

VIJAYAKUMAR IAS ACADEMY

APRIL 2025

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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TAMILNADU

1. Geographical indications

- A clay doll from Vilacheri and marikozundhi from Madurai
- Kumbakonam betel leaf of Thanjavur
- Thovalai flower garland of Kanyakumari
- Panruti Palappazham (Panruti Jackfruit),
- Panruti Cashew
- Puliyanakudi Acid Lime,
- Virudhunagar Samba Vathal (dried red chillies),
- Chettikulam Small Onion (shallots) and Ramanathapuram Chithiraikar Rice have been granted geographical indications.

RELATED NEWS

- Geographical Indication rankings
- Uttar Pradesh (75 tags) - First place
- Tamil Nadu (69 tags) - second place
- The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, enacted in December 1999 and brought into force on September 15, 2003, provides for the registration and protection of geographical indications (GIs) relating to goods in India, ensuring the unique qualities and reputation of products linked to specific locations.

2. Alaikal scheme

- "Alaikal" scheme with a capital of Rs. 25 crores will be implemented through the Tamil Nadu State Head Fisheries Cooperative Network to provide microcredit for the economic development of fisherwomen.
- **'Kayaal' scheme**
- 'Kayaal' scheme will be launched on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation to make

quality fish and fish food products available to consumers at reasonable prices

➤ 'Ven Nidhi' scheme

- 'Ven Nidhi' scheme will be introduced to provide microcredit to milk producers through milk producers' cooperative societies.
- Works under the Ministry of milk and dairy development.

3. statue of Karl Marx

- TN Chief Minister MK Stalin announced that a statue of Karl Marx will be installed in Chennai.
- periyar who first translated The Communist Manifesto into Tamil in 1931.

4. HPV PROGRAM

- Tamil Nadu government provide the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to all girls aged 14 years in order to prevent cervical cancer.
- The program, which was launched in Villupuram district, is now set to be expanded.

RELATED NEWS

- The HPV vaccine is administered against the human papillomavirus.
- The vaccine protects against genital warts and most types of cervical cancer.
- Two small doses are given to girls aged 9-14 years.

5. LIBRARY

- The library being built in Trichy has been named after Kamaraj, and the library being built in Coimbatore has been named after Periyar.

6. **1% registration fee concession for women**

- TN govt introduces 1% registration fee concession for women to boost property ownership.
- The registration fee for all immovable assets, including houses, plots, and agricultural lands, valued up to ₹10 lakhs, will be reduced by 1% when registered in the name of women.
- policy aims to strengthen women's self-reliance and enhance financial stability, reinforcing their role in both family and society.
- It will be effective from April 1, 2025.

7. **Thooimai Mission**

- T.N. govt orders for new State-level mission for solid waste management in rural and urban areas.
- It also ordered that the Clean Tamil Nadu Company Limited (CTCL) be brought under this mission.
- **OBJECTIVE:** Ensuring universal access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene by fostering sustainable infrastructure, community engagement, and innovative practices

RELATED NEWS

- Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched on October 2, 2014.

Two Components:

- SBM (Gramin) aimed to ensure cleanliness in rural areas through Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities and make India Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- Aim: to transform all villages from ODF to ODF + model.
- Implemented by Ministry of Jal Shakti.

- SBM (Urban) 2.0 aims to make all cities garbage free, change public behaviour, ensure grey and black water management.
- Implemented by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- Key Initiatives: Swachh Bharat Kosh, Swachh Survekshan, Swachhta Hi Seva campaigns, Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan etc.

8. **Tamil Nadu posts record 9.69% economic growth IN 2024-2025**

- Tamil Nadu ranked the highest amongst other Indian states in terms of real economic growth rate, which stood at 9.69 per cent for the financial year 2024-25
- According to data from the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- Andhra Pradesh registered the second highest growth rate in the country with 8.21%.
- The real economic growth rate for the Southern state was the highest in the last 10 years
- Tamil Nadu's nominal growth rate was at 14.02 per cent for the year, also the highest among other Indian states.
- Tamilnadu economic growth has been driven by the services (tertiary) and the secondary sector, which involves professional services, communications, along with manufacturing and construction segments.

TERITIARY SECTOR (SERVICE SECTOR)

- Professional Services: 13.6% growth.
- Communications: 13% growth.

- Trade, Repair, Hotels, and Restaurants: Contributed 11.7% to the economy.
- Secondary Sector (Manufacturing & Construction):
- Manufacturing: 8% growth.
- construction: 10.6% growth.

9. APPOINTMENT OF VC'S

- The Tamil Nadu government will have absolute control over the functioning of universities, including the appointment and removal of VCs, even as the Governor remains the Chancellor.

RELATED NEWS

- ARTICLE 200- the process for a Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly of a State to be presented to the Governor for assent, who may either assent, withhold assent or reserve the Bill for consideration by the President.
- The Governor may also return the Bill with a message requesting reconsideration by the House or Houses.
- ARTICLE 201 – when a Bill is reserved for the consideration of the President, the President may assent to or withhold assent from the Bill.
- The President may also direct the Governor to return the Bill to the House or Houses of the Legislature of the State for reconsideration.
- Article 142 – Under this Article the Supreme Court is empowered to assent to bills which the Governor has not assent to it.

10. REPORT ON MIGRANT WORKERS BY STATE PLANNING COMMISSION

- The highest average income is earned by migrant workers in the construction sector (₹18,696 per month), followed by

those in the services sector (₹17,025 per month) and the manufacturing sector (₹14,534 per month).

11. KALAINAR KAIVINAI THITTAM

- The “KALAINAR KAIVINAI THITTAM (KKT)” has been introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu on behalf of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Dept with the aim of promoting artisans and developing artisans into entrepreneurs.
- Scheme will provide a maximum subsidy of Rs. 50,000 with a 25 percent subsidy, bank loan assistance of up to Rs. 3,00,000 and an interest subsidy of 5 percent.
- Applicants must be 35 years of age to apply for this scheme.
- Loan assistance will be provided to start new businesses and expand their existing businesses to benefit people involved in handicrafts and arts.

12. NALAYA THIRAN

- The Tamil Nadu government recently launched Naan Mudhalvan (I am the first).
- Under this programme, Tamil Nadu government has now launched Nalaya Thiran (Tomorrow's ability).
- In this programme, 50,000 college students will train with the knowledge in computer science, electronics and IT domains, skilling them on problem solving using technologies.
- The Tamil Nadu government has created the Nalaya Thiran program to help the industry get skilled students

13. MAGIZH MUTRAM

- In the year 2024-25, the student group (House System) system under the name

'Magizh Mutram' will be implemented in all government schools in Tamil Nadu.

- As a next step, a new activity called 'Magizh Mutram' will be launched on November 14 to develop the leadership qualities of students.
- To improve political knowledge and leadership skills among students from classes 1 to 12.

14. Thuzilanangu

- The Tamil Nadu Institute of New Industries and Innovation has taken up a new project called Thuzilanangu for the renaissance of women.

15. Tribal Museum and Research Centre

- Tribal Museum and Research Centre to be opened in Nilgiris by Tamil Nadu government

RELATED NEWS

- In India, Tamil Nadu alone has 36 types of tribal people.
- In particular, in the Nilgiris district, 6 types of tribal people live: Thodar, Kurumbar, Kothar, Katunayakkar, Irular, and Paniyar

16. AADHAR ENROLMENT AWARD TO SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPT

- The School Education Department has received a certificate of recognition from the Union Government for achieving first position for outstanding contribution Aadhaar enrolment of students with high-level accuracy.

UIDAI

- the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), a statutory authority under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology responsible for

issuing aadhar card unique 12-digit identification number to Indian residents.

RELATED NEWS

- The Jammu and Kashmir government has introduced a conservation initiative called the "Digital Tree Aadhaar" for its iconic Chinar trees.

17. CENTRE-STATE RELATIONSHIP

COMMITTEE

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Tuesday constituted a high-level committee under former Supreme Court Judge Justice Kurian Joseph to review Centre-State relations and recommend measures to achieve "maximum State autonomy" in administration, and legislature, "without harming national unity."
- The committee will submit an interim report in January 2026 while the final report is expected in two years' time.
- Justice Kurian Joseph (Retired Supreme Court Judge) – Chairperson
- K. Ashok Vardhan Shetty (Retd. IAS, former VC of Indian Maritime University)
- M. Naganathan (Former Vice-Chairman, State Planning Commission)

RELATED NEWS

committees on centre-state relations

- Rajamannar Committee (1969)
- Sarkaria Commission (1983)
- Punchhi Commission (2007)

18. TN GOVT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Tamil Nadu government has announced that a memorial will be built for revolutionary poet Bharathidasan in Villupuram.

- A statue of Ponnappa, also known as Kumari Gomedhakam, is to be erected in Nagercoil.
- The centenary of the musical legend Nagore Hanifa is to be celebrated as a state festival in Nagapattinam.
- The centenary of Kundrakudi Adigal is to be celebrated as a state festival in Sivaganga district.
- Tamilnadu GOVT announced that a statue of Tamil Mother Goddess will be installed at Semmozhi Park in Coimbatore.

19. **Aran ILLAM**

- It has been announced in the Legislative Assembly that a charity home for transgender people will be opened in Chennai and Madurai.

20. **THIRAN**

- The School Education Department will implement an initiative, 'Thiran', to increase students' proficiency in English, Tamil, and maths.
- students of Classes VI-VIII at government schools would be given coaching during school hours.

RELATED NEWS

- Tamil Nadu government has launched Nalaya Thiran (Tomorrow's ability).
- In this programme, 50,000 college students will train with the knowledge in computer science, electronics and IT domains, skilling them on problem solving using technologies. under the Naan Mudhalvan (I am the first).

21. **Project 'Malarum Punnagai'**

- The innovative efforts of Virudhunagar district administration to set right protruding teeth or malocclusion

among school children have started to bring smiles on their face.

- students with teeth misalignment or malocclusion were first identified through health camps conducted by Rashtriya bal sawasthya karyakram.
- no health scheme or insurance scheme covered the expenditure for the product

22. **MLA CONSTITUENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

- TN government would bear the 18% GST levied on the MLA constituency development fund.

RELATED NEWS

- The MLACDS is fully funded by the State Government and each MLA identifies and proposes the works to be executed in his Constituency.
- The Scheme is implemented both in rural and urban areas.
- The main objective of the Scheme is to identify and implement the essential works to bridge the critical infrastructure gaps in the Assembly Constituencies.
- The allocation of funds under the Scheme is increased to 3 crores.

23. **TN HEALTH SCHEME**

- scheme to provide nutritious food to patients undergoing haemodialysis at all government medical college hospitals and grant of ₹1,000 every month to 7,618 children affected with HIV/AIDS for their nutrition, education, and medical needs.

24. **KALAINAR KARUNIDHI UNIVERSITY**

- Chief Minister Stalin announced that a university will be established in

Kumbakonam in the name of former chief minister Karunanidhi.

25. **TN launches India's first state electronics component manufacturing scheme**

- The scheme comes at a time when the state's electronics exports have grown significantly—from \$1.66 billion in FY21 to over \$14.6 billion in FY25—making Tamil Nadu the largest electronics manufacturing export base in India
- aims to attract high-value investments and jobs by enabling Tamil Nadu's electronics manufacturing ecosystem to move up the value chain.

26. **BOOK BASED ON P.T. RAJAN RELEASED**

- Book on the life and legacy of Justice Party leader and former Chief Minister of the erstwhile Madras Presidency P.T. Rajan titled Dravida Araneriyalar Thamizhavel P.T. Rajan Vaazhve Varalaru was released.

27. **VARAPATTI**

- Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) said the 350-acre park coming up at Varapatti in the Coimbatore district would have industries in the semiconductor, defence, and aerospace sectors.

28. **TAMIL WEEK CELEBRATION**

- T.N. govt. to celebrate birth anniversary of late Tamil poet 'Paavendhar' Bharathidasan for a week between April 29 and May 5

29. **INSCRIPTIONS**

MALAYADIPATTI

PONNAMARAVATHI

FROM

AND

- Malayadipatti (pudukottai district) who discovered a rock inscription near the Kudambeeswarar Temple, located on a nearby hillock. Preliminary readings date the inscription to the 16th century.
- Though partially damaged, it records a land partition agreement between the villages of Sundara Chozhapuram and Sevvalur, undertaken for the purpose of excavating an oorani (a water storage pond).
- Another inscription, found near a sunai (spring), refers to King Raja Rajan Sundarapandyan. It records that a man named Udaiyan Perumal from Sevvalur contributed to the creation of this waterbody.

30. **Tamil Nadu's installed power capacity**

- Total capacity stands at 42,772 MW against last year's 39,806 MW
- Gujarat has taken the lead in wind energy capacity for the second time in a row, with a capacity of 12,677.48 MW.
- Tamilnadu has taken the second place in wind energy capacity.
- Tamil Nadu has retained its fourth position in installed capacity of solar energy in the country, with 10,153.58 MW in 2024-25 for the third year in a row
- Rajasthan continues to top the list with 28,286.47 MW, followed by Gujarat with 18,496.66 MW, and Maharashtra with 10,687.27 MW.
- **RELATED NEWS**
- The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, the world's largest domestic rooftop solar initiative, is

transforming India's energy landscape with a bold vision to supply solar power to one crore households by March 2027

- PM KUSUM Scheme is aimed at ensuring energy security for farmers in India, along with honouring India's commitment to increase the share of installed capacity of electric power from non-fossil-fuel sources to 40% by 2030 as part of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

31. Tamil Nadu Money Lending Entities, Bill, 2025

- Tamilnadu govt introduced a Bill proposing stringent punishment for money-lending entities employing coercive loan recovery practices on economically weaker and vulnerable groups.
- no borrower or any member of their family shall be subjected to coercive action by a money-lending entity or its agents while recovering loans.
- In cases where a borrower or their family member dies by suicide as a result of harassment by such entities, the firm and its agents will be booked for abetment of suicide. They will be deemed to have committed an offence under Section 108 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.
- The state has already enacted the Tamil Nadu Pawn Brokers Act, 1943, the Tamil Nadu Money-Lenders Act, 1957, and the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of

CharginExorbitant Interest Act, 2003.

- Tamil Nadu is the second-largest market for the Rs 3.85-lakh-crore microfinance industry.

32. Urudhunai loan scheme

- The State government will implement the Urudhunai scheme to provide small and micro loans, worth ₹25 crore, at reduced interest rates to small retailers, traders and manufacturers from Adi Dravidar and tribal communities through the National Finance Development Fund.

33. TN GOVT INTRODUCED BILL TO PUNISH DUMPING OF MEDICAL WASTE

- Bill to amend Goondas Act introduced in TN Assembly to punish those who dump medical waste into state
- The Goondas Act, 1982, allows the state to detain individuals without trial, preventing them from engaging in "dangerous activities prejudicial to the maintenance of public order"

INDIA

1. AFSPA

- The Centre also extended AFSPA in parts of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh until 30th September 2025.

RELATED NEWS

- It was passed by Parliament in September 1958 and implemented in response to escalating violence in the north-eastern states, which the

state governments were unable to control.

- It enables certain special powers to be conferred upon members of the armed forces in "disturbed areas."
- Both the state and Union governments can issue notifications declaring certain areas as "disturbed", granting the armed forces the authority under AFSPA.
- In disturbed areas, armed forces personnel are empowered to use force (even lethal), arrest without warrant, and conduct searches without warrant to maintain public order and tackle threats.
- Under AFSPA, armed forces personnel are protected from legal proceedings for actions taken under the Act, unless prior sanction is obtained from the Central Government.

2.ZooWIN

- The UNION government has introduced ZooWIN, a digital platform aimed at real-time monitoring of anti-rabies vaccines and anti-snake venom stocks.
- The pilot programme for ZooWIN will launch in five states – Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Puducherry, and Andhra Pradesh.
- ZooWIN is developed by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

3.INDIA'S FIRST VERTICAL LIFT BRIDGE

- India's first vertical lift railway sea bridge, a 2.07-kilometre-long

marvel spanning the Palk Strait in Tamil Nadu

- Opened on 06-04-2025
- The New Pamban Bridge was constructed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Railways.

4.PMMY

- Bihar leads in the number of PMMY (Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana) women entrepreneurs with 42 million accounts, followed by Tamil Nadu (40 million) and West Bengal (37 million).
- Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and West Bengal have the highest proportion of women account holders, with 79%, 75%, and 73%, respectively.

RELATED NEWS

- The Micro Units Development and Refinancing Agency (MUDRA), launched in 2015 to provide collateral-free financing to small businesses.
- Funding Provision: Loans are extended through Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) such as Scheduled Commercial Banks, RRBs, NBFCs, and MFIs.
- SHISHU- UPTO 50000
- KISHORE-ABOVE 50000-UPTO 5LAKHS
- TARUN-ABOVE 5LAKHS -UPTO 10LAKHS
- TARUN PLUS- ABOVE 10 LAKHS - UPTO 20 LAKHS

5.VIBRANT VILLAGE PROGRAMME

- VVP-II focused on comprehensive development of strategic villages near international land borders

(ILBs), other than Northern borders already covered under VVP-I.

Objectives of VVP-II:

- Enhance quality of life in border villages.
- Create livelihood opportunities for border residents.
- Ensure national security by involving locals as eyes and ears of border forces.
- Curb trans-border crimes and promote border integrity.
- Strengthen connectivity and governance in strategic regions

➤ About Vibrant Villages Programme

- VVP-I launched: February 2023 at kithoo in Arunachal Pradesh
- Works under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)
- development of villages on the northern border, thus improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages.
- It will cover the border areas of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh.

6. NEW WAQF ACT (AMENDMENT)

- Kerala set to establish Waqf Board under new Waqf (Amendment) Act
- RELATED NEWS**
- Waqf is a permanent dedication of property by a person for a purpose that is recognised as pious, religious or charitable by Muslim law.
 - Such purposes include: (i) maintaining mosques and graveyards, (ii) establishing educational institutions and healthcare facilities, and (iii)

providing financial aid to the poor and disabled.

- Charitable and religious institutions fall under the Concurrent List of the Constitution.
- Hence, both Parliament and State Legislatures have powers to frame laws on it.
- Currently, creation and management of waqf in India is governed by the Waqf Act, 1995.

7. FIRST STATE TO GIVE RESERVATION FOR AGNIVEER

- Haryana is the first state in the country which has secured the future of Agniveers by creating a provision for jobs after their service period in the armed forces.
- The Haryana Govt has already provided security cover to the Agniveers by implementing the Haryana Agniveer Policy-2024.
- Agniveers will be provided 20 per cent reservation in the recruitment of state police.

8. GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT

- The Global Technology Summit (GTS) is India's flagship dialogue on geo-technology, co-hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and Carnegie India.
- aim to shape global technology policy conversations with a focus on innovation, resilience, and international cooperation.
- The 9th edition of the GTS will be held from 10-12 April in New Delhi.
- Theme : "Sambhavna" - meaning possibilities—and will explore how emerging technologies can drive inclusive growth, strengthen digital

governance, and deepen cross-border partnerships.

9. FIRST STATE TO ACHIEVE DIGITAL LITERACY

- The Kerala government has become the first state to achieve total digital literacy.
- They have achieved much beyond the guidelines stipulated by the National Digital Literacy Mission for digital literacy, which require training to be imparted only for those up to 60 years of age.
- Back in 2022, the Digi Kerala idea had begun as a pilot initiative of the Pullampara gram panchayat in Thiruvananthapuram to impart digital literacy to all residents.
- PM-கிராமப்புறடிஜிட்டல் எழுத்தறிவு பிரச்சாரம் (PMGDISHA)
- Launched: In 2017 for digital literacy in rural India.
- Implementing agency: CSC e-Governance Services India Limited.
- Beneficiaries: One person (age group of 14-60 years) from every eligible rural household.
- Coverage: Applicable only for rural areas with a Gram Panchayat centric approach.

10. HEATWAVES DECLARED AS STATE SPECIFIC DIASTER

- The Telangana government has declared heatwaves, sunstrokes, and sunburns as a 'State-Specific Disaster'.
- It has also enhanced the financial relief provided to families of heatwave victims to ₹4 lakhs per deceased person.

RELATED NEWS

- The Tamil Nadu government has officially declared heatwaves a State-specific disaster and announced ex-gratia payments of ₹4 lakhs for families of individuals who die of heat-related causes, including those involved in relief operations.

11. Operation Chakra V

- The CBI is implementing Operation Chakra V to arrest those involved in digital fraud in India.

12. INDIA'S FIRST TRAIN WITH ATM

- In a first, the Railways initiated trials for an ATM onboard Panchvati Express train, aiming for non-fare revenue (NFR) generation in coordination with Bank of Maharashtra.

13. BHARAT PROJECT

- Union Government launched The Bharat Project, a bold national initiative by YourStory, aimed at et empowering 1 million entrepreneurs from Tier 2, Tier 3, and rural India.
- The Bharat Project brings together the government, ecosystem enablers, creators, and and communities to unlock grassroots potential and make access to entrepreneuriural tools, education, and funding easier for everyone.

14. SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme

- The SVES was launched in 1992.
- Under the scheme, certain categories of dignitaries from SAARC countries are issued a special travel document.
- This special instrument exempts them from the need for visas and other travelling documents to travel among these countries.

- Currently, the list includes 24 categories of entitled persons, which include dignitaries, judges of higher courts, parliamentarians, senior officials, businessmen, journalists, sportspersons, etc.
- The validity of the visa sticker is generally for one year.

15. country's longest rail tunnel

- The country's longest rail tunnel at Janasu in Uttarakhand. This milestone is part of the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag Broad Gauge Rail Link Project
- The Rishikesh-Karnaprayag project spans 125 km, with 104 km, or 83%, consisting of tunnels.

16. India Skills Accelerator

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on Tuesday said it has collaborated with the World Economic Forum to launch the "India Skills Accelerator" initiative.
- The India Skills Accelerator initiative will function as a public-private collaboration platform to enable cross-sectoral efforts for unlocking innovative ideas.

17. Microdata Portal Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) launched a revamped microdata portal

- The new portal, which serves as a centralized repository for extensive statistical data collected from national surveys and economic census overcomes technological limitations faced by the previous portal.

18. Bridge inventory and condition rating system

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched a ranking mechanism to rate its infrastructure assets to determine their structural safety and look for remedial measures for their upkeep and regular monitoring.
- the Bridge Inventory and Condition Rating System (BICRS), mandates comprehensive documentation, assessment, and inspection of bridges twice a year.
- As part of the rating system, the agency aims to prepare a unified repository of all its structures, and each property will be assigned a union assessment identification number.

19. INDIA SILK PRODUCTION

- India is the second largest producer of silk and also the largest consumer of silk in the world.
- In India, mulberry silk is produced mainly in the states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal, while the non-mulberry silks are produced in Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, Orissa and north-eastern states.

RELATED NEWS

- The Silk Samagra Scheme is an important initiative by the government to improve the sericulture industry across India.
- Its objective is to scale up production by improving the quality and productivity and to empower downtrodden, poor & backward families through various activities of sericulture in the country.

20. Japan to gift high-speed Shinkansen trains to India for bullet train testing

- Japan will provide two high-speed shinkansen trains (E5 and E3 models) free of charge to India for use as test and inspection vehicles in the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project, boosting India's first high-speed rail initiative.

21.INDIAS FIRST POLLUTION TADING SCHEME

- The The Surat Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) launched in 2019 seeks to curb air pollution by allowing industries to buy and sell permits for particulate matter emissions.
- cluster of industrial plants in Surat traded permits on a platform hosted by the National Commodities and Derivatives Exchange e-Markets Limited (NeML). Plants that failed to comply with emission caps or permit requirements were fined.

STATES

1. Eco town

- Telangana Government signed pacts with several Japanese companies working in recycling, waste management, environmental restoration, and circular economy, to establish an 'Eco Town' in Hyderabad.

2.Amaravati to be world's first fully renewable-powered city

- With an ambitious plan to harness 2,700 megawatts (MW) of green energy, the city aims to meet all its electricity needs through sustainable sources like solar, wind, and hydropower.

3. Kerala Launches Online Services for Permanent Lok Adalats

- Kerala has become the first state in India to introduce online filing and hearing facilities for Permanent Lok Adalats.
- Led by: Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KELSA)
- Aim: To bridge the justice gap using technology.
- The online platform allows applicants to file their cases from anywhere in the State, reducing the need for physical presence.

Lokadalat

- Lok Adalats, or People's Courts, are an essential part of India's Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) system, offering a non-adversarial, cost-effective, and time-efficient method to resolve disputes amicably.
- Origin and Legal Status: The first Lok Adalat was held in Junagadh, Gujarat, in 1982.
- Its success led to formal recognition under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, granting it statutory authority for dispute resolution.

4.Karnataka set to become the first to complete village-level survey of antiquities

- The survey entails documentation of inscriptions, sculptures, monuments etc. across villages and each antiquity will be geo-tagged making Karnataka the first State to have such a detailed inventory.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. 6th BIMSTEC SUMMIT

- The 6th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical

and Economic Cooperation) Summit was hosted by Thailand.

- Theme - "BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open".

2. **BIMSTEC**

- Bangladesh Takes Over Chairmanship of BIMSTEC for Next Two Years.

RELATED NEWS

- BIMSTEC stands for Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation.
- It is a group of seven countries near the Bay of Bengal. These countries are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- This group works together to improve trade, economy and regional sites.
- The Sixth BIMSTEC Summit was held in Bangkok, Thailand, three years after the previous (virtual) summit in 2022.
- Theme : "Prosperous, Resilient and Open BIMSTEC."

3. **World's First 3D-Printed Railway Station**

- World's First 3D-Printed Railway Station Built In Japan In Just 6 Hours.

4. **IPU**

- The 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is being held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- The Inter-Parliamentary Union is a global organisation of national parliaments.
- The IPU was created in 1889.
- The headquarters of IPU is in Geneva, Switzerland.

5. **PROJECT SEA cure**

- IN UK , PROJECT SEA cure is a pioneering technology to extract co2

directly from sea water enhancing the oceans natural carbon absorption.

- Aim to combat climate change by securing co2 before it escapes ,using sustainable materials.

6. **Green cryptoinitiative**

- Green cryptocurrencies are digital currencies mined using renewable energy sources like hydro, wind, or solar instead of fossil fuels.
- **Features:**
 - uses 100% hydropower, making mining carbon-neutral.
 - Supports blockchain technology with an eco-friendly footprint.
 - Offers green digital assets to companies aiming to meet Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) targets.
- **Significance:**
 - Aligns with Bhutan's Gross National Happiness (GNH) model, emphasizing sustainability.
 - Positions Bhutan as a global hub for green digital finance.

7. **UNDP JOINS SANTIAGO NETWORK**

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is pleased to announce its membership in the Santiago Network, a global initiative that connects technical experts and organizations dedicated to helping vulnerable countries and communities confront the irreversible impacts of loss and damage due to climate change.

Santiago Network

- Established in 2019, the Santiago Network brings together organizations, networks and experts to facilitate the implementation of solutions that avert, minimize and address loss and damage

caused by climate change, with a focus on developing and vulnerable countries.

- Its secretariat is co-hosted by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Geneva.

POLITY

1. ARTICLE 201

- For the first time, the Supreme Court has prescribed that the president should decide on the bills reserved for her consideration by the governor within three months
- If there is any delay beyond this period, the reasons must be recorded and communicated to the respective state.
 - The Courts have the authority to intervene if constitutional functions are not executed within a reasonable time.
 - State Governments can challenge the President's decision if assent is withheld without justification.

RELATED NEWS

- Article 201 of the Constitution allows a Governor to reserve a Bill passed by a State Legislature for the President's consideration.
- However, the Constitution does not prescribe a specific timeframe for the President to act.

2.SUB –CATEGORISATION OF SC

- Telangana becomes first State to notify categorisation of Scheduled Castes.
- seven-judge Constitution Bench in *Davinder Singh v State of Punjab* that allowed further sub-classification of SCs

and STs to ensure the grant of quota to more backward castes inside these groups.

PROVISIONS

- Article 341: President, after consulting the Governor, can specify castes, races, or tribes as Scheduled Castes for a State or Union Territory.
- Article 342: President, after consulting the Governor, can specify tribes or tribal communities as Scheduled Tribes for a State or Union Territory.

3.JUSTICE BHUSHAN RAMKRISHNA GAVAI APPOINTED AS CJI

- Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai is all set to be sworn in as the next Chief Justice of India on May 14, following the retirement of current Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna.
- Justice B.R. Gavai, currently is the second-most senior Supreme Court judge and will become the 2nd Dalit CJI after Justice K.G. Balakrishnan (2007).

Chief Justice of India

- A Supreme Court judge, including the CJI, is appointed by the President under Article 124 (2).
- The senior-most judge is designated as CJI based on length of service.
- To qualify as CJI, one must be a citizen of India, have served as a High Court judge for 5 years or as an advocate for 10 years, or be a distinguished jurist in the President's opinion.
- The CJI can only be removed by the President after an address by Parliament, supported by a special majority in both Houses.

4. 23RD LAW COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

- Former SC judge Dinesh Maheshwari appointed law commission chairperson.

RELATED NEWS

- 22nd Law Commission chairperson- Justice (retired) Ritu Raj Awasthi
- First Law Commission – 1834 (Chairman – Lord Macaulay)
- First Law Commission of Independent India – 1955 (Chairman – M.C. Setalvad)

5. India Justice Report 2025

- The top position in terms of justice delivery has been retained by Karnataka, followed by Andhra Pradesh, climbing from fifth in 2022 to second, Telangana (2022 ranking: 3rd), and Tamilnadu (Ranked 5th overall among large states (down from 2nd in 2022))

6.KOKBOROK

- Kokborok is the native language of the Borok (Tripuri) people, belonging to the Tibeto-Burmese linguistic family.
- Predominantly spoken in Tripura, it is also used in parts of Assam, Mizoram.
- History of Language:
- Officially recognized as a state language of Tripura on January 19, 1979.
- Eighth Schedule of the Constitution:
- The Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India lists the languages recognized by the Constitution for official purposes.
- Constitutional references: Article 344(1) and Article 351.
- Languages Included: Currently contains 22 languages, including Hindi, Bengali, Assamese, Urdu, Tamil, Telugu, and Bodo.
- History:
- Originally, 14 languages were included at the time of adoption in 1950.
- Later additions:
- Sindhi (1967)

- Konkani, Manipuri, Nepali (1992)
- Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Santhali (2004).
- Benefits of Inclusion:
- Constitutional recognition at the national level.
- Enhanced government support for language promotion and preservation.

HISTORY

1.Haryana Declares Two Harappan Sites as Protected Archaeological Monuments

- In a significant move to preserve ancient heritage, the Haryana government has officially declared two archaeological sites from the Harappan era — Mitathal and Tighrana in Bhiwani district — as protected monuments.

RELATED NEWS

Excavators at Harappa

- First excavation – Daya Ram Sahnii (1921)
- Sir John Hubert Marshall (1921-1922)
- Sir John Marshall (1924)

Visitors to Harappa

- First visitor – Charles Mason (1826)
- Amri – Alexander Burns (1831)
- Alexander Cunningham – 1853, 1856, 1875
- R.E.M. Wheeler – 1940

2.COPPER COINS FROM VIJAYANAGAR

- Recently, copper coins from the 15th century Vijayanagara period were found in the Thenpennai River area of Ulundapatti near Panruti in Cuddalore district.

3.UNESCO's Memory of the World Register

- Bhagavad Gita, Natyashastra added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Register
- Traditionally attributed to sage Bharata, the Natyashastra is an ancient Sanskrit treatise on performing arts.
- It comprises around 36,000 verses detailing drama (natya), performance (abhinaya), music (sangita), emotions (bhava), and aesthetic experience (rasa).

ECONOMICS

1. One State-One RRB' plan

- to achieve operational efficiency and cost rationalisation and consolidation of 43 regional rural banks (RRBs) to 28
- works under the finance ministry.
- Andhra Pradesh, which has the maximum number of RRBs (4), Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal (3 each).
- Tamil Nadu Grama Bank, a Regional Rural Bank (RRB) was formed as an amalgamation of Pallavan Grama Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank
- newly amalgamated bank is headquartered at Salem, and it functions under the sponsorship of Indian Bank.

RRB

- These banks were formed under the RRB Act, 1976, with an objective to provide credit and other facilities to small farmers, agricultural labourers and artisans in rural areas.
- Currently, the Centre holds 50 per cent stake in RRBs, while 35 per cent and 15 per cent are with the concerned sponsor banks and state governments, respectively.

- The Narasimham Committee recommended the establishment of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs),
- The Shivaraman Committee (1982) recommended the establishment of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

2. INDIA'S TOP TRADING PARTNER

- The United States continued to be India's largest trading partner for the fourth year in a row in the financial year 2024-25
- India's exports to the US grew by 11.6 per cent in 2024-25
- India's imports from the US also increased by 7.44 per cent
- This growth resulted in a trade surplus of \$41.18 billion for India, meaning India exported much more to the US than it imported. This surplus was \$35.32 billion in 2023-24.
- Trade deficit with China widens
- China remains India's second-largest trading partner
- In 2024-25, the UAE remained India's third-largest trading partner.

3. IIP

- The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) announced that the All India Index of Industrial Production (IIP) will be released within 28 days, starting from April 2025. This is a reduction from the previous 42-day timeline.
- Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is a key statistical tool used to measure the short-term changes in the volume of production in Indian industries.

- It provides insight into the growth or contraction of industrial activity over a given period, making it a crucial economic performance indicator.
- The IIP is published by the Central Statistics Office(CSO), which is part of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- The current base year for the index is 2011–12.
- Eight Core Industries (Weight in IIP: 40.27%)
- Listed in decreasing order of weightage:
 - Refinery Products
 - Electricity
 - Steel
 - Coal
 - Crude Oil
 - Natural Gas
 - Cement
 - Fertilisers

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

1. PUNJAB GOVT BANS HYBRID RICE

- Punjab government imposed a ban on the cultivation of hybrid rice varieties, citing concerns over groundwater conservation and environmental pollution.

2. DR. AMBEDKAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

- Madhya Pradesh govt announces new wildlife sanctuary named after Dr BR Ambedkar in Sagar
- it would be the first wildlife sanctuary in MP to be named after Dr BR Ambedkar.
- Madhya Pradesh has the largest number of wildlife sanctuaries in India.

RELATED NEWS

- Dr BR Ambedkar Bird Sanctuary is located in Uttar Pradesh.

3. TEA PRODUCTION

- India is also a major tea producer, ranking third globally after China, with a significant share of global tea production.
- Kenya typically ranks second in global tea exports

4. RYNDIA SILK

- Meghalaya has achieved the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for its traditional handwoven fabric, Ryndia, along with Meghalaya Handloom Products.

RELATED NEWS

- Meghalaya Government declared Umden-Diwon village as the state's first eri silk village in recognition of the age-old rich textile tradition of the state's indigenous tribal communities.

5. Nilgiri tahr

- The mountain goat is Tamil Nadu's State animal
- TN GOVT announced to observe October 7 as Nilgiri tahr day every year to honour hunter-turned-conservationist ERC Davidar, and the subsequent launch of Project Nilgiri tahr on October 12.

6. crocodile conservation centre

- crocodile Conservation Centre at Anaikarai, Thanjavur district
- aim to reduce human-crocodile conflicts in the Cauvery delta.
- The mugger crocodile, or marsh crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*), is the

most widespread crocodilian species in India.

7. GANDHI SAGAR SANCTUARY

- After Kuno national park, Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary has become the second place in not only the state but the country where cheetahs are being relocated.

8. IISR SURYA

- The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) introduced a new turmeric variety named IISR Surya.
- This variety is designed specifically for the masala and powdering industry
- IISR Surya features a light-coloured rhizome, making it ideal for powdering.

9. CHLORPYRIFOS

- India has reportedly opposed the inclusion of a hazardous insecticide under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, an international environmental treaty to protect human health and the environment.
- chlorpyrifos was the most frequently used pesticide in India, accounting for 9.4 per cent of the total insecticide consumption,
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has classified chlorpyrifos as a moderately hazardous pesticide
- The insecticide, Chlorpyrifos, is a chemical linked to adverse effects on neurodevelopment, reduced birth size, lung and prostate cancer upon chronic exposure.
- Basel and Rotterdam are also multilateral environmental agreements, which share the common objective of protecting human health and the

environment from hazardous chemicals and wastes.

10. DRAFT GREEN HOUSE EMISSION INTENSITY

- the Draft Greenhouse Gases Emissions Intensity (GEI) Target Rules, 2025, under the carbon credit trading scheme, 2003
- The government has notified draft Rules introducing targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by “obligated entities” in energy-intensive sectors and industries.
- the CCTS was launched to create a framework for the trading of carbon credits, to facilitate the reduction of emissions in energy intensive industries, and to support India’s climate commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015.
- GEI, is the amount of GHGs that are emitted per unit of product output — the amount of GHGs that are released in the production of, say, 1 tonne of cement, aluminium, or paper, etc.

significance

- The introduction of industry-specific targets is crucial to meet India’s climate goals. The ultimate objective is to push industries towards a low-carbon growth trajectory through reduction, removal or avoidance of GHG emissions.

11. Global climate council

- Brazil has proposed the creation of a new international body to accelerate global climate action. The plan is shared ahead of this year’s UN climate conference (Conference of the Parties –

COP30) in Belem, a city in northern Brazil, in November 2025. The plan suggests forming a "Climate Change Council" under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

- aim to fast-track decisions made at COP meetings, better coordinate international efforts, and make climate action more effective

12. **Clinidium lalitae**

- It is a newly found species of beetle.
- It was discovered in the Talle Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh.
- It has been named 'Clinidium lalitae', in tribute to the late Dr. Lalita Ray Chaudhury, a respected coleopterologist and former scientist at Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)
- The 'Clinidium lalitae' beetle is characterised by its unique morphology and belongs to a rare group of ground beetles that inhabit forest floors.
- These beetles play a significant ecological role in nutrient cycling and soil health.

13. **Mati Carbon, Indian-led climate initiative wins \$50m XPRIZE Carbon Removal competition**

- Mati Carbon uses an Enhanced Rock Weathering model, which captures carbon dioxide (CO₂) while boosting crop yields for smallholder farmers. This offers a rare synergy of environmental & social impact.
- XPRIZE, launched in 2021 by elon musk foundation , challenges innovators to

deploy scalable solutions for removing CO₂.

- Enhanced Rock Weathering Model
- Definition: Enhanced Rock Weathering involves grinding basalt (or other volcanic rocks like Olivine) into a fine powder and then spreading it on various landscapes. E.g., farmlands, forests, and coastlines.
- The Basaltic powder then reacts over time, removing CO₂ from the atmosphere and locking it away in an inorganic form that will wash into lakes, rivers, and oceans.
- Basalt's good CO₂ absorption capabilities stem from its high content of calcium, magnesium, and iron.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. **MISSION Fram2**

- SpaceX launches private astronaut crew in Fram2 polar-orbiting mission.

2. **FERTILIZED EMBROYO TRANSFER**

- The first-ever calf born through In-Vitro Fertilized Embryo Transfer (IVF-ET) technology in Puducherry has been delivered at Kanuvapet village near Villianur.
- The calf was delivered under a pilot project taken up with the support of Rashtriya Gokul Mission.

RELATED NEWS

- Rashtriya Gokul Mission was launched by the Central Government in December 2014
- aim: to promote rearing of indigenous cattle and conservation in an organised scientific manner.
- The National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development is

responsible for implementing the scheme.

- In 2021, the Rashtriya Gokul Mission was merged with the Rashtriya Pushudhan Vikas Yojana as an umbrella scheme.

3. WORLD'S FIRST DE-EXTINCTED ANIMAL CREATED THROUGH CRISPR

- Researchers in the US have cloned a species of wolf known as DIRE, which went extinct 10,000 years ago.

CRISPR TECHNOLOGY

- Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR) is a gene editing technology, which replicates natural defence mechanism in bacteria to fight virus attacks, using a special protein called Cas9.
- It usually involves the introduction of a new gene, or suppression of an existing gene, through a process described as genetic engineering.

RELATED NEWS

- Sickle cell anaemia is the first disease that is being targeted for CRISPR-based therapy in India

4. MAURITIUS JOINS ISA

- Mauritius has become the first country in Africa and fourth worldwide to formalize a Country Partnership Framework with the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE

- It is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization aimed at promoting solar energy as a sustainable solution for energy access and climate change.
- Launched in 2015 by India and France at the COP21 summit in Paris.
- Headquarters: Gurugram (Haryana).

- It leads initiatives like One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG) to promote global solar energy integration.
- India also offers solar project funding, training, and technology transfer to member nations, especially in Africa and Asia.

5. AI Kiran

- a platform aimed at empowering Indian women in AI, with support from the Indian government and global organisations, on April 21, 2025, aligning with UN World Creativity and Innovation Day.

6. HEALD INITIATIVE

- HEALD stands for Healthy Liver Education and Alcohol-associated Liver Disease Prevention.
- It is India's first multi-sectoral national movement targeting liver health, alcohol use disorder, and early disease intervention.
- Ministry Involved: Spearheaded under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- Implemented by: Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), New Delhi, a premier institution under GNCT Delhi.
- **Objective:**
- To prevent liver failure by integrating awareness, early screening, rehabilitation, and policy reforms.
- To reduce stigma around alcohol-related liver diseases by providing mental health and community support.

7. The Bullseye Galaxy (LEDA 1313424)

- The Bullseye Galaxy (LEDA 1313424) is a collisional ring galaxy (CRG) located

approximately 534 million light-years away in the constellation Pisces.

- The galaxy's distinct ringed structure is believed to have formed approximately 50 million years ago due to a head-on collision with a blue dwarf galaxy.
- This head-on collision is believed to have caused rippling gas waves, leading to star formation in ring-like patterns.
- This discovery was termed "serendipitous" as ringed galaxies usually have only two or three rings
- The Hubble Space Telescope confirmed eight rings.
- The Bullseye Galaxy spans 250,000 light-years in diameter — nearly 2.5 times larger than the Milky Way.

8. India's First Quantum Computing Village in Amaravati.

- the Quantum Computing Village will feature a landmark Iconic Building, conceptualised by IBM. The facility is envisioned as a collaborative ecosystem where institutions and companies can access and share advanced quantum computing resources.

9. The Himalayan High-Altitude Atmospheric & Climate Centre

- The Himalayan High-Altitude Atmospheric & Climate Centre was inaugurated on 25th March 2025 in Nathatop, Udhampur district.
- This initiative aims to enhance climate monitoring and research in the unique high-altitude environment of the Himalayas.
- The project is spearheaded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences in

collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department and the Central University of Jammu.

10. CROP

- CROP (Comprehensive Remote Sensing Observation on Crop Progress), a semi-automated, scalable framework, developed by NRSC/ISRO enables the near real-time monitoring of crop sowing and harvesting during the Rabi season across India.
- Sowing progress of Wheat crop, is being monitored across eight major Wheat growing states of India (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra) during the 2024-25 Rabi season.

11. China tests non-nuclear hydrogen bomb

- Unlike traditional nuclear bombs, this device uses a magnesium-based solid-state hydrogen storage material known as magnesium hydride, which is capable of storing more hydrogen than pressurised tanks.
- Once activated, the magnesium hydride undergoes rapid thermal decomposition, releasing hydrogen gas that ignites into a sustained fireball exceeding 1,000 degrees Celsius for over two seconds—15 times longer than equivalent TNT blasts.
- This combustion results in extensive thermal damage, sufficient to melt aluminum alloys, and allows for precise control over blast intensity, achieving uniform destruction across vast areas.

12. **CHASTE**

- ChaSTE (Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment) measures the temperature profile of the lunar topsoil around the pole, to understand the thermal behaviour of the moon's surface.

13. **Llama 4**

- Meta has launched a new standalone AI app powered by its latest language model, Llama 4, offering users a more personal and voice-driven digital assistant experience.

14. **IRONWOOD**

- Introduced the seventh generation of its Tensor Processing Unit (TPU), Ironwood, last week. Unveiled at Google Cloud Next 25, it is said to be the company's most powerful and scalable custom artificial intelligence (AI) accelerator.

15. **HANTA VIRUS**

- Hantavirus is a rare but deadly virus that spreads through urine, feces, and saliva of infected rodents.
- Transmission primarily occurs through aerosolization of rodent waste, direct contact, or rarely, through bites.
- Human-to-human transmission is extremely rare, making environmental exposure the main concern.
- Black rats (*Rattus rattus*) have been identified as the exclusive carriers of hantavirus in rural Madagascar.

16. **Three Gorges Antarctic Eye**

- China has recently inaugurated the "Three Gorges Antarctic Eye" radio/millimetre-wave telescope

- The telescope is designed to study interstellar gas, particularly hydrogen and ammonia, and to investigate star formation processes.

17. **BM -04**

- BM-04 is India's latest short-range ballistic missile (SRBM) developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The missile has a two-stage solid-fuel propulsion system; it can engage targets located at a maximum distance of up to 1,500 km, with a 500 kg conventional warhead, and has a 30-meter circular error probability (CEP).

18. **AXIOM 4 MISSION:**

- The Indian astronaut will launch to the Space Station with Axiom Space on a 14-day-long mission to live and work in zero gravity.
- Shukla will pilot the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft to the ISS to become the first Indian ever live and work at the Space Station.

19. **WATER BEARS TO SPACE**

- Tardigrades, also known as water bears or moss piglets, are tiny, water-dwelling micro-animals famous for their incredible survival abilities.
- Tardigrades can be found almost everywhere on Earth, including mosses, lichens, soil, leaf litter, freshwater, marine environments, high mountains, deep seas, hot springs, and even polar ice.
- The research seeks to identify molecular mechanisms of resilience which has implications for understanding the limits of life in extreme environments. This knowledge

could inform future space exploration and help develop biotechnology applications on Earth.

20. India's first indigenously developed HPV test kits for cervical cancer screening

- The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), through its Grand Challenges India (GCI) initiative at BIRAC, has announced the successful scientific review and validation of India's first indigenously developed Human Papillomavirus (HPV) test kits for cervical cancer screening

DEFENCE

1. INIOCHOS-25

- Indian Air Force participates in multinational exercise INIOCHOS-25 in Greece.

2. New nuclear submarine base to be commissioned in Andhra Pradesh in 2026.

- The naval base, which is a part of Project Varsha, will feature underground pens and tunnels to house nuclear submarines, ensuring stealthy operations in the Bay of Bengal.
- The new base will be located near the coastal village of Rambilli, approximately 50 kilometers from Eastern Naval Command headquarters in Visakhapatnam.

3. GAURAV

- Gaurav is a 1,000-kg class glide bomb designed and developed indigenously by the DRDO.
- Unlike conventional bombs that fall vertically after release, glide bombs are

equipped with fins or wings that allow them to glide forward through the air toward their target.

- Importantly, a glide bomb does not have an engine. Instead, it relies on the momentum from being dropped from a high-flying aircraft and uses aerodynamic surfaces to cover long distances.

4. AIKEYME 2025

- India and a group of African countries have launched the first-ever joint naval exercise Africa India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) 2025, off the coast of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

5. DUSTLIK-VI

- India-Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise DUSTLIK-VI Begins at Aundh, Pune

APPOINTMENTS/AWARDS/FESTIVALS

1. Shirley Botchwey Becomes First African Woman Secretary General of the Commonwealth.

- The Commonwealth of Nations is a political association of 56 independent countries that were once part of the British Empire.
- It promotes economic, cultural, and political Cooperation among its members.

RELATED NEWS

- In 1929, the British Commonwealth of Nations was formally recognized.
- After India gained independence in 1947, the London Declaration of 1949 allowed countries that did not recognize the British Monarch as Head

of State to still be part of the Commonwealth.

2. M.Aranganathan Award 2025

- The M.Aranganathan Award has been presented to Tamilavan and Thirunavukkarasu.
- This award, which is given to distinguished figures in literature, has been presented since 2018.

3. Deputy Governor OF RBI

- The Government appointed Poonam Gupta as the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on April 1, 2025.
- Recently, Sanjay Malhotra has been appointed the Governor of RBI on December 11, 2024.

4.The Great Conciliator: Lal Bahadur Shastri and the Transformation of India was book written by Sanjeev Chopra.

5. IFS officer Nidhi Tewari appointed private secretary to PM.

6. Sarhul Festival

- The Sarhul Festival is an important celebration for Adivasi communities in the Chhotanagpur region, particularly in Jharkhand.

7. DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD

- The Father of Indian Cinema, Dadasaheb Phalke, made the first Indian feature film Raja Harishchandra in the year 1913.
- In his memory, the Government of India introduced the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1969.
- Devika Rani was the first to receive the award in 1969.

- 2024 -Mithun Chakraborty(Hindi)
- 2023 -Rekha(Hindi)

Recipients of the award from Tamil Nadu

- 1996 – Sivaji Ganesan
- 2010 – K. Balachander
- 2019 – Rajinikanth

8. Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana award

- Prime Minister modi receives the highest Sri Lankan Honour for Foreign Leaders

9. City Key of Honour

- President Droupadi Murmu was awarded City Key of Honour in Lisbon.

10.BHARATIYA BHASHA AWARD

Tamil Nadu writer S. Ramakrishnan has been announced as the recipient of the 'Bharatiya Bhasha' award, one of the country's highest literary awards.

11.NATIONAL TRIBAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

- Mizoram Hosts National Tribal Youth Festival to Honour Birsa Munda and Celebrate Cultural Unity

12. NATIONAL MARITIME VARUNA AWARD

- Captain Rajesh Unni has been honoured with the National Maritime Varuna Award—India's highest individual recognition in the maritime sector—by the Government of India

13. **KNIGHTHOOD AWARD**

- Former England fast bowler James Anderson awarded knighthood

14. **World's Best Airport 2025**

- Singapore Changi Airport has been named the 'World's Best Airport' in 2025
- One of the world's and India's busiest airports, Delhi International Airport (IGI) was again named the Best Airport in India & South Asia in 2025, while Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport was recognised as the Best Regional Airport in India & South Asia.
- Goa Manohar International Airport has been ranked as the 'Cleanest Airport' in India & South Asia.

15. **Telangana's green warrior Vanajeevi Ramaiah dies of heart attack**

- Renowned for his social forestry initiatives, he was locally known as 'Chetla Ramaiah' or Vanajeevi (forest dweller).
- Daripalli Ramaiah was honoured with the Padma Shri award in 2017.
- He received the acclaimed accolade for his invaluable contribution to extending tree cover.

16. **BEST TRANSGENDER AWARD 2025**

- Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin presented the Best Transgender Person Award 2025 to K Ponni of

Tuticorin and A Revathi of Namakkal on the occasion of the National Transgender Day

- National transgender day-15 April
- Kalaingar M Karunanidhi was the first in the country to establish a transgender welfare board on 15-04-2008

SPORTS

1. Indian hockey player Vandana Kataria announces retirement.

2. BIMSTEC GAMES

- India to host BIMSTEC Athletics Meet and propose BIMSTEC Games in 2027

3. 2025 World Boxing Cup

- Hitesh Gulia made history by becoming the first Indian boxer to win a gold medal.

4. 2028 Olympics in LA to prioritize gender Equality.

- The 2028 Summer Olympics will take place in Los Angeles.
- Brisbane, Australia is set to host the 2032 edition.

5. FIRST ISSF WORLD CUP MEDAL 2025

- India finished second on the ISSF World Cup medals table behind the People's Republic of China, who topped the standings in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Saurabh Chaudhary and Suruchi Singh won the bronze in the 10m air pistol mixed team event

6. KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES 2025

- Bihar will host the seventh edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2025
- The mascot Khelo India will be "Gajsimha" which symbolizes the power of elephant and heart of lion.
- The mascot has been derived from the archival heritage of Pala dynasty from Nalanda and Bodhgaya engraved on temples and their pillars.

7. ArcheryWorldCup2025

Auburndale,USA:

- The Indian compound mixed team of Rishabh Yadav and Jyothi Surekha Vennam bagged India's first gold medal at the Archery World Cup 2025

8. CHAIRPERSON OF THE ATHELETES COMMISSION:

- Aikhom Mirabai Chanu, India's Olympic silver medallist, was appointed as the Chairperson of the Athletes Commission of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF).

9. IBSF World Billiards Champion

- IBSF World Billiards Champion Sourav Kothari takes through his victory in Carlow

MISCELLENOUS

1. Ghibli cartoons

- Ghibli cartoons from Japan

- These cartoons are created by a Japanese animation film production company called Studio Ghibli.
- Studio Ghibli was founded in 1985 by Hayao Miyazaki and Isao Takahata.

2. Mrs. Globe International 2025

- Anuradha Garg makes history as India's first Mrs. Globe International 2025 winner.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. Odisha Day-April 01
 2. World Autism Awareness Day-April 02
 3. International Carrot Day- April 04
 4. World Health Day-APRIL 7
 5. National Maritime Day-APRIL 5
 6. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day-April 13
- In March 2019, the Yaad-e-Jallian Museum was inaugurated, showcasing an authentic account of the massacre.

RELATED NEWS

- The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, also known as the Amritsar Massacre, took place on April 13, 1919, in Amritsar, Punjab.
- On this fateful day, British troops led by Colonel Reginald Dyer opened fire on a large crowd of unarmed Indian civilians gathered at Jallianwala Bagh, an enclosed public garden.
- The crowd had gathered to peacefully protest the arrest of two nationalist leaders and the

imposition of the repressive Rowlatt Act.

7. **Equality Day-April 14**

- Ambedkar Jayanti, also known as Equality Day, commemorates
- Dr. Ambedkar's invaluable contributions to social justice and the rule of law.

AMBEDKAR DAY

- April 14, 2025, has been declared by New York City as Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar Day.
- The state of Tamil Nadu declared April 14th as "Samathuva Naal," or "Equality Day," in 2022.
- Ambedkar Jayanti to be celebrated as Knowledge Day in Maharashtra

8. World Heritage Day-April 18

9. World Jackal Day –April 19

10. **The Earth Day on 22 April 2025** on the theme "This is OUR POWER, OUR PLANET - Renewable Energy

11. **zero shadow day-april 24**

- The sun's rays are vertical and strike the Earth during noon when the sun is highest on the horizon of the day.
- This coincidence with the zenith only takes place between latitudes in the Equator and the Tropic of Cancer. The sun is not directly over more northerly or southern city. so Zero Shadow Day is a single occurrence for specific latitudes