

April - 04

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The library being constructed at a cost of ₹290 crore in Tiruchi would be named after former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K. Kamaraj.
 - The major libraries established in Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore have been named after the former Chief Ministers C.N. Annadurai and M. Karunanidhi and social reformer 'Periyar' E.V. Ramasamy.
- ❖ The new e-pass system, restricting the number of tourist vehicles, as mandated by the Madras High Court, came into operation in the Nilgiris and Kodaikanal on April 1 and it will remain in force till June 30.
- ❖ The Spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama was honored with the prestigious Gold Mercury Award for peace and visionary governance at his residence in Dharamshala.
- ❖ The grand statue of Maharaja Agrasen was unveiled in the auditorium of Maharaja Agrasen Medical College campus in Hisar, Haryana.
- ❖ The fourth edition of Exercise Tiger Triumph` 2025, a bilateral India-US Tri-Service exercise is being held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The Renault Group will assume 100 percent control of the Renault Nissan Automotive India Private Limited (RNAIPL) after acquiring the 51 per cent stake currently held by Nissan.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in multinational air exercise INIOCHOS-25 along with USA, France, Spain, Israel and others in Greece.
- ❖ Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), has expressed the strong support for India's bid to join the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).
- ❖ Indian Army's Kolkata, West Bengal-based Eastern Command has carried out a joint Tri-Service Integrated Multi-Domain Warfare Exercise- Prachand Pahaar2025 in the Eastern Theatre.
- ❖ Japan plans to revise the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act to give the crypto assets a legal status as financial products.
- ❖ Each year on March 31, the world observes the Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) to raise awareness about transgender people.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

New GI Tags 2025

- ❖ The traditional Kumbakonam betel leaves and Thovalai Manikka Maalai got received GI tag recently.

- ❖ The betel leaf has been widely cultivated across Kumbakonam and adjacent villages of Ayyampettai, Swamimalai and Rajagiri in Thanjavur district.
- ❖ The Manikka maalai made in Thovalai in Kanniyakumari district.
- ❖ They stand alone among the other flower garlands as the red and white oleander flowers are folded along with nochi leaves like beads.
- ❖ As on April 2nd of 2025, Tamil Nadu, so far, possesses as many as 62 products with the GI tags and 11 of them are from the Thanjavur district.



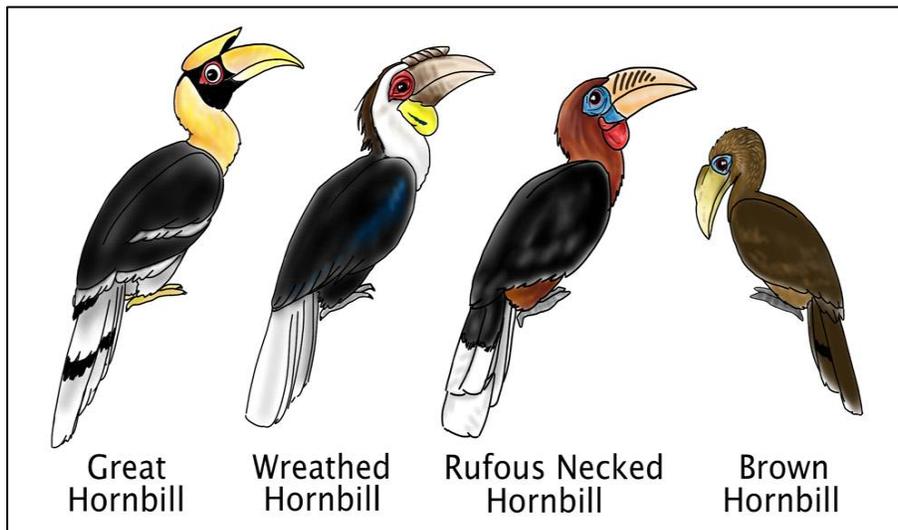
Private Equity-Venture Capital investments 2025

Type of Investor	Investment Size	Stage of Business	Risk Appetite	Investment Source	Involvement Level
👤 Angel Investors	Small to Medium (\$10K-\$500K)	Early-stage Startups	High	Personal Wealth	High (Mentorship & Guidance)
🌐 Venture Capitalists (VCs)	Large (\$500K to Millions)	Growth-stage Startups	High	Institutional Funds	High (Board Involvement)
🏢 Private Equity Investors	Very Large (\$10M+)	Mature Businesses	Medium	Institutional & Private Capital	Very High (Operational Changes)
🏛️ Institutional Investors	Large-Scale (\$Millions+)	Varies	Low to Medium	Pooled Funds	Low to Medium
👤 Retail Investors	Small (\$1K to \$50K)	Public Markets	Varies	Personal Savings	Low
🏦 Hedge Fund Investors	Large (\$1M+)	Varies	Very High	Pooled Funds	Medium to High
👥 Crowdfunding Investors	Small (\$10 to \$1K)	Early-stage/Projects	High	Collective Contributions	Low

- ❖ The Private Equity–Venture Capital (PE-VC) firms invested around \$1,108 million across 14 deals in Tamil Nadu based companies during the first three months of 2025.

- ❖ This is a massive increase when compared to the same period in 2024.
- ❖ January 2025 saw the maximum traction in terms of investments.
- ❖ At the national level, the PE-VC firms invested over \$7.9 billion across 270 deals in Indian companies during the first three months of 2025.
- ❖ The investment amount represents an 8%-rise over the \$7.3 billion (across 264 deals) invested in the same period during 2024.

Conservation of four species of hornbills 2025



- ❖ The State has planned to establish a Centre of Excellence to conserve the Great Hornbill, the Malabar Pied Hornbill, the Indian Grey Hornbill, and the Malabar Grey Hornbill.
- ❖ The State boasts the last remaining habitats of four of the nine hornbill species found in India.
- ❖ The Forest Department has identified key areas for conservation: Anamalai Tiger Reserve (for the Malabar Grey Hornbill and the Great Hornbill), Athikkadavu-Pilloor-Bhavanisagar Valley (for the Malabar Pied Hornbill), and the drier forests like Sathyamangalam (for the Indian Grey Hornbill).
- ❖ The Great Hornbill and the Malabar Grey Hornbill are listed in the 'vulnerable' category of the IUCN Red List.
- ❖ The Malabar Pied Hornbill is described as a 'near threatened' species.
- ❖ The Indian Grey Hornbill, with widespread distribution in the country, is in the 'least concern' category.
- ❖ Hornbills are secondary cavity nesters as they do not make the cavity themselves, and the same cavities are used for nesting for many years.

- ❖ It is also aimed to protect the nesting trees, including the *Dipterocarpus indicus*, *Cryptocarya anamalayana*, and *Myristica malabarica*.
- ❖ *Dipterocarpus indicus* and *Cryptocarya anamalayana* are 'endangered', while the *Myristica malabarica* is 'vulnerable', according to the IUCN Red List.

NATIONAL NEWS

Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024

- ❖ The Banking Laws Amendment Bill, 2024 which was passed by the Rajya Sabha by a voice vote.
- ❖ The new banking laws allow a bank account holder to have up to four nominees, including simultaneous nominations for cash and fixed deposits.
- ❖ The bill also seeks to increase the tenure of the directors (excluding the chairman and whole-time director) in cooperative banks from eight years to 10 years.
- ❖ Now a director of a central cooperative bank can serve on the board of a state cooperative bank.



**Banking Laws
(Amendment) Bill, 2024**

STRENGTHENING INDIA'S FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

KEY DETAILS

- **What:** The Lok Sabha has passed the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, introducing key reforms to enhance governance and operational efficiency in the banking sector.
- **Why:** To modernize banking regulations, strengthen financial institutions, and improve customer protection.
- **When:** Passed in December 2024 and awaiting further legislative procedures.
- **Key Amendments:** Account holders can now designate up to four nominees for easier fund inheritance, and director tenure in cooperative banks is extended from 8 to 10 years.

90th Anniversary of RBI

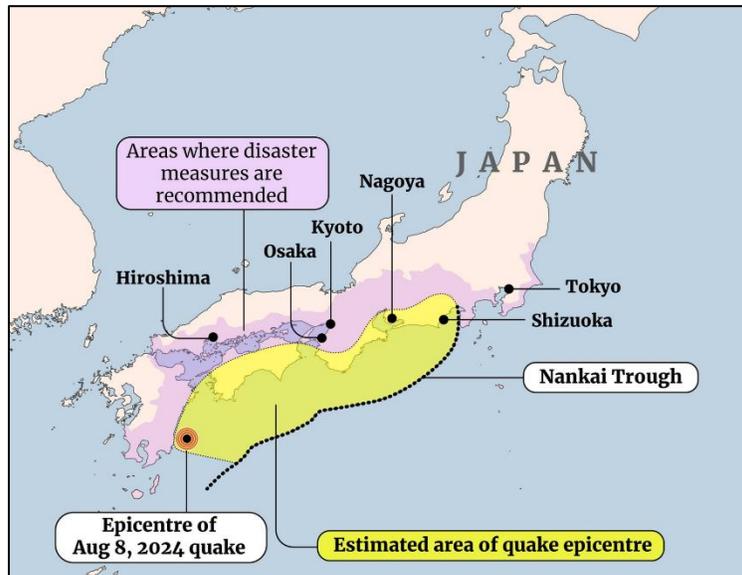
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India's 90th anniversary commemorative coin unveiled the at the event held in Mumbai.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India was set up under the RBI Act-1934 and commenced its operations on April 1, 1935 as a privately owned institution.
- ❖ It was nationalized in 1949 through Reserve Bank (Transfer to Public Ownership) Act -1948.
- ❖ The first Governor of RBI was Sir Osborne Smith.

- ❖ Sir C.D. Deshmukh was the first Indian Governor.
- ❖ RBI is responsible for issuing and managing Indian currency notes except Re.1 notes and coins.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mega quake in Nankai trough



- ❖ A "megaquake" and subsequent tsunami could cause as many as 298,000 deaths in Japan and damage costing up to \$2 trillion.
- ❖ The Nankai Trough has a 70-80% probability of producing a magnitude 8-9 quake within the next 30 years.



- ❖ The Nankai Trough is a 900-kilometre undersea fault stretching from Shizuoka to Kyushu.
- ❖ Here, the Philippine Sea oceanic tectonic plate is "subducting" - or slowly slipping underneath the continental plate that Japan sits atop.
- ❖ Over the past 1,400 years, megaquakes in the Nankai Trough have struck every 100 to 200 years, with the most recent occurring in 1946.

ECONOMY NEWS

Revised FPI Disclosure Norms

- ❖ The SEBI is likely to raise the investment threshold for the granular ownership disclosures by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) from ₹25,000 crore to ₹50,000 crore.
- ❖ The disclosure norms were introduced in August 2023.
- ❖ It requires FPIs with assets under custody (AUC) of over ₹25,000 crore or with over 50 per cent of their AUC concentrated in a single corporate group to provide additional ownership details.

SEBI's move to increase FPI investment threshold to ₹50,000 cr. may ease compliance burden on genuine investors



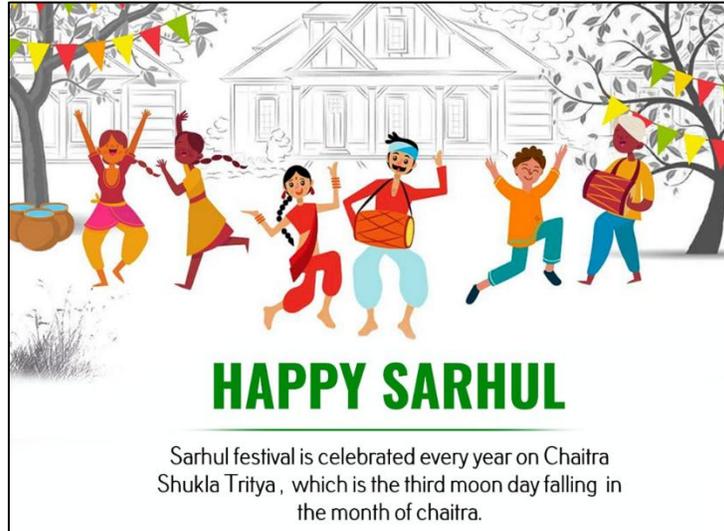
- Tough granular disclosure requirement had made compliance difficult
- Many FPIs had diluted their positions in India to fall below the threshold of ₹25,000 crore
- SEBI's latest decision hailed as pro-growth and pro-investment

STATES' NEWS

Sarhul festival 2025

- ❖ Jharkhand and Chhotanagpur region celebrated the new year and the arrival of spring with the Sarhul festival.
- ❖ Sarhul is the meaning of "worship of the Sal tree."
- ❖ Shorea robusta, the sal tree, is a species of tree in the family Dipterocarpaceae.

- ❖ The tree is native to India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Tibet and across the Himalayan regions.
- ❖ Sarhul has been celebrated by tribes such as the Oraon, Munda, Santal, Khadia, and Ho with unique names.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

50th anniversary of biological weapon convention



- ❖ It is the first multilateral disarmament treaty to ban an entire category of the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).
- ❖ It was opened for signature in April, 1972 and entered into force on 26th March 1975.



- ❖ It supplements the 1925 Geneva Protocol, which had prohibited only the use of biological weapons.
- ❖ 188 countries including India and four Signatory States (Egypt, Haiti, Somalia, and Syria) are parties of the treaty.

Nirmal Yadav case 2025

Timeline of the Nirmal Yadav case:

- **Aug 13, 2008** | Bag containing ₹15L allegedly meant for Justice Nirmal Yadav (pic) of Punjab & Haryana HC delivered at home of another sitting judge by mistake
- **Nov 2009** | Yadav moved to U'khand HC
- **Dec 2009** | CBI files closure report
- **March 2010** | CBI court rejects closure report, orders reinvestigation. HC CJ gives sanction to prosecute in Sept
- **March 2011** | Prez approves
- **Jan 2014** | Spl CBI court frames charges against judge



- ❖ A special CBI Court in Chandigarh acquitted former Punjab and Haryana High Court Judge Nirmal Yadav in the 'Cash at Judge's Door' case.
- ❖ In 2006, She was elevated as the Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court at Chandigarh and retired in 2011.
- ❖ In 2008, Rs 15 lakh in cash was allegedly delivered at the residence of another Punjab and Haryana HC judge, Justice Nirmaljit Kaur.
- ❖ It was alleged that the money was meant to be sent to Justice Yadav but was wrongly delivered to the other judge's residence due to confusion over their similar names.

Hurun Global Rich List 2025

- ❖ In the Hurun Global Rich List for 2025, India ranks third with 284 billionaires.
- ❖ For the first time in 10 years, the US leads the list with 870 billionaires.
- ❖ China follows with 823 of the world's wealthiest residents.
- ❖ Shanghai overtook Mumbai as the billionaire capital of Asia for the first time.
- ❖ It hosts 92 individuals compared to the 90 billionaires living in Mumbai.



- ❖ India is home to seven billionaires under 40 from Bengaluru and Mumbai.
- ❖ Two Indian billionaires are just 34 years old.

India at 3rd spot with 284 Billionaires

Rank	Country	Number of Billionaires	Change YoY
1↑	 USA	 870	70
2↓	 China	 823	9
3-	 India	 284	13
4-	 UK	 150	4
5-	 Germany	 141	1

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★