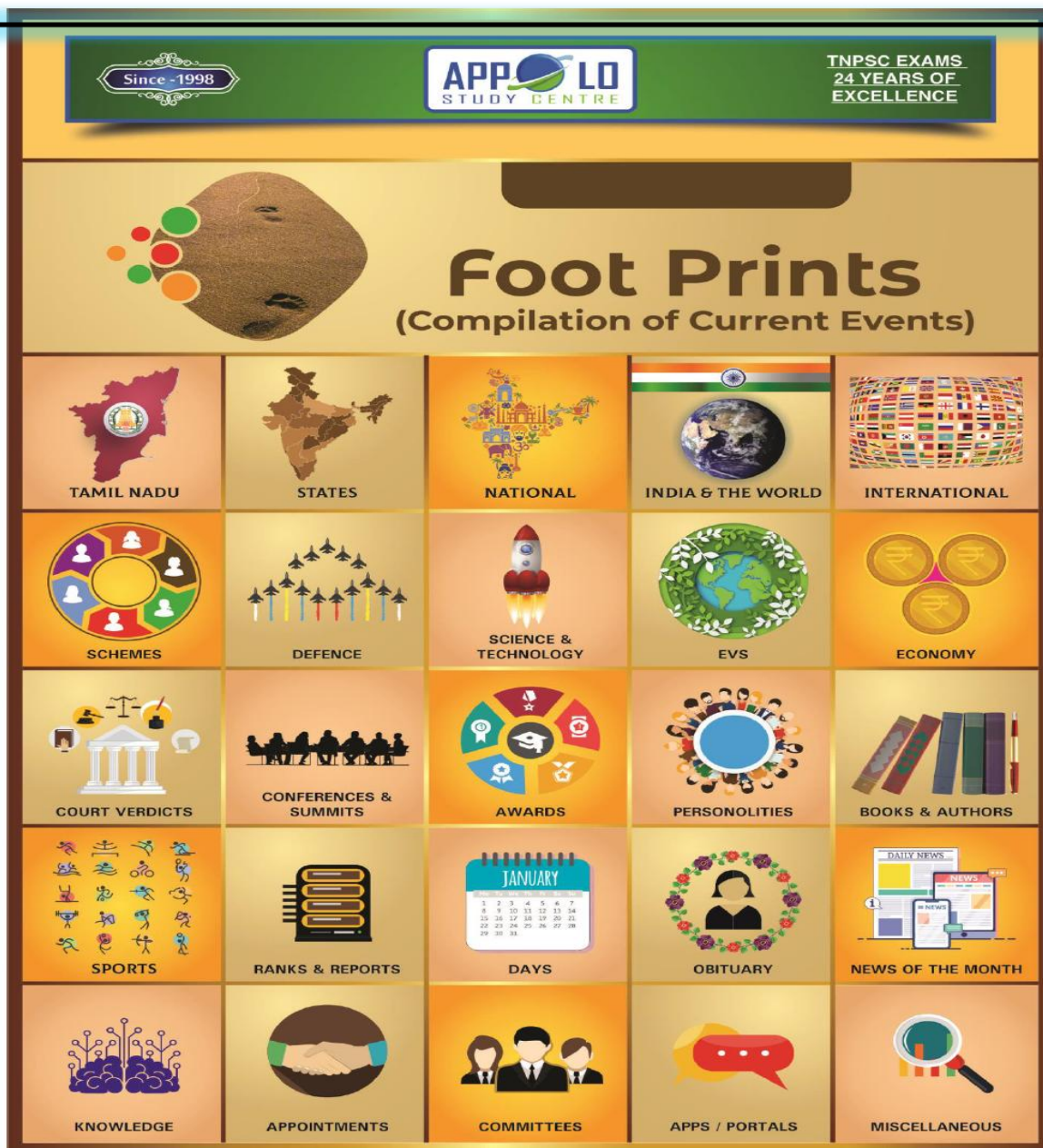


## MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 01-31, 2025



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# TAMIL NADU

## ➤ **Four-Lane Highway Project in Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet's approval of the ₹1,853 crore project to upgrade the Paramakudi–Ramanathapuram road in Tamil Nadu marks a significant step toward infrastructure modernization.



- ✓ Developed under the Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM), the project will convert 46.7 km of NH-87 into a four-lane corridor.
- ✓ This initiative is expected to decongest traffic, boost tourism, enhance road safety, and generate over 18 lakh employment person-days.

## ➤ **Tamil Knowledge Campus (TKC)**

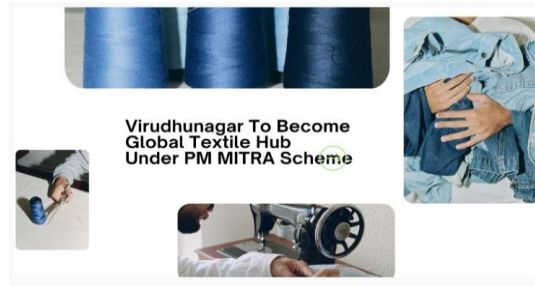
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday (July 3, 2025) virtually unveiled the foundation for the construction of the Tamil Knowledge Campus (TKC) being set up by Roja Muthiah Research Library (RMRL) at Taramani in Chennai at a cost of ₹40 crore.



- ✓ The collection of nearly 50,000 books, along with an equal number of items such as periodicals, ephemera, and pamphlets, belonging to the late artist Roja Muthiah of Kottaiyur near Karaikudi in Sivaganga district, formed the foundation of the library named in his honour.

## ➤ **Virudhunagar to Become Global Textile Hub Under PM MITRA Scheme**

- ✓ The PM MITRA Textile Park in Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu, is a landmark initiative under India's textile growth strategy.



- ✓ With a ₹1,900 crore investment from the Central Government, this 1,052-acre facility will offer advanced infrastructure, including ZLD effluent treatment, worker dormitories, and industrial workspaces.
- ✓ Expected to attract ₹10,000 crore in private investments and generate over one lakh jobs by 2026, the park will significantly enhance export-oriented and sustainable textile manufacturing in the region.
- **T.N. CM Stalin releases 'Coimbatore Master Plan 2041'**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday (July 4, 2025) released the 'Coimbatore Master Plan 2041' — a Geographic Information System-based plan that has been prepared for the Coimbatore local planning area, spread over 1,531 sq. km — at the Secretariat in Chennai.



- ✓ The Coimbatore local planning area includes a municipal corporation, four municipalities, 21 town panchayats, and 66 revenue villages.
- ✓ The document has been prepared by the Directorate of Town and Country Planning.
- **'Ungaludan Stalin' (Stalin with you) Initiative**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin is set to launch the first camp of the 'Ungaludan Stalin' (Stalin with you) initiative, aimed at directly addressing public grievances and delivering government services through special camps at people's doorsteps, on July 15 at Chidambaram Municipality in Cuddalore district.





- ✓ Under this initiative, a total of 10,000 special camps will be organised across both rural and urban areas in all districts from July 15 to November.
- **TNPCB ropes in influencers to promote Manjappai campaign**
- ✓ In an effort to expand the reach of the Meendum Manjappai campaign to a broader and younger audience, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has partnered with social media content creators to promote eco-friendly alternatives to plastic.



- ✓ Launched in 2021, the campaign promotes the use of cloth bags and other eco-alternatives to reduce the production and consumption of single-use plastic bags in the State.
- **Samooga Needhi Viduthigal or Social Justice Hostels**
- ✓ All hostels being run by various departments of the Tamil Nadu government for the benefit of school and college students from poor and marginalised sections of society would henceforth be called 'Samooga Needhi Viduthigal' or 'Social Justice Hostels', Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced on Monday (July 7, 2025).



- ✓ A total of 2,739 hostels are operated by various departments of the State government, benefitting 1.79 lakh students.
- ✓ The decision to rename State-run hostels followed recommendations made by a committee led by retired Madras High Court judge K. Chandru.
- **Tamil Nadu Launches Predictive Model for TB Mortality**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has become the first state of India to use a predictive model for estimating the risk of death among adults diagnosed with Tuberculosis (TB).



- ✓ This model is integrated with the state's existing TB SeWA application.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's TB SeWA (Severe TB Web Application) has been operational since 2022 under the Tamil Nadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam (TN-KET).
- ✓ The TN-KET initiative has reduced losses in the TB care cascade and helped many districts lower TB death rates.
- **GI Tag sought for Sivakasi-Kovilpatti Matchboxes**
- ✓ The Kovilpatti National Small Match Manufacturers Association has filed an application seeking Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Sivakasi-Kovilpatti matchboxes.



- ✓ According to the filing, the term Sivakasi Matchbox has been used for more than 100 years and the processing, preparation, and manufacturing happens in Sivakasi taluk, which also spreads to Sattur and Virudhunagar taluks (Virudhunagar district), Kovilpatti and Ettayapuram taluks (Thoothukudi district), and Sankarankovil taluk (Tenkasi district).
- **Tamil Nadu's Gingee Fort inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage Site**
- ✓ The Gingee Fort in Villupuram district, known as the 'Troy of the East', along with 11 other forts that make up the Maratha Military Landscapes, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site on Friday, July 11, 2025, a move that brings global recognition and the prospect of increased international tourism.



- ✓ The decision was taken during the on-going 47th session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) being held in Paris.
- ✓ The Gingee Fort in Villupuram was the lone aspirant from Tamil Nadu for the World Heritage Site tag.
- **Keeladi Excavation - Third Phase Report**
- ✓ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has given permission to archaeologist P.S. Sriraman, who led the third phase of excavations at Keeladi in Sivaganga district, to prepare a detailed report on the work carried out under his supervision.



- ✓ According to official sources in the ASI, the agency has permitted Mr. Sriraman, who retired in 2019, to prepare reports on the third phase of excavations at Keeladi and one season of excavations at Kodumanal in Erode district, which he led.
- **U-shaped Seating to be Adopted at Middle Schools on Pilot Basis**
- ✓ Taking a cue from a new initiative in Kerala, inspired by the film Sthanarthi Sree kuttan, the Tamil Nadu government on Saturday directed all middle schools in the State to switch from traditional row-based seating to a U-shaped arrangement.

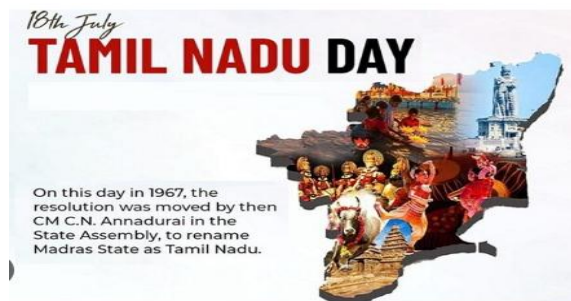


- ✓ Sources in the School Education Department, however, said the new seating arrangement would be implemented after discussions regarding a few tweaks to the plan.
- ✓ The department has already been implementing a circular seating alignment in primary classrooms.
- **Trichy Ranks 49th among 95 'Big Cities' in Swachh Survekshan Survey**
- ✓ Trichy Corporation has achieved the 49th rank in the national-level cleanliness survey, Swachh Survekshan 2024-25, out of 95 cities with a population between 3 lakh and 10 lakh.

SWACHH SURVEKSHAN 2024-25			
TN Cities	Marks	National rank	Category
Coimbatore	8,347	28	10 lakh+
Trichy	8,239	49	3-10 lakh
Chennai	6,822	38	10 lakh+
Madurai	4,823	40	10 lakh+



- ✓ According to the data released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, of the 12,500 marks, Trichy secured 8,239 marks in the “big cities” category (cities with population between 3 to 10 lakh), achieving 49th position, out of 95 cities across the country.
- ✓ Trichy has topped the State in this category and placed ninth in the overall State rankings.
- **On T.N. Day, Stalin and Udhayanidhi Recall Achievements of Annadurai**
- ✓ On the occasion of Tamil Nadu Day, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin and Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin on Friday extolled the rich heritage and culture of the State, and recalled the achievements of former Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai.



- ✓ It was on July 18, 1967 that the State got its real name — “Tamil Nadu”, Mr. Stalin said, and recalled the late leader uttering the name [Tamil Nadu] thrice in the Assembly, amid the thumping of desks.
- **Four Copper Plate Inscriptions - Deeds of King Rajendra Chola**
- ✓ Rajendra Chola I, the illustrious son of Raja Raja Chola I, expanded the frontiers of the Chola empire beyond the Indian subcontinent.



- ✓ Not only military conquests across South and Southeast Asia but also generous land grants and temple patronage marked his reign (1012-1044 CE).
- ✓ Among the most valuable records from Rajendra Chola’s time are four sets of copper plate inscriptions discovered at different locations across Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ These inscriptions shed light on Chola lineage, temple endowments, and military expeditions.

➤ **Unearthing lost timelines: Marungur Chapter**

- ✓ A short 2-km detour from the Chennai-Kumbakonam Highway near Kollukkaran village leads to this site, where the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) had recently completed excavation, bringing to light evidence of a long-forgotten past, and further proof of the rich heritage of Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ The region was part of the ancient *Naduvil Mandalam* or *Naduvil Nadu* (Central Territorial Division), flanked by the Thenpennai to the north and the Vada Vellar river to the south.
- ✓ Marungur was among eight locations where the TNSDA took up excavations in 2024-25.

➤ **e-Sakshaya**

- ✓ A new mobile phone application, called e-Sakshaya, will be rolled out soon for police personnel to collect audio-visual evidence, upload photographs of crime scenes or witnesses, and generate immutable SID packets (secure, geo-tagged, time-stamped evidence with hash verification).
- ✓ This will strengthen the chain of custody and admissibility of evidence, according to a senior police officer.
- ✓ The application was developed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to capture audio and video evidence and generate hash reports with time-stamp.

➤ **National Conference on Inscriptions, Epigraphy**



- ✓ A national conference on epigraphy and inscriptions is soon to be conducted in Tamil Nadu, said Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu.
- ✓ Releasing a book '*Thisaiyayiram*,' on epigraphy scholar S. Rajagopal during an event conducted by Archaeological Society in Madurai on Sunday (July 20,

2025), Mr. Thennarasu said that following several discussions in Legislative Assembly the fund allocated for excavation was raised from ₹5 crore to ₹7 crore.

➤ **Hornbill Conservation Centre at Anamalai Tiger Reserve**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has announced the establishment of India's first Centre of Excellence for Hornbill Conservation at the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) in Coimbatore district.



- ✓ An official release said hornbills, often known as “farmers of the forest”, play a crucial ecological role as seed dispersers, helping regenerate native forests.
  - ✓ The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests has sanctioned ₹1 crore under the Endangered Species Conservation Corpus Fund to establish the Centre.
- **T.N. Language Atlas: 96 languages spoken in State as per 2011 Census**
- ✓ Amidst Tamil remaining a strong marker of regional identity, the linguistic profile of Tamil Nadu reveals a vibrant variety of languages, including Telugu, Kannada, Urdu, Malayalam, and English, reflecting the State's rich linguistic diversity.



- ✓ According to the Language Atlas, the State had a total population of 7,21,47,030.
- ✓ Of this, 7,20,98,315 people (99.93%) reported speaking one of the 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India, while only 48,715 people (0.07%) spoke other languages.
- ✓ A total of 96 languages were identified within the administrative boundaries of Tamil Nadu during the 2011 Census.

➤ **GI Tag sought for Kancheepuram Idli**



- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Food Processing and Agri Export Promotion Corporation (TNAPEX) has filed an application seeking a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the famous *Koil* (temple) idli or Kancheepuram idli, which is one of the offerings at the Sri Varadharaja Perumal temple in the town mostly known for its silk sarees.
- ✓ The Madurai Agribusiness Incubation Forum, an initiative of NABARD and TNAU, was the facilitator for this application.

➤ **Coin Commemorating Millenary of Rajendra Chola's Naval Expedition**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Gangaikonda Cholapuram, on Sunday (July 27, 2025), released a thousand-rupee coin to mark the “1,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the naval expedition of King Rajendra Chola-I”.



- ✓ The request for the release of the coin was made by R. Komagan, chairman of the Gangaikondacholapuram Development Council Trust.
- ✓ He even designed a coin and sent it to the Centre.
- ✓ His proposal was accepted, and the coin was released.
- ✓ The coin is engraved with an image of the emperor on horseback with a ship as the backdrop.

➤ **Set for a Record: Paddy Procurement in Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu is all set to create a record in paddy procurement, as it is going to touch the 45-lakh-tonne mark soon.





- ✓ As on date, the record in procurement was 44.95 lakh tonnes during 2020-21. With the State procuring an average of about 15,000 tonnes from farmers on a daily basis, the current high will be crossed in a few days.
- ✓ With about a month to go for the completion of the current procurement year, the overall figure may be eventually 47 lakh tonnes.
- **Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation inks MoU with Google Play**
- ✓ A memorandum of understanding has been signed between the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and Google Play and Unity to train computer science students under the 'Naan Mudhalvan' programme.



- ✓ The MoU for 'Google Play and Unity Game Developer Training Programme' was signed in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin.
- ✓ Under the MoU, final-year students would be trained as game developers, artists, and programmers.
- **Nalam Kakkum Stalin**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday appealed to general public and elected representatives to take part in the camps to be organised under the upcoming 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' programme.



- ✓ A total of 1,256 camps are to be organised in all 38 districts of Tamil Nadu under the programme that is set to be launched in Chennai on August 2.
- ✓ The camps would offer a range of medical services to the people.



## STATE

### ➤ **India's First Aqua Tech Park In Assam**

- ✓ Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated India's first Aqua Tech Park in Sonapur, near Guwahati, Assam.



- ✓ The park will help fish farmers learn about new technologies like aquaponics, biofloc, and ornamental fish breeding.
- ✓ This initiative aims to boost fish production and increase farmers' income in the state.
- ✓ It showcases modern ways to raise fish using less water, faster methods, and new systems.

# NATIONAL

## ➤ India's Automotive Mission Plan 2047

- ✓ Government of India has launched the Automotive Mission Plan 2047 (AMP 2047) to transform India into a global automotive leader by 2047.



- ✓ This strategic roadmap aligns with the broader 'Viksit Bharat @2047' vision.
- ✓ The plan emphasises innovation, sustainability, and increased global trade share.
- ✓ Multiple ministries, industry bodies, academia, and experts are collaborating to set clear milestones for 2030, 2037, and 2047.
- ✓ The previous plan aimed to place India among the top three global automotive hubs by value addition, exports, and job creation.

## ➤ New Bills of Lading Law 2025

- ✓ The Indian Parliament recently passed The Bills of Lading Bill, 2025.



- ✓ This law replaces the old Indian Bill of Lading Act of 1856.
- ✓ It modernises and simplifies rules around shipping documents.
- ✓ The bill was approved in the Rajya Sabha by voice vote after the Opposition walked out.
- ✓ The legislation aims to make shipping processes more efficient and legally clear.
- ✓ The bill updates the legal framework for bills of lading.



### ➤ **National Sports Governance Bill, 2025**

- ✓ The Central Government introduced the National Sports Governance Bill, 2025 in the Lok Sabha to overhaul India's sports administration framework.



- ✓ It aims to replace the 2011 Sports Code with a legally enforceable, athlete-centric governance system, bringing bodies like BCCI under its ambit.
- ✓ The National Sports Governance Bill, 2025 is a landmark legislation aiming to ensure transparency, legal safeguards for athletes, standardized elections, grievance redressal, and institutional oversight.

### ➤ **National Cooperation Policy 2025**

- ✓ National Cooperation Policy 2025 was launched by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah in New Delhi.



- ✓ One of its major goals is to create five model cooperative villages in every tehsil.
- ✓ The policy puts emphasis on empowering rural areas, farmers, women, Dalits, and tribal communities.
- ✓ It promotes the formation of cooperatives in tourism, ride-hailing services, insurance, and green energy.
- ✓ The target is to triple the cooperative sector's contribution to India's GDP by 2034.

### ➤ **India Beats G7 Nations in Equality**

- ✓ India has achieved a Gini Index of 25.5, ranking as the 4th most equal country in the world.



- ✓ This progress, supported by welfare schemes like Jan Dhan Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, PMGKAY, and DBT, has lifted 171 million people out of poverty since 2011.
- ✓ However, challenges such as wealth disparity, outdated poverty lines, and unequal access to opportunities remain.
- ✓ India's achievement showcases a major step toward inclusive growth.



# SCHEMES

## ➤ **Vetri Nichayam' Programme**

- ✓ At a function organised to mark the inauguration of 'Vetri Nichayam' programme and the completion of three years of 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme, Mr. Stalin said he was elated to listen to the candidates recall that they had benefitted from the programme.



- ✓ Under the 'Vetri Nichayam' programme, those in the 18-35 age group who had dropped out of education would be identified and offered crash courses through training institutions and private companies.
- ✓ The State government would bear the fee expenses for their training, the CM said.

## ➤ **Union Cabinet approves Employment Linked Incentive Scheme**

- ✓ The Union Government Cabinet has approved the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme to provide benefits to the newly registering employees with less than 1 lakh wages and the employers, provided they register and retain the employees for at least 6 months.



- ✓ The scheme aims to create 3.5 crore jobs with a budget of ₹99.45 crore over a period of two years from August 2025 to July 2027.
- ✓ While the new employees can earn benefit up to ₹15,000 in two instalments, spread over one year, the employers would earn ₹3,000 per month for two years.

## ➤ **Kalaingar Kanavu Illam scheme to soon touch 1 lakh**

- ✓ The Kalaingar Kanavu Illam, a flagship scheme of the DMK government in rural housing for the poor, is likely to touch a key milestone — the completion of one lakh houses — in a few weeks. As of now, 81,811 houses have been completed.



- ✓ In the case of 18,071 houses, at least the roof has been laid. As for the remaining 118 houses, action has been initiated to bring the construction up to the stage of roofing by July 20.
- ✓ Launched in 2024-25, the scheme envisages the construction of one lakh houses annually. A sum of over ₹3,039 crore has been spent in 2024-25.

#### ➤ **TALASH**

- ✓ The TALASH initiative was launched by the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) in collaboration with UNICEF India to support Eklavya Model Residential School students.



- ✓ TALASH stands for Tribal Aptitude, Life Skills, and Self-Esteem Hub and is designed to promote the overall development of tribal youth.
- ✓ The initiative is expected to benefit over 1.38 lakh students across 28 states and 8 union territories enrolled in EMRSs.

#### ➤ **Chief Minister Launches 'Ungaludan Stalin' Initiative across Tamil Nadu**





- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, on Tuesday (July 15, 2025), after launching the State-wide Ungaludan Stalin (Stalin with you) initiative and inaugurating the memorial hall and statue of former Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) president L. Elayaperumal, a prominent leader who belonged to the Scheduled Caste, in Chidambaram, Mr. Stalin said the government has now removed the word 'colony' (indicating a habitation of SCs) from official records as it had come to symbolise oppression and carried the connotation of untouchability.
- **Nimirnthu Nil Initiative**
  - ✓ Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) T.M. Anbarasan on Wednesday launched Nimirnthu Nil, an initiative for students in higher education institutions to nurture innovation and entrepreneurship among the youth.
  - ✓ The initiative aims at helping students from 2,000 higher education institutions annually, and will be implemented with an outlay of ₹19.57 crore over five years.
  - ✓ It targets training 30.5 lakh students in entrepreneurship and innovation.
- **PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana**
  - ✓ The Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, approved on July 16, 2025, is a six-year plan with a yearly budget of ₹24,000 crore aimed at enhancing agriculture in 100 low-performing districts.



- ✓ It promotes crop diversification, irrigation, credit access, and storage improvement.

- ✓ The scheme converges 36 schemes from 11 ministries, with guidance from NITI Aayog, and is expected to benefit 1.7 crore farmers nationwide.
- **PM Dhan- Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY)**
- ✓ Union Cabinet approved the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) in 2025.



- ✓ This new agricultural scheme aims to develop 100 districts through the convergence of 36 schemes across 11 ministries.
- ✓ It has an annual budget of Rs 24,000 crore and will run for six years starting from the financial year 2025-26.
- ✓ The scheme focuses on improving agricultural productivity, sustainability, and credit availability in selected districts.
- **Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana**
- ✓ National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has launched a new scheme titled 'Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana' to provide comprehensive legal aid to defence personnel and their families.



- ✓ Theme is "Reaffirming the Constitutional Vision of Justice for Defence Personnel and Tribals."
- ✓ The initiative highlights NALSA's commitment to ensuring that those who guard the nation's borders also receive full protection of their legal and constitutional rights.
- **Tiger Conservation with 58 Tiger Reserves by 2025**
- ✓ India's total number of tiger reserves has increased from 46 in 2014 to 58 in 2025, as announced by Union Minister Bhupender Yadav on Global Tiger Day celebrations in New Delhi.



- ✓ Yadav also highlighted India's leadership in global tiger conservation through the International Tiger Coalition (IBCA).
- ✓ This initiative has been launched by India to conserve all seven tiger species across the world.
- ✓ 24 countries have already joined the alliance.



## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

### ➤ **ASEAN–India Cruise Dialogue**

- ✓ India hosted the first ASEAN–India Cruise Dialogue in Chennai, welcoming over 30 delegates from ASEAN nations and Timor Leste to strengthen maritime cooperation, promote sustainable cruise tourism, and integrate efforts under Sagarmala, Act East Policy, and Viksit Bharat 2047.



- ✓ With a target to increase cruise passenger traffic and develop cultural cruise circuits, this initiative underscores India's ambition to become a regional cruise tourism hub and deepen its Indo-Pacific partnerships through the blue economy.

### ➤ **Controllers' Conference 2025**

- ✓ On July 7, the Controllers' Conference 2025 inaugurated by Defense Minister Rajnath Singh at DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi.



- ✓ The three-day event, hosted by the Defence Accounts Department (DAD), will be held from July 7 to 9.
- ✓ The conference aims to bring together India's defense and financial leadership to shape the future of defense nancial governance.
- ✓ The theme for this year is "Transforming Financial Advice, Payment, Audit, and Accounting through Defense Finance and Economics."

### ➤ **BRICS Summit**

- ✓ Addressing the 17th Brics Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Prime Minister Narendra Modi strongly advocated for comprehensive reforms in global governance



structures, emphasising the need to better represent the Global South in 21st-century decision-making.



- ✓ The Prime Minister highlighted India's initiatives in agri-biotech, digital education access, and called for a BRICS Science and Research Repository.
- ✓ On AI, he stressed responsible governance and invited the BRICS partners to the **"AI Impact Summit" that India will be hosting next year.**
- **11th Maize Summit: Big Plans to Boost Maize Farming in India**
- ✓ At the 11th India Maize Summit held on July 7, 2025, in New Delhi, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched a bold plan for a Maize Revolution.



- ✓ He stressed the use of research, technology, and field programs like Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan to help farmers.
- ✓ With efforts from the government, industry, and scientists, India aims to become a global leader in maize.
- **Nasha Mukh Yuva For Viksit Bharat**
- ✓ Central government has launched a nationwide youth-led national movement, 'Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat.



- ✓ The initiative was launched at the recently concluded Youth Spiritual Summit in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The Youth Spiritual Summit adopted a 'Kashi Declaration' that outlined a series of initiatives to be undertaken to lay the foundation for a national youth-led anti-drug campaign in the country.
- ✓ The theme of the Youth Spiritual Summit was- Drug-Free Youth for a Viksit Bharat.

APPLO  
STUDY CENTRE

# DEFENCE

## ➤ At Sea Observer Mission

- ✓ The QUAD nations—India, Japan, the US, and Australia—have launched their first-ever 'At Sea Observer Mission', marking a strategic leap in maritime cooperation under the Wilmington Declaration.



- ✓ The mission, carried out aboard the USCGC Stratton, features cross-deck participation of officers, including women, from each country.
- ✓ It aims to enhance interoperability, promote a rules-based Indo-Pacific, and align with India's SAGAR vision and Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

## ➤ Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR)

- ✓ India has successfully completed the **user trials** of the **Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR)**, a fully **indigenous weapon system** developed to detect and destroy enemy submarines.



- ✓ This achievement marks a **significant boost to the Indian Navy's underwater warfare strength**.
- ✓ This system was developed through close collaboration between the **DRDO**, the **Indian Navy**, and the **Indian defence industry**.

## ➤ Exercise Jaa Mata

- ✓ The Japanese Coast Guard Ship JCGS Itsukushima reached Chennai Port on July 7, 2025, as part of the Global Ocean Voyage Training.



- ✓ The six-day visit includes joint training, official meetings, and a sea exercise named 'Jaa Mata'.
- ✓ This visit strengthens the India-Japan maritime partnership and supports regional goals like SAGAR and the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

### ➤ **Exercise Talisman Sabre**

- ✓ India has taken part for the first time in Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025, held in Australia from July 13. This major military exercise includes over 35,000 troops from 19 nations, such as the US, UK, Japan, and France.



- ✓ Activities include live firing, amphibious landings, and air combat drills across various Australian regions and in Papua New Guinea.
- ✓ India's involvement is a key step in strengthening defence ties with Australia and boosting cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

### ➤ **Exercise PASSEX**

- ✓ Indian Navy and the Greek Navy held a PASSEX (Passing Exercise) near Mumbai in the Arabian Sea, led by INS Tarkash and HS Psara.



- ✓ This exercise is part of growing India-Greece defence ties, especially after both countries became strategic partners in 2023.
- ✓ INS Tarkash, inducted in 2012, is a Talwar-class stealth warship equipped with BrahMos missiles and is built to handle a wide range of missions.
- ✓ The PASSEX boosted teamwork and understanding between the two navies.

#### ➤ **Exercise SIMBEX 2025**

- ✓ India's participation in SIMBEX 2025 marks a significant step in advancing India-Singapore naval cooperation.



- ✓ It reflects India's strategic maritime goals under Act East and SAGAR, involving frontline naval platforms like INS Delhi and Satpura.
- ✓ SIMBEX boosts bilateral interoperability, ensures preparedness for maritime challenges, and paves the way for India's leadership in future events like MILAN and the International Fleet Review, reinforcing a rules-based maritime order and regional stability.
- ✓ INS Shakti, part of Eastern Fleet that is visiting Singapore from 16-19 July.

#### ➤ **Exercise Bold Kurukshetra 2025**

- ✓ India and Singapore launched the joint military exercise 'Bold Kurukshetra 2025' in Jodhpur, focusing on urban warfare, counter-terrorism, and interoperability.



- ✓ The drill uses modern weaponry, real-time simulations, and advanced communication systems, reinforcing defence cooperation under India's Act East Policy.
- ✓ This exercise showcases growing regional strategic synergy and highlights the importance of coordinated action in complex battlefield scenarios.



➤ **Exercise Drone Prahar**

- ✓ The Indian Army recently conducted Exercise Drone Prahar in Arunachal Pradesh's East Siang district.



- ✓ This high-tech military drill validated the use of drone technology in tactical battlefield scenarios.
- ✓ The exercise demonstrated the effective application of drones for intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and precision targeting under realistic operational conditions.

# ECONOMY

## ➤ **Per Capita Net State Domestic Product: TN Stands Second in the Country**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu stood second in the country in terms of the per capita net state domestic product published by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

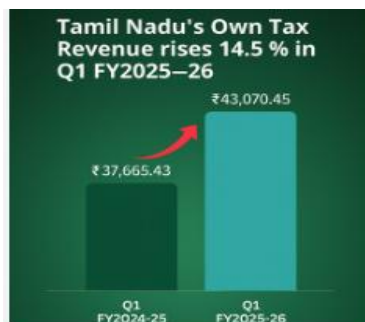


- ✓ An official release by the Tamil Nadu government said a wide range of welfare programmes being implemented since 2021 were behind the State achieving the feat.
  - ✓ As per the provisional estimates of GDP released by National Statistical Office, the per capita net national income (NNI) at constant prices for 2024-25 stood at ₹1,14,710. Whiles, the figures for Tamil Nadu during this period was ₹1,96,309.
- ## ➤ **India will Emerge as the World's Third Largest Economy by 2028**
- ✓ According to a Morgan Stanley report released on July 23, India is projected to become the third-largest economy in the world by 2028.



- ✓ The country's GDP is expected to more than double and reach \$10.6 trillion by 2035, driven by strong state-level performances.
  - ✓ The report estimates that three to five Indian states – including Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka – could each reach the \$1 trillion mark, putting them among the top 20 global economies by 2035.
- ## ➤ **Tamil Nadu's Own Tax revenue increases 14.5% in Q1, FY2025-2026**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu's own tax revenue increased about 14.5% to ₹43,070.45 crore in the first quarter of 2025-2026 from ₹37,605.43 crore in the same period last year, according to provisional figures from the Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG).



- ✓ The State's Own Tax Revenue (SOTR) constitutes 75.3% of Tamil Nadu's total revenue receipts.
- ✓ Among the SOTR components, the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) collection increased nearly 21% to ₹15,761.04 crore in the first quarter of 2025-2026 from ₹13,019.26 crore in the same period last year.

### ➤ **India's Gig Economy Growth**

- ✓ India's gig economy has expanded rapidly in recent years. By FY 2024–25, gig workers numbered about 12 million, up from 7.7 million in 2020–21.



- ✓ This sector now comprises over 2% of the total workforce.
- ✓ Growth is driven by digital connectivity, urbanisation, and a shift towards flexible work.
- ✓ By 2029–30, India's gig workforce may reach 23.5 million, about 6.7% of the non-agricultural workforce.
- ✓ It could contribute 1.25% to GDP and generate up to 90 million jobs long term.

### ➤ **India's Growth Forecast for 2025 and 2026 Raised to 6.4% by the IMF**

- ✓ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised India's GDP growth forecast for 2025 and 2026 to 6.4%, up from earlier estimates of 6.2% and 6.3%.

**IMF Raises India's  
Growth Forecast  
to 6.4% for 2025  
and 2026, Retains  
Status as Fastest  
Growing Major  
Economy**



- ✓ India continues to be recognized as the fastest-growing major economy in the world.
- ✓ The revision reflects a more favorable global environment than expected in IMF's April 2025 projections. According to financial year data, India's GDP growth is expected to reach 6.7% in 2025 and 6.4% in 2026.

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# APPOINTMENT

- **T.N. Govt. Designates four IAS Officers as its Spokespersons**
- ✓ For the first time, the Tamil Nadu government has designated four senior IAS officers as its spokespersons.



- ✓ The officers are J. Radhakrishnan, Gagandeep Singh Bedi, Dheeraj Kumar, and P. Amudha.
  - ✓ The initiative is seen as part of the government's efforts to ensure that its functions, plans, welfare programmes, and information reach members of the public efficiently through the media.
- **Madras High Court Chief Justice**
  - ✓ Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava is set to be sworn-in as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court during a ceremony in the Raj Bhavan in Chennai on Monday (July 21, 2021).



- ✓ Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi is scheduled to administer the oath of office.
- ✓ Justice Shrivastava served as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court and was recently appointed to helm the Madras High Court.



# AWARDS

## ➤ **Thagaisal Thamizhar Award**

- ✓ Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) leader K.M. Khader Mohideen has been selected to receive the Thagaisal Thamizhar Award of the Tamil Nadu government.



- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin will present the award during the Independence Day celebrations in Chennai.
- ✓ In 2021, the State government instituted the *Thagaisal Thamizhar* (distinguished Tamil) Award to honour eminent personalities who have contributed a great deal to the welfare of Tamil Nadu and the development of the Tamil community.

## ➤ **Tamil Wikki Suran Award**

- ✓ V. Vedachalam, well-known epigraphist and archaeologist, has been honoured with many awards during his long and eventful career, but bagging the Tamil Wikki Suran Award as he steps into his 51<sup>st</sup> year in the field, has filled him with immense pleasure.



- ✓ "It is a recognition of my services, and I am grateful for this honour," he said.
- ✓ At 75 years of age, his ardour to dig into the past has not diminished.

## ➤ **PM Modi Awarded Brazil's Highest Civilian Honor**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross from Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.



- ✓ The Award recognizes Modi's efforts in strengthening India-Brazil diplomatic, economic, and cultural ties through platforms like BRICS and G20.
- ✓ The honour reflects India's growing influence on global stage and international recognition of Modi's leadership.

➤ **K. Chidambaram Memorial Prize**

- ✓ Dilip Kumar Jha, a scientist at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), received the prestigious K. Chidambaram Memorial Prize for 2024 on Saturday.



- ✓ The award is presented annually by the Fisheries Technocrats Forum, Chennai, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the fields of fisheries, aquaculture, marine science, and allied sectors.
- ✓ Mr. Jha was recognized for his contributions in the areas of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and Hydrological Studies.

➤ **Prestigious Poligras Magic Skill Award**

- ✓ Deepika Sehrawat, 21, became the first Indian to win the Poligras Magic Skill Award for her solo field goal against the Netherlands in the 2024–25 FIH Hockey Pro League.



- ✓ Her rise began in Hisar with national-level success and culminated in global recognition.
  - ✓ The goal was a turning point, leading India to a draw and shootout win. Her win is a milestone for Indian hockey, reflecting growing global respect for the sport in India.
- **GP Birla Memorial Award**
- ✓ Dr. V. Narayanan, ISRO Chairman, was awarded the GP Birla Memorial Award 2025 for his pivotal role in advancing India's space programme, especially in cryogenic propulsion and strategic missions.



- ✓ The award, previously called the Lifetime Achievement Award, has been conferred on Nobel Laureates and iconic scientists like Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and Dr. Venkataraman Ramakrishnan, showcasing its prestige and global relevance.

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

## ➤ C-FLOOD

- ✓ C-FLOOD is a web-based platform that provides flood forecasts up to two days in advance.



- ✓ It offers detailed flood maps and water level predictions at the village level.
- ✓ The system was jointly developed by C-DAC Pune and the Central Water Commission under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ✓ C-FLOOD combines flood modeling data from national and regional agencies into one decision-support platform.
- ✓ Currently, it covers the Mahanadi, Godavari, and Tapi river basins.

## ➤ Gaganyaan Propulsion System

- ✓ On July 3, 2025, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully carried out two hot tests of the Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS) at its Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ These tests mark a vital progression toward the realization of India's first crewed space mission, the Gaganyaan Programme.
- ✓ The Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS) is one of the core components of the Gaganyaan Orbital Module.
- ✓ It plays a crucial role in orbital maneuvers, trajectory corrections, and abort scenarios where crew safety is paramount.

## ➤ India Launches World's First Traditional Knowledge Digital Library

- ✓ India became the first country to launch the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL), earning praise from the World Health Organization (WHO).



- ✓ The platform uses AI to protect and expand India's traditional medicine systems like Ayurveda and Unani.
  - ✓ The WHO's report highlighted India's success in merging ancient knowledge with modern technology, mentioning innovations like Ayurgenomics, AI diagnostics, and digital health platforms.
- **NCDEX and IMD Launch India's First Weather Derivatives**
- ✓ NCDEX and IMD signed an MoU to launch India's first weather derivatives.



- ✓ The tool will help protect farmers, transporters, and weather-sensitive sectors from climate-related risks.
  - ✓ Rainfall-based futures contracts will be created using IMD's weather data.
  - ✓ The goal is to boost climate resilience and financial security in rural India.
  - ✓ This is the first time a weather-indexed financial product is being introduced in India.
- **ISRO Plans Space Station by 2035 and Moon Mission by 2040**
- ✓ India is setting bold milestones in space exploration, with ISRO announcing plans for a space station by 2035 and a human moon mission by 2040.





- ✓ Under the leadership of Chairman V. Narayanan, ISRO has already achieved technological feats like the Aditya-L1 solar mission and docking experiments, and is preparing for missions like a Venus orbiter.
- ✓ These developments signal India's rise as a global space power, reflecting the nation's commitment to innovation, strategic autonomy, and Viksit Bharat.
- **ISRO's GSLV-F16 to Launch Joint ISRO-NASA Satellite NISAR**
- ✓ NISAR, to be launched on July 30, 2025 by ISRO's GSLV-F16, is the first joint satellite between ISRO and NASA, featuring dual-frequency SAR (L-band & S-band).



- ✓ Weighing 2392 kg, it will operate from a Sun-synchronous orbit (743 km) and use SweepSAR technology for 12-day global coverage.
- ✓ Key applications include disaster management, climate monitoring, soil moisture tracking, and ice sheet movement, reinforcing its global scientific importance.
- **Navigation NavIC Satellites**
- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to launch three more navigation satellites — NVS-03, NVS-04, and NVS-05 — by 2026 to strengthen India's regional navigation system, NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation).



- ✓ This will enhance India's independent navigation capabilities for both civilian and military applications.
- ✓ NavIC, earlier known as the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), is India's autonomous regional navigation satellite system.
- ✓ The system consists of 7 satellites, supported by a network of ground stations operating round the clock.

➤ **ISRO to Launch Earth Observation Satellite NISAR**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) today at 5:40 pm from Sriharikota using the GSLV-F16 rocket.



- ✓ Designed to operate in a Sun-synchronous orbit at 747 km, the mission will use dual-band radar technology (L-band from NASA and S-band from ISRO) to capture highly detailed Earth images every 12 days for 3 years.
- ✓ NISAR will play a crucial role in monitoring ecosystems, climate change, disasters, and resource management.

# SPORTS

## ➤ **National Sports Policy 2025**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the National Sports Policy 2025, aiming to transform India into a leading sporting nation and boost its chances of hosting the 2036 Olympic Games.



- ✓ The policy focuses on achieving excellence, fostering economic opportunities, utilizing sport for social development, and promoting mass participation.

## ➤ **FIDE Women's Chess World Cup 2025**

- ✓ Divya Deshmukh Creates History, wins FIDE Women's Chess World Cup 2025.



- ✓ Divya Deshmukh, 19, defeated veteran Koneru Humpy in the tiebreaks to win the FIDE Women's Chess World Cup 2025 in Batumi, Georgia, becoming India's fourth woman Grandmaster.
- ✓ After two classical draws, Divya triumphed in the second rapid game with black pieces.

# REPORT

- **India is Fourth 'Most Equal' Country, says World Bank Report**
- ✓ Inequality in India has come down significantly between 2011-12 and 2022-23, making it the fourth-most equal country globally, according to a World Bank report.



- ✓ This is in addition to a sharp decrease in extreme poverty, which has dropped from 16.2% in 2011-12 to 2.3% in 2022-23.
- ✓ The government attributed the reduction in inequality to various initiatives and schemes pursued during the last decade.
- ✓ The only three countries which have a better Gini Index score, a measure of equality, are the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Belarus.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
July 01	National Doctors Day	The theme for 2025 is, "Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?" Hands, Caring Hearts."
July 02	World Sports Journalists Day	Theme "Championing Fair Play: Reporting with Integrity and Impact."
July 05	International Day of Cooperatives	The theme is "Cooperatives Build a Better World."
July 06	World Zoonoses Day	Important annual observance that aims to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases – infections that can spread from animals to humans.
July 11	World Horse Day	World Horse Day, first observed on July 11, 2025, honours the historic and vital role of horses in agriculture, warfare, therapy, transport, and culture.
July 11	World Population Day	The theme this year is "Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world."
July 12	World Paper Bag Day	This day is celebrated to promote the use of paper bags as an eco-friendly alternative to plastic bags.
July 16	World Snake Day	Theme - Respect, Don't Fear: Protecting Nature's Silent Guardians".
July 17	World Day for International Justice	Theme - Empowering Inclusion: Bridging Gaps for Social Justice.
July 18	Tamil Nadu Day	A resolution was passed unanimously in the Madras State Legislative Assembly by the government led by the then chief minister of Tamil Nadu C. N. Annadurai seeking to rename



		the state as Tamil Nadu. On 18 July 1967.
<b>July 18</b>	<b>Nelson Mandela International Day</b>	Nelson Mandela International Day, honouring the life and enduring legacy of one of history's most inspiring figures.
<b>July 20</b>	<b>International Chess Day</b>	Theme for 2025 is "Every Move Counts."
<b>July 20</b>	<b>International Moon Day</b>	The theme for 2025, 'One Moon, One Vision, One Future.'
<b>July 22</b>	<b>National Mango Day</b>	Every year, National Mango Day is observed to celebrate the fruit known for its exquisite taste and numerous health benefits.
<b>July 22</b>	<b>India's National Flag Day</b>	This day holds great significance as it honours the symbol of India's unity, integrity, and sovereignty.
<b>July 23</b>	<b>National Broadcasting Day in India</b>	This day highlights the pivotal role broadcasting has played in India's development, educational outreach, and cultural preservation.
<b>July 24</b>	<b>National Income Tax Day</b>	Income tax is a crucial government levy on the income earned by individuals and businesses during a financial year.
<b>July 25</b>	<b>World Drowning Prevention Day</b>	Theme - "Your Story Can Save a Life".
<b>July 26</b>	<b>Kargil Vijay Diwas</b>	To celebrate the victory of the Indian Armed Forces over Pakistan during the 1999 Kargil Conflict.
<b>July 28</b>	<b>World Hepatitis Day</b>	Theme - "Hepatitis: Let's Break It Down".
<b>July 28</b>	<b>World Nature Conservation Day</b>	The theme for 2025 is: "Restoration, Resilience and Responsibility".
<b>July 29</b>	<b>International Tiger Day</b>	This global initiative focuses on protecting the natural habitats of

		tigers and raising public awareness about their conservation.
<b>July 30</b>	<b>International Friendship Day</b>	This year's <b>theme</b> , "Building Bridges.
<b>July 30</b>	<b>World Day Against Trafficking in Persons</b>	Theme - Human trafficking is an organized crime.



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