in contemporary India.
- It draws from his judicial experience and highlights the Constitution's enduring importance.
- The author is known for landmark progressive judgments expanding fundamental rights.
- The One Rupee Indian Startup Engine: Decoding the Sachet Revolution - C.K.Kumaravel

MISCELLANEOUS

Standardisation of yoga

- World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with India, is working to bring in standardisation of training practices in yoga to ensure that it serves as a preventive, promotive, and rehabilitative intervention.
- The autonomous institute under the Union Ayush Ministry is the nodal centre for the programme.
- The standardisation is aimed at creating guidelines for yoga practice, training, and application; defining global benchmarks for professional competency and knowledge; and ensuring diverse ledge; and ensuring diverse traditions of yoga can coexist under uniform quality standards.

'Digi Kerala'

- 'Digi Kerala' digital literacy programme, a grass-root level intervention across all local self-government bodies with an aim to bridge the digital divide.
- According to the Local Self Government Department, a total of 21.87 lakh people who were identified as "digitally illiterate" in a ground-level survey had successfully completed the training programme as well as cleared the evaluation.

Mahendravarman I was a patron of art and architecture

- Mahendravarman I, the Pallava ruler who ruled the northern parts of the Tamil land in the early seventh Century, was a patron of art, architecture, and literature.

- He pioneered rock-cut temples, including the cave shrines at Mahabalipuram.

- A scholar, he authored the Sanskrit play Mattavilasa Prahasana.

Tuticorin has been a trans-shipment hub for Centuries

- Tuticorin has historically been a trans-shipment hub, connecting the east coast with China, Greece, and Rome.
- By the 15th Century, small ships sailed from its minor port to Chennai, Colombo, and other centres.
- The Portuguese arrived in 1532, followed by the Dutch in 1649.
- The East India Company took it over in 1825.

A pioneering scholar who strove to elevate Tamil's global stature

- Xavier S. Thaninayagam, also known as Thaninayagam Adigal, was a pioneering Tamil scholar from Sri Lanka, who devoted his life to elevating Tamil's global stature.
- He delved into Tamil's cultural assimilation across Southeast Asia.
- He was one of the founders of the International Association for Tamil Research.

Parali Su. Nellaiappar, close associate of V. O. Chidambaram Pillai

- Parali Su. Nellaiappar was a poet, writer, publisher, and freedom fighter who was closely associated with V. O. Chidambaram Pillai, helping him in the Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company.
- He was also a devoted friend of Subramania Bharathi, helping in publishing Bharathi's poems and promoting his legacy even after his death.

UN World Food Programme

- It is a branch of the United Nations that deals with hunger eradication and promotes food security in the world.
- It is the world's largest humanitarian agency and was established in 1961.
- The organization's work is guided by Sustainable Development Goal 2, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030

INDIA -World Food Programme(WFP)

- India and the WFP worked together to pilot notable Indian innovations.
- These initiatives, which improved food security domestically, also provide replicable models for other developing nations.
- Annapurta or Grain ATM optimisation of the national supply chain within the food public distribution system,
- women-led Take-Home Ration programme
- national rice fortification project.

