

February - 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has announced that the Tirunelveli district will get two more industrial estates – one at Nanguneri and other one at Moolaikkaraipatti.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department has planned to begin a trial of 50 Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) on fishing boats to help protect sea turtles.

TAMIL NADU

Erode (East) Assembly by-election 2025



- ❖ DMK has won the Erode (East) assembly seat by-election by a decisive margin of 91,558 votes.
- ❖ 6,109 were casted as the NOTA (none of the above), in an election where 46 candidates were in the contest.
- ❖ The eligible voters in Erode (East) constituency are 2,27,546-1,10,128 men, 1,17,381 women and 37 transpersons.
- ❖ However, only 1,54,657 cast their votes: 74,260 men, 80,376 women, and 21 transpersons.

State Action Plan on Climate Change 2025

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government has finalised its State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) and submitted it to the union environment ministry for approval.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu was the first state in the country to launch a dedicated climate change mission and make a budgetary allocation.
- ❖ The SAPCC is a key document that lays down different mitigation and adaptation strategies for key sectors in the face of climate change.
- ❖ It prioritises sectors like agriculture, water resources, coastal area management, and forest and biodiversity.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu constitutes 4% of India's land area and is inhabited by 6% of India's population, but has only 2.5% of India's water resources.
- ❖ More than 95% of surface water and 80% of groundwater have already been put into use.
- ❖ The per capita availability of the water resources is just 900 m³ compared to the national average of 2,200m³.



Priority stretches' by CPCB

- ❖ Rivers in Chennai and Salem have been identified as “priority stretches” by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) based on water quality data.
- ❖ According to CPCB, Tamil Nadu has 10 severely polluted river stretches and have been categorised under Priority I to V.
- ❖ Of these, the Adyar and Cooum in Chennai, and Thirumanimuthar and Vasishta rivers near Salem are Priority I.

- ❖ The Cooum river stretch from Avadi to Sathya Nagar is the most contaminated, with a biochemical oxygen demand of 345 mg/L, far exceeding the permissible limit of 3 mg/L for bathing waters.

Table - 27: Number of Polluted River Stretches in Tamil Nadu

S NO.	RIVER	POLLUTED RIVER STRETCH/ LOCATION	MAX BOD OBSERVED (mg/L)	PRIORITY CLASS
1.	ADYAR	TAMBARAM TO NANDANAM	40.0	I
2.	AMRAVATI	ALONG MADHUTHUKKULAM AND ALONG KARUR	4.0	V
3.	BHAVANI	ALONG BHAVANI	4.6	V
4.	CAUVERY	ALONG METTUR, ALONG ERODE, KATTIPALAYAM TO TRICHY, KUMBAKONAM TO PITCHAVARAM	17.0	III
5.	COOUM	AVADI TO SATHYA NAGAR	345.0	I
6.	PALAR	ALONG VANIYAMBADI	4.0	V
7.	SARABANGA	ALONG SALEM	24.0	II
8.	TAMBIRAPARANI	PAPPANKULAM TO ARUMUGANERI	7.5	IV
9.	THIRUMANIMUTHAR	ALONG SALEM	56.0	I
10.	VASISHTA	ALONG SALEM	230.0	I

NATIONAL

Five-year Cotton Mission 2025

Mission for Cotton Productivity

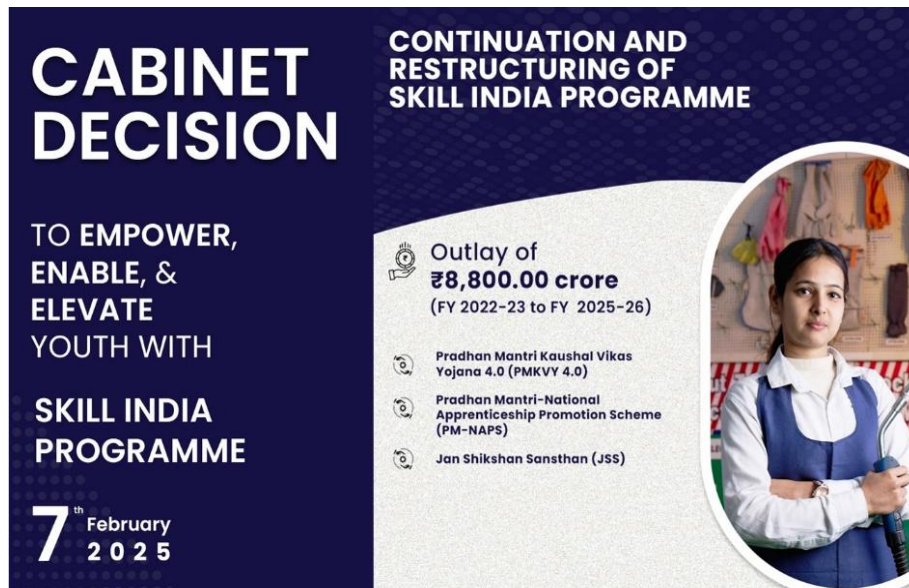
- **5-year 'Mission for Cotton Productivity'** will be launched to facilitate significant improvements in productivity and sustainability of cotton farming, and promote extra-long staple cotton varieties
- Best of **science & technology support** will be provided to **farmers**
- Aligned with our integrated **5F vision for the textile sector**, this will help in increasing **incomes of the farmers**, and ensure supply of quality cotton for rejuvenating India's traditional textile sector



- ❖ It aims to increase the cotton productivity especially extra-long staple varieties.
- ❖ Science & Technology support will be provided to farmers under this Mission.

- ❖ The Mission is in keeping with the 5 F principle and will increase income of the farmers and augment a steady supply of quality cotton.
- ❖ By boosting the domestic productivity, this initiative will stabilise raw material availability and enhance the global competitiveness of India's textile sector.
- ❖ To promote the domestic production of technical textile products such as Agro-textiles, medical textiles and geo textiles at competitive prices, two more types of shuttles-less looms added to the list of fully exempted textile machinery.
- ❖ The Budget announced an outlay of Rs. 5272 crores (Budget Estimates) for the Ministry of Textiles for 2025-26.

Extension of Skill India mission 2025



CABINET DECISION

TO EMPOWER, ENABLE, & ELEVATE YOUTH WITH

SKILL INDIA PROGRAMME

7th February 2025

CONTINUATION AND RESTRUCTURING OF SKILL INDIA PROGRAMME

Outlay of **₹8,800.00 crore**
(FY 2022-23 to FY 2025-26)

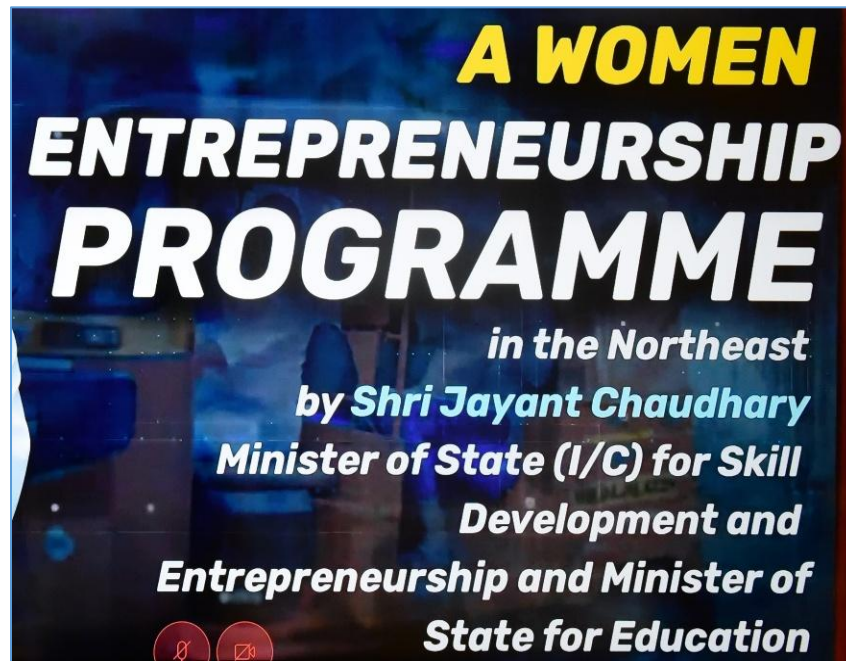
- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0)
- Pradhan Mantri-National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS)
- Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the continuation and restructuring of the Central Sector Scheme 'Skill India Programme (SIP)' till 2026.
- ❖ The following three key components, are now combined under the composite Central Sector Scheme of "Skill India Programme".
 - Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 (PMKVY 4.0),
 - The Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (PM-NAPS), and
 - The Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Scheme
- ❖ PMKVY 4.0 scheme provides NSQF aligned skill development training through Short-Term Training (STT) including the Special Projects (SP) and reskilling and upskilling.
- ❖ The JSS scheme is a community-centric skilling initiative.

- ❖ It is designed to make the vocational training accessible, flexible, and inclusive, particularly for women, rural youth, and economically disadvantaged groups and caters to the age group of 15 -45 years of age.

Swavalambini program

- ❖ Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), in collaboration with NITI Aayog launched Swavalambini in Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram.
- ❖ This Women Entrepreneurship Program aimed at empowering female students in select Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the northeast
- ❖ It will equip them with the essential entrepreneurial mind-set, resources, and the mentorship they need to succeed in their entrepreneurial journey.



New Agri-Tech Schemes 2025

- ❖ The government announced at least nine new missions or programmes focused solely on the Agri sector.
- ❖ Nevertheless, the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare saw an overall reduction of 2.5 per cent in its total allocation.
- ❖ Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' will be implemented in partnership with states through the convergence of existing schemes.
- ❖ It will be implemented in 100 districts with the low productivity, moderate crop intensity, and below-average credit parameters.

- ❖ The Comprehensive programme for vegetables and fruits will be launched in partnership with states.
- ❖ It aims to promote production, efficient supplies, processing, and remunerative prices for farmers.
- ❖ The mission has been allocated Rs 500 crore for 2025-26.
- ❖ The National Mission on High-Yielding Seeds mission will target the commercial availability, development, and propagation of over 100 high-yielding, pest-resistant, and climate-resilient seed varieties released since July 2024.
- ❖ A makhana board will be established in Bihar to improve the production, processing, value addition and marketing of makhana (foxnut).
- ❖ The 'Rural prosperity and resilience programme' initiative will be launched in partnership with states to address the underemployment in agriculture through skilling, investment, and technology.
- ❖ It will focus on rural women, young farmers, rural youth, marginal and small farmers, and landless families.
- ❖ Urea plant with annual capacity of 1.27 million tonnes will be set up at Namrup, Assam to further augment the supply of urea.



The infographic is divided into two columns. The left column, labeled '02', features a hand holding a sack with a rupee symbol (₹) in front of a green field. Below this, the text reads 'BUDGET ALLOCATION: AGRICULTURE GETS A BOOST'. The right column, labeled '03', features a portrait of a smiling man in a red turban and white shirt, with his arms crossed, in front of a green field. Below this, the text reads 'PRIME MINISTER DHAN-DHANYA KRISHI YOJANA'. Both columns include a rupee symbol (₹) in a circular frame and a small circular icon with a rupee symbol (₹) in the top right corner.

Column	Section	Key Information
02	BUDGET ALLOCATION: AGRICULTURE GETS A BOOST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ₹1.37 lakh crore allocated for the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare• ₹1.27 lakh crore has been allocated to the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare• ₹10,466 crore for the Department of Agricultural Research and Education
03	PRIME MINISTER DHAN-DHANYA KRISHI YOJANA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PM Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana benefits 1.7 crore farmers in 100 districts with low crop production• This program aims to increase productivity, enhance crop diversification and improve credit availability

Mission for Aatmanirbhar in pulses 2025

- ❖ Mission for Aatmanirbhar in pulses is a six-year mission with an allocation of Rs 1,000 crore for the financial year 2025-26.
- ❖ It is focusing on toor (pigeon pea), urad (black gram), and masoor (red lentil).

- ❖ Under this scheme, central agencies such as NAFED and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation will procure these pulses "as much as offered" over the next four years from farmers who register with these agencies and enter into agreements.

IMPORTS OF MAJOR PULSES (IN LAKH TONNES)					
	Peas (Matar)	Chickpea (Chana)	Lentil (Masoor)	Pigeonpea (Tur/Arhar)	Urad & Moong**
2014-15	19.52	4.19	8.16	5.75	6.23
2015-16	22.45	10.31	12.60	4.63	5.82
2016-17	31.73	10.81	8.29	7.04	5.75
2017-18	28.77	9.81	7.97	4.13	3.47
2018-19	8.51	1.86	2.49	5.31	5.74
2019-20	6.67	3.71	8.54	4.50	3.82
2020-21	0.46	2.95	11.16	4.43	4.17
2021-22	0.01	2.02	6.67	8.40	8.07
2022-23	0.01	0.63	8.58	8.94	5.57
2023-24	11.76	2.85	16.76	7.71	6.29
2024-25*	15.77	2.92	5.91	10.00	5.30

Nuclear energy mission 2025

Energy Sector Reforms

Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act to be amended to realize goal of development of at least 100 GW of nuclear energy by 2047

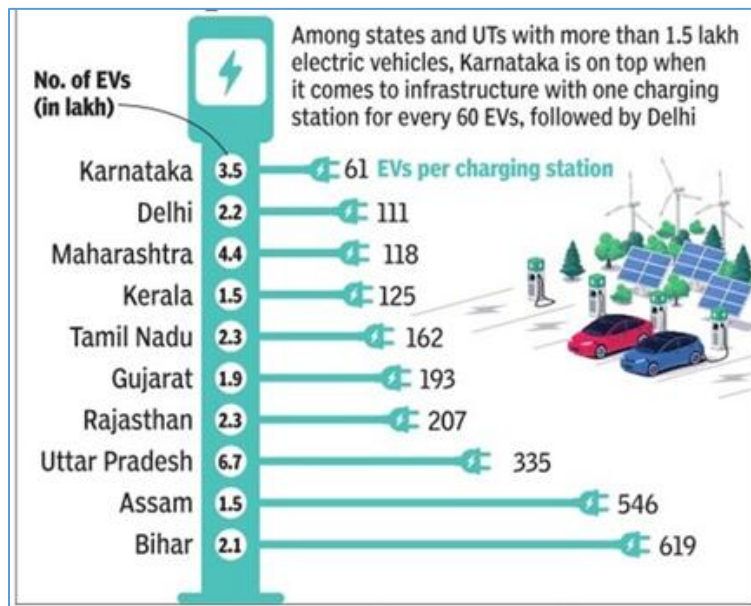
- Nuclear Energy Mission for research & development of Small Modular Reactors (SMR) to be set up, with outlay of Rs. 20,000 crore; at least 5 indigenously developed SMRs to be operationalized by 2033
- Government to incentivize electricity distribution reforms and augmentation of intra-state transmission capacity by states; additional borrowing of 0.5% of GSDP to states, contingent on these reforms

- ❖ The Nuclear Energy Mission is poised to accelerate nuclear power development, positioning India as a global leader in advanced nuclear technology by 2047.
- ❖ Development of at least 100 GW of nuclear energy by 2047 is essential for our energy transition efforts.

- ❖ For an active partnership with the private sector towards this goal, amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act will be taken up.
- ❖ A Nuclear Energy Mission for research & development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) with an outlay of INR 20,000 crore will be set up.
- ❖ At least 5 indigenously developed SMRs will be operationalized by 2033.
- ❖ The Atomic Energy Act of 1962 prohibits the private control of nuclear power generation in India.
- ❖ Only two government-owned enterprises - NPCIL and Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited are legally allowed to own and operate nuclear power plants in India.
- ❖ The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act of 2010 places responsibility for any nuclear accident with the plant operator and limits total operator liability.
- ❖ But it allows the operator to have legal recourse to the reactor supplier, with no limit on supplier liability.
- ❖ India is already working to expand its nuclear capacity from 8180 MW today to 22,480 MW by 2031-2032.

STATES

EV infrastructure status 2025

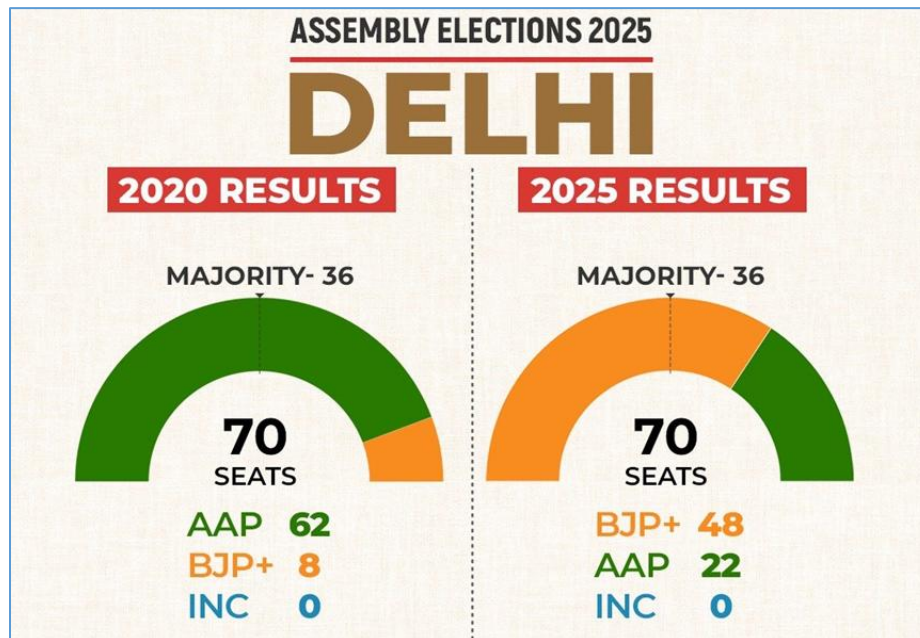


- ❖ Tamil Nadu is one of the frontrunners when it comes to creating infrastructure needed to encourage adoption of more electric vehicles (EV) and manufacturing.

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh leads in the number of the EV charging stations installed by Oil Marketing Companies with 2,561 stations.
- ❖ It is followed by Maharashtra with 1,595, Karnataka with 1,516, Rajasthan with 1,482 and Tamil Nadu with 1,448.
- ❖ FAME India Phase-I was implemented up to 31 March, 2019, with a budget of ₹895 crore.
- ❖ Phase-II was implemented for five years from 1 April 2019, with an outlay of ₹11,500 crore.

MISCELLANEOUS

Delhi UT Assembly election 2025



- ❖ The BJP won in Delhi after more than 26 years as it won 48 of the 70 seats in the Assembly polls.
- ❖ The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) secured victories from 22 seats and the Congress drew a blank for a third straight time.
- ❖ AAP candidate from Matia Mahal Aaley Mohammad Iqbal registered the highest victory margin of 42,724 votes in the polls.
- ❖ BJP's Chandan Kumar Choudhary won the Sangam Vihar seat by the lowest margin of 344 votes.
- ❖ The election was concluded on February 5 with an overall voter turnout of 60.39%.



- ❖ The highest voter turnout was in Mustafabad (69%).
- ❖ Lowest was in Karol Bagh (47.40%).
- ❖ For the first time since Independence, the BJP will now have governments in Delhi and all adjoining States.

'Art in Prison' initiative

- ❖ The 'Art in Prison' initiative is about bringing the folk art, theatre, botanical cyanotype art, and music into Puzhal-1 Central Jail in Chennai, continuing for a year now.
- ❖ The initiative is led by Sumanasa Foundation and Project 39A in collaboration with Nam Veedu Nam Oor Nam Kadhai.
- ❖ The new additions to the initiative are a book drive that has already received about 500 books.
- ❖ After a collection drive, the books will be sent to the inmates of Puzhal jail.

