

February - 26

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ IIIT- Delhi have developed AI-powered data integration and predictive analytics tools - AMRSense, to understand the patterns of antibiotic resistance in real time.
- ❖ Manohar International Airport (GOX) of Goa becomes the first airport in India to receive the “Sarva Shrestha Suraksha Puraskar (GOLDEN TROPHY)” at National Safety Council of India (NSCI) Safety Awards 2024 under ‘Service Sector’.
- ❖ The Madurai bench of Madras High Court said the selective visibility provided to dominant castes in temple festivals reinforces systemic inequality, denying Dalits both social value and meaningful participation in society.
- ❖ Mangalam Srinivasan, an expert in Rangoli and Thanjavur painting from Tiruchi, has been conferred with the ninth Rani Ma Gaidinliu award for her outstanding achievements in the field.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister ‘Mudhalvar Marunthagam’ was opened (the Chief Minister’s Pharmacies) in Dindigul and Theni districts as part of the 1,000 CM’s Pharmacies opened across the State.
  - It provides generic medicines at significantly reduced prices offering discounts ranging from 20% to 90% reduced rate along with additional discounts up to 25 % for the consumers.

## TAMIL NADU

### Tamil Nadu power situation 2034-35

- ❖ Tamil Nadu is likely to witness energy deficit throughout 2024-25 to 2034-35.
- ❖ As per the study, the total unserved energy in the year 2034-35 is likely to be around 45,587 million unit.
- ❖ In the fiscal year 2023-24, Tamil Nadu’s peak power demand of 19,045 MW was met without any gap.
- ❖ The energy required was 1,26,163 million units (MU), against energy supplied of 1,26,151 MU.
- ❖ As of March 2024, the total contracted capacity for Tamil Nadu is 36,593 MW.
- ❖ Out of the total contracted capacity (CC), the share of non-fossil fuel-based CC is 61%.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu recorded an all-time high peak power demand of 20,830 MW on May 2, 2024.



- ❖ The record high daily consumption of 454.320 million units on April 30, 2024.
- ❖ The State is expected to surpass this record in 2025 summer period.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has projected its peak demand to reach 35,507 MW and energy requirement to touch 2,49,580 MU respectively by 2034-2035.
- ❖ The total projected contracted Capacity for the year 2034-35 is 98,140 MW.
- ❖ The share of non-fossil fuel-based capacity in the generation mix is projected to increase to around 77% by 2034-35 from 64% in 2024-25.

FY	COAL	NUCLEAR	BIOMASS	HYDRO	WIND	SOLAR	PSP	Total
2024/25	2120	152	0	0	500	4100	0	<b>6872</b>
2025/26	0	0	75	20	500	1800	500	<b>2895</b>
2026/27	1320	1100	0	0	500	1500	0	<b>4420</b>
2027/28	462	0	0	0	500	1700	0	<b>2662</b>
2028/29	2082	0	0	0	500	2000	0	<b>4582</b>
2029/30	500	1000	0	0	2000	2300	0	<b>5800</b>
2030/31	0	0	0	0	1000	1000	0	<b>2000</b>
2031/32	0	0	0	0	1000	1000	0	<b>2000</b>
2032/33	0	0	0	0	1000	1000	0	<b>2000</b>
2033/34	0	0	0	0	1000	1000	1000	<b>3000</b>
2034/35	0	0	0	0	1000	1000	0	<b>2000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6484</b>	<b>2252</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9500</b>	<b>18400</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>38231</b>

### OBC in TN rural local bodies

Posts	President	Village panchayat ward member	Panchayat union ward member	District panchayat ward member
Elected representatives	12,525	99,327	6,471	655
Women	7,055 (56%)	56,903 (57%)	3,758 (58%)	363 (55%)
SC representatives	Men	1,655 (13%)	8,291 (8.3%)	521 (8%)
	Women	2,466 (20%)	18,820 (19%)	993 (15%)
	Sub-total	4,121 (33%)	27,111 (27%)	1,514 (23%)
ST representatives	Men	99 (1%)	301 (0.3%)	21 (0.3%)
	Women	136 (1%)	735 (0.3%)	43 (0.7%)
	Sub-total	235 (2%)	1,036 (1%)	64 (1%)
General and BC representatives	Men	3,716 (30%)	33,832 (34%)	2,171 (34%)
	Women	4,453 (36%)	37,348 (38%)	2,722 (42%)
	Sub-total	8,169 (65%)	71,180 (72%)	4,893 (76%)

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ, TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT

The table shows the percentage of OBCs among elected representatives in rural local bodies			
Village (Gram) panchayat	Panchayat union (block)	District Panchayat	Total
<b>12.16%</b>	<b>15.42%</b>	<b>17.25%</b>	<b>12.39%</b>

- ❖ The overall share of OBCs in the Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) is 12.39%.
- ❖ The break-up is being 12.16% in village panchayats; 15.42% in panchayat unions and 17.25% in district panchayats.

- ❖ The report also talks of women’s quota, which has been mentioned as 57.3% at the overall level.
- ❖ At the three layers of the RLBs, the figures are 57.2%, 58.07% and 55.41%.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has the provision only for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes based on the proportion of the communities to the State’s population and for the women (50% - horizontal).
- ❖ As on January 1, 2024, the figures of the share of “non-reserved General and the Backward Classes representatives” were as follows:
  - 65% in respect of presidents of village panchayats;
  - 72% for members of village panchayats’ wards;
  - 76% for panchayat unions’ ward members and
  - 72% for district panchayats’ ward members.

## NATIONAL

### TRAI’s New Framework 2025

Conditions	Existing	Recommended
Authorisation Fees (erstwhile License Fee) for DTH services	8% of AGR	3% of AGR, to be reduced to ‘zero’. No authorisation fee after the end of FY 2026-27
Authorisation Fees (erstwhile Annual Fee) for Radio Broadcasting Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% of GR or 2.5% of NOTEF, whichever is higher;</li> <li>• 2% of GR or 1.25% of NOTEF for NE states, J&amp;K and island territories during initial 3 years, thereafter as above</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% of AGR for all the cities;</li> <li>• 2% of AGR for NE states, J&amp;K and island territories during initial 3 years, thereafter as above</li> </ul>
Bank Guarantee for DTH Service	Rs. 5 crore initial, thereafter License Fee of two quarters	Rs. 5 crore or 20% of Authorisation Fee for two quarters, whichever is higher
Bank Guarantee for HITS Service	Rs. 40 crore for initial 3 years	Rs. 5 crore for the validity of authorisation
Processing Fees of HITS Service	Rs. 1 Lac	Rs. 10000
Validity Period of HITS Service	10 years initially, no provision for renewal	20 years with renewal by 10 years at a time
Renewal Period for Terrestrial Radio Service	No provision for renewal in FM Radio	Renewal by 10 years at a time

- ❖ The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released its major recommendations on the framework for service authorisations for the provision of broadcasting services, under the Telecommunications Act, 2023.
- ❖ This marks a significant shift from the previous regulatory structure that was governed by the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

- ❖ New recommendations are ending radio co-location, reducing DTH fees to zero, and promoting infrastructure sharing.
- ❖ IPTV's net worth requirement is removed.
- ❖ Interoperable STBs are encouraged, with TEC setting standards.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Iraq's Zagros Mountains



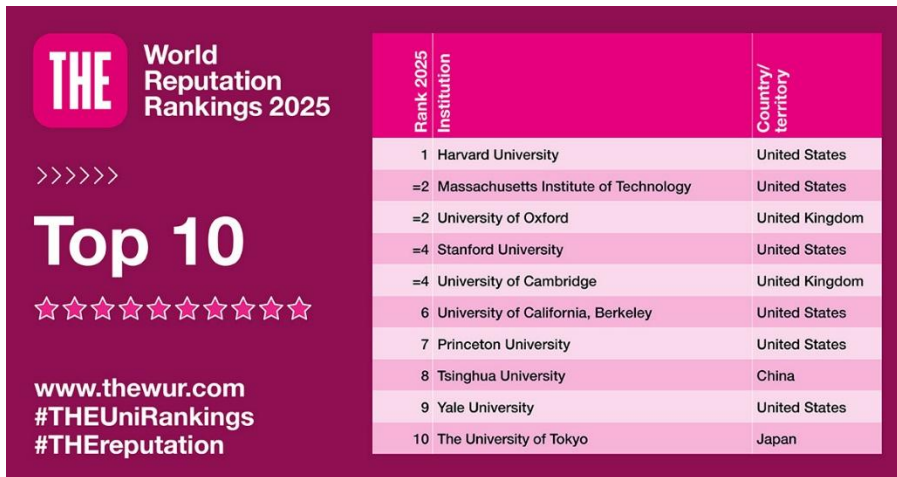
- ❖ The region surrounding the Zagros Mountains in the Iraq's north is sinking.
- ❖ The Researchers has found a sinking oceanic “slab” below the Earth's surface is pulling the northern region of Iraq down with it.
- ❖ A growing tear is forming in a region along the Arabian and Eurasian continental plates known as the Neo Tethys oceanic slab.
- ❖ The slab, which formed the floor of an ancient ocean more than 66 million years ago, is splitting from southeast Turkey to northwest Iran.
- ❖ So now, the slab is sinking into the Earth's mantle.
- ❖ This process is complex and takes tens of millions of years.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### THE World Reputation Rankings 2025

- ❖ The Harvard University emerged as the leading institution in the list of top universities across the globe renowned for their academic reputations and the prestige.

- ❖ This marks 14th consecutive year that Harvard University continues to hold the top spot in the World Reputation Rankings 2025.
- ❖ The University of Oxford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) jointly share the second spot.
- ❖ Oxford University is the only highest-ranked UK institution in the top 7 list, while the rest are US universities.
- ❖ This year, as many as 300 institutions from 38 countries and territories have been ranked by the Times Higher Education (THE).
- ❖ Bengaluru's Indian Institute of Science (IISc) slipped to the 201-300 band from 101-125 ranking in 2023.
- ❖ IIT Delhi and IIT Madras also slipped ranks, joining IISc's 201-300 band.
- ❖ IIT Delhi slipped from 151-175 band to 201-300, while IIT Madras dropped to 201-300 band from 176-200.
- ❖ IIT Bombay did not find a place in the list while in the previous year it appeared in 151-175 rankings.
- ❖ Shiksha 'O' Anusandhan, a private deemed-to-be university located in Odisha's Bhubaneswar, is the new entrant in the list that found a spot in the 201-300 band.



Rank 2025	Institution	Country/territory
1	Harvard University	United States
=2	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States
=2	University of Oxford	United Kingdom
=4	Stanford University	United States
=4	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom
6	University of California, Berkeley	United States
7	Princeton University	United States
8	Tsinghua University	China
9	Yale University	United States
10	The University of Tokyo	Japan

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Thinking Day 2025 - February 22

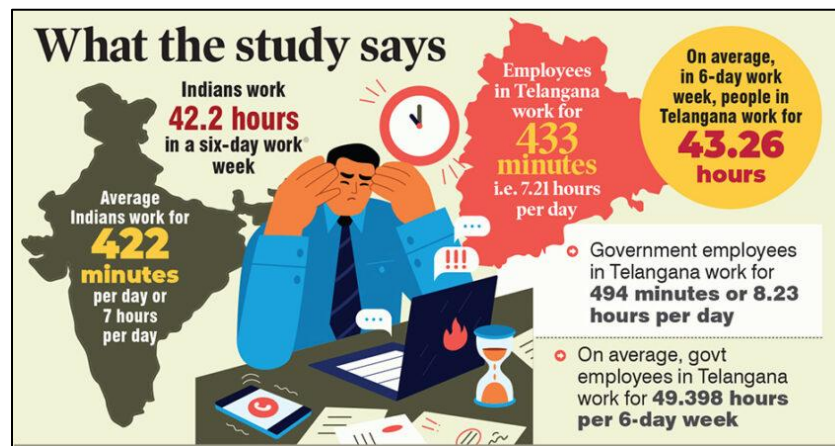
- ❖ The World Thinking Day is celebrated by millions of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide.
- ❖ The day aims at fostering the global friendship, raising awareness about global issues, and empowering young girls to become strong leaders and change agents.

- ❖ This day dates back to 1926 when 4th International Conference of Girl Guide/ Girl Scouts was held in the United States.
- ❖ This day is the birthday of the Boy Scouts' founder, Lord Baden-Powell and his wife, World Chief Guide Olave Baden-Powell.
- ❖ "Our Story" is the theme for World Thinking Day in 2025.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### Time Spent on Employment-Related Activities



- ❖ Indians already spend an average of 422 minutes per day—around 42 hours per week—on paid work.
- ❖ The Urban workers clock 469 minutes daily (7.8 hours), outpacing their rural counterparts, who average 399 minutes (6.65 hours).
- ❖ Union Territories like Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli report over 600 minutes of daily work.



- ❖ In contrast, Goa and Northeastern states average under 360 minutes, with Delhi at 8.3 hours and Goa at just 5.5 hours.
- ❖ Urban women work two hours less daily than men, while rural women trail their male counterparts by 1.8 hours.
- ❖ A 1% increase in working time is linked to a 1.7% rise in per capita Net State Domestic Product (NSDP).
- ❖ For larger states, this impact is even stronger—a 3.7% boost in NSDP for every 1% increase in work hours.
- ❖ Currently, Gujarat has the highest proportion of its population—7.21%—working over 70 hours weekly, compared to just 1.05% in Bihar.

