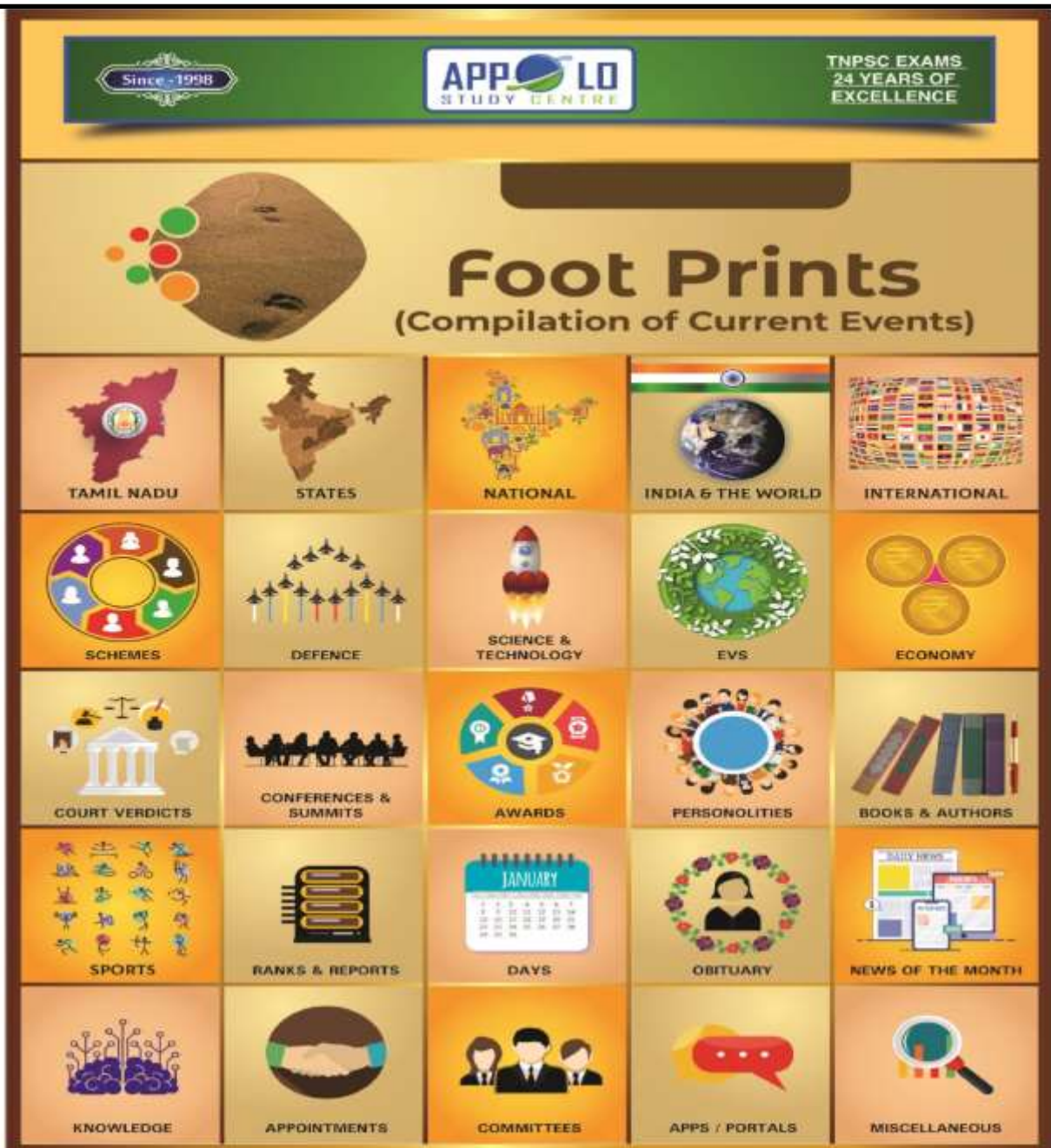




## MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 01-31, 2025



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# TAMIL NADU

## ➤ **Tamil Nadu Unveils India's First Glass Sea Bridge**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated India's first glass bridge over the sea, connecting Tiruvalluvar Statue and Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanniyakumari.



- ✓ As part of the silver jubilee celebrations of the Tiruvalluvar Statue installation, the State government has organised various programmes in Kanniyakumari, including officially naming of the towering statue as "Statue of Wisdom".
- ✓ Built at a cost of 37 crore, the 10-metre-wide bridge spans 77 metres, allowing the visitors to walk safely between the two iconic landmarks while watching the sea underneath.

## ➤ **Fifth Police Commission Recommends Major Reforms**

- ✓ The Fifth Police Commission headed by former Madras High Court judge, Justice C.T. Selvam, submitted its final report to Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in Chennai on Friday.



- ✓ According to police sources, the report has recommended major reforms to various areas, including recruitment, training, policing, and monetary benefits.

- ✓ In January 2022, the government constituted the commission with retired IAS officer K. Alauddin, retired IPS officer K. Radhakrishnan, renowned psychiatrist C. Ramasubramaniam, and retired professor Nalini Rao as members, and senior IPS officer and Director-General of Police Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal as the member-secretary.
- ✓ It took about three years for the commission to submit its final report.
- **Kural Vaaram**
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday announced that henceforth, the last week of December would be celebrated as Kural Vaaram ('Kural' week) every year.



- ✓ Delivering an address on the second day of celebrations to commemorate 25 years of installation of the Thiruvalluvar statue in Kanniyakumari, he released a 'silver jubilee commemorative magazine' comprising articles and poems penned by eminent Tamil scholars on Thiruvalluvar, and the Thirukkural.
- ✓ Kundrakudi Mutt head Ponnambala Adikalar received the first copy.
- **\$1 Million Prize for Deciphering Indus Valley Script**





- ✓ In a significant announcement marking the centenary of the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilisation, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has pledged a \$1 million prize for experts or organizations that succeed in deciphering the mysterious Indus Valley script.
  - ✓ Speaking at a three-day International Conference in Chennai, the Chief Minister highlighted the importance of unraveling this ancient script and reaffirmed Tamil Nadu's commitment to supporting research and archaeological endeavors.
- **AI Facility in Coimbatore under PPP Mode**
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday said the State government would set up a 2 million-sq.ft facility for artificial intelligence (AI) in Coimbatore under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode.



- ✓ In line with the emerging changes in technology, the State government is actively pursuing transformative fields such as AI, blockchain, internet of things (IoT), and electric vehicles,” he said at the inaugural of the Third edition of the State Information Technology and Digital Services Department's tech and innovation summit – ‘Umanage TN-2025’.
- **T.N. brings in Bills to curb Sexual Crimes**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday moved two Bills in the Assembly to enhance punishment for sexual crimes against women and children and prosecute those harassing them on digital and electronic platforms.



- ✓ The Criminal Laws (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2025, seeks to amend the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, in their application to Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The second Bill provides for suitably amending the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act, 1998.
- **Seven Special Courts will be set up to hear Sexual Assault Cases**
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday announced that seven special courts would hear cases pertaining to sexual assault on women.



- ✓ They would be set up in Madurai, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruchi, and Chennai and one of its neighbouring districts.
- ✓ In his reply to the Governor's address in the Assembly, Mr. Stalin said that a special committee headed by Additional Superintendent of Police would be set up to expedite trials in sexual assault cases in all the districts.
- **T.N. to Train Diaspora in Tamil and Folk Arts**
- ✓ The State government has come up with a plan for a training programme to take the Tamil language, and the State's folk arts and music to the younger generations of the diaspora.



- ✓ It would train 100 teachers and Tamil artistes, who in turn would be sent to countries with the diaspora, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said on Sunday.
  - ✓ Speaking at the celebrations of the World Tamil Diaspora Day 2025 here, Mr. Stalin said that the training would be offered in coordination with Tamil associations abroad for two years.
  - ✓ The government would allocate ₹10 crore, he said, and called upon the diaspora visiting Chennai for the 'Ethisaiyum Thamizhanange' event not to forget their identity.
- **10th Tamil Nadu International Balloon Festival 2025**
- ✓ 10th Edition of Tamil Nadu International Balloon festival (TNIBF) is organized with support of the Department of Tourism Tamil Nadu scheduled from 10 - 19 Jan 2025 at Chennai , Pollachi & Madurai - Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ During this 10 days festival, Hot Air Balloons from various Countries will be flown, At this tenth edition of TNIBF you will find all different types of Hot Air Balloon from 8+ Countries, all beautiful and unique Shapes and colors.
- **Namma School Namma Ooru Palli**
- ✓ The Namma School Namma Ooru Palli (NSNOP) initiative received pledges amounting to ₹141 crore from 31 companies for the Tiruchi region during its regional conference on Tuesday.



- ✓ The Tiruchi region encompasses districts such as Tiruchi, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, and Karur.
- ✓ As part of the event, School Education Department launched Palli Chaalaram, a web page designed to connect government school alumni and encourage their contributions to school development.
- **Tamil Nadu's Iron Age Discovery Reshapes Global Metallurgical History**
- ✓ Recent archaeological findings have reshaped our understanding of the Iron Age in India.



- ✓ A new study indicates that iron technology in Tamil Nadu dates back to the early 4th millennium BCE.
- ✓ This discovery challenges previous beliefs that placed the onset of the Iron Age in India between 1500 and 2000 BCE.
- ✓ Traditionally, the origins of iron technology have been attributed to the Hittite Empire around 1300 BCE.
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu findings challenge this notion, indicating that advanced iron smelting occurred much earlier in South India.



# STATE

## ➤ **KaWaCHaM**

- ✓ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated India's first fully integrated disaster warning system KaWaCHaM (Kerala Warnings, a Crisis and Hazard Management System).



- ✓ The KaWaCHaM system has been developed under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project.
  - ✓ The KaWaCHaM system is considered one of the fastest weather alert systems in the world which will enhance rescue and rehabilitation efforts during extreme weather events driven by climate change.
- ## ➤ **Uttarakhand adopts Uniform Civil Code**



- ✓ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Monday officially rolled out the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) for all residents of the State, except the Scheduled Tribes and natives who have migrated out of the State.
- ✓ With this, Uttarakhand has become the first Indian State to implement the UCC post-Independence.

# NATIONAL

## ➤ India's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- ✓ India's efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions have borne fruit, as the country's emissions fell by 7.93 per cent in 2020 compared to the previous year.



- ✓ Data submitted to the UN climate change office reveals a decline in the emission intensity of India's GDP by 36 per cent from 2005 to 2020.
  - ✓ India is on track with its climate goals, aiming to reduce GDP emission intensity by 45 per cent by 2030 and achieve 50 per cent electric power capacity from non-fossil fuels.
- ## ➤ India's Total Renewable Energy Capacity
- ✓ The government continued its remarkable journey toward transforming India's energy landscape in 2024.



- ✓ This progress is in line with India's commitment to achieving its 500 Giga Watt of non-fossil fuel energy in line with the Panchamrit goals.
- ✓ In February 2024, the government launched the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana to install rooftop solar panels in one crore households.

- ✓ The **National Green Hydrogen Mission** with an outlay of 600 crore rupees was also launched to reduce fossil fuel imports by one lakh crore and cut carbon emissions by **five Million Metric Tonnes by 2030**.

➤ **BHARATPOL Portal**

- ✓ BHARATPOL portal has been launched by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The portal has been developed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).



- ✓ This portal will streamline the processing of all requests for international assistance through INTERPOL.
- ✓ These requests include the issuance of Red Notices and other colour-coded INTERPOL notices.
- ✓ BHARATPOL portal will facilitate Indian law enforcement agencies.

➤ **India's First Organic Fish Cluster**

- ✓ Government launched India's first organic fish cluster in Sikkim. Union Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Ranjan Singh inaugurated India's first organic fisheries cluster in Sikkim.



- ✓ Its main aim is to sell antibiotic, chemical, and pesticide-free organic fish. Ranjan Singh also inaugurated and laid the foundations for 50 key projects worth 50 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

- ✓ The organic fisheries cluster will focus on an ecologically healthy fish farming system avoiding chemicals, antibiotics, and pesticides.

➤ **South India's First Infectious Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory**

- ✓ Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI) will establish South India's first Infectious Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (IRDL).



- ✓ This facility will focus on diseases caused by bacteria, fungi, and parasites.
- ✓ It will enable quicker diagnostics and improved management of such conditions.
- ✓ This facility has been established as part of the government initiative to establish specialized laboratories in medical colleges nationwide.
- ✓ Under this project, focus will be given to capacity building in areas like - bacteriology, mycology, and parasitology.

➤ **India's Total Renewable Energy Capacity reached to 209.44 Gigawatts (GW)**

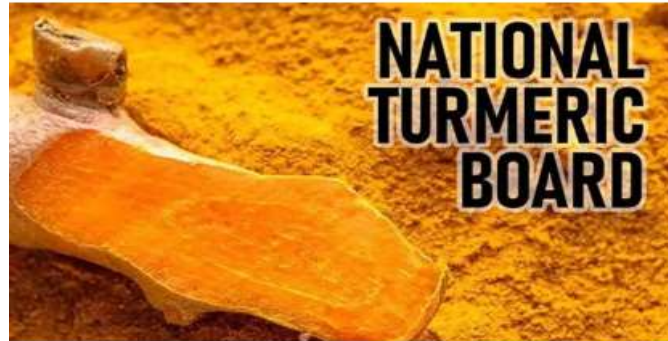
- ✓ India's renewable energy sector has registered remarkable growth.



- ✓ The total installed capacity has reached 209.44 gigawatts (GW) as of December 2024.
- ✓ The capacity has increased by 15.84% from 180.80 GW in December 2023 to 209.44 gigawatts (GW) in December 2024.
- ✓ In 2024, India added a total of 28.64 GW of renewable energy capacity.



- ✓ This increase is part of the government's strategic efforts to accelerate the transition towards clean energy and strengthen energy security.
- **National Turmeric Board Launched to Elevate India's 'Golden Spice'**



- ✓ On January 14, 2025, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, inaugurated the National Turmeric Board in New Delhi, appointing Shri Palle Ganga Reddy as its first Chairperson.
- ✓ The Board's headquarters is established in Nizamabad, Telangana, a prominent turmeric-producing region.
- **PM Modi inaugurates Z-Morh tunnel in Kashmir**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 6.5 km Z-Morh tunnel in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.



- ✓ The 6.5 km long two-lane tunnel connecting Gagangir and Sonamarg in Ganderbal district was constructed at an expenditure exceeding ₹2,700 crore.
- ✓ Located at an altitude of more than 8,650 feet above sea level, the Z-Morh tunnel will significantly improve year-round connectivity between Srinagar and Sonamarg, facilitating the route to Leh while bypassing the landslide-prone and avalanche-affected areas.

➤ **Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0 Launch**

- ✓ The Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS) 3.0 registration portal has been launched by Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan.



- ✓ The event is set to take place from 15th to 24th February 2025 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. This initiative aims to strengthen cultural ties between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, celebrating their shared heritage.
  - ✓ KTS 3.0 is organised by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with various ministries and the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
  - ✓ It aims to encourage cultural exchange and learning.
- **India & Spain sign two MoUs during Dr. Jaishankar's visit to Spain**
- ✓ India and Spain have signed two MoUs to strengthen and deepen the bilateral relations between the two countries.



- ✓ These agreements focused on cooperation in sports and sustainable urban development.
- ✓ The agreement was signed during External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar's visit to Spain.
- ✓ During the visit of Pedro Sanchez, both countries decided to celebrate 2026 as the "Year of Culture, Tourism, and Artificial Intelligence (AI)".

➤ **India's First eVTOL Air Taxi 'Shunya'**

- ✓ Sarla Aviation, a Bengaluru-based aerospace startup, has unveiled 'Shunya,' India's first electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) air taxi prototype.



- ✓ This marks a significant advancement in urban air mobility, aiming to alleviate traffic congestion and pollution in Indian cities.

➤ **India's 76th Republic Day Theme**

- ✓ India's 76th Republic Day Parade on January 26, 2025, will feature a vibrant display of tableaux representing 16 States/Union Territories (UTs) and 10 Ministries/Departments.



- ✓ The theme, "Swarnim Bharat – Virasat Aur Vikas," marks India's rich cultural heritage and its progressive path towards development.
- ✓ This event aims to showcase the country's diverse strengths and cultural inclusiveness.

➤ **National Critical Mineral Mission**

- ✓ The Government of India has approved the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) with a budget of ₹16,300 crore.



- ✓ This initiative aims to enhance India's self-reliance in critical minerals essential for high-tech industries and clean energy.
- ✓ The Finance Minister announced this mission in the Union Budget for 2024-25.
- ✓ The NCMM aims to reduce reliance on imported critical minerals.
- ✓ The mission aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative and seeks to address challenges in the mineral sector.

APPLO  
STUDY CENTRE



# SCHEMES

## ➤ PM Fasal Bima Yojana

- ✓ Government has decided to extend the timeline of the PM Fasal Bima Yojana and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme till 2025-26.



- ✓ The overall outlay of the scheme has been increased to 69 thousand 515 crore rupees.
- ✓ The farmers will continue to get DAP at one thousand 350 rupees per bag of 50 Kilogram.
- ✓ It will ensure the DAP availability to farmers at subsidized, affordable and reasonable prices.
- ✓ PM Fasal Bima Yojana was launched on 18 February 2016.

## ➤ One Nation One Subscription (ONOS)

- ✓ Launched on January 1, 2025, the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) initiative marks a significant advancement in India's research and education landscape.



- ✓ This scheme aims to provide comprehensive access to international scholarly journals and articles for students, faculty, researchers, and scientists across the nation's government higher education institutions (HEIs) and central government research and development (R&D) centres.

➤ **Mission Mausam**

- ✓ PM Modi launched Mission Mausam on the occasion of the 150th foundation day of IMD. 'Mission Mausam' aims to make India a weather-ready and climate-smart nation.



- ✓ Its main objective is to make India a weather-ready and climate-smart nation by developing cutting-edge weather surveillance technologies and systems.
- ✓ It will also focus on improving the understanding of weather and climate processes, and provide air quality data.
- ✓ The IMD Vision-2047 document for weather resilience and climate change adaptation was also released by PM Modi.

➤ **Diamond Imprest Authorization Scheme**

- ✓ On April 1, 2025, India will implement the Diamond Imprest Authorization (DIA) Scheme.



- ✓ The scheme is a strategic response to global beneficiation policies that require diamond manufacturers to establish local processing facilities. It will take effect from April 1, 2025.
- ✓ This DIA Scheme allows for the duty-free import of natural cut and polished diamonds, aiming to enhance value addition and stimulate exports.
- ✓ The DIA Scheme is designed to rejuvenate the sector by providing necessary support and incentives.

➤ **₹100 Cr Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs**

- ✓ In a significant move to bolster the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) manufacturing sector, the Indian government has introduced a Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS-MSME) with a corpus of ₹100 crore.



- ✓ This initiative aims to enhance credit availability for MSMEs, facilitating the acquisition of essential equipment and machinery without the need for collateral.

# INTERNATIONAL

- **China Unveils World's Fastest High-Speed Train Prototype**
- ✓ China has introduced the CR450, the world's fastest high-speed train prototype, with test speeds reaching 450 km/h.



- ✓ Surpassing the current CR400 Fuxing trains (350 km/h), the CR450 marks a breakthrough in rail technology, combining speed with advancements in energy efficiency, safety, and passenger comfort.
  - ✓ This innovation aligns with China's ambitious plans to expand its high-speed rail network to 70,000 km by 2035, cementing its leadership in global rail systems.
- **The United States has withdrawn from the World Health Organisation**
  - ✓ Due to WHO's poor management of the COVID-19 pandemic and lack of reform, the US has quit from the organisation.



- ✓ Trump has made the decision to leave the WHO and the Paris Climate Accord.
- ✓ Trump said that the US is pulling out due to WHO's role in COVID.
- ✓ The US, under Trump, criticised the agency for being too sympathetic to China and withdrew from WHO.
- ✓ China accounts for approximately 90% of the WHO's funding.



# INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

## ➤ India & Spain

- ✓ India and Spain have signed two MoUs to strengthen and deepen the bilateral relations between the two countries.



- ✓ These agreements focused on cooperation in sports and sustainable urban development.
- ✓ The agreement was signed during External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar's visit to Spain.
- ✓ During the visit of Pedro Sanchez, both countries decided to celebrate 2026 as the "Year of Culture, Tourism, and Artificial Intelligence (AI)".

## ➤ India and Indonesia

- ✓ India and Indonesia have announced new initiatives to deepen bilateral cooperation.



- ✓ Both sides signed many MoUs in the fields of health cooperation, digital infrastructure, and defence collaboration.

- ✓ Both countries agreed to cooperate in cutting-edge technologies, including FinTech, Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, and Digital Public Infrastructure.
- ✓ Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto is the chief guest of this year's Republic Day celebrations.



# CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

## ➤ **Genome India Data Conclave**

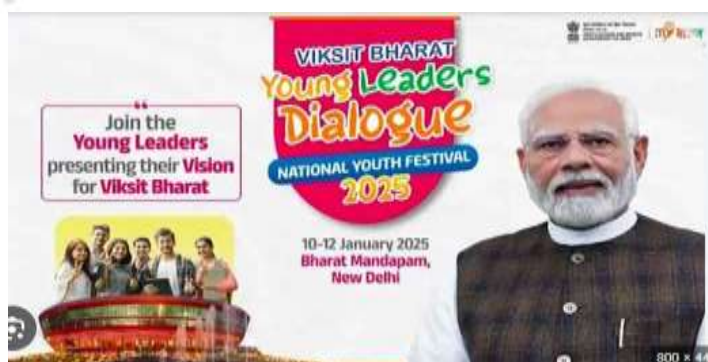
- ✓ India has made leap towards self-reliance in genomics.



- ✓ At the Genome India Data Conclave in New Delhi, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced that India now possesses its own genomic data.
- ✓ This achievement marks a very important moment for the nation, as it reduces reliance on foreign genomic data.
- ✓ The initiative is aimed at encouraging advancements in personalised healthcare and medical research.

## ➤ **Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue**

- ✓ The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2025, organized by the Department of Youth Affairs, began on January 10, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.



- ✓ The event, a reimagined version of the National Youth Festival, aims to celebrate youth leadership and engage young leaders from across India in thematic discussions, creative competitions, and cultural experiences.
- ✓ The dialogue seeks to empower the next generation of leaders to contribute to India's vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

➤ **World Economic Forum 2025**

- ✓ World Economic Forum 2025 annual meeting started in Davos, Switzerland.



- ✓ World Economic Forum 2025 annual meeting will take place from January 20 to 24 in Davos, Switzerland.
- ✓ Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw will head the Indian delegation.
- ✓ In this meeting, issues like inclusive growth, investment in social, physical and digital infrastructure and democratising technology will be discussed.

➤ **Handloom Conclave 'Manthan'**

- ✓ Handloom Conclave 'Manthan' will be inaugurated by Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh. The Handloom Conclave 'Manthan' will be inaugurated on 28 January at Dr Ambedkar International Centre Janpath, New Delhi.
- ✓ The main aim of the conclave is to bring various stakeholders to one place to share best practices, innovations, and strategies for growth in the handloom sector.
- ✓ The conclave will be attended by almost 250 stakeholders comprising 21 panelists, and 120 handloom beneficiaries.



# COMMITTEES

- **Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics**
- ✓ India joined the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD).



- ✓ The UN-CEBD was formed to investigate the benefits and challenges of Big Data including the potential for monitoring and reporting on sustainable development goals.
- ✓ India will contribute to shaping global standards and practices in harnessing Big Data and data science for official statistical purposes.

# DEFENCE

- **India's Defence Exports Cross Rs 21,000 Crore**
- ✓ India's defence exports have witnessed a remarkable surge, reaching a record Rs 21,000 crore from a mere Rs 2,000 crore a decade ago.



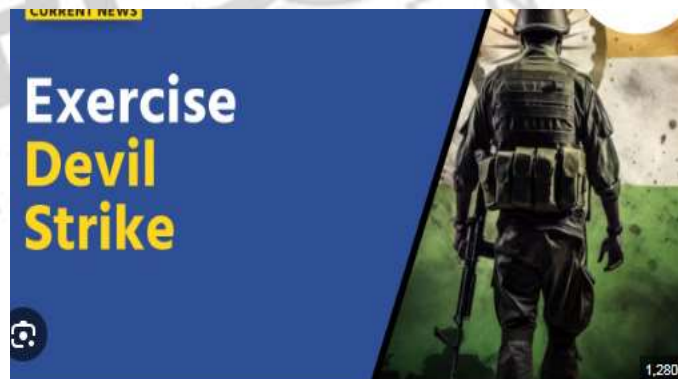
- ✓ During a visit to the Army War College (AWC) in Mhow Cantonment, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh set an ambitious target of Rs 50,000 crore in defence exports by 2029.
- **Military Exercise - Surya Kiran**
- ✓ The 18th edition of the India-Nepal joint military exercise "Surya Kiran" has commenced at Saljhandi, Nepal, from December 29, 2024, to January 13, 2025.



- ✓ This annual exercise aims to enhance interoperability in jungle warfare, counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrains, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief under the United Nations Charter.
- **Utkarsh**
- ✓ Utkarsh was launched on 13 January 2025 at L&T, Kattupalli, Chennai.



- ✓ Utkarsh is second of the two Multi-Purpose Vessels, being built by L&T Shipyard for the Indian Navy.
- ✓ 'Utkarsh' means 'Superior in Conduct'. Ministry of Defence and L&T Shipyard on 25 March 2022. The 106 m vessels are designed to achieve a maximum speed of 15 knots.
- ✓ These Multi-Purpose Vessels will have capability of towing ships, launch and recover various targets.
- **Indian Army Conducts Exercise 'Devil Strike'**
- ✓ The Indian Armed Forces are set to conduct a major military exercise, Exercise Devil Strike, from January 16 to 19, 2025.



- ✓ The exercise, which is being organized under the leadership of the Indian Army, aims to enhance the combat readiness of the forces by simulating high-intensity combat operations.
- ✓ This exercise is expected to feature advanced strategies and innovative combat techniques to strengthen national security and ensure effective defense against external threats.
- **India Tests Micro Missile System Bhargavastra**
- ✓ Indigenously developed micro missile system Bhargavastra was successfully tested at the Gopalpur Seaward firing range, Odisha.



- ✓ The micro missile system has been developed to counter the threat of swarm drone attacks.
- ✓ The Bhargavastra has been developed by Economic Explosives Ltd (EEL), a subsidiary of the Nagpur-based Solar Group. It has been designed and developed indigenously and is said to be an effective low-cost weapon system against swarm drone attacks.

#### ➤ **Exercise LA PEROUSE**

- ✓ The indigenously designed and built guided missile destroyer INS Mumbai is participating in the Exercise LA PEROUSE.



- ✓ It is a multilateral maritime exercise that takes place in the Indian Ocean Region.
- ✓ It is conducted by French Navy and held biennially.
- ✓ This edition will witness participation of personnel/surface and sub-surface assets from various maritime partners including Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Royal Navy, United States Navy, Indonesian Navy, Royal Malaysian Navy, Republic of Singapore Navy and Royal Canadian Navy.

#### ➤ **SANJAY - The Battlefield Surveillance System**

- ✓ Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh flagged off 'SANJAY - The Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS)' from the South Block, New Delhi.





- ✓ This indigenously developed system marks a major milestone in India's defense technology, strengthening the surveillance capabilities of the Indian Army.
- ✓ SANJAY is designed to enhance battlefield transparency, improve situational awareness, and optimize intelligence collection, thus transforming the battlefield in the era of modern warfare.

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# ECONOMY

## ➤ India's FY24 GDP Growth Projection At 7.3%: NSO Data

- ✓ The National Statistical Office (NSO) has released its first advance estimates projecting a robust 7.3% growth for India's GDP in the fiscal year 2023-24.



- ✓ This surpasses the 7.2% growth recorded in the previous financial year. Notably, the construction sector is expected to lead with double-digit growth at 10.7%.
- ✓ Real GDP at Constant Prices in FY24 is projected to reach 171.79 lakh crore, compared to the provisional estimate of 160.06 lakh crore for FY23.

## ➤ World Economic Situation and Prospects Report 2025

- ✓ The Indian economy is projected to grow by 6.6 per cent in 2025, according to the United Nations' World Economic Situation and Prospects report.



- ✓ This growth is supported by strong private consumption and investment.
- ✓ The report maintains its previous growth forecast, reflecting confidence in India's economic resilience.
- ✓ The public sector plays important role in funding infrastructure projects.

- ✓ These projects enhance physical and digital connectivity and improve social infrastructure, including sanitation and water supply.

➤ **World Economic Outlook Update**

- ✓ India's growth has been kept at 6.5 percent by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for the upcoming years 2025–2026 and 2026–2027.



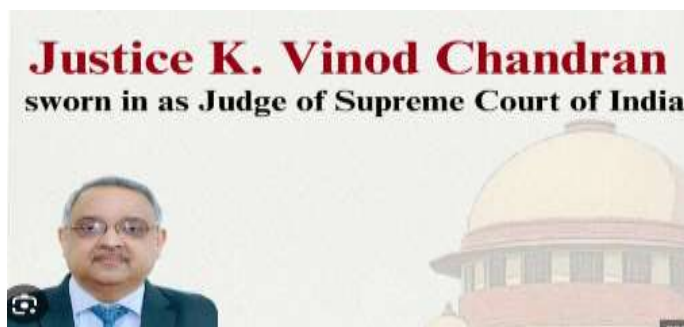
- ✓ The IMF maintained the growth rate same as the October forecast in its World Economic Outlook update, which was published on January 17, 2025.
- ✓ Among the biggest economies in the world, India continued to grow at the highest rate.
- ✓ According to IMF projections, global growth will be 3.3% in 2025 and 2026.
- ✓ This is less than the 3.7 percent historical average.

# APPOINTMENT

## ➤ V. Narayanan Takes Over as ISRO Chief and Space Secretary



- ✓ Dr. V. Narayanan, a distinguished scientist with nearly four decades of experience in rocket and spacecraft propulsion, has been appointed as the new Secretary of the Department of Space and Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
  - ✓ He will succeed S. Somanath, effective from January 14, 2025.
  - ✓ His leadership has been instrumental in several landmark ISRO missions, including the development of the GSLV Mk III and Chandrayaan-3 propulsion systems.
- ## ➤ Justice Krishnan Vinod Chandran Joins the Supreme Court
- ✓ Justice Krishnan Vinod Chandran was sworn in as the newest judge of the Supreme Court of India on January 16, 2025.



- ✓ Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna administered the oath of office.
  - ✓ With this appointment, the Supreme Court's judicial strength has risen to 33, just one short of its full sanctioned capacity.
- ## ➤ 47th President of the United States



- ✓ As the 47th President of the United States, Donald Trump took the oath of office.



- ✓ In Washington, DC, the president took the oath of office while US Chief Justice John Roberts was present.
- ✓ The US Vice President, JD Vance, also took the oath of office. India's representative at the swearing-in ceremony was External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.
- ✓ Elon Musk of Tesla, Jeff Bezos of Amazon, Mark Zuckerberg of Meta, Tim Cook of Apple, and Sam Altman of OpenAI were also among the attendees of swearing in ceremony.

# AWARDS

## ➤ Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardees Announced



- ✓ The Indian government has announced the recipients of the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award for 2024, honoring exceptional contributions to sports.
- ✓ Manu Bhaker (Shooting), Harmanpreet Singh (Hockey), Praveen Kumar (Para Athletics), D Gukesh (Chess).

## ➤ State Govt. Announces Awards

- ✓ Tamil Nadu government on Saturday announced the Anna Award, Mahakavi Bharathiyar Award, Thanthai Periyar Award, Annal Ambedkar Award, Muthamizh Arignar Kalaigarnar Award for 2024 and Ayyan Thiruvalluvar Award for 2025.
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K Stalin will present the awards on January 15.
- ✓ According to the press release,
- ✓ M. Padikkaramu has been selected for Ayyan Thiruvalluvar award.
- ✓ DMK leader L. Ganesan for Anna Award.
- ✓ Poet Kabilan for Mahakavi Bharathiyar award and Pon. Selvaganapathy for Bharathidasan award.
- ✓ Medical professional G.R. Ravindaranath will get Tamil Thendral Thiru. Vi. Ka. award.
- ✓ Ve. Mu. Pothiyaverpan has been chosen for KAP Viswanatham award.
- ✓ Journalist Viduthalai Rajendran will receive the Thanthai Periyar award.
- ✓ VCK MP Ravikumar the Annal Ambedkar award.
- ✓ Muthu Vavasi will receive the Kalaigarnar award.

## ➤ Gates-Cambridge Impact Prize 2025

- ✓ Raman Research Institute faculty honored with the Gates-Cambridge Impact Prize 2025.



- ✓ Professor Urbasi Sinha, faculty in the Light and Matter Physics theme at the Raman Research Institute (RRI), was honored with the Gates-Cambridge Impact Prize 2025 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation at Cambridge, UK

#### ➤ **Padma Bhushan**

- ✓ Shri Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti - Trade and Industry, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri S Ajith Kumar - Art, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Ms. Shobana Chandrakumar - Art, Tamil Nadu



#### ➤ **Padma Shri**

- ✓ Shri Guruvayur Dorai - Art, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri K. Damodaran Others - Culinary, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri Lakshmipathy Ramasubbaiyer - Literature and Education - Journalism, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri M D Srinivas - Science and Engineering, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri Purisai Kannappa Sambandan - Art, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri R Ashwin - Sports, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri R G Chandramogan - Trade and Industry, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri Radhakrishnan Devasenapathy - Art, Tamil Nadu.

- ✓ Shri Seeni Viswanathan - Literature and Education, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Shri Velu Aasaan – Art, Tamil Nadu.

➤ **BCCI Lifetime Achievement Award**

- ✓ Sachin Tendulkar will be honoured with the BCCI's C K Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual gala.

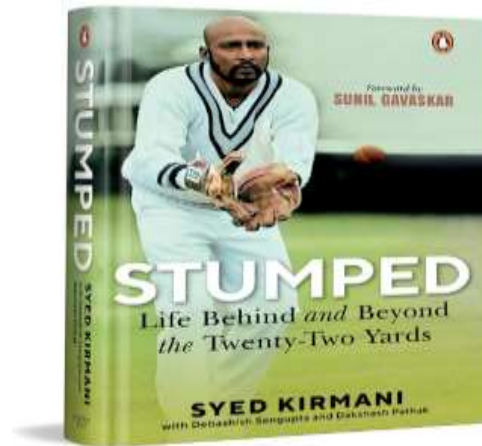


- ✓ The cricket legend, 51, holds the record for the most Test and ODI runs in history with 664 international games.
- ✓ Awards he received: Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Shri, Maharashtra Bhushan, Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award.



## BOOKS & AUTHORS

### ➤ Autobiography “Stumped: Life Behind and Beyond the Twenty-Two Yards”



- ✓ The legendary former Indian cricketer and wicket-keeper Syed Mujtaba Hussein Kirmani released his autobiography titled “**Stumped: Life Behind and Beyond the Twenty-Two Yards**” at a grand event in Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
  - ✓ The release coincided with Kirmani’s 75th birthday. The book is published by Penguin Play.
- ### ➤ Manisha Pande’s book reveals middle class India as a driver of change
- ✓ Journalist Manisha Pande’s launched its book Middle Class India: Driving Change in the 21st Century.



- ✓ It is divided into three parts.

- ✓ Part I looks at the middle class in pre-Independence India, focusing on the period from 1757 to 1947.
- ✓ Part II concerns itself with the time frame between when India freed itself from the clutches of British colonial rule in 1947 to economic liberalisation in 1991.
- ✓ Part III is about the post-liberalisation scenario, from 1991 until the present day.

➤ **Book on Parliament's Rights and Privileges**

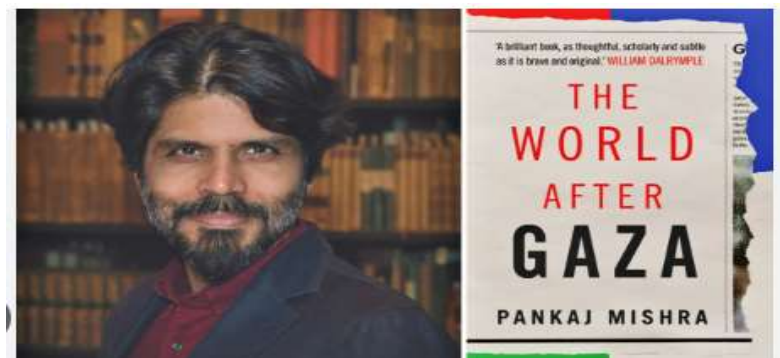
- ✓ The Vice President launched a book "Parliament: Powers, Functions & Privileges; a Comparative Constitutional Perspective," by K.S. Chauhan.



- ✓ The book emphasizes Parliament's role in government accountability and the importance of dialogue, debate, and responsible use of privileges.
- ✓ Dhankhar praised the author's dedication and called the book a valuable resource for policymakers and law students.

➤ **The World After Gaza**

- ✓ The book 'The World After Gaza' written by Pankaj Mishra is a treatise on the ongoing war in the troubled Palestinian strip.

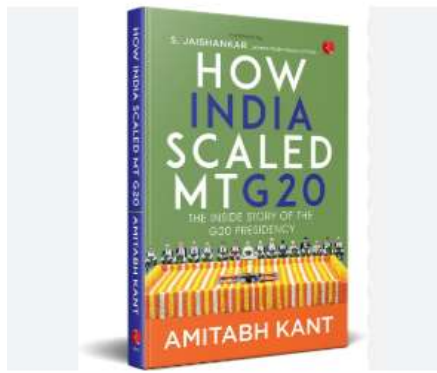


- ✓ This book published by Juggernaut Books in India.

- ✓ This book is a timely read, helping to understand the nuances of this war that has been condemned as having destroyed the idea of human rights and opening the door to a downward spiral of moral degradation in the world.
- ✓ Mishra is an award-winning essayist and author of nine fiction and non-fiction books.

➤ **How India Scaled Mt. G20**

- ✓ Amitabh Kant authored the book 'How India scaled Mt. G20'.



- ✓ It is noteworthy that Amitabh Kant's book 'How India Scaled Mt. G-20' depicts the country's determination and collaborative spirit in making the G-20 Presidency an unparalleled success.
- ✓ In September 2023, the G-20 summit held in New Delhi was one of the biggest global gatherings of this decade.
- ✓ A major success of this event was the consensus reached on the Joint Declaration.

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

## ➤ **Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) Outbreak in China**

- ✓ China is currently experiencing a significant increase in human metapneumovirus (HMPV) cases, leading to concerns about a potential health crisis reminiscent of the COVID-19 pandemic.



- ✓ Reports indicate that hospitals are becoming overcrowded, with suggestions of multiple viruses, including HMPV, influenza A, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, and COVID-19, contributing to the situation. Despite some claims of a state of emergency, there has been no official confirmation from Chinese authorities.

## ➤ **Scrub Typhus Outbreak in Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ Scrub Typhus is a bacterial infection that is currently spreading in Tamil Nadu. Districts such as Chennai, Kanchipuram, Tirupattur, Tiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Ranipet, and Vellore have reported numerous cases.



- ✓ The Public Health Department has issued an alert, urging immediate measures to control the outbreak.
- ✓ Scrub typhus is caused by the bacterium Orientia tsutsugamushi.
- ✓ This bacterium is transmitted through bites from infected larval mites, commonly referred to as chiggers.

## ➤ **Injectable Hydrogel for Targeted Cancer Treatment**



- ✓ Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati (IIT-G) and the Bose Institute, Kolkata have developed an advanced injectable hydrogel for localised cancer treatment.



- ✓ A statement issued by the IIT-G said this hydrogel serves as a stable reservoir for anti-cancer drugs, releasing it in a controlled manner while sparing healthy cells from harm.
  - ✓ The findings of the research, expected to be revolutionary for breast cancer therapy, have been published in Materials Horizons, a journal of the Royal Society of Chemistry.
- **10 payloads of ISRO's POEM-4 module Deployed Successfully**



- ✓ The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) on Tuesday said that it had facilitated the successful establishment and operationalisation of 10 hosted payloads from non-government entities (NGEs) on board the POEM-4 module of the PSLV-C60/SpaDeX mission.
- ✓ The mission was launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Monday.

- ✓ “The mission that launched today, carried out in-orbit scientific experiments at an altitude of 350 km with a 55-degree inclination, utilizing the spent PS4 stage repurposed as the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM-4).
- **ISRO Tests Fuel Cell On PSLV-C58’S POEM3 Platform Successfully**
- ✓ On January 1, 2024, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved a significant milestone by successfully testing a 100 W class Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel Cell based Power System (FCPS) in its orbital platform, POEM3.



- ✓ This remarkable feat took place aboard the PSLV-C58 mission, marking a crucial step in the assessment of fuel cell technology for future space missions.
- ✓ The primary objective of the experiment was to evaluate the operation of Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Fuel cells in the challenging environment of space.
- **IIT Madras Researchers Engineer Plant Cells To Produce Drug For Cancer**
- ✓ Researchers from the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Madras and Mandi have successfully metabolically engineered plant cells to boost the production of the anti-cancer drug camptothecin (CPT).



- ✓ CPT, traditionally extracted from the endangered plant *Nathapodytes nimmoniana*, has been a source of concern due to the plant’s declining population.

- ✓ The International Union for Conservation of Nature has red-listed this species.
- **IIT-Madras Sets Record with Asia's Largest Wave Basin**
- ✓ IIT-Madras has successfully commissioned Asia's largest shallow wave basin at its Discovery campus in Chennai.



- ✓ This research facility is designed to address complex coastal engineering challenges and is expected to make significant contributions to marine science and engineering.
- ✓ Developed with indigenous technology, the shallow wave basin is set to enhance the country's capabilities in port and waterway research without relying on foreign technology.
- **Earth Breaches 1.5°C Limit for the First Time in 2024**



- ✓ In a landmark event for climate change, 2024 became the first year in recorded history when the mean global temperature exceeded the critical 1.5°C threshold above pre-industrial levels, as reported by the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S).
- ✓ This breach marks a dangerous trajectory for global warming, bringing humanity closer to a point of no return.

- ✓ Climate experts warn that if this trend continues without drastic emission cuts, global temperatures could exceed the 2°C limit by 2050, with devastating consequences for ecosystems, economies, and human livelihoods.
- **India Releases Compilation of 10,000 Human Genomes**
- ✓ India has completed and made available a year-long compilation of 10,000 human genomes representing 83 population groups, making up about 2% of the country's 4,600 population groups, as a database.



- ✓ This collection will serve as a template of future investigations into disease and drug therapy.
- ✓ The 'Genome India' database, as it is known, will now be available to researchers across the world for investigation and is housed at the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC), in Faridabad, Haryana.
- **Leaves Flutter in Space: ISRO's Experiment Reaches Milestone**
- ✓ A batch of cowpea seeds which were taken into orbit by an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) mission and which recently sprouted has unveiled their first leaves.





- ✓ “Leaves have emerged! VSSC’s CROPS (Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies) aboard PSLV-C60 POEM-4 achieves a milestone as cowpea sprouts unveil their first leaves in space,” the ISRO.
- ✓ It can be recalled that the cowpea seeds had a couple of days ago successfully sprouted in space.
- **ISRO’s SpaDeX Mission Achieves Satellite Docking Milestone**
- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) made a significant leap in space docking technology with its SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment) mission.



- ✓ The mission involves two satellites, SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (Target), designed to test and demonstrate spacecraft rendezvous, docking, and undocking technologies.
- ✓ This milestone places India on the path to becoming the fourth country after the USA, Russia, and China to achieve this complex space maneuver.
- **New Launchpad of ISRO Coming Up at Sriharikota**
- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the establishment of a third launchpad at ISRO’s Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.



- ✓ The project, costing ₹3,985 crore, is a critical step in enhancing India's space transportation capabilities, especially for the Next Generation Launch Vehicles (NGLVs).
  - ✓ This launchpad is designed to support future human spaceflight missions and India's ambitious plans for space exploration, including an Indian crewed lunar landing by 2040.
- **SCOT Mission**
- ✓ The Prime Minister recently lauded the Indian space startup Digantara at the success of Mission SCOT.



- ✓ SCOT (Space Camera for Object Tracking) is Digantara's (an Indian space startup) inaugural mission dedicated to space surveillance.
- ✓ It is one of the world's first commercial Space Situational Awareness (SSA) satellites.
- ✓ It was launched aboard SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission. SCOT is built to track Resident Space Objects (RSOs).

➤ **Stargate AI Project**

- ✓ The Stargate AI Project, announced by US President Donald Trump at the White House, marks a monumental step in the evolution of artificial intelligence (AI).



- ✓ Touted as the largest AI infrastructure initiative in history, this ambitious project has garnered support from some of the world's biggest tech and business names.
  - ✓ With an investment of \$500 billion over the next four years, the Stargate AI Project aims to develop world-class AI infrastructure, create jobs, and boost the US economy.
- **ISRO Successfully Demonstrates Vikas Engine Restart Capability**
- ✓ Recently, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved milestones with its Vikas liquid engine.



- ✓ The successful demonstration of engine restart capabilities marks a critical step towards enhancing the reusability of launch vehicles.
  - ✓ ISRO has flagged off the L110 core liquid stage of the LVM3 launch vehicle for commercial operations.
  - ✓ This mission is part of a commercial agreement to launch the BlueBird Block-2 satellite, further establishing ISRO's role in global space commerce.
- **DeepSeek AI Surpasses ChatGPT**
- ✓ Chinese AI startup DeepSeek has made headlines by surpassing OpenAI's ChatGPT as the most-downloaded free app in the U.S. on Apple's App Store.



- ✓ Founded in 2023, DeepSeek has quickly gained prominence with its advanced AI models, particularly R1, a reasoning model that rivals OpenAI's technology.

- ✓ This development underscores the competitive landscape of the generative AI market, projected to reach \$1 trillion in revenue within a decade.
- ✓ However, challenges like cybersecurity threats and regulatory scrutiny also loom large.

➤ **ISRO Launches NVS-02, Marks 100th Mission from Sriharikota**

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its new generation satellite NVS-02 from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.



- ✓ Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F15) carrying the NVS-02 lifted off at 6:23 AM this morning.
- ✓ This launch marks a remarkable milestone for ISRO commemorating the 100th launch from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- ✓ NVS-02 satellite has been designed, developed, and integrated at URSC (U R Satellite Centre), with the support of other satellite-based work centres within ISRO.

➤ **India's First Astronaut to Pilot Axiom-4 to ISS**

- ✓ India's space exploration has just reached a new milestone with Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla set to become the first Indian astronaut to pilot a space mission to the International Space Station (ISS).



- ✓ He has been chosen as the pilot for Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4), a private spaceflight scheduled for launch in the spring of 2025.



- ✓ This marks a significant moment in India's space history, continuing the journey that started 40 years ago with Rakesh Sharma's iconic spaceflight.
- **AI model claimed to surpass DeepSeek-V3 unveiled by Alibaba**
- ✓ On 29 January, a new version of the Qwen 2.5 AI model was released by Chinese tech firm Alibaba, with a claim that it surpassed the highly acclaimed DeepSeek-V3.



- ✓ The release of Qwen 2.5-Max on the first day of the Lunar New Year, when most Chinese people are off work, highlights the pressure created by DeepSeek's meteoric rise.
- ✓ Alibaba's cloud unit announced on WeChat that Qwen 2.5-Max outperforms GPT-4o, DeepSeek-V3, and Llama-3.1-405B almost across the board.

# SPORTS

- **Kho Kho World Cup 2025 Trophies and Mascots**
- ✓ India is to host the historic first edition in New Delhi.



- ✓ The Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) unveiled the trophies for the first-ever Kho Kho World Cup.
  - ✓ The tournament will showcase 21 men's and 20 women's teams from 24 countries across six continents.
  - ✓ The World Cup will feature two trophies - a blue trophy for the men's championship and a green trophy for the women's event.
  - ✓ The KKFI also introduced 'Tejas' and 'Tara,' a duo of gazelles serving as the official mascots for the tournament.
  - ✓ Tejas, symbolising brilliance and energy, and Tara, representing guidance and aspiration.
- **Presidential Medal of Freedom**
  - ✓ Lionel Messi becomes first men's footballer to win 'Presidential Medal of Freedom'. Lionel Messi has been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honour in the United States of America.



- ✓ The medal is presented to individuals who have contributed to the prosperity, values, or security of the United States, world peace, or other significant societal.
- ✓ He will be the second sportsperson to win the Presidential award after Megan Rapinoe. US President Joe Biden presented the award.

### ➤ **Kho Kho World Cup**

- ✓ The first edition of the Kho Kho World Cup was officially inaugurated at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Indian Olympic Association President P. T. Usha and Kho Kho Federation of India President Sudhanshu Mittal, lit the ceremonial torch of World Cup.



- ✓ Teams from 20 countries are participating in the Kho Kho World Cup 2025.
- ✓ Kho Kho World Cup 2025 features 20 men's and 19 women's teams.
- ✓ 15-member squads for both the men's and women's categories have been selected by the Kho-Kho Federation of India.
- ✓ Prateek Waikar is captain of the men's team.
- ✓ Priyanka Ingle will lead the women's team.

### ➤ **Kho Kho World Cup**

- ✓ The Indian women's team created history by winning the inaugural Kho-Kho World Cup 2025 title on January 19 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.



- ✓ The Indian Women's team dominated Nepal in a thrilling final, ensuring their victory with a resounding score of 78-40.
- ✓ On the same day, history repeated itself for India as the Indian Men's team followed in the footsteps of their female counterparts, securing a 54-36 victory over Nepal in a thrilling final to win the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup on 19 January.

#### ➤ **38th National Games**

- ✓ On 28 January, the 38th National Games inaugurated by PM Modi at Maharana Pratap Stadium in Dehradun.



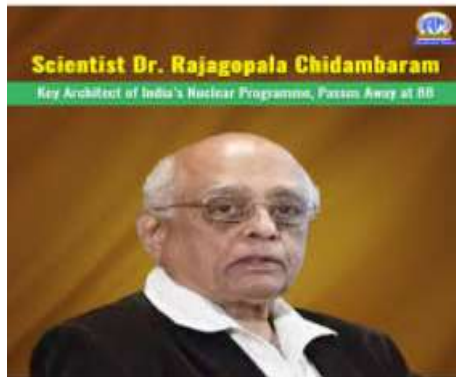
- ✓ It is being organized in Uttarakhand during its silver jubilee year.
- ✓ It will be held in 11 cities in 8 districts of Uttarakhand from 28 January to 14 February.
- ✓ 36 states and one union territory will participate in the National Games. Competitions in 35 sports will be held in these 17-day games.
- ✓ Focusing on sustainability, this year the theme of the National Games is "Green Games."



# OBITUARY

## ➤ Dr. Rajagopala Chidambaram

- ✓ Veteran nuclear scientist Dr. Rajagopala Chidambaram passed away at the age of 88.



- ✓ Dr. Chidambaram played a critical role in India's nuclear weapons programme.
- ✓ He was part of India's first nuclear test in 1974 and the Pokhran-II tests in 1998.
- ✓ He has served in several key scientific and strategic positions, including Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

## ➤ World's Oldest Person, Tomiko Itooka, Dies At 116 Years

- ✓ Tomiko Itooka, a Japanese woman recognized by Guinness World Records as the world's oldest person, passed away at the age of 116 in January 2025.



- ✓ Born in May 1908, she experienced an extraordinary life, living through major historical events, including both World Wars, technological advancements, and societal changes.

- ✓ Her legacy continues to inspire through her resilience and longevity.
- **Renowned Cardiac Surgeon K.M. Cherian Passes Away**
- ✓ Dr. K.M. Cherian, who performed India's first coronary bypass and heart-lung transplant, passed away on January 25, 2025, in Bengaluru.



- ✓ He established Frontier Lifeline Hospital and Frontier Mediville for advanced cardiac research.
- ✓ His biography, Just an Instrument, was launched days before his passing.

# REPORT

## ➤ **UN Report: India's GDP Growth Forecast At 6.2% For 2024**

- ✓ In the eagerly awaited United Nations' World Economic Situation and Prospects 2024 report, India emerges as a key player, projecting a GDP growth of 6.2% in the coming year.



- ✓ This slightly trails behind the 6.3% estimate for 2023, a testament to the country's robust domestic demand and the flourishing manufacturing and services sectors.
- ✓ South Asia, driven by India's prowess, is anticipated to witness a GDP surge of 5.2% in 2024 after a commendable 5.3% growth in 2023.

## ➤ **India Renewable Energy Achievement 2024**

- ✓ India achieved a record-breaking milestone in 2024 with the addition of 24.5 GW of solar capacity and 3.4 GW of wind capacity.



- ✓ India's total non-fossil fuel-based energy capacity to 217.62 GW as of January 2025.
- ✓ India is on track to meet its goal of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based energy capacity by 2030.
- ✓ In 2024, India saw a more than twofold increase in solar installations and a 21% rise in wind installations compared to 2023.

- ✓ Solar energy now accounts for 47% of India's total installed renewable energy capacity.
- ✓ The rooftop solar sector grew by 53%, adding 4.59 GW of new capacity. Gujarat, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu are accounting for 98% of the new 3.4 GW capacity of Wind energy.
- **Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2024**
- ✓ The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2024 has revealed findings regarding education in rural India.



- ✓ The report marks improvements in learning levels and shifts in school enrolment patterns.
- ✓ The ASER 2024 report indicates a decline in government school enrolment, returning to 66.8%, similar to levels seen in 2018.
- ✓ Private school enrolment, however, has been on the rise, reflecting a shift in educational preferences.
- ✓ The report notes that states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu have shown remarkable recovery in learning levels.
- **International AI Safety Report**
- ✓ The International AI Safety report, released in 2025, outlines critical challenges associated with rapidly evolving artificial intelligence technologies.





- ✓ This comprehensive document addresses various threats, including job displacement, environmental impact, and security risks.
- ✓ The report stems from discussions held during the 2023 global AI safety summit.
- ✓ The report addresses the misuse of deepfake technology, including financial fraud and the creation of harmful digital content.



# RANKING

- **India is Currently the World's Seventh-Largest producer of Coffee**
- ✓ India's exports of coffee reached 1.29 billion dollars during the last year.



- ✓ According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, this is almost twice as much as the 719 million dollars in exports in 2020-21.
- ✓ Italy, Belgium, and Russia were India's top importers of the 9,300 tonnes of coffee that the country sold in the first half of this month.
- ✓ India's main export is unroasted coffee beans.
- ✓ With 248,000 metric tonnes produced in 2022-2023, Karnataka tops in coffee production, followed by Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

## ➤ **Global Firepower Index 2025**

- ✓ India has been consistently ranked as the fourth most powerful military in the world, according to the Global Firepower Index 2025.



- ✓ This ranking underscores India's significant military capabilities, placing it just behind the United States, Russia, and China.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
January 01	Global Family Day	The theme for Global Family Day 2025 was "One World, One Family: Building Bridges Across Generations".
January 02	World Introvert Day	Theme 2025 - <b>Some peace and calm in a noisy world.</b>
January 04	World Braille Day	The theme for World Braille Day 2024 was "Reaching out to blind and visually impaired persons".
January 05	National Birds Day	Theme 2024 - <b>Protecting Our Birds, Protecting Our Future.</b>
January 06	World Day Of War Orphans	World Day of War Orphans is marked with two powerful themes: "Orphan Lives Matter" and "Standing Up for War-Affected Children."
January 08	Earth's Rotation Day	Theme - "Cosmic Rhythms - Embracing the Universe's Dance."
January 09	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	The theme for this year's Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was "Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat".
January 10	World Hindi Day	The theme of the World Hindi Day is "Hindi-Bridging Traditional Knowledge and Artificial Intelligence"
January 11	National Human Trafficking	The Day serves as a poignant reminder of the need to address

	<b>Awareness Day</b>	this global crisis and bring an end to the suffering endured by victims.
<b>January 12</b>	<b>National Youth Day</b>	Theme - Youth for a Sustainable Future: Shaping the Nation with Resilience and Responsibility".
<b>January 15</b>	<b>Indian Army Day</b>	Theme - "Samarth Bharat, Saksham Sena" which translates to "Capable India, Empowered Army."
<b>January 16</b>	<b>National Startup Day</b>	Theme - Let's shape the future together - one innovative idea at a time."
<b>January 23</b>	<b>Parakram Diwas</b>	Theme-Courage, Determination and Patriotism.
<b>January 24</b>	<b>National Girl Child Day</b>	Theme - "Empowering Girls for a Bright Future."
<b>January 24</b>	<b>International Day Of Education</b>	This year, the seventh International Day of Education is celebrated with the theme: 'AI and Education: Preserving Human Agency in a World of Automation.'
<b>January 25</b>	<b>National Voters' Day</b>	This year's theme, "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure," continues the emphasis on participatory democracy.
<b>January 25</b>	<b>National Tourism Day</b>	The theme for this year's National Tourism Day is "Tourism for Inclusive Growth".
<b>January 26</b>	<b>75th Republic Day of India</b>	Theme - "Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas."
<b>January 26</b>	<b>International Day of Clean Energy</b>	The theme for the International Day of Clean Energy in 2025 is



		"Clean Energy for a Brighter Future".
January 26	International Customs Day	The theme for International Customs Day 2025 is: "Customs Delivering on its Commitment to Efficiency, Security, and Prosperity."
January 27	International Day Of Commemoration In Memory Of The Victims Of The Holocaust	This day serves as a poignant reminder of the horrors of the Holocaust and the enduring need to fight against hatred, bigotry, and racism in all its forms
January 27	National Geographic Day	Theme - Support for Conservation and Sustainability.
January 28	Indian Newspaper Day	Theme - role of print media in the digital age.
January 28	World Leprosy Day	The theme for World Leprosy Day 2024 is " <b>Beat Leprosy</b> "
January 30	Martyrs Day Or Shaheed Diwas	The nation commemorated Mahatma Gandhi's 77th death anniversary and Martyr's Day.
January 30	World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day	The theme for this year's observance, "Unite, Act, and Eliminate NTDs", serves as a powerful call to action for the NTDs community.

**CURRENT AFFAIRS - TNPSC ORIGINAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS -  
EXAMS CONDUCTED IN NOVEMBER, 2024**

**UNIT – II - CURRENT EVENTS**

**COMBINED TECHNICAL SERVICES EXAMINATION IN DIPLOMA/ITI  
LEVEL**

**DOE : 09/11/2024 (FN) AND 11/11/2024 TO 16/11/2024**

**Economics**

1. Match correctly the Geographical Indication (GI) Tags of Tamil Nadu with their place and production

A. Nagercoil	1. Kuthuvilakku
B. Erode	2. Bronze Icons
C. Swamimalai	3. Turmeric
D. Nachiarkovil	4. Temple Jewellery

	A	B	C	D
a.	1	3	2	4
b.	1	2	3	4
c.	4	3	2	1
d.	4	2	3	1

e. Answer not known

தமிழ்நாட்டின் புவிசார் குறியீடுகளை அவற்றின் இடம் மற்றும் உற்பத்தியுடன் சரியாகப் பொருத்தவும் :

A. நாகர்கோவில்	1. குத்து விளக்கு
B. ஈரோடு	2. வெண்கல சிலைகள்
C. சுவாமிமலை	3. மஞ்சள்
D. நாச்சியார்கோவில்	4. கோவில் நகைகள்

	A	B	C	D
a.	1	3	2	4
b.	1	2	3	4
c.	4	3	2	1
d.	4	2	3	1

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

## Latest diary of events

2. Which of the following statements are true about G20?

- i. European union is a member of G20
- ii. The G20 summit for the year 2023 was held at new Delhi.
- iii. The G20 summit for the year 2022 was held at Brazil.
- iv. The motto of G20 summit for the year 2023 is “people, planet, prosperity”.

- a. i and iii only
- b. i and ii only
- c. ii and iii only
- d. ii and iv only
- e. Answer not known

G20 பற்றிய கீழ்க்காணும் கூற்றுகளில் எவை சரியானவை ?

- i. ஐரோப்பிய ஒன்றியம் G20ன் ஒரு உறுப்பினர்.
  - ii. 2023 ஆம் ஆண்டிற்கான G20 மாநாடு புது தில்லியில் நடைபெற்றது.
  - iii. 2022 ஆம் ஆண்டிற்கான G20 மாநாடு புது பிரேசிலில் நடைபெற்றது.
  - iv. 2023 ஆம் ஆண்டிற்கான G20 மாநாட்டின் குறிக்கோள் “மக்கள், உலகம் செழிப்பு ஆகும்.
- a. i மற்றும் iii மட்டும்
  - b. i மற்றும் ii மட்டும்
  - c. ii மற்றும் iii மட்டும்
  - d. ii மற்றும் iii மட்டும்
  - e. விடைதெரியவில்லை

### Places in news

3. Tamil Nadu's First Biodiversity heritage site is \_\_\_\_\_  
a. Ettimangalam      b. Ayyapatti      c. Arittapatti      d. Kallampatti  
e. Answer not known  
தமிழ்நாட்டின் முதல் பாராம்பரிய பல்லுயிர் தளம் எது?  
a. எட்டிமங்கலம்      b. அய்யப்பட்டி      c. அரிட்டாபட்டி      d. கள்ளம்பப்பட்டி  
e. விடைதெரியவில்லை

### Awards and Honours

4. Who among the following wins " International Booker Prize" in 2023?  
a. **Georgi Gospodinov**      b. Tina Turner      c. Kumar Srivastava  
d. Shashi Tharoor      e. Answer not known  
பின்வருபவர்களில் 2023 இல் சர்வதேச புக்கர் பரிசை வென்றவர் யார்?  
a. ஜார்ஜி கோஸ்போடினேவ்      b. தினா டர்னர்      c. குமார் ஸ்ரீவஸ்தவா  
d. சசி தரூர்      e. விடைதெரியவில்லை

### Sports

5. How many games were enlisted and organized Khelo India 2023?  
a. 25      b. 26      c. **27**      d. 28      e. Answer not known  
கேலோ இந்தியா 2023-யில் எத்தனை விளையாட்டுகள் இருந்தன ?  
a. 25      b. 26      c. **27**      d. 28      e. விடைதெரியவில்லை

### Latest inventions in Science and Technology

6. Which one of the following statements is true about Gaganyaan Project?  
a. It is the space probe orbiting mars since 2014  
**b. It is designed to carry humans to space**  
c. It is expected to orbit the earth at 36000 km altitude  
d. It is aimed at solar research  
e. Answer not known  
ககன்யான் திட்டம் பற்றிய கீழ்க்காணும் கூற்றுக்களுள் எது சரியானது?  
a. அது செவ்வாய் கிரகத்தை 2014 முதல் சுற்றிவரும் விண்ணாய்வி ஆகும்  
**b. இது மனிதர்களை விண்வெளிக்கு எடுத்துக் செல்ல வடிவமைக்கப்பட்டது**  
c. இது பூமியை 36000 கி.மீ உயரத்தில் சுற்றும் என எதிர்பார்க்கப்படுகிறது  
d. இது சூரிய ஆய்வை இலக்காகக் கொண்டது



e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

7. Potsherds inscribed with \_\_\_\_\_ script have been unearthed in Keeladi.

- a. Tamil - Aayudha script      b. Tamil - Mei script  
c. Tamil - Uyirmei script  
**d. Tamil - Brahmi script**      e. Answer not known

கீழடியில் \_\_\_\_\_ எழுத்துப் பொறிப்புகள் கொண்ட பானை ஓடுக் கண்டெடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

- a. தமிழ் - ஆயுத எழுத்து      b. தமிழ் - மெய் எழுத்து  
c. தமிழ் - உயிர்மெய் எழுத்து  
**d. தமிழ் - பிராமி எழுத்து**      e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

## COMBINED TECHNICAL SERVICES EXAMINATION (INTERVIEW POSTS) - II 18.11.2024

### Latest inventions in Science and Technology

1. Cotton ace app is

- a. An Artificial Intelligence based pest management system**  
b. An Artificial Intelligence based Covid detection application software  
c. An Artificial Intelligence based attendance monitoring system  
d. An Artificial Intelligence based Health management information system.  
e. Answer not known

காட்டன் ஏஸ் செயலி என்பது

- a. செயற்கை நுண்ணறிவு அடிப்படையில் பூச்சி மேலாண்மை அமைப்பு  
b. செயற்கை நுண்ணறிவு அடிப்படையில் கொரோனாவை கண்டுபிடிக்க பயன்படுத்தும் பயன்பாட்டு மென்பொ  
c. விடை தெரியவில்லை

### Economics

2. An institute which recently launched North India's first human DNA Bank under 'Make in India' Initiative

- a. IIT, Kanpur      b. IIT, Chennai  
c. Delhi University, New Delhi      **d. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi**  
e. Answer not known

‘மேக் இன் இந்தியா’ முயற்சியின் கீழ் வடஇந்தியாவின் முதல் மனித டி.என்.ஏ வங்கியினை சமீபத்தில் அறிமுகப்படுத்திய கல்வி நிறுவனம்.

- a. ஐ.ஐ.டி. கான்பூர்
- b. ஐ.ஐ.டி, சென்னை
- c. டெல்லி பல்கலைக்கழகம், புதுடெல்லி
- d. பனாரஸ் இந்து பல்கலைக்கழகம், வாரணாசி
- e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

