

August - 16

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has named senior IAS officer S.K. Prabakar as the chairman of the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC).
- ❖ The Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) held its 3rd International Conference on World Biofuel Day (August 10) in New Delhi.

TAMIL NADU

School education helpline - 14417



- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has directed the school education helpline 14417 to extend its services.
- ❖ The helpline has now begun running 24x7 to address the increasing number of calls about the scheme, which offers ₹1,000 every month to college-going boys.
- ❖ According to the School Education Department, 14417 was converted to a 24X7 helpline from 5 August, 2024.

Higher education in Tamil Nadu – 9th NIRF

- ❖ Tamil Nadu continues to be the destination for higher education, as per the results of the 9th edition of the National Institutional Ranking Framework.
- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology Madras stood first in overall ranking and the engineering category.
- ❖ It also scored second in research and innovation category.
- ❖ The State is home to 18 of the 100 top institutions in the country.



- ❖ They include six State universities, 10 private institutions and two Central institutes.
- ❖ The State universities are: Anna University (rank 20); Bharathiar University (44); Bharathidasan University (55); University of Madras (64); Alagappa University (76) and Periyar University (100) are State-run institutions.
- ❖ Anna University tops the public funded State universities in the country and is ranked 13 among universities.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Agriculture University is ranked 6 in its category and the TN Veterinary and Animal Sciences University is ranked 17.
- ❖ JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty, is ranked 6th, the College of Pharmacy of Madras Medical College is ranked 78.
- ❖ Of the six architecture and planning colleges four are in Chennai.
- ❖ Madras Medical College is ranked 10 while Christian Medical College is ranked 3rd among medical colleges.
- ❖ Presidency College is ranked 13 from 3rd last year in arts and science colleges and Loyola has been ranked 8th.

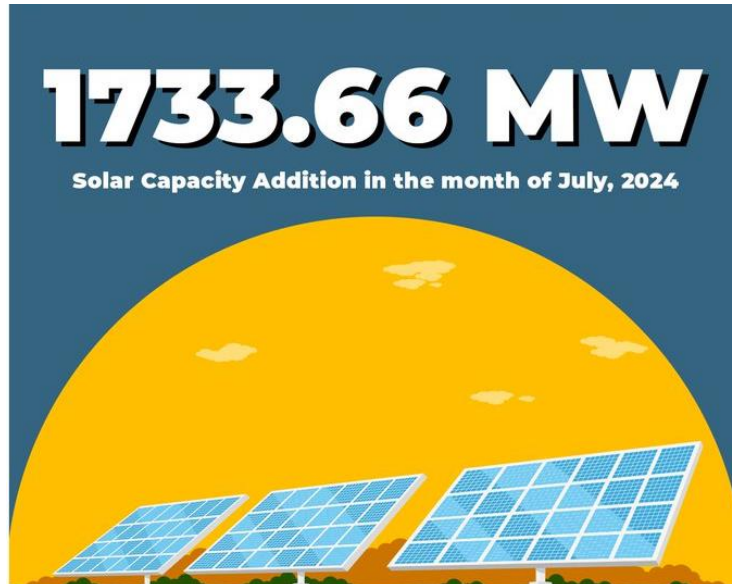
NIRF RANKINGS 2024		STATE PUBLIC UNIVERSITY	ENGINEERING	DENTAL
Top educational institutions in each category from Tamil Nadu		(New category)	IIT Madras 1 (1)	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences 1 (1)
TOP FIVE COLLEGES NIRF 2024 RANKING (Within bracket previous year's ranking)		Anna University 1	NIT Trichy 9 (9)	SRM Dental College 7 (6)
UNIVERSITIES		Bharathiar University 8	Vellore Institute of Technology 11 (11)	Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research 10 (7)
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham 7 (7)		University of Madras 12	SRM Institute of Science and Technology 13 (20)	Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research 13 (16)
Vellore Institute of Technology 10 (8)		Bharathidasan University 16	Anna University 14 (13)	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham 14 (12)
Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences 11 (11)		Alagappa University 17		
PSGR Krishnammal College for Women, Coimbatore 7 (4)		MEDICAL	MANAGEMENT	
Loyola College, Chennai 8 (7)		Christian Medical College 3 (3)	IIT Madras 16 (15)	
PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore 11 (20)		Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham 8 (6)	IIM Trichy 27 (22)	LAW
Presidency College, Chennai 13 (3)		Madras Medical College 10 (11)	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham 28 (20)	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences 13 (11)
Madras Christian College 14 (16)		Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences 12 (10)	Great Lakes Institute of Management 34 (31)	Sastro 14 (15)
		SRM Institute of Science and Technology 18 (20)	NIT Trichy 51 (35)	

NATIONAL

Renewable Energy Capacity 2024

- ❖ India's installed renewable energy capacity has increased by 165 per cent over the past decade.
- ❖ It is rising from 76.38 Gigawatts (GW) in 2014 to 203.1 GW in 2024.
- ❖ India has achieved 4th position globally in RE Installed Capacity.

- ❖ India stood 4th in Wind Power capacity and 5th in Solar PV capacity.
- ❖ For the first time, the country has crossed 200 GW capacity from non-fossil fuel sources.
- ❖ It includes 85.47 GW of solar power and 46.93 GW of large hydro 46.66 GW of wind power, 10.95 GW of biopower, and 5.00 GW of small hydropower.



9th NIRF Ranking 2024

- ❖ Indian Institute of Technology, Madras is the best education institution in the country for the sixth time since 2019.
- ❖ The Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru is the top institution under both the universities and research categories, retaining both positions since 2016 and 2021 respectively.
- ❖ The ranks were given in 16 categories this year, three more than last year.
- ❖ Open universities, skill universities and State public universities are the three new categories.
- ❖ IIM Ahmedabad has continued to be the top management institute for the fifth consecutive year since 2020.
- ❖ AIIMS, New Delhi is the best place to study medical sciences, in the top spot for the seventh consecutive year.
- ❖ Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi is the best college for pharmacy.
- ❖ Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai is the best college to pursue dental science.

- ❖ IIT, Bombay is the best 'innovational institution' followed by IIT Madras and IIT Delhi.
- ❖ In engineering, IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay follow IIT Madras.
- ❖ In management, IIM Bangalore and IIM Kozhikode come after IIM Ahmedabad.
- ❖ IIT Roorkee retained its first position in architecture and planning for the fourth consecutive year.
- ❖ The National Law School of India University, Bengaluru was named the best law school, the seventh year in a row.
- ❖ Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi is the best institution to study agriculture and allied sectors.
- ❖ Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi is the best open university.
- ❖ Symbiosis Skill and Professional University, Pune emerged the best in the skill universities category.

India Rankings 2024: Top 100 in Overall			
Name	City	State	Rank
Indian Institute of Technology Madras	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	1
Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	Bengaluru	Karnataka	2
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay	Mumbai	Maharashtra	3
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi	New Delhi	Delhi	4
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	5
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur	Kharagpur	West Bengal	6
All India Institute of Medical Sciences Delhi	New Delhi	Delhi	7
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee	Roorkee	Uttarakhand	8
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati	Guwahati	Assam	9
Jawaharlal Nehru University	New Delhi	Delhi	10

STATES

Implementation of RTE in states

- ❖ The Centre appealed to the state governments to implement the provision of the Right to Education.

- ❖ RTE mandates 25 per cent of seats for the children from economically weaker sections in private unaided schools.
- ❖ The state governments such as Punjab, Kerala, Telangana and West Bengal have not implemented RTE provisions.
- ❖ The 86th Constitutional Amendment in 2022 introduced Article 21 A, ensuring free and compulsory education for children aged 6-14 years.
- ❖ Education budget was at Rs 68,000 crore in 2014 and has reached to Rs 1.20 lakh crore in 2024-25 budget.
- ❖ School Education and Literacy got Rs 73,008 crore, compared to Rs 72,473 crore in the revised estimate for 2023-24.
- ❖ Higher Education has got Rs 47,619 crore, down from the revised estimate of Rs 57,244 crore for 2023-24.

A LEG-UP FOR DISADVANTAGED

GUIDELINES FOR ADMISSION INTO 25% RTE QUOTA SEATS

- Applications of students, whose residence is within **1 km** radius from the school, shall be considered first
- Thereafter, the applicants residing within **3 km** radius from the schools shall be taken into consideration
- Within neighbourhood criterion of **1 km and 3 km** distance, preference will be given to children who have siblings studying in the same school
- If seats still remain vacant after exhausting sibling applications, school shall admit students on the basis of draw of lots from the remaining applications received under the neighbourhood range of **0-1 km**

- Then applications from second neighbourhood distance range of more than **1 km and up to 3 km** shall be considered
- If there are still vacancies, applications from beyond **3 km** can be considered

Preferential quota devised under various categories

SC students: **10%**

Disadvantaged groups orphan, HIV-affected and disabled: **5%**

ST children: **4%**

Children from weaker sections, including BCs, minorities, and OCs (whose parents' annual income does not exceed **₹1.2 lakh** in rural area and **₹1.44 lakh** in urban areas): **6%**

Total: 25% of the total seats in a school

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

T V Somanathan

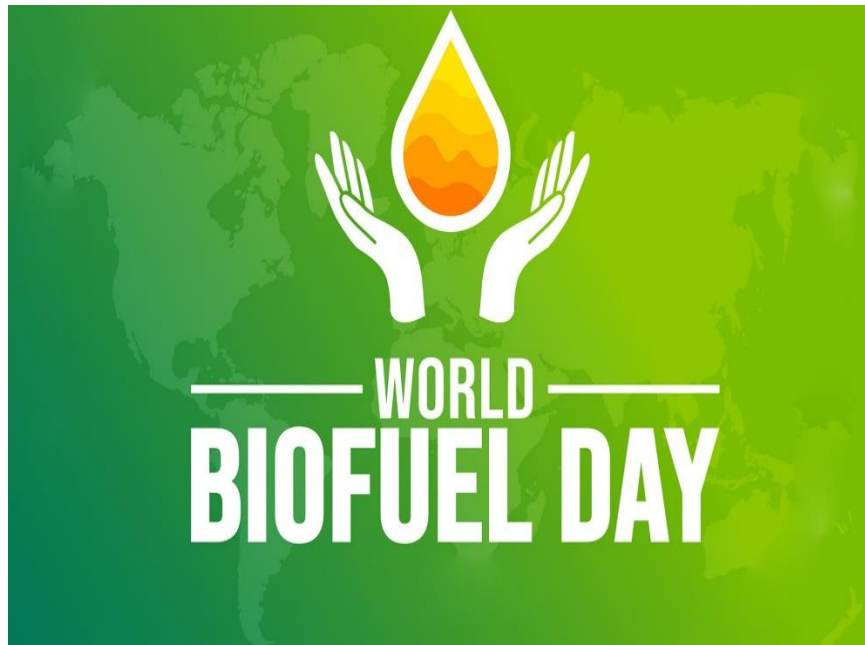
- ❖ Finance Secretary T V Somanathan was named as the new Cabinet Secretary by the government for a tenure of two years.
- ❖ He will succeed incumbent Rajiv Gauba, the longest serving Cabinet Secretary of the country.
- ❖ Till now, B D Pande has the longest tenure on the top post from November 2, 1972, to March 31, 1977.

- ❖ Somanathan will be the second finance secretary to have become the Cabinet secretary.
- ❖ The first finance secretary to have been elevated to this position was P K Kaul, in February 1985.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Biofuel Day 2024 - August 10



- ❖ The day commemorates the successful operation of an engine on peanut oil by German engineer Sir Rudolf Diesel on August 9, 1893.



- ❖ It aims to highlight the importance of biofuels in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting energy security, and supporting rural development.
- ❖ Biofuel are the fuel derived from the biomass of plants or animal wastes.
- ❖ The theme for 2024 is “Sustainable Biofuels: Fuelling a Greener Future.”

World Elephant Day 2024 - August 12

- ❖ This annual event was dedicated to raise the awareness about the plight of the elephants and advocating for their conservation.
- ❖ Patricia Sims of Canada and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand joined and established this day on August 12, 2012.
- ❖ The theme of 2024 is “Personifying Prehistoric Beauty, Theological Relevance, and Environmental Importance.”



International Youth Day 2024 - August 12



- ❖ The United Nations has declared in 1999 that August 12 would be the annual International Youth Day.

- ❖ It was based on a suggestion to the UN General Assembly made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in Lisbon on December 17, 1999.
- ❖ It was first celebrated on August 12, 2000.
- ❖ The theme of this year is 'From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development.'

