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(Compilation of Current Events)

 TAMIL NADU	 STATES	 NATIONAL	 INDIA & THE WORLD	 INTERNATIONAL
 SCHEMES	 DEFENCE	 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	 EVS	 ECONOMY
 COURT VERDICTS	 CONFERENCES & SUMMITS	 AWARDS	 PERSONALITIES	 BOOKS & AUTHORS
 SPORTS	 RANKS & REPORTS	 DAYS	 OBITUARY	 NEWS OF THE MONTH
 KNOWLEDGE	 APPOINTMENTS	 COMMITTEES	 APPS / PORTALS	 MISCELLANEOUS

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TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu - Highest Number Of Ramsar Sites In India**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has set a new benchmark in environmental conservation and biodiversity protection by securing two more Ramsar sites, thus achieving the highest number of such designated areas in the country.

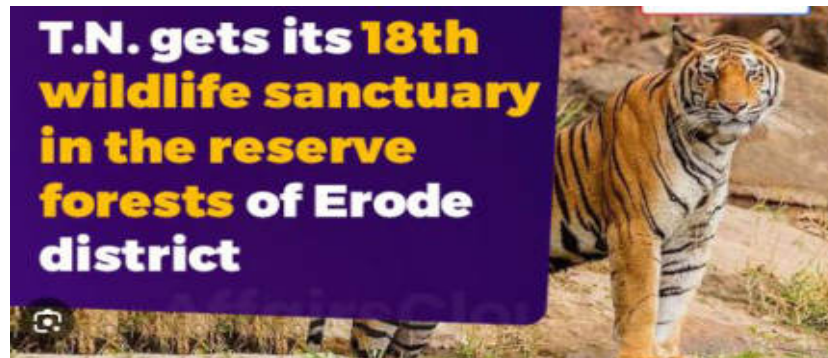


- ✓ The recent addition of the Longwood Shola Reserve Forest in The Nilgiris and the Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary in Ariyalur has propelled the state to the forefront of ecological conservation efforts in India.
 - ✓ With these new designations, Tamil Nadu now boasts 16 Ramsar sites.
- **'Kalaingar Sports Kit' Initiative**
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin recently announced a pioneering scheme aimed at nurturing sports talent at the grassroots level.



- ✓ Named after the late Kalaingar Karunanidhi, the 'Kalaingar Sports Kit' initiative is set to provide sporting kits to 12,000 village panchayats across the state.
- ✓ The inaugural distribution of the sports kits under the Kalaingar Sports Kit scheme is scheduled to take place on February 7 in Trichy.

- ✓ This event marks the beginning of a concerted effort to equip village-level athletes with the necessary resources to pursue their sporting aspirations.
- **Tamil Nadu gets its 18th Wildlife Sanctuary**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has declared 80,114.80 hectares of the reserve forests in Bargur Hills in Erode district as the Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary.



This stretch of the protected forests links the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve with the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary, and has been notified as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the State.

- **Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu government, under the leadership of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, has taken a significant step towards improving public service delivery and expediting the implementation of various schemes through the launch of the “Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril” (Bringing Services to Your Doorstep) scheme.



- ✓ This innovative initiative aims to bridge the gap between the government and the public by ensuring that the benefits of various schemes reach the grassroots level.
- ✓ “Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril” is designed to enhance the efficiency and transparency of service delivery in the state.

✓ Under this scheme, Collectors and senior district-level officials are mandated to spend 24 hours in one taluk on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

➤ **State's First Robotic Elephant**

✓ A robotic elephant was handed over to a Shiva temple at Devarshola in Gudalur by Voices for Asian Elephants, a nongovernmental organisation (NGO), on Sunday.



✓ These robotic elephants have been donated to temples across Kerala to end the oft-criticised practice of maintaining elephants in captivity at temples, often in unhealthy, inhumane conditions.

✓ This is the first such "elephant" to be given to a temple in Tamil Nadu.

✓ It is to be used in an upcoming temple festival, it was said.

✓ The 11ft. robotic elephant weighs around 800 kg.

➤ **T.N. Forms New Green Company to Aid in Energy Transition**

✓ The State government, to give a push for green energy, has formed the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) by hiving off the Renewable Energy wing of the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) and merging it with Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA).



✓ The new company has been formed under the Companies Act, 2013.

- ✓ A Government Order issued by the Energy Department on Friday said, the company called TNGECL has been formed with the aim to fast track the State's energy transition plans and at the same time help in getting access for funds for green projects.
- ✓ The new company would also be involved in the ways and means of integrating the renewable energy in the existing power grid and explore the opportunities of energy storage solutions like batteries for stable and consistent power supply.
- **Tamil Nadu MSME Minister Unveils 'Smart Cards' To Aid Startups**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu MSME Minister launched 2 pivotal initiatives: Smartcard scheme and StartUp Challenge website, underscoring government's commitment to nurturing startups and fostering innovation in the state.



- ✓ At the core of this initiative lies the Smartcard scheme, designed to provide startups with essential support services at discounted rates.
- ✓ This scheme aims to bolster startups in accessing crucial resources necessary for their growth and operations, spanning human resources, legal advice, IT infrastructure, media, and publicity.
- **'Smart Cards' Launched to Help Start-ups**
- ✓ Minister for MSME T.M. Anbarasan on Wednesday launched 'Smart Cards' for start-ups.



- ✓ According to details provided by the Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN), the 'Smart Card' offers a comprehensive selection of products and services, at subsidised rates, tailored to meet the needs of start-ups in their early stages.
- ✓ The products and services have been broadly classified into six different categories – legal and compliance; marketing/business consulting; finance and insurance; human resource and smart workspace; software; and IT/ITES.
- **Naan Mudhalvan Scheme - Arts & Science College Students - Four Districts**
- ✓ Thousands of students who are in their final year of arts & science courses in government colleges in Krishnagiri, Salem, Ariyalur and Kallakuruchi regions, have got job placements in top firms through the Naan Mudhalvan Statewide Placement Programme 2024.



- ✓ The Naan Mudhalvan Scheme, launched in March 2022, aims to equip about 10 lakh youth across the State annually with skills that will help them realise their talents for the benefit of the country.
- ✓ In 2022-23, during the same placement drive, over 1.19 lakh students were given job offers.
- **Investment to the Tune of 3,440 crore During Visit to Spain**

- ✓ Describing his visit to Spain as “very useful”, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday said that Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for investments to the tune of 3,440 crore were signed during the trip.



- ✓ He exuded confidence that Tamil Nadu would receive more investments in the near future.
- ✓ Addressing the media on his arrival in Chennai, he said that German shipping and container transportation major Hapag-Lloyd AG had signed an MoU to invest 2,500 crore; Spain-based Edibon, which designs and manufactures technical teaching and research equipment, would invest 540 crore; and Spain-based sanitaryware major Roca had agreed to invest 400 crore in the State.

TAMIL NADU - BUDGET



- **Vada Chennai Valarchi Thittam** announced for developing North Chennai at an estimated cost of Rs 1,000 crore.

- **The Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme** would be extended to government-aided schools in rural areas for the benefit of around 2.5 lakh students enrolled from classes one to five.
- **The free bus travel scheme for women** would be extended to hilly regions such as Nilgiris, Kodaikanal and Valparai.
- **Kalaignarin Kanavu Illam scheme** has been introduced to make Tamil Nadu 'hut-free' by 2030. A total of Rs 3,500 crore has been earmarked for the project, and eight lakh houses would be built in rural areas.
- **The Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyyar Puthumai Penn scheme** that provides financial assistance of Rs 1000 each month to girl students pursuing higher education has been extended. Girl students from government-aided Tamil medium schools will also benefit from this scheme.
- **Tamizh Pudhalvan**, has been announced to help boy students from marginalised backgrounds pursue higher education at an outlay of Rs 360 crore.
- The 'Chief Minister's **Thayumanavar scheme**' has also been announced to rescue five lakh families from poverty in the next two years. The budget has allocated Rs 27,922 crore for the purpose.
- A **new scheme Tholkudi** would be introduced to improve the living standards of tribal communities at an estimated cost of Rs 1,000 crore.
- Rs 13,720 crore has been allocated for **Kalaignar Urimai Thogai**, introduced by the Tamil Nadu government in 2023-24 fiscal year.
- Educational expenses including tuition and hostel fees of **transgender students** to be covered by Tamil Nadu government. An additional allocation of Rs 2 crore has been made to the state's Transgender Welfare Board.
- Rs 2 crore to be allocated for development of **Tamil language**.
- Rs 5 crore for **archaeological excavations** in eight locations across Tamil Nadu: Keezhadi, Vembakottai, Porpanaikottai, Keelnamandi, Tirumalapuram, Konkalnagar, Marungur, Chennanur; and four sites outside Tamil Nadu.
- A pilot study will be conducted to **explore deep-sea excavation** at a budget of Rs. 65 lakhs in partnership with the National Institute of Ocean Technology and the Indian Maritime University. This study will focus on the coastal areas of Korkai of Thoothukudi district and Alagankulam of Ramanathapuram district, which were once the ports of the Pandya Civilisation.
- **5,000 water bodies** in Tamil Nadu to be restored through community participation at an estimated cost of Rs 500 crore.
- The Tamil Nadu government has earmarked Rs 3,300 crore for **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGA) Act**.
- Rs 500 crore additional funds to be allocated for **Singara Chennai project**. Government had already allocated Rs 1,500 crore so far.

- A sum of Rs. 5 crore would be allocated to offer financial assistance to firms which engage in the **development of AI**, machine learning and large language models tailored for Tamil language.
- New '**Thozhi**' hostels to be established for women in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai at an estimated cost of Rs 26 crore.
- New classrooms to be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 1,000 crore. Of this, 15,000 **smart classes** to be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 300 crore.
- A **film city** to be established at Poonamallee near Chennai at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- **Adyar canal** to be renovated at a cost of Rs. 1500 crore.
- The Tamil Nadu government will set up four Olympic academies at Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Nilgiris. Rs. 440 crore has been allocated for the Youth welfare and Sports Development.
- Rs 120 crore has been allocated to promote SC/ST entrepreneurs under the **Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme**.
- Rs 10 crore allocated to repair mosques, dargahs. Another Rs 10 crore has been earmarked for repair and renovation of churches in Chennai, Sivagangai and Cuddalore.
- A bill to establish '**Tamil Nadu State Highways**' would be introduced later in this Assembly session.
- **Kalaignar International Convention Centre** to be constructed in Muttukadu in Chennai.
- New Tamil Nadu House in New Delhi named '**Vaigai**' to be established at a cost of Rs 257 crore. The building will follow traditional Dravidian architectural design.
- 10 mini textile parks to be established in Karur, Erode and Virudhunagar at Rs 20 crore
- **500 electric buses** to be acquired by the Tamil Nadu government for a sustainable future.

TAMIL NADU - AGRICULTURE BUDGET



- 1) Agriculture Minister Mr. Panneerselvam announced **65.30 crore for millets**, purposes including optimizing yield.
- 2) '**One Village, One Crop**' scheme presented in Tamil Nadu Agriculture budget 2024.
- 3) The Tamil Nadu farm budget also announced steps to **reduce chemical fertilizers** in paddy crops.
- 4) Several measures to nurture villages to help them tackle **climate change**.
- 5) "A new scheme called the 'Chief Minister's **Mannuyir Kaathu Mannuyir Kaappom** Scheme (CM MK MKS)' with 22 components will be implemented at an outlay of Rs. 206 crores during the year 2024-2025," the minister said.
- 6) "**Kalaignarin All Village Integrated Agricultural Development Programme** aims to transform every village into a model of self-sufficiency by focusing on the development of agriculture as the primary occupation, and by converting fallow land into cultivable land to increase the net cultivable area. During 2024-2025, this scheme will be implemented in 2,482 selected village panchayats at an outlay of 200 crores."
- 7) "To help the farmers recover from loss of income due to unforeseen natural calamities, **Crop Insurance Scheme** is being implemented. The insurance claim for an amount of 14.55 crores was immediately disbursed to 9,988 farmers of Thoothukudi district for the crop loss that occurred due to incessant rains on 17th and 18th December 2023. This scheme will be implemented during 2024-2025 with an allocation of 1,775 crores."

➤ **Maghizhchi**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu State Police is the only police force in the country to allocate funds for providing mental and psychological treatment for police personnel, said Director General of Police Shankar Jiwal in Madurai on Sunday.



- ✓ Inaugurating Maghizhchi, a mental well-being programme for police personnel and their families in southern districts and Madurai and Tirunelveli city police in association with M.S. Chellamuthu Trust and Research Foundation.
- ✓ Mr. Jiwal said that reimbursement claims for treatment of deaddiction were allowed by the police department as per the Government Order.
- ✓ “No other State police department has such a programme.”

➤ **State Policy for Women**

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday unveiled the Tamil Nadu State Policy for Women 2024, with a vision to ensure social justice for all and provide women access to their rightful entitlements.



- ✓ Under the policy, which will be implemented over 10 years, the State envisages raising the status of women through awareness, education, gainful employment and capacity-building initiatives.
- ✓ The objective of the policy framework is to enable access to services such as health, education and employment.

- ✓ It also seeks to promote digital literacy to bridge the digital gender gap and support women in finding remunerative placements, and encourage their active participation in politics.

➤ **Tholkudi Scheme**

- ✓ New scheme aims to upgrade the basic amenities in tribal habitations and improve their living standards.



- ✓ This scheme has been announced by the Finance Minister while delivering the TN Budget Speech 2024-25.
- ✓ Tholkudi will be implemented in the next four years i.e from 2024-25, 2027-28.
- ✓ Budgetary allocation for the TN Tholkudi scheme is Rs.1,000 crore.
- ✓ Through this initiative, road facilities, potable water, street lights and permanent houses will be provided in tribal settlements.
- ✓ Furthermore, dedicated programmes will be implemented to improve the livelihood of tribal community.

➤ **ISRO's Second Spaceport In Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) second spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ The project is estimated to cost Rs 950 crore. It aims to cater to the growing demand for satellite launches, particularly for small satellites.
- ✓ The new spaceport, sprawling over 2,233 acres, offers strategic advantages. Its location promises fuel savings and more efficient satellite launches compared to the existing facility in Sriharikota.

➤ **VinFast's Electric Car Facility in Thoothukudi**

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday laid the foundation stone for Vietnam-headquartered VinFast Auto Limited's electric car manufacturing facility, coming up on 408 acres at the SIPCOT Industrial Complex in Sillaanaththam on the outskirts of Thoothukudi at an outlay of 16,000 crore.



- ✓ In the first phase, the firm will invest 4,000 crore in a significant step towards building a strategic partnership between VinFast Auto and the Tamil Nadu government, aimed at advancing the development of green transportation.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu is the only State in India to have three auto hubs.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 2.0**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu, which has seen an increase of 84% in emissions from 2005 to 2019, from 101 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent to 184 million tons, needs nearly 475 GW of solar energy and 90 GW of wind power to achieve net zero emissions by 2070, according to the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, released at the inaugural of the Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 2.0 on Wednesday.



- ✓ The inventory was published by the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company and the Council for Environment, Energy and Water (CEEW), an independent policy research institution.



STATE

➤ Mahatari Vandan Yojana

- ✓ The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Chhattisgarh will roll out the Mahatari Vandan Yojana – a monthly cash assistance scheme for married women – from March 1, announced Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Saturday.
- ✓ Eligible beneficiaries will receive 12,000 per year, transferred to their bank accounts in monthly installments of 1,000 under the scheme.
- ✓ The Mahatari Vandan Yojana, a key BJP election promise, played a pivotal role in securing women's support, thus contributing to the party's return to power after a five-year gap.

➤ Uniform Civil Code Bill

- ✓ The Uttarakhand Cabinet, under the leadership of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, has approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) bill, marking a significant milestone.



- ✓ This bill, formulated based on recommendations from a government-appointed committee, is set to be introduced in the Uttarakhand Assembly on February 6.
- ✓ If ratified, Uttarakhand will become the first state post-Independence to embrace the Uniform Civil Code, with the objective of standardizing civil laws for all citizens regardless of their religious beliefs.

NATIONAL

➤ **The Public Examinations (Prevention Of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024**

- ✓ The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024, represents a comprehensive legal framework aimed at safeguarding the integrity and fairness of public examinations across India.



- ✓ The bill is introduced to address and prevent the use of unfair means in public examinations.
- ✓ It encompasses a wide range of definitions and stipulations that clarify the roles, responsibilities, and penalties associated with the conduct of public examinations.
- ✓ The bill's enactment underscores the government's commitment to ensuring a transparent, equitable, and merit-based assessment system.

➤ **Bharat Rice**

- ✓ 'Bharat Rice' launched by the government at subsidized rates for consumers.
- ✓ On 06 February, the 'Bharat Rice' brand has been launched by Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, in New Delhi to provide rice to consumers at subsidized rates.



- ✓ The rice will be available in packs of 5 kg and 10 kg at a discounted rate of Rs 29 per kg.

- ✓ This includes the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India (NCCF) as well as the retail chain Kendriya Bhandar.
 - ✓ Further, these agencies will pack the rice in 5 kg and 10 kg packets and retail through their outlets under the brand “Bharat Rice”.
 - ✓ Rice will also be sold through e-commerce platforms.
- **White Paper On Economy**
- ✓ India’s Budget session has been prolonged by a day to accommodate the unveiling of a “white paper” addressing alleged economic mismanagement during the previous Congress-led UPA government.



- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is set to present this white paper in both houses of Parliament on Feb 10, shedding light on the economic hurdles encountered before 2014 and the subsequent turnaround under the current administration.
 - ✓ A white paper is an official government publication that typically outlines policy proposals, often distinguished by its white cover.
 - ✓ In the context of macroeconomic mismanagement in India, a white paper would likely offer a comprehensive analysis of various facets of the country’s macroeconomic policies, performance, and challenges.
- **Abu Dhabi’s First Hindu Stone Temple**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated Abu Dhabi’s first Hindu stone temple, describing it as a symbol of the shared heritage of humanity and thanking the UAE for scripting a new golden chapter of human history.



- ✓ Speaking at the inauguration of the temple built by the Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS), the Prime Minister profusely thanked the President of UAE, Sheikh Mohammad Zayed Al Nahyan, for making the grand temple in Abu Dhabi a reality and said he has not only won the hearts of Indians living in the Gulf nation but also of 140 crore Indians.
- **India's First Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS)**
- ✓ India is set to launch its **first Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS)** from **Uttarakhand**, marking a significant milestone in the country's healthcare and aviation sectors.



- ✓ The inception of HEMS aligns with the Indian government's broader initiative to enhance healthcare accessibility, particularly in remote and mountainous regions.
- ✓ By leveraging helicopters for emergency medical services, the initiative aims to minimize response times and deliver vital medical care to those in inaccessible areas promptly.
- **Sudarshan Setu**
- ✓ "Sudarshan Setu", the nation's longest cable-stayed bridge, inaugurated by PM Modi in Gujarat.



- ✓ He dedicated to the nation "Sudarshan Setu," the nation's longest signature-stayed bridge, which is approximately 2.32 km long.
 - ✓ The bridge at Dwarka, Gujarat, connects the mainland of Okha with the island of Beyt Dwarka. According to PM Modi, the nation is headed toward becoming the world's fifth-largest economy.
 - ✓ Sudarshan Setu has footpaths decorated with verses from Srimad Bhagavad Gita and images of Lord Krishna on either side. Moreover, solar panels that produce one megawatt of electricity are mounted on the upper portions of the footpath.
- **Three New Criminal Laws**
- ✓ The three new criminal laws that were passed by Parliament in 2023 will come into effect from July 1, according to a notification by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).



- ✓ Section 106(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which provides for punishment of "0-10 years" in "hit-and-run" cases, has been put on hold.
 - ✓ The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam that will replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860; Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898; and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, respectively, received President Droupadi Murmu's assent on December 25, 2023.
- **India Unveils Largest Solar-Battery Project**
- ✓ The Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has commissioned India's largest solar-battery energy storage system (BESS) in Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh.



- ✓ This large-scale integration of solar and battery storage represents a pioneering leap in renewable energy generation and utilization in India.
- ✓ The project addresses peak energy demand by storing solar energy during the day and releasing it during evening hours, ensuring grid stability and reliability.
- **PM Modi Launches Projects worth 48,100 cr.**
- ✓ Facing his third Lok Sabha election, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chose Rajkot, the city where he was first elected an MLA, to launch projects worth 48,100 crore across the country.



- ✓ This included the inauguration of five All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in five States and India's longest cable-stayed bridge at Dwarka in Gujarat.
- **Five AIIMS**
- ✓ He inaugurated AIIMS at Rajkot in Gujarat and e-dedicated to the nation four more AIIMS at Bathinda (Punjab), Rae Bareli (Uttar Pradesh), Kalyani (West Bengal), and Mangalagiri (Andhra Pradesh).
- **Country's First indigenous Hydrogen Fuel Cell Ferry**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off India's first indigenously built hydrogen fuel cell ferry boat in virtual mode here on Wednesday.

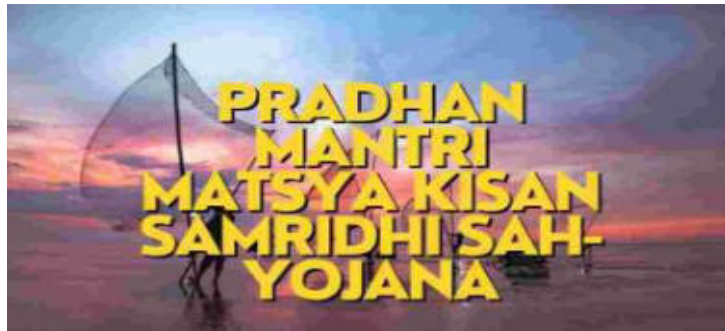
- ✓ The vessel has been built at the Cochin Shipyard. The pilot vessel is a 24-metre catamaran which can carry 50 passengers. It also has a fully air conditioned space for passengers.
- ✓ It will make urban mobility smooth and easy, according to a release issued by the Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL).



SCHEMES

➤ Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana

- ✓ The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana, a sub scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, for the micro and small enterprises operating in the fisheries sector.



- ✓ It is expected to have investment of 6,000 crore in the next four years.
- ✓ Extension of the fund, the Centre said, would intensify development of various infrastructure such as fishing harbours, fish landing centres, ice plants, cold storage, and fish transport facilities.

➤ PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- ✓ Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has announced the launch of an ambitious scheme - the 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana'.



- ✓ Aimed at fostering a greener future and facilitating the nation's march towards energy self-sufficiency, this initiative is set to revolutionize the energy landscape of India.
- ✓ This pioneering project, with an earmarked investment exceeding Rs 75,000 crore, is designed to illuminate one crore households across the country by providing up to 300 units of free electricity every month, generated through solar power.

➤ **'One Village One Crop' Scheme**

- ✓ The government on Tuesday announced that the 'One Village One Crop' scheme will be introduced in 15,280 revenue villages to boost agricultural production in rural areas.



- ✓ Presenting the Agriculture Budget in the Assembly, Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare M.R.K. Panneerselvam said demonstrations would be conducted on 5 to 10 acres in each village, focusing on one crop per village, to spread awareness.
- ✓ "This initiative would feature demonstrations covering land preparation, seed treatment for high-yielding varieties, and integrated nutrient management for a range of crops.
- **Mannuyir Kaathu Mannuyir Kaappom Scheme (CM MK MKS)**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister M.R.K. Panneerselvam on Tuesday announced the launch of a new programme, the Chief Minister's Mannuyir Kaathu Mannuyir Kaappom Scheme (CM MK MKS), aimed at improving soil quality, and moving towards sustainable and chemical-free agricultural practices for the well-being of society.



- ✓ The allocation for this scheme is 206 crore for 2024-25. Mr. Panneerselvam presented the State Agriculture Budget 2024-25 on Tuesday in the Legislative Assembly.

- ✓ He pointed out that the indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, initially employed to boost production, had taken a toll on the beneficial soil microbial population, leading to a decline in overall soil fertility and health.
- **Launches World's Largest Grain Storage Scheme: Strengthening Cooperative Sector**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for key initiatives aimed at bolstering the cooperative sector in India.



- ✓ The pilot project for the 'World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector', expansion of PACS, and digital transformation aim to enhance food security, economic development, and governance, benefiting millions of farmers.
- ✓ The ceremony, held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, marks a significant step towards enhancing food security, economic development, and governance within the cooperative domain.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Germany Overtakes Japan As Third-Largest Economy**
- ✓ Official data reveals that Germany has surpassed Japan as the world's third-largest economy, primarily due to a significant depreciation in the yen compared to the stability of the euro.



- ✓ Japan's economy, despite growing 1.9% last year, contracted in the fourth quarter, leading to its relegation to the fourth position.
- ✓ The yen depreciated by over 18% against the dollar in 2022 and 2023, facilitating Germany's ascendancy due to the stability of the euro against the dollar.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ 7th Indian Ocean Conference

- ✓ The 7th edition of the Indian Ocean Conference will get underway in Perth, Australia. External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar would address inaugural session of Conference.



- ✓ Two day Conference is being held in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia, along with S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore and Perth-US Asia Centre in Australia.
- ✓ Theme of this edition of the conference is “Towards a Stable and Sustainable Indian Ocean”.
- ✓ Indian Ocean Conference is a flagship consultative forum for countries in the Indian Ocean Region.

➤ 60th Munich Security Conference

- ✓ Dr. S Jaishankar attended the 60th Munich Security Conference in Germany.
- ✓ As part of the conference, Dr Jaishankar addressed a panel discussion on 'Growing the Pie: Seizing Shared Opportunities.'



- ✓ On the sidelines of the Conference, he discussed issues related to bilateral cooperation with leaders including US Secretary of State Blinken and his British counterpart David Cameron.

- ✓ The High Representative for Foreign Affairs of the European Union, Josep Borrell, and the External Affairs Minister Dr Jaishankar discussed the state of the world today.
- ✓ The three-day conference provided a chance for high-level discussions on the most important security issues facing the globe today.
- **INDUS-X Summit**
- ✓ INDUS-X Summit is scheduled to be held on February 20-21, 2024 in New Delhi.



- ✓ The India-U.S. Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) has been at the forefront of expanding bilateral ties in defense innovation.
- ✓ The summit aims to be a pivotal event driving strategic technology partnerships and defense industrial cooperation between India and the USA.
- **National Public Health India Conference 2024**
- ✓ Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Professor S.P. Singh Baghel inaugurated the first National Public Health India Conference 2024 in New Delhi.



- ✓ The three-day conference is being organized by National Centre for Disease Control.
- ✓ The theme of the Conference is “Health Initiatives towards India’s Goal for a developed nation”.

- ✓ The conference aims to identify and galvanize strategic health priorities for India in the next 5 years to improve health outcomes, health security and health protection of communities in the country.
- **BioAsia Summit 2024**
- ✓ The 21st edition of BioAsia, Asia's premier biotechnology and life sciences convention began on February 27, 2023 in Hyderabad, India.



- ✓ The annual event witnesses participation from leading global scientists, researchers, politicians and industry captains discussing latest developments and future opportunities.
- ✓ The theme for current year summit is “Transforming Life Sciences with Data and AI” highlighting the immense potential in deploying advanced analytics alongside machine learning promises for revolutionizing drug discovery, healthcare delivery etc through evidence based interventions.

DEFENCE

➤ Exercise Vayu Shakti

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to conduct Exercise Vayu Shakti-24, a grand display of its aerial might, on 17 February 2024, at the Pokhran Air to Ground Range near Jaisalmer.



- ✓ Exercise Vayu Shakti is a biennial event that serves as a testament to the Indian Air Force's strategic capabilities.
 - ✓ It is an opportunity for the IAF to demonstrate its combat readiness and operational effectiveness, showcasing a wide array of aircraft and weapon systems in action.
- **IIT Madras to create India's first 155mm Smart Ammunition**
- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) has partnered with Munitions India Limited (a Defence Public Sector Enterprise) to develop India's first indigenously-designed 155 Smart Ammunition to achieve indigenization in the defence sector.



- ✓ The objective is to increase the accuracy of 155 mm shell within a Circular Error Probable (CEP) of 10 m. At present, ammunitions developed in India has a CEP of 500 m. Another goal is to increase the lethality at the terminal impact point.

➤ **MILAN Naval Exercise**

- ✓ The 12th edition of the MILAN naval exercise is poised to set sail in the strategic port city of Visakhapatnam from February 19 to 27, marking a significant gathering of naval forces from over 50 countries.



- ✓ This year's theme, "Forging Naval Alliances for a Secure Maritime Future," underscores the exercise's commitment to enhancing global maritime security through cooperation and strategic dialogue.
- ✓ MILAN 2023 seeks to bolster the safety of maritime trade, a vital artery of the global economy, through shared efforts and expertise.

➤ **Exercise Vayu Shakti-24**

- ✓ Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted 'Exercise Vayu Shakti-24' at the Pokhran range near Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, presenting a formidable display of its aerial firepower.



- ✓ The event, attended by the Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan, marked a significant demonstration of the IAF's offensive capabilities through a series of meticulously planned aerial manoeuvres and precision strikes.
- ✓ Adhering to this year's theme, 'Lightning Strike from the Sky', the exercise involved over 120 aircraft showcasing the IAF's day and night offensive prowess.

➤ **Shanti Prayas IV**

- ✓ A multinational military exercise 'Shanti Prayas IV' started in Nepal. 19 countries, including India, Bangladesh and Pakistan are participating Multinational military exercise 'Shanti Prayas IV' started in Nepal.



- ✓ It will enhance the interoperability and peacekeeping skills of the forces. Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal “Prachanda” inaugurated the two-week-long military drill.
 - ✓ The multinational military exercise is taking place at the Birendra Peace Operation Training Centre in the Kabhre district. 1,125 army personnel from 19 countries are participating in this exercise.
- **Trilateral Exercise ‘Dosti-16’**
- ✓ Indian and Sri Lankan coast guard ships joined the Dosti 16 exercise held in the Maldives from February 22-25.



- ✓ This year marked a significant development with Bangladesh participating as an observer, indicating a widening scope for the exercise and underlining the growing importance of maritime collaboration in tackling evolving challenges.
- ✓ By fostering cooperation, the exercise addresses traditional security concerns while collectively preparing for non-traditional threats like piracy, smuggling, and environmental disasters.

➤ **Exercise Dharma Guardian**

- ✓ India-Japan joint exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' started in Rajasthan.



- ✓ It is 5th edition of Joint Military Exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN' between the Indian Army and the Japan Ground Self Defence Force. It started at Rajasthan's Mahajan Field Firing Ranges.
- ✓ It is scheduled to be carried out from 25th February to 9th March 2024.
- ✓ Each side has forty personnel in their contingent.
- ✓ The exercise aims to promote military cooperation and improve combined capabilities to carry out joint operations in semi-urban environments under Chapter VII of United Nations Charter.

APPOINTMENT

- **Justice A.M. Khanwilkar**
- ✓ Justice A.M. Khanwilkar is Lokpal Chairperson.



- ✓ Former Supreme Court judge A.M. Khanwilkar was appointed the Chairperson of the anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal on Tuesday.
- ✓ The Lokpal has been working without its regular chief after Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose completed his term on May 27, 2022.

AWARDS

➤ **Bharat Ratna**

- ✓ Bharat Ratna will be conferred to Lal Krishna Advani.
- ✓ On 3 February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award, will be given to BJP stalwart and former Deputy Prime Minister LK Advani.



- ✓ Shri Advani will be awarded Bharat Ratna within a year of the consecration of Ram temple.
- ✓ Advani has served as Deputy Prime Minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, apart from heading several ministries.

➤ **Quaide Milleth Award**

- ✓ N. Ram and Abusaleh Shariff chosen for Quaide Milleth award.



- ✓ The Quaide Milleth Educational and Social Trust (QUEST) has chosen veteran journalist N. Ram, Director, The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited, and Abusaleh Shariff, founder, Centre for Research and Debates in Development Policy, who previously served as the Member-Secretary of Justice Rajindar Sachar

Committee, for the Quaide Milleth Award for Probity in Political/Public Life 2023.

➤ **Grammy Awards 2024**

- ✓ Prominent Indian musicians Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain's fusion band Shakti bagged the prestigious Grammy award.
- ✓ They clinched the award in Best Global Music Album category for their latest album **This Moment**.



- ✓ The album consisted of eight songs by John McLaughlin, Zakir Khan, Shankar Mahadevan, V Selvaganesh and Ganesh Rajagopalan.
- ✓ Meanwhile, **Zakir Hussain also bagged** the Grammy in Best Global Music Performance category for his contribution to Pashto, featuring Rakesh Chaurasia.
- ✓ **Veteran Indian classical flute artist Rakesh Chaurasia** managed to win dual Grammy for his collaborative album As We Speak.
- ✓ The 66th Annual Grammy Awards 2024 was held in **Los Angeles**.

➤ **Lifetime Achievement Award**

- ✓ The prestigious “Lifetime Achievement” award was given to PT Usha, a legendary sprinter who is now President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).



- ✓ The Sports Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) and the Delhi Sports Journalists Association (DSJA) gave her this award to recognize her outstanding achievements to Indian sports.
- **Bharat Ratna - PV Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, And MS Swaminathan**
- ✓ India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, is set to honour the indelible contributions of three distinguished individuals whose efforts have significantly shaped the nation's trajectory.



- ✓ Former Prime Ministers PV Narasimha Rao and Chaudhary Charan Singh, alongside renowned agricultural scientist MS Swaminathan, are the esteemed recipients of this prestigious accolade, acknowledging their unparalleled dedication to the progress of India.
- ✓ The 'Bharat Ratna,' the country's highest civilian award, was established in 1954.
- **Tamil Nadu - Best State for the Promotion of Sport**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu won the 'Best State for the promotion of sport' honour at the Sportstar ACES Awards 2024 held at the Taj Mahal Palace here on Thursday.



- ✓ Tamil Nadu Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Udhayanidhi Stalin, accepted the award.
 - ✓ With a sports budget of over 770 crore, Tamil Nadu invested heavily in national as well as international competitions in 2023.
- **K.P.P. Nambiar Award**
- ✓ K.P.P. Nambiar Award for ISRO Chairman S. Somanath.



- ✓ A historic event occurred in India's space exploration and technology community when the IEEE Kerala Section revealed the winner of the esteemed K.P.P. Nambiar Award.
 - ✓ Chairman S. Somanath of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), a name often associated with pioneering work in space technology, was this year's recipient of the honour.
- **"Water Warrior" City**
- ✓ The Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation, under the Union Water Ministry, honoured Noida with the title of "Water Warrior" city.



- ✓ The city clinched the title of the best sewage treatment plant (STP) and also received accolades for its water reuse project of the year.
- ✓ Satish Pal, the additional chief executive officer of the Noida Authority, along with RP Singh, the deputy general manager of the authority's water department, received these awards on behalf of the city.

➤ **9th GovTech Prize**

- ✓ India has secured the prestigious 9th GovTech Prize for its pioneering endeavors in Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered government services, at the World Government Summit 2024.



- ✓ The annual award is instituted by the government of the UAE and is presented to government entities, central or local, worldwide, to recognize creative and innovative solutions.
- ✓ The accolade recognizes the remarkable efforts of the Ministry for Road Transport & Highways, Government of India, for its transformative project known as iRASTE.
- ✓ It is a collaborative initiative involving the government, industry, and academia, that is revolutionizing road safety through the integration of AI technology.

➤ **58th Jnanpith Award**

- ✓ Celebrated Urdu poet Gulzar and Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya have been selected for the 58th Jnanpith Award, considered by many to be the country's highest literary honour.



- ✓ Sampooran Singh Kalra, popularly known as Gulzar, is considered one of the finest Urdu poets of his generation.

- ✓ Rambhadracharya is a renowned Hindu spiritual leader, educator and writer of more than 240 books and texts, including four epics.

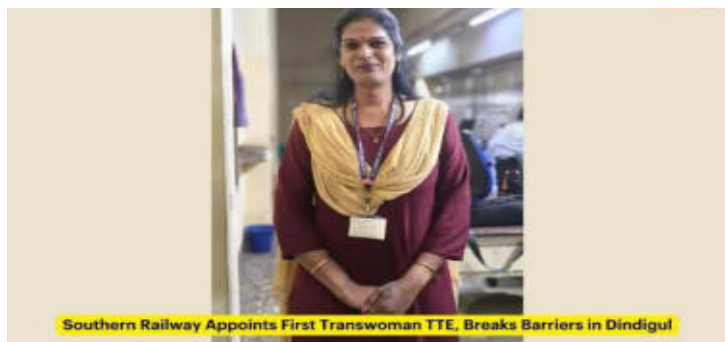


PERSONALITIES

➤ Oleg Kononenko



- ✓ Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko achieved a historic milestone by setting a world record for the most time spent in space, surpassing his compatriot **Gennady Padalka's previous record of 878 days** in orbit, as reported by Russia's space corporation, Roscosmos.
- ✓ At 0830 GMT, Oleg Kononenko officially broke the record, marking a significant achievement in the history of space exploration.
- **First Transwoman TTE of Southern Railway**
- ✓ Sindhu Ganapathy, 37, has emerged as the first transwoman Travelling Ticket Examiner (TTE) of Southern Railway. For G. Sindhan, who had joined the Railways as a male employee in 2003, life was going easy initially.



- ✓ Even as she grew up the ranks as Senior Technician in the Railway Electrical Department, she suffered a setback when she met with an accident in 2020.
- ✓ Consequently, the accident rendered her unfit for technical job, and she was offered non-technical work. "I wanted to become a TTE.
- ✓ So, I underwent training and cleared the exam to become one," she said. Subsequently, Ms. Sindhu was posted as a TTE in Dindigul last week.

➤ **V. Sripathy**

- ✓ Young tribal woman is the first from her community to become a civil judge.
- ✓ A 23-year-old woman from the Malayali tribe in Yelagiri Hills (along Jawadhu Hills), Tirupattur district, has scripted history by becoming the first civil judge from her community.

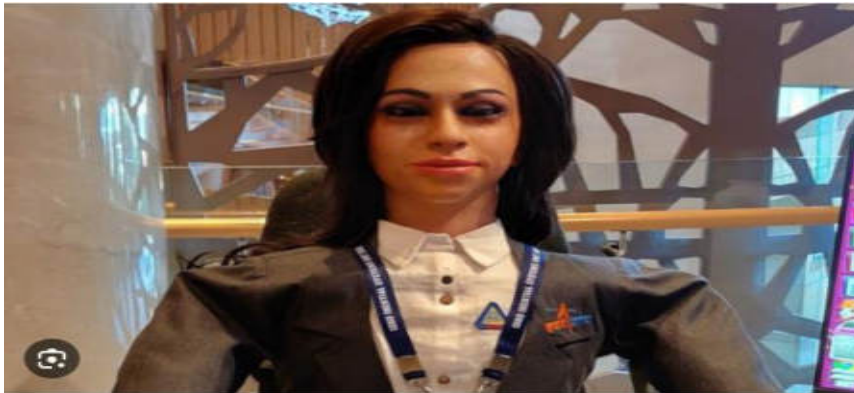


- ✓ V. Sripathy, who is a young mother, cleared the examination conducted by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) to achieve this feat.
- ✓ “I did my entire schooling in Yelagiri Hills before pursuing law.
- ✓ The idea to do a law course was to provide legal aid for the people of my community as they are not aware of their legal rights.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ India's Woman Robot Astronaut "Vyommitra"

- ✓ In a pioneering leap for India's space endeavors, Vyommitra, the woman robot astronaut developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is set to embark on an uncrewed mission in the third quarter of this year.



- ✓ The mission, named after the Sanskrit words "Vyoma" (Space) and "Mitra" (Friend), signifies a significant stride towards the ambitious Gaganyaan mission, the country's maiden manned space flight, slated for 2025.
 - ✓ Vyommitra, equipped with advanced capabilities, is designed to monitor module parameters, issue alerts, and execute life support operations.
- ## ➤ 'SWATI' (Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation)
- ✓ 'Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India launched the "Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation (SWATI)" Portal, aimed at creating a single online portal representing Indian Women and Girls in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine).



- ✓ The Portal is a complete interactive database; and the first of its kind in India which is developed, hosted, and maintained by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR).

- ✓ The database of the SWATI Portal will serve in policy-making to address the challenges of Gender-gap.

➤ **World's First Air Taxi**

- ✓ In a path-breaking move set to revolutionize urban transportation, Dubai has inked agreements at the World Government Summit 2024 to launch the world's first air taxi service.



- ✓ The agreements pave the way for Dubai to pioneer the deployment of a city-wide electric aerial taxi service and vertiport network.
- ✓ At the heart of the initiative lies the Joby Aviation S4, an innovative aircraft.
- ✓ With an eye toward efficiency, safety, and sustainability, the air taxi project promises a host of benefits, including reduced noise levels, zero operating emissions, and enhanced passenger convenience.
- ✓ The air-taxi network will commence its operations in 2026.

➤ **World's First Wooden Satellite**

- ✓ NASA and Japan set to launch the world's first wooden satellite.
- ✓ To combat space debris, Japan and the United States will launch the world's first wooden satellite, the LingoSat probe, into space.



- ✓ It has been created from magnolia wood, which is known for its stability and resistance to cracks.
 - ✓ Researchers from Kyoto University and Sumitomo Forestry have collaborated to construct this timber satellite.
 - ✓ Their ingenious solution will replace traditional metal components with biodegradable materials.
- **India's First Indigenous Spy Satellite**
- ✓ India is preparing to launch its first spy satellite developed by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) aboard a SpaceX rocket in April.



- ✓ This satellite, designed for discreet information gathering, will bolster the country's defense capabilities by providing real-time monitoring and ground control.
- ✓ Previously, Indian armed forces relied on foreign vendors for exact coordinates and timings.
- ✓ The indigenous spy satellite will end this dependency, ensuring sovereignty and security.

➤ **ISRO Young Scientist Program 2024 (YUVIKA)**

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has introduced the **Yuva Vigyani Karyakram** Young Scientist Program (YUVIKA) 2024, which aims to promote curiosity and knowledge about space science, technology among the youth and school children.



- ✓ Yuvika aims to provide fundamental knowledge on space science, technology and applications, especially targeting rural areas.
The program aims to spark interest in STEM fields and nurture future talents in space exploration.

➤ **INSAT-3DS Weather Satellite**

- ✓ The GSLV-F14 carrying INSAT-3DS meteorological satellite was successfully launched on Saturday from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.



- ✓ About 18 minutes after the lift-off from the spaceport's launchpad, the GSLV-F14 deployed the INSAT-3DS into the intended geosynchronous transfer orbit.
 - ✓ The INSAT-3DS satellite is a follow-on mission of the third generation meteorological satellite from geostationary orbit.
 - ✓ The satellite is an exclusive mission designed for enhanced meteorological observations, monitoring of land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting, and disaster warning.
- **New Drug to Treat Chronic Kidney Disease**



The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), has approved Jardiance (empagliflozin) 10mg tablets to reduce the risk of sustained decline in patients with end-stage kidney disease, cardiovascular death, and hospitalisation in adults with chronic kidney disease (CKD) at risk of progression.

➤ **Gaganyaan Mission - 4 Astronaut - Designates**

- ✓ Mr. Modi reviewed preparations for the Gaganyaan Mission and revealed the names of 4 astronaut-designates selected for the Gaganyaan mission.



- ✓ They are Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, Group Captain Ajit Krishnan, Group Captain Angad Pratap and Wing Commander Shubhanshu Shukla.
- ✓ The Gaganyaan Mission is India's first human space flight program for which extensive preparations are underway at various ISRO centres.
- ✓ Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said, that by 2035, India will have its space station in space that will help us study the unknown expanses of space.

SPORTS

➤ **BIMSTEC Aquatic Championships**

- ✓ In a significant moment for regional sports diplomacy, the first-ever BIMSTEC Aquatics Championship was officially declared open in New Delhi on February 6th, 2024.



- ✓ The BIMSTEC Aquatics Championship 2024 stands as a testament to the growing cooperation and camaraderie among the member states of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).
- ✓ With over 400 athletes and officials from seven BIMSTEC Member States set to participate, the championship promises to be a vibrant display of sporting excellence and cultural exchange.

➤ **Badminton Asia Team Championships 2024**

- ✓ Led by PV Sindhu and youngster Anmol Kharb, Indian women won the Badminton Asia Team Championships 2024.



- ✓ On February 18, Indian women won a historic gold medal at the Badminton Asia Team Championships in Malaysia by defeating Thailand 3-2 in the final.
- ✓ The Badminton Asia Team Championships 2024 was held in Shah Alam, Malaysia from February 13 to 18.
- ✓ In this Championship, this was India's first gold medal.

REPORT

- **State of India's Digital Economy Report, 2024**
- ✓ India is now the world's third-most digitalized nation, behind only China and the USA, two of the world's most powerful technology economies.



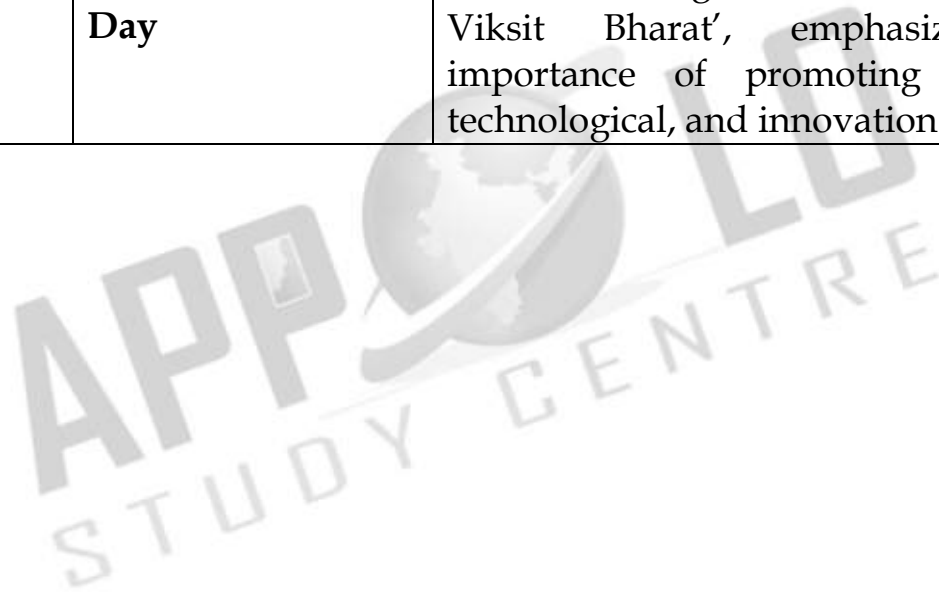
- ✓ The “State of India's Digital Economy Report, 2024,” published by the esteemed Delhi-based think tank Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), includes this noteworthy discovery.
- ✓ The research provides an in-depth analysis of India's online environment, praising it in comparison to other industrialized nations while also pointing out places where digital engagement at the user level might be enhanced.
- ✓ To assess national digital capabilities across five essential dimensions – connect, harness, innovate, defend, and sustain – ICRIER's study makes use of the novel 'CHIPS' paradigm.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
February 01	Indian Coast Guard Day	The day honours the relentless efforts of the Coast Guard officers and personnel in maintaining maritime security and responding to emergencies at sea
February 02	World Wetlands Day	The theme for World Wetlands Day 2024, "Wetlands and Human Wellbeing"
February 04	World Cancer Day	Theme is: 'Close the Care Gap'.
February 06	Safer Internet Day	Theme is "Together for a Better Internet"
February 06	International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation	The theme for International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) 2024 is "Her Voice"
February 07	National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day	This year's theme is "Engage, Educate, Empower: Uniting to End HIV/AIDS in Black Communities"
February 10	World Pulses Day	This year's theme, "Pulses: Nourishing Soils and People"
February 10	National Deworming Day	Theme: Eliminate STH: Invest in a healthier future for children"
February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science	The theme of International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2024 is "Women and Girls in Science Leadership, a New Era for Sustainability"
February 11	World Unani Day	Theme: Unani Medicine for One Earth, One Health"
February 12	National Productivity Day	Theme, "Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Productivity Engine for Economic Growth"
February 13	World Radio Day	The theme for World Radio Day 2024, "Radio: A Century Informing, Entertaining and Educating"

February 13	National Women's Day	We celebrate National Women's Day in India to the remembrance of the social, cultural, political and economic achievements of Sarojini Naidu in India
February 14	Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day	This day is dedicated to increasing awareness about congenital heart defects (CHDs), the most common type of birth defect affecting infants across the globe
February 15	World Hippo Day	To raise awareness about the plight of hippos, which are one of the most endangered large mammals on the planet
February 15	International Childhood Cancer Day	A day dedicated to raising awareness about the challenges and struggles faced by children and adolescents battling cancer
February 17	Global Tourism Resilience Day	Theme - "tourism and peace"
February 17	World Pangolin Day	This Day underscores the urgent need for conservation efforts for one of the world's most trafficked mammals
February 18	World Whale Day	The day spotlighting the urgent need to protect these marine behemoths crucial for ecological equilibrium
February 20	World Day Of Social Justice	The theme chosen for the World Day of Social Justice 2024, "Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances"
February 21	International Mother Language Day	The theme for International Mother Language Day is "Multilingual education - a pillar of learning and intergenerational learning"
February 22	World Scout Day	The theme for World Scout Day 2024 is "Scouts for a Better World"
February 22	World Thinking Day	The theme for World Thinking Day 2024 is Our World, Our Thriving Future: The Environment and Global Poverty

February 23	World Peace And Understanding Day	The Day stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of harmony, compassion, and cooperation among diverse cultures, religions, and regions
February 27	World NGO Day	Theme - "Building a Sustainable Future: The Role of NGOs in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"
February 27	International Polar Bear Day	The day was established by Polar Bears International, a non-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation of polar bears and their habitat
February 28	National Science Day	Theme - 'Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat', emphasizing the importance of promoting scientific, technological, and innovation skills



**CURRENT AFFAIRS - TNPSC ORIGINAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS -
EXAMS CONDUCTED IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024**

**HOSTEL SUPERINTENDENT CUM PHYSICAL TRAINING OFFICER IN
TAMIL NADU EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SUBORDINATE SERVICES
- 21/01/2024**

UNIT - II - CURRENT EVENTS

Latest diary of events

1. On the occasion of 97th Birth anniversary of Kalaignar Karunanithi the Government of Tamil Nadu has announced
 - a. **A high class super multi-speciality hospital at Chennai.**
 - b. A library at Chennai
 - c. A hospital at Coimbatore
 - d. A housing scheme for tribes
 - e. Answer not known

கலைஞர் கருணாநிதி அவர்களின் 97 வது பிறந்த தின விழாவின் போது தமிழ்நாடு அரசு _____ உருவாக்குவதாக அறிவித்தது.

 - a. சென்னையில் உயர் தர பல்நோக்கு மருத்துவமனை
 - b. சென்னையில் ஒரு நூலகத்தை
 - c. கோயம்புத்தூரில் ஒரு மருத்துவமனையை
 - d. மலைவாழ் மக்களுக்கென ஒரு வீட்டு திட்டத்தை
 - e. விடை தெரியவில்லை
2. The UN climate change conference - 2021 was held in
 - a. Paris
 - b. Moscow
 - c. **Glasgow**
 - d. New York
 - e. Answer not known

2021 ஆம் ஆண்டின் ஐக்கிய நாடுகள் நடத்திய காலநிலை மாற்ற மாநாடு எங்கு நடைபெற்றது?

 - a. பாரிஸ்
 - b. மாஸ்கோ
 - c. கிளாஸ்கோ
 - d. நியூயார்க்
 - e. விடை தெரியவில்லை
3. In the year 2022, 30th Anniversary will be celebrated by which of the following?
 - (1) India - SAARC
 - (2) India - ASEAN

(3) India - WHO

a. (1) only

b. (1) and (2) only

c. (2) only

d. (3) only

e. Answer not known

2022 ஆம் ஆண்டில் பின்வரும் எந்த இணையால் 30வது ஆண்டு விழா கொண்டாடப்படுகிறது

(1) இந்தியா

- SAARC

(2) இந்தியா

- ASEAN

(3) இந்தியா

- WHO

a. (1) மட்டும்

b. (1) மற்றும் (2) மட்டும்

c. (2) மட்டும்

d. (3) மட்டும்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Profile of States

4. Dream of Tamil Nadu : Our vision in to transform Tamil Nadu into a trillion dollar economy without affecting the

a. Happiness and social problem of the people

b. Happiness, environment and livelihood of the people

c. Happiness and poverty of the people

d. Happiness and cyber crime of the people

e. Answer not known

தமிழகத்தின் கனவு : தமிழகத்தை டிரில்லியன் டாலர் பொருளாதாரம் மாற்றுவதே எங்கள் பார்வை அவை இவற்றை பாதிக்காமல்

a. மகிழ்ச்சி மற்றும் மக்களின் சமூக பிரச்சனை

b. மகிழ்ச்சி, சுற்றுச் சூழல் மற்றும் மக்களின் வாழ்வாதாரம்

c. மக்களின் மகிழ்ச்சி மற்றும் வறுமை

d. மக்களின் மகிழ்ச்சி மற்றும் மக்களின் சைபர் குற்றங்கள்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

National symbols

5. The Peacock was declared the National Bird of India in

a. 1960

b. 1963

c. 1965

d. 1969

e. Answer not known

மயில் இந்தியாவின் தேசியப் பறவையாக அறிவிக்கப்பட்ட ஆண்டு

a. 1960

b. 1963

c. 1965

d. 1969

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Books and authors

6. One among the following cricketers has authored the book, "Straight from the Heart : An Autobiography" - Identify.

- a. Sunil Gavaskar **b. Kapil Dev** c. Saurav Ganguly
d. Sachin Tendulkar e. Answer not known

“இதயத்திலிருந்து நேராக : ஒரு சுயசரிதை” எழுதிய கிரிக்கெட் வீரர், கீழ்க் காணப்படுபவர்களில் யார்? கண்டுபிடி.

- a. சுனில் கவாஸ்கர் b. கபில் தேவ் c. சவுரவ் கங்குலி
d. சச்சின் டெண்டுல்கர் e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Latest inventions in Science and Technology

7. _____ was the first manned mission of NASA to go to the moon.

- a. Apollo - 5 **b. Apollo - 8** c. Apollo - 10
d. Apollo - 11 e. Answer not known

நாசாவின் மனிதனால் கையாளப்பட்ட _____ திட்டம் முதன் முதலில் மனிதர்களை நிலவுக்கு அனுப்பியது.

- a. அப்போலோ - 5 b. அப்போலோ - 8 c. அப்போலோ - 10
d. அப்போலோ - 11 e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Economy

8. Aatma Nirbhar Bharat is known as

- a. Universal health care b. Universal primary education
c. Self-reliant India d. Inclusive growth
e. Answer not known

ஆத்மா நிர்பார் பாரத் என அழைக்கப்படுவது

- a. உலகளாவிய சுகாதார பாதுகாப்பு b. உலகளாவிய ஆரம்பக் கல்வி
c. சுயசார்பு இந்தியா d. உள்ளடக்கிய வளர்ச்சி
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

