

TNPSC WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

July 19 – 25, 2026

1. NATIONAL NEWS

1.1 National Song Precedence Rule

- MHA directive: States and Central Ministries directed to ensure Vande Mataram is played/sung before Jana Gana Mana at official events.
- Correct usage: Correct text, script, and pronunciation (diction) of both national symbols must be followed.
- Origin: Vande Mataram was written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, published with his novel Anandamath in 1882.
- Constitutional status: The Constitution gave Vande Mataram the status of National Song; Jana Gana Mana (Tagore) is the National Anthem.
- Legal protection: Union Cabinet approved an amendment to the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, making obstruction/insult to Vande Mataram punishable.

Learn Basics:

- National Song vs National Anthem: Vande Mataram (National Song) has no music score fixed by the Constitution, while Jana Gana Mana (National Anthem) does.
- **Exam point of view:** Don't confuse the two: Vande Mataram is played FIRST as per this new directive, but Jana Gana Mana remains the National Anthem.

1.2 PMFME Scheme – 2 Lakh Beneficiaries Milestone

- Milestone: PMFME Scheme crossed 2 lakh credit-linked beneficiaries with over ₹20,300 crore in investment support.
- Launch: Launched in 2020 under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan; Centrally Sponsored Scheme by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI).
- Outlay & subsidy: Total outlay ₹10,000 crore; provides 35% credit-linked subsidy, maximum ₹10 lakh per unit.
- Beneficiary profile: Around 90% of beneficiaries are first-generation entrepreneurs; 44% are women entrepreneurs.

Learn Basics:

- PMFME: Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises — aims to formalise and improve competitiveness of micro food processing units.

1.3 India's Social Security Milestone

- Coverage crossed: India's social security coverage crossed 100 crore beneficiaries, over 64% of the population, in 2025.
- Key schemes: EPFO, ESIC, and the e-Shram portal for unorganised workers.
- EPFO/ESIC data (14 July 2026): EPFO: over 8 crore active members, 80 lakh pensioners; ESIC: over 15 crore insured persons and dependants.
- e-Shram: Registered over 31.7 crore unorganised workers.
- PMVBRY: Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana aims to create 3.5 crore formal sector jobs over two years.

Learn Basics:

- Social security: protection against risks such as old age, sickness, unemployment, maternity, disability and workplace injury.

1.4 Urea Self-Reliance – NIPU-2026

- Approval: CCEA approved the National Investment Policy for Urea-2026 (NIPU-2026) for Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Target: Aims to add 10 million tonnes of domestic urea capacity via 8–9 natural gas-based urea plants.
- Replaces: Replaces the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012, whose investment window ended in 2019.
- Key features: Assures Return on Equity (RoE) of 12%–16%, separates fixed and variable subsidy costs, protects investors from forex risk.
- Savings: Expected to save over ₹250 crore per plant compared with NIP-2012.

Learn Basics:

- Return on Equity (RoE): a measure of profitability that shows how much profit a company generates with shareholders' investment.
- **Exam point of view:** Don't confuse NIPU-2026 (urea investment policy) with NIP-2012 — NIPU-2026 replaces it and is not an extension.

1.5 Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS)

- Approval: Union Cabinet approved MPMS with a budget outlay of ₹62,500 crore.
- Duration: Implemented for five years, FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.
- Incentives: Production incentives of 5%–25%; additional 1.5% for domestic component sourcing; 3% for design, engineering and R&D.
- Succession: MPMS succeeds the Production-Linked Incentive for Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing (PLI-LSEM) scheme.

Learn Basics:

- PLI: Production-Linked Incentive — a scheme that rewards manufacturers with incentives linked to incremental sales/production.
- **Exam point of view:** Exam trap: MPMS succeeds PLI-LSEM, not Semicon 2.0 — the two schemes cover different segments (mobile manufacturing vs semiconductors).

1.6 Semicon 2.0 Programme

- Approval & outlay: Union Cabinet approved Semicon 2.0 with an outlay of ₹1.27 lakh crore.
- Aim: To make India a global hub for semiconductor design, manufacturing and innovation; builds on Semicon India Programme (Semicon 1.0).
- Six focus areas: Chip design, manufacturing equipment/materials, fabrication facilities, semiconductor packaging (ATMP/OSAT), R&D, and talent development.
- Goal: Develop a complete semiconductor ecosystem and reduce dependence on global supply chains.

Learn Basics:

- ATMP/OSAT: Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging / Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test — the packaging stage of chip manufacturing.

1.7 Roadmap for Viksit Krishi

- Unveiled: Unveiled on 16 July 2026 during ICAR's 98th Foundation Day, as a key pillar of Viksit Bharat 2047.
- Aim: To make Indian agriculture climate-resilient, technology-driven and globally competitive.
- 7 goals: 100 Climate Smart Villages, One Institute–One Grand Innovation, Tech Outreach to 100 million farmers, Mission ICAR-100, ICAR Open Digital Knowledge Platform, Counterfeit Seed & Pesticide Control, ₹10,000 crore resource generation by 2029.
- Mission ICAR-100: Will transform Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) into innovation, climate advisory and farmer support centres.

Learn Basics:

- ICAR: Indian Council of Agricultural Research — India's apex body coordinating agricultural research and education.

1.8 Paraquat Dichloride Ban in India

- Ban notified: Central Government banned Paraquat Dichloride, a herbicide linked to poisoning-related deaths, under the Insecticides Act, 1968.
- Scope: Prohibits manufacture, import, transport, distribution, sale and use of Paraquat Dichloride in India.
- Basis: Decision based on recommendations of the Registration Committee and an Experts Committee, citing health risks, high fatality rates, and absence of a specific antidote.
- Global context: Already banned or strictly restricted in more than 70 countries.

Learn Basics:

- Insecticides Act, 1968: the central law regulating import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides in India.

1.9 Special Benches for Pending Cases (Supreme Court)

- Constitution of benches: CJI Surya Kant constituted four special benches to exclusively hear the oldest pending civil and criminal cases.
- Composition: Two civil benches (Justice P. K. Mishra, Justice S. V. N. Bhatti); two criminal benches (Justice Manoj Misra, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan).
- Schedule: Function on non-miscellaneous days — Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- Reason: Supreme Court's pending cases have crossed 90,000 despite high disposal rates, due to rising e-filing, virtual hearings and easier court access.

Learn Basics:

- Non-miscellaneous days: days in the Supreme Court calendar reserved for hearing regular/final matters rather than fresh admission (miscellaneous) matters.

1.10 CapaCITIES Programme

- Event: 'Scaling Urban Climate Resilience: The CapaCITIES Legacy and Way Forward' event held in New Delhi; three Knowledge Products launched.
- Background: CapaCITIES launched in 2016, funded by the Embassy of Switzerland in India and Bhutan, to promote low-carbon, climate-resilient urban development.
- Cities supported: 8 cities directly, including Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli; 35+ cities via frameworks.
- Outcomes: Net-Zero Climate Resilient City Action Plans (CRCAPs), climate action cells, 1,000+ people trained.

Learn Basics:

- Net-Zero Emission target: India's commitment to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070, announced at COP26.
- **Exam point of view:** Note that 3 of the 8 CapaCITIES cities are in Tamil Nadu — Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli — a likely TNPSC linkage point.

1.11 Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2026

- Approval: Union Cabinet approved the Bill to increase Supreme Court judge strength from 33 to 37 (excluding CJI).
- Constitutional basis: Article 124(1) allows Parliament to increase the number of judges through legislation.
- History: Strength increased from 25 to 30 in 2008, and from 30 to 33 in 2019.
- Funding: Additional expenditure on judges' salaries and facilities to be met from the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).

Learn Basics:

- Consolidated Fund of India (CFI): the fund into which all government revenues, loans and receipts are credited; expenditure from it needs Parliamentary approval (except charged expenditure).

1.12 E-Commerce Council of India (ECCI)

- Launch: Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) launched ECCI in Bengaluru.
- Significance: India's first national industry council dedicated to representing and strengthening the digital commerce ecosystem.
- Role: Umbrella body connecting e-commerce platforms, logistics providers, payment companies and government regulators.
- Focus areas: Policy advocacy, cross-border e-commerce, MSME digital adoption, AI-based commerce; will host the annual Indian E-Commerce Summit (IECS).

Learn Basics:

- IAMAI: Internet and Mobile Association of India — an industry body representing India's digital economy stakeholders.

1.13 National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Act, 2025

- Notification: Government notified enforcement of the National Anti-Doping Act, 2022 and the National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Act, 2025.
- Alignment: India's anti-doping system aligned with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA) and UNESCO's International Convention against Doping in Sport.
- Coverage: Strengthens testing, results management, education, intelligence and investigation procedures.
- 2025 Amendment: Enhances institutional independence, transparency and dispute resolution mechanisms.

Learn Basics:

- WADA: World Anti-Doping Agency — the international body that sets and monitors anti-doping standards in sport.

1.14 New Index of Core Industries (ICI)

- Release: Office of Economic Adviser (OEA), DPIIT released revised ICI series with base year 2022–23, replacing the 2011–12 series.
- Change: Core industries increased from 8 to 9 with the inclusion of Iron Ore.
- Nine core industries: Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilisers, Steel, Cement, Electricity, Iron Ore.
- June 2026 growth: ICI recorded 5% year-on-year growth; major growth drivers were Iron Ore (43.9%), Electricity (9.8%) and Cement (9.8%).

Core Industry	June 2026 YoY Growth
Iron Ore	43.9%
Electricity	9.8%
Cement	9.8%
Overall ICI	5%

Learn Basics:

- DPIIT: Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade — under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Exam point of view:** Iron Ore is the newest addition (9th core industry) — a favourite one-line fact for TNPSC prelims.

1.15 WTO Fisheries Agreement – India

- Acceptance: India became the 123rd WTO member to accept the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.
- Adoption: Agreement adopted at the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12), Geneva, June 2022; entered into force 15 September 2025.
- Aim: Prohibits subsidies supporting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and subsidies contributing to overfishing.
- Scope: Applies to marine wild capture fishing; excludes aquaculture and inland fisheries (so shrimp exports remain unaffected).

Learn Basics:

- IUU fishing: Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing — fishing activity that violates national or international fishing regulations.

1.16 PARIVARTAN Scheme

- Approval: MoHUA approved guidelines for PARIVARTAN to reduce transport-related air pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR).
- Full form: Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions.
- Aim: Replace old, highly polluting trucks and buses with BS-VI compliant or electric vehicles.
- Implementation: Implemented by MoRTH, funded by NCRPB; covers Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh via VAHAN, V-Scrap, DigiELV and PFMS.

Learn Basics:

- BS-VI: Bharat Stage VI — India's current vehicular emission standard, equivalent to Euro 6.

1.17 Manual Scavenging Deaths in India

- Parliament data: 332 people died while cleaning sewers and septic tanks across India in the last five years.
- State-wise: Tamil Nadu recorded 38 deaths — third-highest after Maharashtra (58) and Haryana (47).
- Legal framework: Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 prohibits the practice and provides for rehabilitation.
- Earlier law: Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 — first central law on the subject.
- SC directive: Supreme Court (2023) directed full mechanisation of sewer/septic tank cleaning and compensation for victims' families.

Learn Basics:

- Manual scavenging: the manual removal of human excreta from insanitary latrines, sewers or septic tanks — banned under the 2013 Act.

1.18 Kartavya Bhawan Area

- New nomenclature: Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal directed that the Central Vista redevelopment area be called 'Kartavya Bhawan Complex' / 'Kartavya Bhawan Area'.
- Discontinued term: The name 'Central Vista' should no longer be used.
- Scope: Includes multiple Kartavya Bhawans, Kartavya Path, and future government buildings in the zone.
- Related renaming: In 2022, Rajpath (Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate) was renamed Kartavya Path; the PMO/Cabinet Secretariat/NSA complex is named 'Seva Teerth'.

Learn Basics:

- Central Vista: the central administrative area of New Delhi housing Parliament, the President's residence and key government buildings, undergoing redevelopment.

1.19 'Catch the Rain' Campaign 2026

- Advancing objectives: MoHUA advancing the nationwide 'Catch the Rain' initiative across urban India under AMRUT 2.0.
- Convergence: In convergence with Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) under Jal Shakti Abhiyan–Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) 2.0.
- Focus: Rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, restoration of traditional water bodies, plantation, and public participation — guided by 3Cs (Community, CSR, Cost).
- SAM Programme: Shallow Aquifer Management Programme under AMRUT 2.0 enhances groundwater recharge via scientific aquifer mapping.

Learn Basics:

- AMRUT 2.0: Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 — focuses on universal water supply and sewerage in urban areas.

1.20 GI Registration by NABARD

- Facilitation: NABARD facilitated Geographical Indication (GI) registration of 28 new products; overall supported 176 products in securing GI registration.
- About NABARD: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, established 1982, headquartered Mumbai, based on the Sivaraman Committee (1979) recommendation.
- Mandate: India's apex development finance institution for agriculture and rural development; fully owned by the Government of India.
- Supervisory role: Apex supervisory body for Regional Rural Banks, State Cooperative Banks and District Central Cooperative Banks; functions under the Department of Financial Services.

Learn Basics:

- Geographical Indication (GI) tag: a sign used on products with a specific geographical origin and qualities/reputation due to that origin.

1.21 Boss Scam – SEBI Warning

- Warning: SEBI warned companies about the rising 'Boss Scam' or CEO-impersonation scam.
- Method: Fraudsters use fake WhatsApp accounts, AI-generated voice cloning, deepfake video calls and emails to impersonate senior officials.
- Mechanism: Employees pressured into urgent fund transfers or opening malicious .zip files that install malware and compromise WhatsApp Web accounts.
- Trigger: Warning issued after the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) reported a rise in such cases.

Learn Basics:

- Deepfake: AI-generated synthetic media (audio/video) that convincingly imitates a real person's voice or appearance.

1.22 Gramodyam for Rural Entrepreneurship

- Launch: NABARD launched an entrepreneurship development programme, implemented with NSDC under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- Target: Aims to create about 4,000 rural entrepreneurs in 3 years through a scalable delivery system.
- Approach: Digital-first, hybrid delivery model — digital platforms, social media engagement, community outreach and on-ground mobilisation.

Learn Basics:

- NSDC: National Skill Development Corporation — a public-private partnership promoting skill development in India.

1.23 Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2026

- Overview: 13th edition of GTI 2026 reported a decline in global terrorism in 2025 — deaths fell 28%, incidents declined 22%.
- Publisher: Released by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), Sydney, Australia.
- India's rank: India ranked 13th with a score of 6.428; Pakistan ranked 1st (score 8.574).
- Trend: Terrorism is becoming more concentrated, decentralised and digitally driven despite the decline in attacks; ~70% of deaths occurred in Pakistan, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Niger and DRC.

Learn Basics:

- Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP): an independent think tank that also publishes the Global Peace Index.

1.24 India's First Mine Closure Report – AAROH

- Release: Ministry of Coal released 'AAROH – Annual Report on Mine Closure', India's first report on scientific mine closure practices.
- Coverage: Developed by the Coal Controller Organisation (CCO); documents scientific closure of 42 coal mines with ecological restoration.
- Frameworks: Highlights RECLAIM (Reclamation Framework), L.I.V.E.S. (Livelihood, Inclusion, Value, Environment, Sustainability) and SUVIKALP (Mine Repurposing Tool).
- Future plan: India has closed 42 mines scientifically and plans to close 147 more in the next 2–3 years.

Learn Basics:

- Mine closure: the planned process of shutting down a mine while restoring the land and providing for community/environmental sustainability.

1.25 Digital Threat Report 2025-26

- Release: 2nd edition released by MeitY along with CERT-In, CSIRT-Fin, and SISA.
- Focus: Highlights AI asymmetry and emerging cyber trends affecting India's Banking, Financial Services, Insurance (BFSI) and payments ecosystem.
- Purpose: Gives financial institutions, regulators and cybersecurity leaders a clear overview of threats in banking, insurance and digital payments.

Learn Basics:

- CERT-In: national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents, established under the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008.

2. TAMIL NADU NEWS

2.1 Census 2027 Self-Enumeration in Tamil Nadu

- Start date: Self-enumeration for Census 2027 began in Tamil Nadu on 17 July 2026, part of the first phase.
- Process: Citizens enter family details themselves via the official portal, available in 16 languages; window 17–31 July 2026.
- Next phase: House Listing and Housing Census scheduled 1–30 August 2026, when the Self-Enumeration ID can be shared with officials.
- Innovation: Census 2027 will be conducted digitally for the first time, with enumerators using mobile apps to upload data directly.

Learn Basics:

- Self-Enumeration ID: a unique identifier issued to a citizen after they submit their own family details online, used later for verification.

2.2 Maraimalai Adigal's 150th Birth Anniversary

- Occasion: 150th birth anniversary of Maraimalai Adigal (1876–1950) celebrated in Tamil Nadu in July 2026.
- Identity: Tamil scholar, writer, and founder of the Thani Tamil Iyakkam (Pure Tamil Movement); born Vedachalam, adopted the name in 1916.
- Career: Worked as a Tamil teacher at Madras Christian College for 11 years; researched Sangam literature, Tamil grammar and Saiva philosophy.
- Legacy: The Maraimalai Adigal Library inside the Connemara Public Library, Chennai, preserves his collection.

Learn Basics:

- Thani Tamil Iyakkam (Pure Tamil Movement): a movement aimed at promoting Tamil vocabulary by reducing Sanskrit-derived words.

2.3 Dual State History Celebrations in Tamil Nadu

- Decision: TN Government will celebrate the State's history on both July 18 and November 1 every year.
- July 18: Marks 1967, when C.N. Annadurai moved the Assembly resolution to rename Madras State as Tamil Nadu.
- November 1: Marks the formation of present-day Tamil Nadu after the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.
- Earlier practice: The previous DMK government observed July 18 as Tamil Nadu Day and November 1 as Linguistic Martyrs' Day.

Learn Basics:

- States Reorganisation Act, 1956: reorganised Indian states largely on linguistic lines, forming Madras State (later Tamil Nadu) for Tamil speakers.

2.4 e-Zero FIR System

- Implementation: TN Government implemented e-Zero FIR for faster registration/investigation of cyber financial fraud cases.
- Trigger: Applies to cyber fraud complaints of more than ₹1 lakh loss reported via the 1930 National Cybercrime Helpline, linked with CCTNS.
- Legal basis: Introduced under Section 173 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 — allows e-registration of Zero FIRs irrespective of jurisdiction.
- Purpose: Speed up investigations, freeze fraudulent transactions in the Golden Hour, preserve digital evidence, improve fund recovery.

Learn Basics:

- Zero FIR: an FIR that can be registered at any police station regardless of jurisdiction, later transferred to the appropriate station.

2.5 Karivalamvanthanallur Excavation Findings

- Site: Excavations at Karivalamvanthanallur, Tenkasi district, show continuous human occupation from the Stone Age to the Sangam Age.
- Agency: Carried out by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA); 18 trenches opened.
- Findings: Microlithic stone tools, brick structures, iron-working remains, and craft-production workshops.
- Significance: Suggests the site was a centre for craft production, iron technology and trade during the Sangam period; part of TN's wider programme including Keeladi.

Learn Basics:

- Microlithic tools: small stone tools, typically from the Mesolithic period, used for cutting, scraping and hunting.

2.6 Ooty Name Change Appeal

- Demand: Nilgiris residents have urged the TN Government to officially rename Udhamandalam back to Ootacamund (Ooty).
- Current name origin: 'Udhamandalam' was adopted in 1972, replacing 'Ootacamund'.
- Etymology: Historical records state Ootacamund derives from the indigenous Badaga name 'Hottegemund', not from English.
- Communities: Demand aims to recognise indigenous heritage, including the Toda, Badaga and Kota communities.

Learn Basics:

- Badaga: an indigenous community of the Nilgiris hills, Tamil Nadu, whose language gave rise to several local place names.

2.7 Noyyal River Excavation

- Discovery: TNSDA unearthed over 1,000 artefacts from the Noyyal riverbed at Vellalore, Coimbatore.
- Location: Southern bank of the Noyyal River, a tributary of the Cauvery River basin.
- Findings: Roman copper coins, pottery, ornaments, water channels, weaving tools, and evidence of bead/iron/steel/shell ornament making.
- Age: Artefacts date to 1st century BC–3rd century AD; some estimated at 2,100 years old.

Learn Basics:

- Ancient trade centre: a settlement that functioned as a hub connecting different trade routes — here, Vellalore linked western and eastern coastal routes.

2.8 Keeladi Heritage Site Preservation

- Visit: TN Tamil Development Minister Rajmohan visited the Keeladi excavation site and museum, Sivagangai district.
- Significance: Keeladi provides evidence of Sangam Age urban settlement and Tamil civilisation — artefacts, pottery, inscriptions, organised settlement.
- Related site: Minister also visited Mangulam hillock, known for 3rd century BC Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions and Jain monastic beds.
- Pandya evidence: Inscriptions of Pandya King Nedunchezhan at Mangulam evidence Pandya rule during the Sangam period.

Learn Basics:

- Tamil-Brahmi: an early script used to write Tamil, derived from Brahmi, found in inscriptions dating to around the 3rd century BC.

2.9 Expansion of ABHA Coverage

- Progress: Tamil Nadu has created 2.54 crore Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHA), integrating them with HMIS 3.0 across government health facilities.
- About ABHA: A 14-digit unique health identifier under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), launched 2021.
- Benefit: Enables access to digital medical records — prescriptions, lab reports, diagnostic images — via a Personal Health Record (PHR) app with consent.
- Target: TN aims to create ABHA IDs for at least 50% of its population through government hospitals.

Learn Basics:

- ABDM: Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission — a national digital health ecosystem enabling interoperable health records.

2.10 Tamil Nadu's Merchandise Exports 2025–26

- Figure: TN's merchandise exports rose to US\$58.95 billion in 2025–26; TN remained India's 3rd-largest exporting state for the 3rd consecutive year (since 2023–24).
- Trend: Exports rose from US\$43.22 billion (2023–24) to US\$51.83 billion (2024–25) to US\$58.95 billion (2025–26).

- Sectoral share: TN accounted for 41.63% of India's electronics exports, 33.38% of motor vehicles/cars, 35.59% of leather products, 23.13% of textiles, 16.66% of engineering goods (2025–26).
- Infrastructure: 94 projects worth ₹12,523 crore implemented at TN's major ports (2014–15 to 2025–26).

Year	TN Merchandise Exports
2023–24	US\$43.22 billion
2024–25	US\$51.83 billion
2025–26	US\$58.95 billion

Learn Basics:

- Electronics exports: TN's electronics export share rose from 32.84% (2023–24) to 38% (2024–25) to 41.63% (2025–26) — a clear rising trend.

2.11 Samagra Shiksha Funds for Tamil Nadu

- Centre's position: Union Government reiterated that release of Samagra Shiksha funds is linked to implementation of NEP 2020.
- Reason cited: Centre stated TN has not signed the MoU for the PM-SHRI Scheme and is therefore not implementing NEP 2020 in its entirety.
- 2026–27 allocation: ₹3,041.81 crore — ₹1,825 crore Centre's share (60%) and ₹1,216 crore State's share (40%).
- Declining trend: Allocation declined from ₹3,586 crore (2024–25) to ₹3,044.52 crore (2025–26) to ₹3,041.81 crore (2026–27).

Learn Basics:

- PM-SHRI: PM Schools for Rising India Scheme — a scheme to develop model schools showcasing NEP 2020 implementation.

3. INTERNATIONAL NEWS

3.1 BRICS Standardisation Meeting

- Event: India hosted the 5th Meeting of Heads of BRICS National Standardisation Bodies (NSBs) in Bengaluru, under India's BRICS Chairship 2026.
- Focus: Strengthening cooperation in standardisation among BRICS countries; finalising the BRICS MoU on Standardisation.
- India's NSB: Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is India's National Standards Body.
- BRICS members: Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, UAE.

Learn Basics:

- BIS: Bureau of Indian Standards — India's national standards body responsible for standardisation, certification and quality.

3.2 Assisted Dying Bill – France

- **Approval:** French Parliament approved a bill creating a legal right to assisted dying for adults with incurable and life-threatening illnesses.
- **Provision:** Allows eligible patients to receive a lethal substance under strict conditions, self-administered or given by a doctor/nurse.
- **Eligibility:** Applies to adults who are French citizens or legal residents suffering severe physical/psychological suffering.
- **Safeguards:** Includes medical evaluation, confirmation after a reflection period, and an opt-out for healthcare workers; may face review by the Constitutional Council.

Learn Basics:

- **Assisted dying:** a medical practice where a terminally ill patient is helped to end their life under legally defined conditions.

3.3 Demographic Futures Survey 2026

- **Release:** UNFPA released the 'Lives, Choices and Futures — Demographic Futures Survey 2026' on youth aspirations and family decisions.
- **Scale:** Covered 108,926 internet-connected young adults (18–39 years) across 73 countries.
- **Key finding:** Over two-thirds preferred marriage-based family arrangements; financial security (81%) was the top factor influencing decisions.
- **India data:** Women aged 18–39 reported an ideal family size of 2.1 children, but the actual average among women aged 35–39 was 1.0 child.

Learn Basics:

- **UNFPA:** United Nations Population Fund — the UN agency for sexual and reproductive health and population data.
- **Exam point of view:** Don't confuse India's 'ideal' family size (2.1) with the 'actual' average (1.0) reported for women aged 35–39 — questions often test this gap.

3.4 India's First Presidential Visits to Moldova and North Macedonia

- **Milestone:** President of India completed the first-ever State Visit by an Indian Head of State to Moldova and North Macedonia.
- **North Macedonia:** India decided to double ITEC training slots, including AI skill development.
- **Moldova:** Focus on strengthening trade, investment and resilient supply chains via the India-Moldova Business Forum.
- **Country profiles:** Moldova — landlocked Eastern European country, EU candidate status since 2022. North Macedonia — landlocked Balkan country, NATO member since 2020.

Learn Basics:

- **ITEC:** Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme — India's flagship capacity-building programme for partner countries.

4. ENVIRONMENT NEWS

4.1 Wildlife Conservation Projects – National CAMPA

- Approval: National CAMPA approved four new conservation projects during its 7th Governing Body meeting — river dolphins, snow leopards, wild water buffalo, Indian rhinoceros.
- South Asian River Dolphin: IUCN status: Endangered; conservation and recovery action plan approved.
- Snow Leopard: IUCN status: Vulnerable; Project Snow Leopard Phase-II approved with second cycle of population estimation.
- Wild Water Buffalo & Rhino: Wild Water Buffalo: Endangered, pan-India conservation strategy approved. Indian Rhinoceros: Vulnerable, conservation action plan approved.

Learn Basics:

- CAMPA: Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority — manages funds collected for compensatory afforestation.

4.2 Tibetan Plateau Formation

- Study: A Nature Geoscience study explains how the Indian tectonic plate helped form the Tibetan Plateau, the 'Roof of the World'.
- Finding: Indian plate moved beneath the Asian plate in western Tibet between 45–20 million years ago, but had not yet reached central Tibet then.
- Method: Used low-temperature thermochronology and geochronology to reconstruct the plateau's geological history.
- Global role: World's highest/largest plateau (average elevation over 4,500 m); source of Asia's ten largest rivers, driving global climate.

Learn Basics:

- Thermochronology: a technique that studies the thermal history of rocks to date geological events such as uplift.

4.3 New Solitary Bee Species

- Discovery: ATREE researchers discovered two new solitary bee species in the Siang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Species: Elaphropoda triangulata (named for triangular abdominal markings) and Habropoda adi (named after the Adi indigenous community).
- Note: Both species currently known only from male specimens.
- Ecological role: Solitary bees nest alone (unlike honeybees) and are important pollinators supporting biodiversity and agriculture.

Learn Basics:

- Solitary bee: a bee species that does not live in a colony/hive but nests alone, unlike social bees such as honeybees.

4.4 A23a Iceberg Disintegration

- Event: The world's largest iceberg, A23a, broke into smaller fragments in the South Atlantic Ocean after drifting nearly 40 years.
- Origin: Calved from the Filchner-Ronne Ice Shelf, Antarctica, in 1986; remained grounded for decades before drifting.
- Scale: Covered around 3,900 sq km at its peak — one of the largest icebergs ever recorded.
- Cause of breakup: Prolonged exposure to warmer ocean currents, wave action and meltwater in the South Atlantic.

Learn Basics:

- Ice shelf: a thick floating platform of ice formed where glaciers/ice sheets flow onto the ocean surface, from which icebergs calve.

4.5 New Damselfly Species – *Lestes paloti*

- Discovery: Scientists discovered *Lestes paloti*, a new spreadwing damselfly species, in the Western Ghats of Kerala.
- Naming: Belongs to family Lestidae, order Odonata; named after Dr. Muhamed Jafer Palot of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI).
- Distribution: Recorded from six districts of Kerala — Kannur, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Malappuram, Palakkad, Ernakulam.
- Unique feature: Shows seasonal colour change — brown in the dry season, bluish in the monsoon; discovery is 97 years after the last *Lestes* species from the Western Ghats, raising Kerala's odonate diversity to 192 species.

Learn Basics:

- Odonata: the insect order comprising dragonflies and damselflies.

4.6 Two New Spider Species

- Discovery: ZSI scientists documented two new spider species — *Simonia lawbah* and *Hamataliwa papikonda* — from Meghalaya and Andhra Pradesh.
- *Simonia lawbah*: A cave-dwelling ray spider found in Krem Lawbah Cave, Meghalaya (family Theridiosomatidae); first recorded species of genus *Simonia* in India.
- *Hamataliwa papikonda*: A new lynx spider from Papikonda National Park, Andhra Pradesh (family Oxyopidae); first documented occurrence of genus *Hamataliwa* in Andhra Pradesh.

Learn Basics:

- ZSI: Zoological Survey of India — the national organisation for faunal taxonomy and survey.

4.7 Great Indian Bustard Conservation Status

- Population: WII assessment reported the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) population stable at around 110–150 birds (survey recorded $\sim 130 \pm 21$).
- Status: Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List; now restricted to only 16% of its potential habitat in Rajasthan's Thar Desert.
- Associated species: Survey also recorded 35 GIB flocks, 1,568 Chinkara herds, and 79 Desert foxes.

- Threats & measures: Threats: habitat fragmentation, agricultural expansion, poaching, egg predation, power-line collisions. Measures: Project Great Indian Bustard, captive breeding at Sam and Ramdevra, Supreme Court-directed power-line management.

Learn Basics:

- WII: Wildlife Institute of India — an autonomous institution under MoEFCC for wildlife research and training.

4.8 Mangrove Conservation Efforts in Thoothukudi Coast

- Progress: Over 140 hectares of mangroves restored in four years along the Thoothukudi coast (Punnakayal belt).
- Initiatives: Green Tamil Nadu Mission, TN Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project for Climate Change Response (TNGPCCR), TN-SHORE Mission, and NABARD.
- Method: Fishbone channel designs ensure tidal water reaches every corner of the mangrove ecosystem; *Avicennia marina* and *Rhizophora mucronata* planted.
- Value: Mangroves buffer coastal erosion, cyclonic storms and saline intrusion; support fisheries and carbon sequestration.

Learn Basics:

- Fishbone channel design: a mangrove restoration technique using branching channels (like a fish's bone structure) to distribute tidal water evenly.

4.9 Evaporation of Monsoon

- Finding: A study by IITM, Pune found approximately 25% of India's monsoon rain mass evaporates mid-air before touching the ground.
- Cause: Mid-air loss is dictated by localised atmospheric factors — ambient temperature, heat, and dry air.
- Variability: Evaporation rate fluctuates between 4% and 61% depending on weather conditions.
- Global comparison: India's 25% mid-air evaporation rate sits on the lower end of global baselines (30–50% region globally).

Learn Basics:

- Isotopic enrichment: as water evaporates, lighter water molecules escape first, leaving the remaining raindrop enriched with heavier hydrogen/oxygen isotopes.

4.10 28th Meeting of the Plants Committee (PC28) – CITES

- Meeting: PC28 of CITES held in Geneva, Switzerland — the first plant-focused meeting since CoP20 (Samarkand, Dec 2025), starting a new 3-year cycle to CoP21 (Panama City, Nov 2028).
- New dimension: Fungi discussed as a separate agenda item for the first time, showing CITES' widening scientific interest.
- India's stance: India argued for stronger scientific backing before listing guggul under Appendix II, as it affects India's Ayurvedic industry.

- Agarwood: India kept Agarwood (*Aquilaria malaccensis*) out of the Review of Significant Trade, citing cultivation in Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura, and secured a higher export quota.

Learn Basics:

- CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora — regulates international trade to prevent species extinction.

4.11 India's First Mangrove Restoration Standards – BIS

- Draft standard: BIS preparing India's first national guidelines, 'Restoration of Mangrove Ecosystem — Guidelines', for uniform practices across India.
- Focus areas: Scientific plantation methods, biodiversity conservation, community participation and sustainable restoration.
- Stakeholder input: Suggestions included using biodegradable bags instead of polythene, and integrating livelihood options like ecotourism, honey harvesting and crab farming.

Learn Basics:

- BIS: Bureau of Indian Standards — India's national standards body, also India's NSB for BRICS standardisation cooperation.

4.12 Second-Oldest Orbicular Rock Found – Madhya Pradesh

- Discovery: Scientists identified the Pichhore orbicular granite, Shivpuri district, MP, as the world's second-oldest known orbicular rock (~2.56 billion years).
- Location: Found near Kutawali village, part of the Bundelkhand Craton, one of India's oldest geological blocks.
- Dating method: Age determined using Uranium–Lead (U–Pb) zircon dating.
- Significance: Study revealed inherited zircon crystals as old as 3.5 billion years, indicating recycling of ancient continental crust.

Learn Basics:

- Orbicular granite: a rare rock type containing spherical structures (orbicules) of quartz and feldspar in concentric layers.

5. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

5.1 Tritium Removal Breakthrough

- Development: A China research team developed a new metal-organic framework (MOF)-based material to rapidly remove tritium from nuclear wastewater.
- Challenge addressed: Tritium is a radioactive hydrogen isotope, difficult to separate as tritiated water has nearly the same chemical properties as ordinary water.
- Material: NH₂-MIL-101(Cr) coated on a stainless-steel mesh, increasing separation surface area by 32 times.
- Mechanism: Chromium-oxygen clusters capture tritium atoms and exchange them with normal hydrogen atoms.

Learn Basics:

- Metal-Organic Framework (MOF): a class of porous crystalline material made of metal ions linked by organic molecules, used for gas separation/storage.

5.2 New Exoplanet – Beta Pictoris d

- Discovery: Astronomers using NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) discovered a new giant exoplanet, Beta Pictoris d.
- Host system: Beta Pictoris — a 23-million-year-old star system, 63 light-years away, now known for three directly imaged planets.
- Detection method: Detected via JWST's NIRSpec through atmospheric carbon monoxide, confirmed by water vapour/methane via MIRI — first exoplanet found primarily through moderate-resolution spectroscopy.
- Planet profile: About 2 times Jupiter's mass; orbits at ~30 AU, near the inner edge of the debris disc.

Learn Basics:

- Spectroscopy: analysis of light from an object to determine its chemical composition — used here to detect an exoplanet's atmosphere.

5.3 Sun's Hidden Plasma Flow

- Discovery: Scientists discovered a hidden meridional plasma flow in the Sun's upper chromosphere, aiding space-weather forecasting.
- Team: Led by ARIES with PRL, IIT Delhi, IIST and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre.
- Finding: Meridional flow moves plasma from the Sun's equator to poles, ~3,000 km above the visible surface, at 5–15 m/s, playing a key role in the 11-year solar cycle.
- Method: Used a novel image-correlation technique on 27 years of data from Japan's Nobeyama Radioheliograph (NoRH).

Learn Basics:

- Meridional flow: a slow, large-scale movement of solar plasma from the equator toward the poles, important to the solar dynamo.

6. ECONOMY NEWS

6.1 Data Governance Framework – RBI

- Issuance: RBI issued Guidance on Regulatory Expectations for Data Governance for banks and other Regulated Entities (REs).
- Aim: Improve data quality, security, accountability and risk management while ensuring compliance with the DPDP Act, 2023.
- Requirement: Every RE must establish a Data Governance Framework (DGF) aligned with its risk management system, with board-level/executive-level committees and defined roles for Data Owners, Stewards and Custodians.
- Key tool: Introduces a Single Source of Truth (SSOT) for critical data, with encryption, audit trails and periodic audits.

Learn Basics:

- DPDP Act, 2023: Digital Personal Data Protection Act — India's law governing the processing of digital personal data.

6.2 Nifty500 Ahimsa Index

- Launch: NSE launched the Nifty500 Ahimsa Index, a thematic benchmark tracking Nifty 500 companies aligned with 'Ahimsa' (non-violence).
- Classification: Companies are placed in Green, Orange and Red bands based on business activities/animal-related impact; the index exclusively includes Green-band stocks that do not harm animals.
- Methodology: Reconstituted semi-annually; base date 1 April 2016 with base value 1000; uses free-float market capitalisation.

Learn Basics:

- Free-float market capitalisation: the market value of a company's shares available for public trading, excluding promoter and locked-in holdings.

7. STATE NEWS

7.1 Lakhanpur Street Food Hub – PM SVANidhi

- Selection: Lakhanpur, Kathua district, Jammu & Kashmir, selected among the first towns under the PM SVANidhi Street Food Hub Plan.
- Scheme: Implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors' Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme, MoHUA.
- Aim: Provide modern vending infrastructure, hygienic food spaces and better livelihoods for street vendors.
- About PM SVANidhi: Launched in 2020 to provide collateral-free working capital loans and support financial inclusion of street vendors.

Learn Basics:

- PM SVANidhi: a micro-credit scheme offering collateral-free loans to street vendors to help them resume/expand livelihoods.

7.2 PVTG Habitat Rights – Odisha

- Recognition: Odisha recognised 10 habitat rights claims covering 8 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.
- Legal basis: Habitat rights under Section 3(1)(e) of FRA, 2006 recognise the traditional habitat of PVTGs — forests, sacred sites, grazing lands, livelihood areas.
- State profile: Odisha is home to 13 PVTGs, the highest among Indian states, across 14 districts.
- Milestones: First habitat rights title in Odisha: Paudi Bhuyan community, Deogarh district, March 2024. India's first habitat rights title overall: Baiga community, Madhya Pradesh, 2015.

Learn Basics:

- PVTG: Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group — a sub-category of Scheduled Tribes identified as especially vulnerable, requiring special protection.

7.3 Women Farmers Act – Maharashtra

- Enactment: Maharashtra became the first Indian state to enact the Maharashtra Women Farmers Empowerment Act, 2026, giving legal recognition to women farmers.
- Coverage: Recognises women in crop farming, animal husbandry, poultry, fisheries, agroforestry, vermiculture, mushroom cultivation, whether as landowners or labourers.
- Key provision: Introduces the Woman Farmer Certificate (WFC), enabling access to government schemes, crop insurance and institutional credit without land ownership.
- Other features: Provides for a digital registry of women farmers and a State Empowerment Fund; introduced during the UN-observed International Year of the Woman Farmer.

Learn Basics:

- Woman Farmer Certificate (WFC): a certificate under the Maharashtra Act that lets women access agricultural benefits without needing to own land.

7.4 1857 Archives – Madhya Pradesh

- Collection: MP Archaeology Department collected rare 1857 Revolt documents, including a record bearing Tatya Tope's signature and an original portrait of Rani Lakshmibai.
- Preservation: Preserved under the Gyan Bharatam Mission, a national initiative for collection, preservation and digitisation of rare manuscripts.
- Languages: Collection includes records from former princely states in English, Hindi, Urdu, Persian, Marathi/Modi and Bundeli.
- Other find: A 70-page 16th-century Sanskrit poetics treatise from Panna, covering Shringara Rasa and Nayika-Bheda.

Learn Basics:

- Gyan Bharatam Mission: a national mission for the survey, documentation, conservation and digitisation of India's manuscript heritage.

7.5 Second Geothermal Well in Ladakh

- Milestone: ONGC drilled India's second geothermal well in Ladakh's Puga Valley — part of India's first pilot geothermal power plant (1 MW).
- Depth: Successfully drilled to a depth of 1,000 metres at over 14,000 feet elevation — among the highest geothermal drilling projects in the world.
- Site geology: Puga Valley is geologically active with abundant hot springs and shallow geothermal reservoirs; Manikaran (Himachal Pradesh) is another key geothermal site, with hot springs up to 96°C.
- Potential zones: Four major potential regions: Northwest–Southeast Himalayan Arc, Gondwana Grabens and Delhi fold, West Coast continental margin, Son-Narmada-Tapti lineament.

Learn Basics:

- Geothermal energy: heat generated and stored within the Earth, originating from planetary formation and radioactive decay, used to generate electricity.

7.6 Uniform Civil Code Bill in Madhya Pradesh

- Approval: MP cabinet approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill; MP becomes the fourth Indian state to approve a UCC Bill.
- Exemption: Tribal communities under Articles 342 and 366(25) of the Constitution kept outside the law's scope, to protect their cultural heritage.
- Key provisions: Bans polygamy and nikah halala; mandates registration of marriages/divorces down to village level; live-in relationships must be registered within one month.
- Other features: Equal inheritance rights for sons and daughters; equal legal status for children of married/unmarried parents, including those via surrogacy/ART.

Learn Basics:

- Uniform Civil Code (UCC): a proposal to replace personal laws based on religion with a single set of laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, etc., for all citizens.

7.7 India's First River Kinetic Energy Demo Plant in Arunachal

- Agreement: Arunachal Pradesh government signed an MoU with Norway's Tidal Sails AS to set up India's first kinetic energy demonstration plant.
- Project: A 500-kW project to generate electricity directly from river currents, without major civil infrastructure.
- Significance: An environmentally sustainable, cost-effective renewable energy solution; Arunachal Pradesh has an estimated hydropower potential of 58,000 MW.

Learn Basics:

- Kinetic (river current) energy: electricity generated from the natural flow/motion of river water, without needing a dam.

7.8 Risk-Based Business Approval System – Chhattisgarh

- Legislation: Chhattisgarh passed the Ease of Doing Business Act, 2026, introducing a Risk-Based Approval System.
- First-of-its-kind: Chhattisgarh becomes the first state to adopt a comprehensive, trust-based, risk-based permission framework for industries and businesses.
- Mechanism: Businesses classified into risk categories by size/nature; low-risk units get simplified/self-certified approvals, high-risk units face continued technical scrutiny.
- Beneficiaries: About 15 lakh MSMEs expected to benefit.

Learn Basics:

- Risk-based classification: a regulatory approach that applies lighter compliance to low-risk businesses and stricter scrutiny to high-risk ones, instead of uniform inspection for all.

7.9 Implementation of NeVA

- Commitment: Maharashtra Legislature expressed commitment to adopt the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA).
- About NeVA: A Mission Mode Project of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs under Digital India, aiming to digitalise all 37 State/UT Legislatures on one unified platform — 'One Nation, One Application'.
- Purpose: Enables Members to discharge legislative responsibilities more efficiently and gives citizens easier access to legislative proceedings.
- Progress: Till July 2026, 21 Legislatures have already transitioned into fully Digital Houses.

Learn Basics:

- NeVA: National e-Vidhan Application — a Unicode-compliant software making the functioning of Indian legislatures paperless, using AI and IoT.

IMPORTANT DAYS (July 15 – 24, 2026)

Why Important Days Matter: TNPSC exams regularly test dates, observing bodies, and specific themes.

- July 15: World Youth Skills Day (UN). Theme: 'Skills for a shared future'.
- July 15: World Snake Day. Theme: 'Respect, Don't Fear: Protecting Nature's Silent Guardians'.
- July 15: Education Development Day 2026 (Tamil Nadu) — marks K. Kamaraj's birth anniversary; first observed 2006.
- July 16: AI Appreciation Day. Theme: 'Celebrating Intelligence with Purpose'.
- July 17: World Day for International Justice 2026 — commemorates the 1998 Rome Statute, which established the ICC (The Hague, Netherlands).
- July 18: Tamil Nadu Day 2026 — marks C.N. Annadurai's 1967 Assembly resolution renaming Madras State as Tamil Nadu.
- July 18: Nelson Mandela Day — birth anniversary of South Africa's first Black President (1994–99); Nobel Peace Prize (1993) for ending apartheid.
- July 20: International Chess Day — marks FIDE's founding on 20 July 1924. Theme: 'Celebrate, create and make a difference'.
- July 20: International Moon Day / National Space Exploration Day — 57th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing (20 July 1969). Theme: 'One Moon, One Vision, One Future'.
- July 22: National Flag Day 2026 — commemorates adoption of the Tiranga by the Constituent Assembly on 22 July 1947; present flag has a 24-spoke Ashoka Chakra (replaced the Charkha).
- July 22: World Brain Day. Theme: 'Brain Health: Access For All'.
- July 22: Pi Approximation Day — celebrates π using the 22/7 approximation. Theme: 'Mathematics and Hope'.
- July 23: National Broadcasting Day — marks the Indian Broadcasting Company's first radio service on 23 July 1927, which evolved into All India Radio (1936).
- July 24: Income Tax Day 2026 (167th) — commemorates the introduction of income tax in India in 1860 by Sir James Wilson; first celebration after the Income-tax Act, 2025 (effective 1 April 2026) replaced the Income-tax Act, 1961.

PERSONS & AWARDS

- India Deaf Women's Cricket Team: won its first-ever Women's T20I Deaf Cricket Series, defeating Sri Lanka 5–0 at Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
- Mannathu Padmanabhan: Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan unveiled his statue and inaugurated the Mannam Smrithi Mandapam, Dwarka, New Delhi; he was the founder of the Nair Service Society (NSS), 1914.
- India at 56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) 2026: shared joint first rank with China, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Korea and Taiwan after all 5 team members won gold, Bucaramanga, Colombia.
- MRF Tyres: ranked India's Most Valuable and Strongest Tyre Brand in the Brand Finance India 100–2026 report.
- Harjit Singh Grewal: appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM).
- Sir Garfield Sobers: legendary West Indies cricketer passed away at age 89.
- CJI Surya Kant: inaugurated the 'Tower of Justice' District Court Complex, Gurugram, Haryana, including an International Arbitration Centre and a Ladies Bar Room.
- Andy Burnham: became Prime Minister of the United Kingdom after Keir Starmer resigned — the 7th UK PM since 2016; previously Mayor of Greater Manchester.
- P. V. Sindhu: became the first Indian badminton player to win the Japan Open Super 750 women's singles title, defeating Akane Yamaguchi.
- 72nd National Film Awards 2026: Article 370 (Best Feature Film); Kartik Aaryan (Chandu Champion) & Mammooty (Bramayugam) — jointly Best Actor; Yami Gautam (Article 370) — Best Actress; Rajkumar Periasamy (Amaran) — Best Director; Raayan — Best Tamil Film; Pushpa 2 — Best Screenplay.
- FIFA World Cup 2026: Spain won, defeating Argentina 1–0; Rodri (Spain) — Golden Ball; Kylian Mbappé (France) — Golden Boot and all-time leading World Cup goalscorer; Unai Simón (Spain) — Golden Glove; Pau Cubarsí (Spain) — Best Young Player; Japan — Fair Play Award.
- Lionel Messi: became the first player to start three FIFA World Cup finals (2014, 2022, 2026); at 39, the oldest outfield player to appear in a final.
- India at 37th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) 2026, Vilnius: won 1 gold and 3 silver — Bhavyaa Gunwal (Haryana, gold); Soumil Maity, Nishit Kalani, Anmol Kumar (silver).
- India at 58th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) 2026, Tashkent: best-ever performance with 4 gold medals — Debadatta Priyadarshi, Harshit Singla, Kabeer Chillar, Sandeep Kuchi.
- Ravi Raj Murmu: won Best Debut Film of a Director (Non-Feature) at the 72nd National Film Awards for the Santhali-language short film 'Angen (Invisible)' — the first Santhali film to win a National Film Award.