

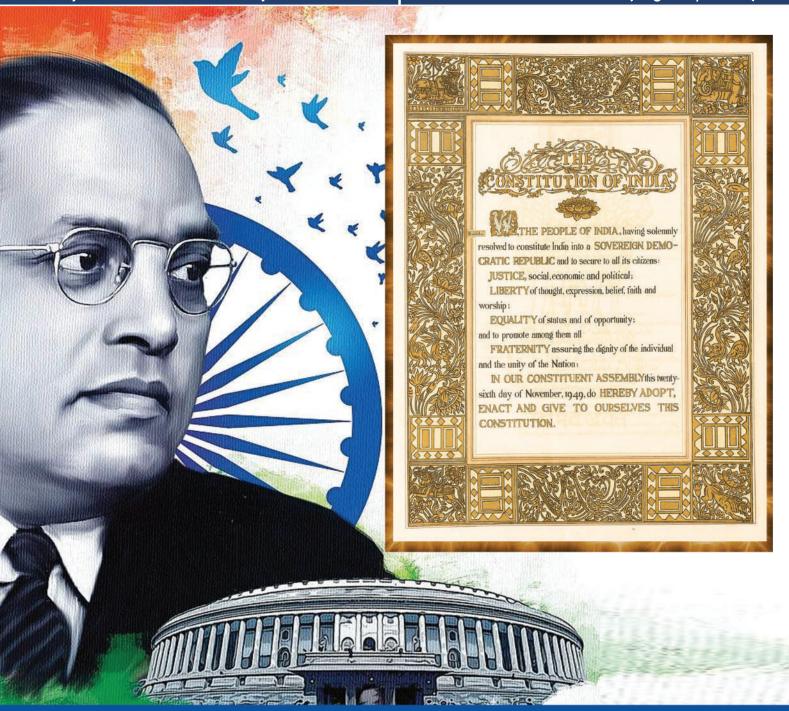
# **SIVARAJAVEL IAS ACADEMY**

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# SANGAMAM

**Monthly Current Affairs for Competitive Exams** 

NOVEMBER- 2024 (English / Tamil



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Monthly Current Affairs for TNPSC

NOVEMBER

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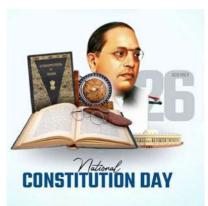
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### 75th CONSTITUTION DAY OF INDIA



India commemorated a historic milestone today, the 26th November. 2024, marking the 75thanniversary of adoption of the Constitution India. of On November 1949 ,26, the Indian Constituent Assembly formally adopted the Constitution, which came into effect on January 1950 ,26,

establishing India as a sovereign, democratic republic.In 2015, the Government of India formally declared November 26 as Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas) to honor the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1949. Since then, each year on this day, the nation celebrates the Constitution's adoption.

The 75 year commemorative celebrations will be year-long and the activities would be centered around the four pillars: viz. Preamble of the Constitution, Know Your Constitution, Making of the Constitution and Celebrating the Glory of the Constitution. The main function of the commemoration events was held today i.e. 26thNovember, 2024 in the Central Hall of SamvidhanSadan.

A short film was played, dedicated to the glory of the Indian Constitution. The film showcased the making of the Constitution, the contributions of key figures like Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and its historical journey in shaping India's democratic framework. It highlighted the Constitution's role in addressing the aspirations of a diverse nation and its continued relevance over the past 75 years, reflecting on key amendments and judicial milestones

Books titled "Making of the Constitution of India: A Glimpse" and "Making of the Constitution of India & its Glorious Journey".

Booklet dedicated to the Art of Constitution of India.

The Constitution of India in Sanskrit.

The Constitution of India in Maithili.

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### Heat Wave Declared as a State Disaster

- The Tamil Nadu government has declared the heat wave as a state disaster.
- An order has been issued stating that a relief amount of ₹4 lakh will be provided to the families of those who lost their lives due to the heat wave.

### Tholkudi Indigenous Peoples Research Scheme

- The Tamil Nadu government has introduced a new scheme called the "Tholkudi Indigenous Peoples Research Scheme" to encourage undergraduate, postgraduate, Ph.D., and post-doctoral research students in the field of indigenous peoples.
- Under this scheme, selected undergraduate and postgraduate students will receive a stipend of ₹10,000 per month (for 6 months), and Ph.D. and post-doctoral researchers will receive ₹25,000 per month (for 3 years).

### **Recognition for Solving Global Water Crisis**

- Five startup teams, including those from VIT Vellore and IIT Chennai, were awarded in Denmark for providing a promising innovative solution to the global water crisis.
- Over 140 next-generation startup teams from 10 countries participated in the "Digital Technology Summit" held in Copenhagen, Denmark.

### 2024 Kalaignar Semmozhi Tamil Award

• Dr. M. Selvarajan, the former Tamil Professor at the University of Chennai, has been selected

- for the 2024 Kalaignar Semmozhi Tamil Award by the Semmozhi Tamil Research Institute.
- The award includes a ₹10 lakh cash prize, a certificate of appreciation, and a bronze statue of Kalaignar.
- The award is presented annually to scholars who have made significant contributions to Tamil research in areas such as archaeology, epigraphy, numismatics, literature, linguistics, creative writing, literary criticism, translation, and fine arts.

#### **Snakebite**

- The Tamil Nadu government has declared snakebite as one of the "notifiable diseases" under the Tamil Nadu Public Health Act, 1939.
- The World Health Organization has outlined global measures to prevent fatalities and injuries caused by snakebites.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has developed a comprehensive action plan to reduce snakebite-related deaths by half by 2030.

## Repowering, Refurbishment & Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects

- In August 2024, the Tamil Nadu government introduced a Repowering, Refurbishment, and Life Extension Policy of wind energy generators.
- This makes Tamil Nadu the first state in India to create a policy for the retrofitting of wind energy equipment.
- The policy aims to optimize the use of wind energy resources by supporting wind energy generators (WEGs).

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- The policy will be in effect until March 31, 2030, or until a new policy is issued.
- The Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation has been designated as the State Nodal Agency (SNA) to implement this policy.

### Silver Jubilee of Thiruvalluvar Statue in Kanyakumari

- The Thiruvalluvar Statue in Kanyakumari will celebrate its silver jubilee, with events scheduled for December 31 and January 1, as announced by the Chief Minister.
- The statue was inaugurated on January 1, 2000, and has now completed 25 years.

#### **Thiruvalluvar Statue:**

- The statue, located at Kanyakumari in southern India, was erected by the Tamil Nadu government.
- It was inaugurated on January 1, 2000.
- The statue stands on a pedestal that is 38 feet high, symbolizing the 38 chapters in the "Arathupaal" section of the Thirukkural.
- With the pedestal, the statue reaches a total height of 133 feet, representing the 133 chapters of the Thirukkural.
- The statue weighs approximately 7,000 tons.

### Thiruvalluvar:

- Thiruvalluvar was a renowned Tamil philosopher and poet.
- He is the author of the Thirukkural, a revered work of Tamil literature.
- He was born in 31 BCE, marking the beginning of the Thiruvalluvar calendar.
- His birthplace and personal details are not known.
- Thiruvalluvar is honored by many titles such as "Seññāpothar," "Divine Scholar," "Nayanar," "First Philosopher," and "Perunavalvar."
- Tamil Nadu celebrates Thiruvalluvar Day on January 15.

#### Thirukkural:

- Thirukkural consists of couplets arranged in 3 sections: Arathupaal (Ethics), Porutpaal (Wealth), and Inbathupaal (Love).
- Arathupaal contains 38 chapters, Porutpaal has 70 chapters, and Inbathupaal has 25 chapters.
- Thirukkural contains 133 chapters and 1,330 couplets in total.
- Thirukkural was first printed and published in 1812
- It was first printed by Jnana Prakasa.
- Thirukkural is also known by various other names like "World Wisdom," "Triple Path," "Moral Wisdom," and "Divine Scripture."

#### **16th Finance Commission Visit**

- The 16th Finance Commission team will visit Tamil Nadu for a four-day tour, during which the Chief Minister held consultations with the finance minister and economic experts.
- The 16th Finance Commission team is scheduled to arrive in Tamil Nadu on November 17.
- Finance Commission (FC):
- The Finance Commission is constituted under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution by the President of India.
- It makes decisions on the allocation of tax revenues between the Centre and the states.
- The first Finance Commission was established in April 1952 under the chairmanship of K.C. Neogi.
- It is formed every five years and consists of a chairman and four other members.

### Foundation Stone Laid for SIPCOT Industrial Park in Jayankondam

• The Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a footwear manufacturing facility by Taiwanese company DeanShoes in Jayankondam, near

- Araiyalur, which will involve an investment of ₹1,000 crore and provide employment to 15,000 people.
- The Tamil Nadu government is taking various steps to attract investments, aiming to transform the state's economy to a \$1 trillion economy by 2030 and create more job opportunities for the youth.

### **Voter List Information through Toll-Free Helpline 1950**

- If there are any questions or clarifications regarding the voter list, such as name enrollment or removal, the Tamil Nadu Election Commission has arranged for a toll-free helpline.
- Citizens can dial 1950 to get information about six different aspects related to voter list corrections.

### Increased Enrollment of Women in Higher Education under 'Pudhumaippenn' Scheme



• The Tamil Nadu government's "Pudhumaippenn" scheme has resulted in a 27% increase in the number of women enrolling in higher education, according to the Minister for School Education.

#### **Pudhumaippenn Scheme:**

- The "Pudhumaippenn" scheme provides a monthly stipend of ₹1,000 to girls studying in government and aided schools from grades 6 to 12, who pursue higher education.
- The scheme operates under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme, benefiting female students studying in government schools from grades 6 to 12.

### **Coastal Resilience of Saline Lands**

- Recently, saline forests played a significant role in mitigating the impacts of landslides and cyclonic storms caused by Cyclone Daina near the Bhitarkanika National Park and the Paradip Port in Odisha.
- Saline lands consist of salt-tolerant trees and shrubs that grow in coastal areas where fresh water meets saline water.
- According to the India State of Forest Report 2021, the total area of saline lands in India is 4,992 square kilometers, which accounts for 0.15% of the country's total geographical area.
- The Sundarbans (spread across India and Bangladesh) is the largest saline forest in the world.
- In India, after the Sundarbans, the Bhitarkanika region holds second place in terms of saline land area.

### **Taipei Economic and Cultural Center** (TECC)

- Recently, the Taiwanese government expressed its opposition to the establishment of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in Mumbai.
- This is Taiwan's third office in India, after the opening of its representative offices in New Delhi (1995) and Chennai (2012).
- In 1993, India and Taiwan established representative offices: the India-Taipei Association in Taipei and TECC in New Delhi.
- China's official stance is that there is only "One China," with Taiwan being an inseparable part, and the People's Republic of China (PRC) is the sole legitimate government.

### Vajra Prahar

- The 15th edition of the Indo-US joint special forces exercise, Vajra Prahar, commenced on November 1 with the departure of the Indian army contingent.
- The last edition of this exercise (Vajra Prahar) took place in December 2023 in Umroi, Meghalaya.
- The goal of the Vajra Prahar exercise is to enhance military cooperation between India and the United States by exchanging operational tactics, joint special operations, and improving interoperability.

### **State of the Judiciary Report (2023)**

- Women's representation is notably low among senior lawyers, advocates, and Bar Council representatives under the entry-level representation.
- India has never had a female Chief Justice.
- Except for Delhi, Allahabad, and Himachal Pradesh, there is currently no female judge in any of the High Court building committees.
- A 2019 study by the Rule of Law Centre showed that nearly 100 district courts lacked dedicated facilities for women, such as separate restrooms.

#### **Kumbh Mela**

- Uttar Pradesh is preparing for the 2025 Maha Kumbh, which will be held from January 14, 2025.
- The Kumbh Mela is a 45-day religious event that occurs once every 12 years.
- The four holy Kumbh Melas take place at

Haridwar in Uttarakhand, Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh, Nashik in Maharashtra, and Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh (the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers).

 Maha Kumbh: This event occurs once every 144 years after 12 full Kumbh Melas, and it is held only in Prayagraj.

#### Garuda Shakti

- The 9th edition of the Indo-Indonesian joint special forces exercise, Garuda Shakti-2024, was held in Cijantung, Jakarta, Indonesia, from November 1 to 12, 2024.
- The aim of the exercise was to understand each other's operational procedures, improve mutual understanding, foster cooperation, and enhance the interoperability between the special forces of both militaries.

#### **Bail Provisions under PMLA**

- The Delhi High Court has stated that the stringent provisions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) cannot be misused as a "tool for incarceration."
- The court clarified that bail is a rule, and detention is an exception.
- The Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) was enacted in 2002 under Article 253 of the Constitution to prevent money laundering and to seize assets acquired through or involved in money laundering activities.
- It came into force in 2005, with amendments in 2009 and 2012.
- PMLA primarily deals with money laundering offenses involving criminal activities like drug trafficking, terrorism, and corruption.

#### Al Readiness Index 2023-24

• The global AI market is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 36.6% from 2024 to 2030.

- The AI Readiness Index (AIPI) measures a country's readiness to adopt AI technologies.
- The index considers four key factors:
- Digital infrastructure
- Human capital
- Technological innovation
- Legal frameworks
- According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the top three countries most ready for AI in 2023 are:
- Singapore
- The United States
- The United Kingdom
- India ranks 72nd out of 174 countries. Bangladesh ranks 113th, and Sri
- Lanka ranks 92nd. China, as an emerging market, holds the 31st position.

### **Climate Change and India's GDP Loss**

- According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), climate change could cause India to lose 24.7% of its GDP by 2070.
- The Asia-Pacific region could experience a 16.9% loss in GDP.
- Climate-related disasters may lead to coastal flooding that could affect around 300 million people in the Asia-Pacific region.
- India's GDP loss is projected to be 24.7%.
- Developed countries were major contributors to the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) throughout the 20th century.
- The share of the Asia-Pacific region in global emissions rose from 29.4% in 2000 to 45.9% in 2021, with China alone contributing 30%.

#### **Turtle Wildlife Sanctuary**

 The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has condemned the granting of "mechanized" permission for mining activities in the Turtle Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh, which is located in Varanasi.

- The Turtle Wildlife Sanctuary in Varanasi is the first freshwater turtle sanctuary in India.
- It was established to ensure the survival of turtles released into the Ganges River after Hindu cremation rites.
- The sanctuary is part of an initiative to encourage the natural removal of half-burnt human corpses in the river as part of Hindu tradition.
- National Green Tribunal (NGT)
- The National Green Tribunal, established in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act, is a specialized judicial body for handling environmental cases.
- The Tribunal has regional benches in North, Central, East, South, and West India, with the Principal Bench located in Delhi.
- The current Chairperson is Hon'ble Justice Prakash Srivastava.
- The NGT can hear cases related to environmental damage and offer relief and compensation as per the provisions of the laws listed in Schedule I of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

#### **Simhachalam Temple**

- Recently, experts from the Indian Archaeological Department discovered a Telugu inscription at the Simhachalam Temple.
- The Simhachalam Temple was originally known as the Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Temple.
- It is a Hindu temple located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- This temple was built in the 11th century during the reign of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha.
- According to an inscription dated 1087 found here, the first Kulothunga Chola of Tamil Nadu made a donation to the temple.

### **Constituency Redefinition**

- According to the Carnegie Report, after 2026, when the Lok Sabha constituencies are redefined based on population, the number of constituencies in southern states like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka will decrease, while the number of constituencies in northern states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan will increase.
- Article 81, Section 3 of the Constitution mandates that seats for members should be allocated based on population.
- This means that the number of MPs in Parliament should be determined by the last census.
- However, since 1971, the number of MPs has not been revised, despite the changing population.
- Currently, the number of MPs in Tamil Nadu is approximately 15 lakh people per member, while in Uttar Pradesh, it is 25 lakh.
- Since India gained independence, constituency redefinitions have only been done four times: in 1952, 1963, 1973, and 2002.

### Recognition of Converted SC Members

- The tenure of the commission set up under the chairmanship of former Chief Justice K.G. Balakrishnan to study the issue of granting Scheduled Caste (SC) recognition to individuals converted to religions other than Sikhism and Buddhism has been extended by one year.
- The commission was scheduled to submit its report by October 10, but the deadline has now been extended until October 10, 2025.
- The commission was set up on October 6, 2022, under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952.
- The current law under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, recognizes only Hindus, Sikhs, or Buddhists as SCs, with amendments in 1956 and 1990 adding Sikhs and Buddhists.
- First Asian Buddhist Summit in Delhi (Nov 5-6)
- The Ministry of Culture, Government of India,

in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), is organizing the first Asian Buddhist Summit (ABS) in New Delhi on November 5-6, 2024.

- The theme of the summit is "The Role of Buddhism in Strengthening Asia."
- Buddhism: Founded by Gautama Buddha, originally named Siddhartha. He was born in Lumbini, Nepal, and passed away in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh. His first sermon was delivered at Sarnath near Varanasi.

### **India-US Military Cooperation Meeting**

• The 21st meeting of the India-US Military Cooperation Group (MCG) took place in New Delhi on November 6, 2024.

### **Kalka-Shimla Railway Track**

- The Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh recently urged the central government to explore the possibilities of running hydrogen-powered trains on the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Kalka-Shimla narrow gauge railway track.
- The Kalka-Shimla railway, located in Himachal Pradesh, connects Kalka to Shimla, largely running through mountainous terrain.
- The railway line was established in 1898 to connect Shimla, the summer capital of British India, with the rest of the Indian railway network and was inaugurated by the Viceroy of India, Lord Curzon, in 1903.
- It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008.

### Winter Session of Parliament Begins on November 25

- With the approval of the President, the winter session of the Indian Parliament began on November 25 and will run until December 20, 2024.
- Constitution Day will be observed on November

26, with a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Constitution at the central hall of the old Parliament building.

#### **Types of Parliamentary Sessions:**

- Budget Session: From late January to end of April/early May.
- Monsoon Session: From July to August/ September.
- Winter Session: From November to December.
- Supreme Court Ruling on Government's Power to Seize Private Property for Public Benefit
- The Supreme Court ruled that the government does not have the authority to seize private property for the "public benefit" under the Constitution.
- However, the Court stated that in exceptional cases, the government may claim rights over private property.
- The Court referenced Article 39(b) and Article 39(c) of the Constitution, which deal with the distribution of social resources and public control over such resources.
- In a 1977 ruling, a seven-judge bench held that private property cannot be regarded as public wealth except in specific cases.

#### **Central Water Commission**

- According to the Central Water Commission's (CWC) report, the glacial lakes and other water bodies in the Himalayan region have increased in area by 10.81% from 2011 to 2024 due to climate change.
- The CWC is India's leading technical body in the water resource sector.
- Currently, the Ministry of Jal Shakti, responsible for water resources, river development, and the Ganga rejuvenation, serves as the connected office of the Government of India.
- Headquarters: New Delhi.

### Mahasagar

- The third edition of MAHASAGAR, a highlevel virtual maritime dialogue, was held on November 5, 2024, by the Indian Navy.
- This dialogue, called MAHASAGAR (Maritime Heads for Active Security and Growth for All in the Region), is a conversation among maritime leaders and agencies from countries including Bangladesh, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania.
- MAHASAGAR, which began virtually in December 2023, is held twice a year.

### Disappearance of 25 Tigers in Ranthambore Park

- It has been reported that 25 tigers have gone missing in the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve over the past year, according to Chief Wildlife Warden Pawan Kumar.
- This is the first time an official statement has been made regarding the large-scale disappearance of tigers.
- Earlier, in 2022, it was reported that 13 tigers were missing from the Ranthambore park, but this was recorded between January 2019 and January 2022.
- The Ranthambore National Park is located 14 kilometers from Sawai Madhopur district in eastern Rajasthan, at the confluence of the Aravalli and Vindhya mountain ranges.
- It is one of the largest tiger reserves in North India, covering an area of 1,411 square kilometers.
- The park is connected to the Chambal River in the south and the Banas River in the north.
- The "Great Boundary Fault" where the Vindhya Plateau meets the Aravalli mountain range is an important environmental feature.

### Vinbaks 2024

- The 5th edition of the Vietnam-India bilateral military exercise, "Vinbaks 2024," began on November 4 in Ambala.
- This exercise is planned to take place from November 4 to 23, 2024, in Ambala and Chandimandir.
- It is a continuation of the bilateral exercise held in Vietnam in 2023.

### **Special Status for Kashmir Again**

- The special status given to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Indian Constitution was revoked by the central government on August 5, 2019, allowing any Indian citizen to purchase land in the region.
- In response, a resolution has been presented in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly seeking the restoration of special status for the region.

### India-Kazakhstan Joint Effort for Titanium Sponge Production

- India and Kazakhstan have signed an agreement to establish a joint venture called IREUK Titanium Limited for the production of titanium sponge in India.
- Titanium is a strong, lightweight, and corrosionresistant metal, and it is the ninth most abundant element on Earth.
- Titanium is denoted by the symbol 'Ti' and has an atomic number of 22.
- Key ores of titanium include rutile (TiO<sub>2</sub>) and ilmenite (FeTiO<sub>3</sub>).
- Titanium sponge is a by-product of the smelting process of ilmenite, and it is processed to produce high-purity titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>).
- Uses: Titanium is used in industries requiring high durability and lightweight materials.
   Its strength and lightness make it suitable for aircraft construction. Its resistance to corrosion makes it ideal for use in seawater environments,

such as desalination plants. It is also used in space equipment, medical implants, automotive parts, electronics, and sporting goods.

### Air Quality Management Commission (CAQM)

- Following the Supreme Court's criticism that insufficient efforts were made to control the burning of agricultural waste, the Air Quality Management Commission (CAQM) has doubled the fines for farmers engaging in crop residue burning.
- Farmers with less than two acres: Fines increased from ₹2,500 to ₹5,000.
- Farmers with two to five acres: Fines increased from ₹5,000 to ₹10,000.
- Farmers with more than five acres: Fines increased from ₹15,000 to ₹30,000.
- Authorities in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh have been empowered to impose and collect these fines from farmers involved in burning agricultural waste.

### Aligarh University's Minority Status Upheld by Supreme Court

- The Supreme Court's Constitutional Bench has upheld the minority status granted to Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Uttar Pradesh.
- A bench of seven judges, led by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, ruled that the minority status granted to AMU cannot be denied, emphasizing the institution's role in promoting the welfare of minorities.
- During British rule, after the 1857 revolt, many Muslims in northern India were killed during suppression, leading Sir Syed Ahmad Khan to advocate for the education of Muslims in English and scientific subjects. In 1875, he established the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College in Aligarh, which later became AMU in 1920.

#### **AUSINDEX 2024**

- The third edition of the India-Australia joint military exercise, AUSINDEX 2024, began on November 8 at the Foreign Training Node in Pune, Maharashtra.
- The AUSINDEX exercise is an annual event held alternately in India and Australia. The previous edition took place in Australia in December 2023.
- The exercise consists of two phases: Warfighting and Tactical exercises, and Verification phases.

### Global Recognition for Indian Research

- ICAR-NRC in Hisar, Haryana, has received the prestigious research laboratory status from the World Organisation for Animal Health.
- This recognition is significant for India's livestock health sector, as it helps in establishing the laboratory for research on equine piroplasmosis.
- ICAR-NRC is now the fourth laboratory in India to receive this status under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

### QS World University Rankings – Asia 2025

- India shines in the QS Asia 2025 rankings with seven Indian institutions in the top 100.
- The QS Asia 2025 rankings reflect the potential of higher education across the Asian continent.
- Two Indian institutions were ranked in the top 50: IIT Delhi (44th) and IIT Mumbai (48th).
- Seven Indian institutions in the top 100 include IIT Chennai (56th), IIT Kharagpur (60th), Indian Institute of Science (62nd), IIT Kanpur (67th), and Delhi University (81st).

### India's Commitment to Sendai Framework and DRR

- During the G20 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
  Working Group meeting in Belém, Brazil,
  India's strong commitment to global DRR
  efforts was emphasized.
- India reaffirmed its commitment to the Sendai Framework of 2015, which aims to reduce disaster risks and losses.

### INS Vela, the Indian Submarine in Sri Lanka

- The Indian Navy's submarine INS Vela arrived at the Colombo port on November 10 for a three-day visit.
- A part of the "Made in India" initiative, INS Vela, which was built domestically, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on November 21, 2021.
- INS Vela is the fourth submarine in the "Project-75" series.
- Other submarines like INS Kalvari, INS Karanj, and INS Khanderi are already operational in the Indian Navy.
- The name INS Vela means "the vigilant one, the victorious, and the brave."

### Supreme Court Ruling on Clean Air as a Fundamental Right

- The Supreme Court has ruled that living in a pollution-free environment is a fundamental right of every citizen.
- The right to live in a pollution-free environment is protected under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.
- No religion promotes actions that pollute the environment or compromise public health.

### Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) System

• France is evaluating India's Pinaka Multi-Barrel

- Rocket Launcher (MBRL) system for its needs.
- The system was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India.
- The system is named "Pinaka" after the mythological weapon used by Lord Shiva.
- The Pinaka MBRL has a range of up to 75 kilometers and beyond.
- Armenia was the first country to export the Pinaka system.

#### **Inter-State Council**

- The Inter-State Council has been reconstituted with Prime Minister Modi as the chairman, along with nine central ministers and state chief ministers as members.
- The council will review and advise on interstate issues.
- Under Article 263 of the Indian Constitution, the council is responsible for promoting coordination and better relations between the center and states.
- The Sarkaria Commission in 1983 strongly recommended setting up the council.
- The council was formally established on May 28, 1990, by President's Order under the leadership of then Prime Minister V.P. Singh.
- Its goals include facilitating policy discussions, resolving inter-state conflicts, and fostering cooperation between the union and states on national issues.
- The Chairman: Prime Minister.
- Members include the chief ministers of all states and union territories with legislatures, administrators of union territories without legislatures, cabinet ministers recommended by the Prime Minister, and other invited members.

### **Constitutional Museum in Haryana**

- India's first Constitutional Museum has been established at O.P. Jindal Global University in Haryana.
- A state-of-the-art guiding robot, created by IIT Chennai, was introduced to assist visitors.
- The museum, spread over 10,000 square feet, includes sculptures, paintings, original copies of the Indian Constitution, and artifacts related to the drafting of the Constitution.
- It was inaugurated on November 26, the day the Indian Constitution was adopted, by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

### **AFSPA Reimposed in Manipur**

- The Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) has been reimposed by the central government in six police station areas in the violence-hit district of Jiribam in Manipur.
- Previously, the state government had imposed AFSPA across the state from October 1, but these six areas had been exempted.
- Manipur was first granted the "disturbed area" status in 1980 due to the insurgent activities in the region.

### **Dominica's Highest National Award** for PM Modi

- The Commonwealth of Dominica has announced that it will confer its highest national award, the Dominica Award, on Indian Prime Minister Modi.
- This is in recognition of India's assistance to Dominica, including 70,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine during the COVID-19 pandemic in February 2021.
- India has also provided aid in the areas of health, education, and IT development.

### 43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2024

• The 43rd IITF commenced on November 14,

- 2024, at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
- The fair will continue until November 27, 2024, and focuses on enhancing India's self-reliance by 2047.
- The theme of the fair is "Viksit Bharat @2047."
- The fair aims to highlight India's economic growth, provide a platform for local businesses to engage with international markets, and enhance consumer choices by introducing global exhibitors.
- The ITPO expansion plan will include MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) facilities in cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai, Chennai, Lucknow, Varanasi, and Noida.

### Rehabilitation Plan for Victims of Sex Trafficking

- The Supreme Court has directed the central government to formulate a comprehensive rehabilitation plan for women and children affected by sex trafficking, as there is no appropriate law on this issue.
- Key initiatives include:
- The Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013
- The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), 2012
- The Domestic Violence Act, 2005
- Schemes like Swadhar, Ujjawala, and Ahimsa Doot, as well as the establishment of Women's Help Centers (MSK) and helpline number 181.

### Discovery of New Fire-Resistant Plant in the Himalayan Region

 Scientists have discovered a new species of plant in the northwestern Himalayas that is capable of growing in fire-prone areas, particularly following forest fires caused by lightning strikes.

• The plant species exhibits unique traits like a rare branching structure, making it significant for further study.

### India's Economic Outlook: Moody's Report

- According to Moody's, India's GDP growth is projected at 7.2% in the current year, driven by steady growth and moderate inflation.
- However, the growth is expected to slow to 6.6% in 2025.
- The global economy, recovering from the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war, is also seeing steady growth in most G20 nations.
- The Indian economy showed a growth rate of 6.7% during the April-June quarter, fueled by increased investment, strong production capabilities, and rising household consumption.

### First Genetic Study on Poultry Farms

- Scientists from the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have reported antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in poultry farms in Kerala and Telangana.
- AMR, driven by the widespread use of antibiotics in industrial farming, poses a risk of worsening resistance to diseases.
- India and China are major producers of poultry and hotspots for AMR.

### Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR)

- The Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) initiative has been launched by the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) to support research in central and state universities, particularly in the fields of science and technology.
- ANRF aims to promote research, development, and innovation across Indian universities, colleges, research institutes, and R&D labs.
- The initiative aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which envisions India becoming a global intellectual powerhouse.

#### **Purvi Prahar Tri-Service Exercise**



- The Indian Army is conducting a highintensity tri-service exercise named "Purvi Prahar" in Arunachal Pradesh, focusing on enhancing coordination and operational readiness between the army, navy, and air force.
- The exercise, running from November 10 to November 18, 2024, aims to improve combat efficiency in mountainous regions, demonstrating India's advancements in modern warfare technologies.

### **LiDAR Remote Sensing System**

- Scientists have discovered the long-lost Mayan city, hidden for centuries in the dense Mexican jungle, using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) technology.
- LiDAR is a remote sensing technology that uses light in the form of laser pulses to measure distances and map areas.
- It provides accurate, three-dimensional information about the shape of the Earth and its surface features.

### COP-16 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- Recently, the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) concluded in Cali, Colombia.
- COP 16 began on August 30 in Cali, Colombia, focusing on UN biodiversity negotiations.
- COP 15, the previous conference, was held in Montreal, Canada, in 2022, under the leadership of China (Kunming, China).

 During COP 15 in 2022, the "Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework" was adopted, outlining 23 targets to be achieved by 2030.

### **Light-Harvesting Animal Cells**

- Recently, scientists successfully designed animal cells capable of light-harvesting.
- Light harvesting is traditionally unique to plants, algae, and some bacteria.
- It involves the use of sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide to produce oxygen and sugars.
- Efforts to create light-harvesting animal cells began in the 1970s.
- "If we can even capture a portion of photosynthesis in animal cells, we can reduce the amount of oxygen we consume, decrease the sugar we need to eat, and lower carbon dioxide emissions," said Sachihiro Matsunaka.
- This research is being conducted by a team led by Professor Sachihiro Matsunaka of the University of Tokyo.



#### COP29

- COP stands for "Conference of the Parties" and is the highest decision-making body within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- It meets annually to assess progress in addressing climate change, reducing global emissions, and promoting sustainable development, with discussions on agreements and actions.
- India hosted COP8 in New Delhi in 2002.
- COP29 will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from November 11 to 22, 2024.

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### **Border Struggle Martyrs' Day**

- After India gained independence, on November 1, 1956, the country was divided into linguistic states.
- In the Madras province, regions of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Kerala were separated.
- During the protests to reunite the areas where Tamils predominantly lived with Tamil Nadu, many sacrificed their lives or were imprisoned.
- To commemorate the sacrifices made during these struggles, the Tamil Nadu government observes November 1 as Border Struggle Martyrs' Day.

### **Tamil Nadu Local Body Day**

- Local Body Day is celebrated on November 1 in Tamil Nadu.
- The Tamil Nadu government has been observing this day since 2007.
- Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to dedicate a day to celebrate local body institutions.
- On Local Body Day, the state government also presents the Uttamar Gandhi Village Panchayat Award to exceptional village panchayats.
- The day is observed to raise awareness about government schemes in rural areas, ensure transparency in all governmental activities, and encourage public participation.

#### **Puducherry Liberation Day**

- Puducherry Liberation Day is celebrated every year on November 1.
- After approximately 300 years of French rule, Puducherry was liberated on November 1, 1954.

## International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists (IDEI) - 2024

- The International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists is observed on November 2 each year.
- This day commemorates the killing of two French journalists in Mali on November 2, 2013.
- The theme for 2024: The Safety of Journalists in Emergencies and Crisis Situations.

### International Day for Biosphere Reserves - November 3

- International Day for Biosphere Reserves is celebrated every year on November 3.
- Purpose: To raise awareness about the importance of biosphere reserves and promote their protection and sustainable use. This day has been observed since 2022.
- India has 18 biosphere reserves.

### **State Formation Day**

• On the occasion of the formation of states like Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Haryana, and Chhattisgarh, the Prime Minister conveys his greetings and highlights the unique characteristics of each state.

### **Freedom and State Formation**

- On August 15, 1947, India gained independence from British rule, and the country was divided into India and Pakistan.
- Of the 565 princely states, 552 merged with India (549 + 3).

#### **National Integration:**

- The Indian National Congress led the creation of a union of states, with Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel heading efforts to integrate provinces.
- After military action, Hyderabad and Junagadh princely states joined India, and under an agreement, Jammu and Kashmir acceded to India.

#### **Early Linguistic Basis:**

 The Indian National Congress accepted the idea of linguistic states in 1920. SK Dhar (1948) and JVP (1948) groups initially opposed linguistic reorganization.

### First Linguistic State (1953):

 Andhra Pradesh was formed for Telugu speakers after protests led by Potti Sreeramulu. This led to the formation of the State Reorganization Commission (SRC), which culminated in the States Reorganization Act of 1956.

#### 1956 State and Union Territories:

• The 1956 Act created 14 states and 6 union territories based primarily on linguistic factors.

#### **Bombay Reorganization (1960):**

• Due to linguistic movements, Maharashtra and Gujarat were carved out of the Bombay state.

#### **Punjab Reorganization (1966):**

- The Punjabi Suba movement led to the creation of Punjab for Punjabi speakers, Haryana for Hindi speakers, and Himachal Pradesh.
- Goa, Daman, and Diu (1961):
- After Indian forces took control of Portuguese territories, Goa became a state, and Daman and Diu became a Union Territory in 1987.
- Northeast Reorganization: Initially, Assam was the only state in the Northeast. Movements led to the creation of Nagaland (1963), Meghalaya (1972), Manipur, and Tripura. Arunachal Pradesh gained statehood in 1982.

### Sikkim's Integration (1975):

• Sikkim joined India as a state after the abolition of its monarchy.

#### **State Creation for Development (2000s):**

 Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Uttarakhand were created due to underdevelopment in certain regions of larger states.

#### **Telangana Formation (2014):**

 Long-standing demands led to the creation of Telangana from Andhra Pradesh due to neglect of the region's infrastructure and resources.

### Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization (2019):

- The special status of Jammu and Kashmir was revoked, and Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh were made Union Territories for economic and security reasons.
- Currently, India has 28 states and 8 Union Territories.

### **Tsunami Awareness Day**

- November 5 is observed as World Tsunami Awareness Day, aiming to promote international cooperation in early detection and action to mitigate the effects of tsunamis.
- The term Tsunami is of Japanese origin, meaning harbor wave or tidal wave.
- A tsunami occurs when seismic activity such as earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions, or meteorite impacts displaces a large amount of water, creating massive waves that cause destruction upon reaching the coast.

#### **Child Protection Day**

- Every year on November 7, Child Protection
  Day is observed to raise awareness about the
  safety and welfare of infants and young children.
- This day aims to educate about the care and importance of newborns and highlights how crucial proper child protection is.

#### **National Cancer Awareness Day**

 National Cancer Awareness Day is observed on November 7 across India to raise public

- awareness about cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare introduced this day in September 2014 to increase awareness about cancer.

### **Tamil Dictionary Day**

- Every year, Tamil Dictionary Day is celebrated on November 8th, which marks the birth anniversary of the Italian scholar and Tamil promoter, Veeramamunivar, by the Tamil Nadu Government.
- Birth: November 8, 1680 Death: February 4, 1747.
- He was born in Italy. His birth name was Constantine Joseph Bescchi.
- He arrived in India in 1710, traveling through Goa, Kochi, and Ambalacadu, and eventually reached Kamanayakkanpatti in the then Madurai district (now Thoothukudi district).
- Upon hearing about Robert de Nobili, a foreign missionary who served in Tamil, he was inspired to serve in the same way and changed his name to "Dhairyanaadhar."
- Born in Italy, he came to Tamil Nadu at the age of thirty and composed a masterpiece in Tamil literature, known as Thēmpāvani, which is considered one of the rarest epics.
- He is revered as the "Father of Tamil Lexicography" for compiling the first Tamil Dictionary. He also wrote various works, including Thirukkāvalūrk Kalambagam, Adaikkala Mālai, Annai Azhungkal Anthādi, Kitheriyammāl Ammānai, and Thonnool Vilakkam.
- He translated the Thirukkural into Latin, interpreting its ethical and material aspects.
- He authored works like Vēda Vilakkam, Vēdiyar Ozhukkam, Jñāna Kaṇṇāḍi, Senthamizh Ilakkāṇam, Paramārtha Guru Kadhai, and Vāman Kadhai. Paramārtha Guru Kadhai is recognized as the first Tamil comic literature.
- Veeramamunivar lived in Tamil Nadu and passed away in 1747.

### **World Radiography Day**

- World Radiography Day is observed every year on November 8th.
- On November 8, 1895, German physicist Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen discovered X-rays.
- This day is celebrated to commemorate the discovery of X-rays.
- Roentgen was awarded the first Nobel Prize in Physics in 1901.
- The theme for World Radiography Day 2024 is: "Radiographers: Seeing the Unseen."

### **National Education Day**

- National Education Day is observed every year on November 11th to honor the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of independent India.
- In 2008, the Ministry of Human Resource Development declared November 11th as National Education Day in recognition of his contributions.
- Contributions of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to Education in India:
- He was one of the founding members of Jamia Millia Islamia University in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, and helped relocate its campus from Aligarh to New Delhi in 1934.
- In 1953, he helped establish the University Grants Commission (UGC).
- As Education Minister, he was instrumental in founding the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).
- He also established the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and helped create institutions like the School of Architecture and Planning.
- Additionally, Azad promoted cultural institutions like the Sangeet Natak Akademi in 1953, the Sahitya Akademi in 1954, and the Lalit Kala Akademi in 1954.

### World NTD (Neglected Tropical Disease) Day

- World NTD Day is observed annually on November 10th to raise awareness about the importance of preventing and controlling neglected tropical diseases.
- The aim is to highlight the role of vaccines in preventing infectious diseases and safeguarding public health.

### World Science Day for Peace and Development 2024

- World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated worldwide every year on November 10th.
- This day aims to ensure that students are aware of the latest advancements in science.
- The idea of World Science Day was first proposed during the 1999 World Science Congress in Budapest, Hungary.
- UNESCO declared November 10th as World Science Day for Peace and Development in 2001.
- The theme for 2024 is: "Youth at the Forefront."

### Acharya Jeevadharam Bhagwan Das Kriplani

- Acharya Jeevadharam Bhagwan Das Kriplani was a prominent freedom fighter and nationalist.
- He was born on November 11, 1888, in Hyderabad (now in Sindh province of Pakistan).
- He was deeply influenced by Gandhiji's principles and actively participated in the 1917 Champaran Satyagraha.
- He took part in the Non-cooperation Movement in 1920 and was involved in various other movements such as the Quit India Movement and Salt March.
- He later resigned from his post as party leader due to differences with Jawaharlal Nehru.

- In 1951, he left the Indian National Congress and founded the Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party.
- He merged his party with the Socialist Party to form the Praja Socialist Party.
- He was the first to propose a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Nehru in 1962 during the India-China war.
- He also contributed to academic life and wrote books like Gandhi: His Life and Thoughts.

### **National Education Day**

- National Education Day is celebrated every year on November 11th to mark the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- 2024 theme: "Inclusive Learning Enhancing Learning for the Future."
- India's literacy rate has increased from 12% in 1947 to 76.32% in 2022.
- The goal is to raise literacy to 89.8% by 2047.
- Educational Reforms in India:
- The first IIT was established in Kharagpur in 1951.
- The University Grants Commission (UGC) was established in 1953.
- The Right to Education Act was passed in 2009.
- The National Education Policy (NEP) was introduced in 2020.
- PM SHRI 2022 aims to strengthen 14,500 schools across India.

#### **World Pneumonia Day 2024**

- World Pneumonia Day is observed annually on November 12th to raise awareness about pneumonia, a deadly but preventable and treatable lung infection.
- This day focuses on promoting awareness about pneumonia, particularly in children.

- World Pneumonia Day was first observed in 2009, initiated by global partnerships such as UNICEF, WHO, and Save the Children.
- The theme for World Pneumonia Day 2024 is: "Every Breath Counts: Stop Pneumonia in its Tracks."

### **National Children's Day**

- National Children's Day is observed on November 14th, marking the birth anniversary of India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
- This day is celebrated to raise awareness about children's rights, welfare, and education.
- International Children's Day has been celebrated on November 20th since 1954, as recognized by the United Nations.

#### **Tribal Welfare Day**

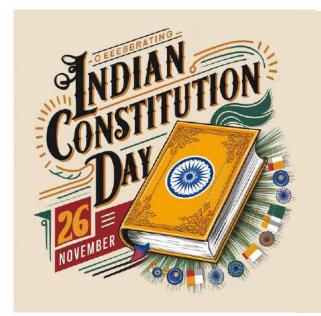
- Tribal Welfare Day is observed on November 15th in honor of the contributions of tribal freedom fighters, particularly remembering the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda.
- In 2021, the Indian government officially recognized this day to honor tribal freedom fighters and promote awareness about their historical significance.

### 71st All India Cooperative Week

- The 71st All India Cooperative Week will be celebrated from November 14th to 20th, 2024.
- The theme for 2024: "Role of Cooperatives in Building a Developed India."
- The week will focus on the role of cooperatives in the socio-economic development of Tamil Nadu.

### **Indian Constitution Day**

- Indian Constitution Day is observed on November 26th to commemorate the adoption of the Indian Constitution.
- The Constitution of India was adopted on November 26, 1949, and came into effect on January 26, 1950 (Republic Day).
- In 2015, the Government of India formally declared November 26 as Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas) to honor the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1949.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chairman of the drafting committee, is considered the "Father of the Indian Constitution."
- The original copies of the Constitution (in Hindi and English) are stored in helium-filled enclosures in the Parliament Library.
- It took 2 years, 11 months, and 18 days to draft the Indian Constitution at a cost of 64 lakh rupees.



Indian Constitution Day is observed on November 26th to commemorate the adoption of the **Indian Constitution**.

The Constitution of India was adopted on November 26, 1949, and came into effect on January 26, 1950 (Republic Day).



### ISRO's Mission to Send Humans to Other Planets

- As part of the Gaganyaan mission to send humans to space and other planets, ISRO has initiated new experiments in Leh city, located in Ladakh.
- ISRO is conducting this experiment in collaboration with the Ladakh Mountain Development Council, IIT Mumbai, and Ladakh University.

#### **NAMO Drone Didi**

- The central government has approved the 'NAMO Drone Didi' scheme under the Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), with an estimated cost of ₹1,261 crore.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has released operational guidelines for the scheme.
- Rural self-help groups and individual collectives will be eligible to get financial assistance under this scheme from other supporting programs of the Ministry of Rural Development.

### Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- The PMMSY aims to increase India's marine fish production to 1.12 million tonnes by 2025.
- Significant initiatives in Tamil Nadu, such as establishing multi-purpose fisheries parks, are part of this scheme.
- PMMSY was launched in 2020 with an investment of ₹20,050 crore for a five-year period (2020-21 to 2024-25).

- By the end of 2024-25, PMMSY aims to create 6.8 million job opportunities.
- PMMSY is the largest investment in the fisheries sector as part of the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' package by the Indian government.

### **Objectives:**

- To enhance rural development by leveraging rural resources and promoting economic growth.
- The main focus is to bring "reforms, efficiency, and transformation" in the fisheries sector.

### **Digital India Common Service Centre** (DICSC)

- In a major effort to reduce the digital divide in rural India and ensure digital services reach everyone, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched the Digital India Common Service Centre scheme.
- Initially, 4,740 common service centers will be set up in states and union territories such as Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Ladakh, and Puducherry.
- The goal is to create an integrated platform offering essential e-governance and financial services to rural populations.

### **NEET, JEE: Free Coaching**

- The central government is providing free online coaching for students preparing for medical and engineering entrance exams such as NEET and JEE.
- A dedicated website called 'SATHEE' (Self-Assessment, Test, and Help for Entrance

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Exams) has been created under the Ministry of Education.

- This initiative, a collaboration between UGC, the Ministry of Education, and IIT Kanpur, offers self-paced interactive learning and evaluation tools to students.
- The platform also provides training for various other competitive exams like CUET, SSC, Banking, and ICAI.
- SATHEE was launched on March 6, 2023.
- The aim is to bridge the gap for students who cannot afford expensive coaching for competitive exams.

#### **PM Vishwakarma Scheme**

- The PM Vishwakarma Scheme, launched in 2023, has successfully registered over two million applications.
- This central government initiative, introduced by the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME), focuses on reviving traditional art forms and enhancing artisans' skills.
- The scheme provides skill development and modern technology to revamp handicraft and small-scale industries.
- The scheme is set for implementation over a five-year period (FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28).
- The scheme was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on September 17, 2023.

### **Chalo India Campaign**

- The Ministry of Tourism has launched the "Chalo India" campaign at the World Travel Summit in London.
- Chalo India aims to bring more international tourists to India by offering free e-visas to five foreign nationals recommended by each Indian expatriate (OCI cardholder).

• This is the first initiative of its kind, aiming to increase international tourist visits to India.

### Pradhan Mantri Vidyalakshmi Scheme

- The central cabinet has approved the 'Vidyalakshmi' scheme, which aims to make education loans easily accessible for students joining top government and private higher education institutions.
- The scheme, valued at ₹3,600 crore, provides loans without requiring any collateral or guarantors.
- Students enrolled in the top 860 higher educational institutions, as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), will be eligible for these loans.

### One Rank One Pension (OROP) Scheme

- The One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme, launched by the Indian government, aims to address the grievances of retired military personnel by providing uniform pension benefits to all military retirees, regardless of the date of retirement.
- This scheme covers army, navy, and air force personnel who have retired.
- The OROP scheme was implemented on July 1, 2014.

### 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' Scheme Promoting Unity

• The government's "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" scheme, aimed at enhancing national unity and integrity, was launched on October 31, 2015, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The scheme fosters mutual understanding and strengthens the bonds between people from diverse regions and cultures.

The Ministry of Education oversees this initiative.

- Seaplane Service
- To boost tourism, the seaplane has been launched in service Kerala. This initiative, under India's RCS-UDAN (Regional Connectivity Scheme), to increase regional air connectivity and promote tourism via water-based transport. The first seaplane project in India was launched in Gujarat in 2020, connecting Sabarmati riverfront in Ahmedabad with the Statue of Unity in Kevadia. The seaplane guidelines for India were introduced in August 2024.

### **Digital Population Clock**

 Bengaluru introduced its first Digital Population Clock on November 8, which displays real-time population estimates for Karnataka and India. This initiative aims to raise awareness about population dynamics and provide accurate data for research.

### Chief Minister's Senior Women's Sister Scheme

• Launched by the Maharashtra government in August 2024, this welfare scheme provides financial assistance to women from economically weaker sections in the state. Women aged between 21 and 65 years, with a family income of less than ₹2.5 lakh per annum, are eligible for a monthly stipend of ₹1,500.

### **Digital Life Certificate Campaign 3.0**

The Ministry of Pension and Pensioners'
Welfare has launched the Digital Life Certificate
Campaign 3.0 to empower pensioners digitally.
The Prime Minister's vision for this initiative
is to enhance the digital empowerment of
pensioners through the "Jeevan Pramaan"
service.

### **Know Your Medicine (KYM) App**

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in collaboration with NADA India, introduced the "Know Your Medicine" (KYM) app to educate athletes about the importance of drugs and supplements used in sports.
- The app helps athletes make informed decisions regarding the substances they consume.

#### **Bodoland Mahotsav**

- The Prime Minister inaugurated the first Bodoland Mahotsav in New Delhi. The two-day event aims to promote peace, and bring together the Bodoh community and other ethnic groups, focusing on language, literature, and culture.
- The goal is to integrate Bodos from Assam, West Bengal, Nepal, and other northeastern regions while celebrating their rich cultural heritage and environmental sustainability.