

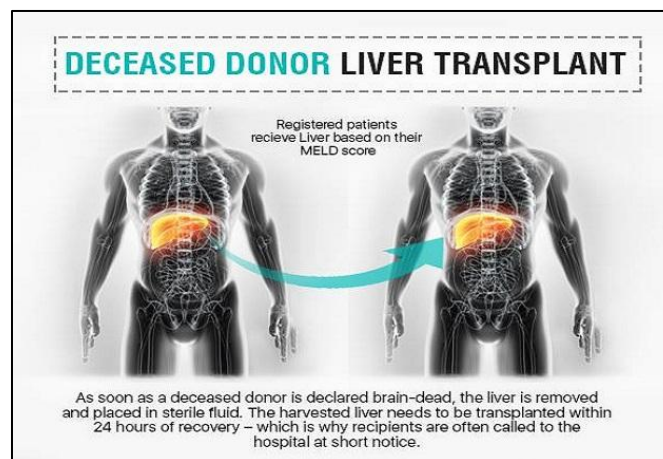
February - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu CM has inaugurated the Kalaignar Centenary Boxing Academy in Gopalapuram in Chennai.
- ❖ The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) and IIT Madras signed a MoU to foster innovation, enhance the data analytic capabilities and contribute to the technology-driven governance practices.
- ❖ The Renowned Odissi dancer Mayadhar Raut who is considered as the "Father of Odissi dance" (92) died recently.
- ❖ The annual Khajuraho Dance Festival 2025 was organized by the Department of Culture, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ NITI Aayog has set up a committee, led by V.K. Paul, to reform AIIMS, New Delhi, focusing on governance, efficiency, and sustainability.
- ❖ Datia has officially emerged as Madhya Pradesh's eighth airport after receiving a licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- ❖ The 17th edition of the International Defence Exhibition - IDEX and 8th edition of the Naval Defence and Maritime Security Exhibition – NAVDEX was held in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

TAMIL NADU

Cadaveric liver transplants 2025



- ❖ The Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital (RGGGH), Tamil Nadu's largest government hospital, has gone on to perform 15 deceased donor liver transplants so far, with a 100% survival rate.

- ❖ RGGGH has carried out its first cadaveric liver transplant on February 10, 2023.
- ❖ Eight liver transplants were performed that year, followed by five more in 2024.
- ❖ Two liver transplants have been performed so far this year.

Chief Minister's Pharmacies



முதல்வர் மருந்தகம்!

முதல்வர் மருந்தகம்
என்ற புதிய திட்டத்தின் கீழ் தமிழ்நாடு முழுவதும்
முதற்கட்டமாக அடுத்தாண்டு தைத்திருநாள் அன்று

1000 மருந்தகங்கள்
திறக்கப்படும்.

சிறப்பாக செயல்படும் மருந்தாளுரைகளுக்கும்,
கூட்டுறவு அமைப்புகளுக்கும் தேவையான
கடன் உதவியோடு,

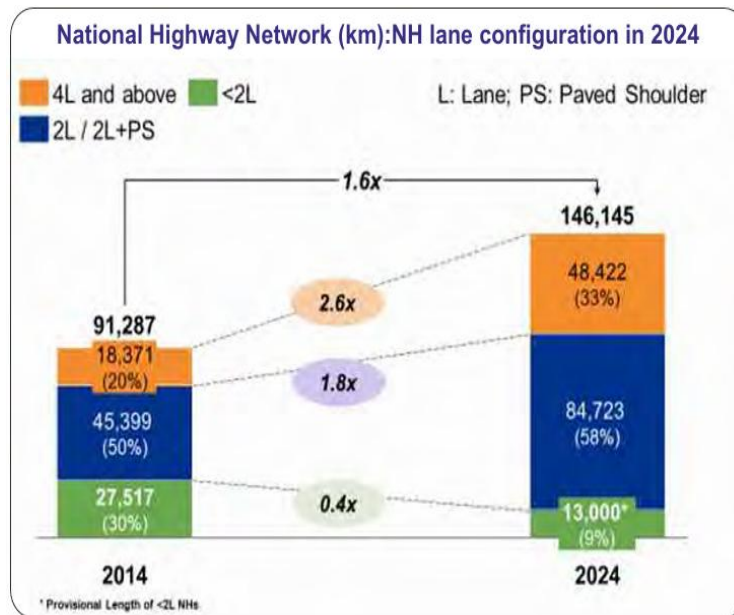
₹3 லட்சம்
மானியம் அரசால் வழங்கப்படும்.

- ❖ The Tamilnadu State government plans to open 1,000 Mudhalvar Marunthagam (Chief Minister's Pharmacies) across the State by the end of this month.
- ❖ The initiative aims at providing medicines at prices lower than those offered at cooperative, Amma, and Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi pharmacies.
- ❖ These pharmacies will offer 186 varieties of generic medicines, along with Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani, IMCAPS, DAMCAL, surgical, and nutraceutical products.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation (TNMSC) will procure the quality medicines and sell them at a 10% discount price compared to other government pharmacies.
- ❖ The Entrepreneurs who have completed D. Pharm or B. Pharm and are licensed as pharmacists can apply online for Muthalvar Marunthagam.
- ❖ Selected entrepreneurs will be given a government grant of 3 lakhs.

- ❖ Of this, 50% will be given in cash for infrastructure facilities and 50% given in kind as medicines.
- ❖ It will be implemented under the Department of Co-operation, Food and the Consumer Protection of state of Tamil Nadu.

NATIONAL

MoRTH annual report 2024



- ❖ The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways' (MoRTH) recently released an annual report 2024-25.
- ❖ The financial condition of the State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs) across the country is getting worse, with year-on-year (y-o-y) losses to over Rs 30,000 crore in FY22.
- ❖ This was marking a 68 per cent increase in losses in three years.
- ❖ In FY21, 58 SRTUs reported a total loss of over Rs 29,000 crore.
- ❖ The fleet utilisation rate in FY21, FY20 and FY19 was 62.54 per cent, 87.56 per cent and 88.6 per cent, respectively.
- ❖ The occupancy ratio in FY20 was 74.03 per cent, it was significantly reduced to 68.49 per cent in FY22.
- ❖ Out of a total 97,165 inter-city buses and 48,325 buses for the urban operations, only 356 and 10,517 of the buses, respectively, have been made "fully wheelchair accessible".



- ❖ The number of accessible buses (without the wheelchair accessibility) for inter-city and urban operations are 24,860 and 15,308, respectively.

Bima ASBA - First in India

- ❖ Bajaj Allianz Life has become the first insurer to go live with the BIMA-Application Supported by Blocked Amount (Bima-ASBA) facility.
- ❖ This initiative is in line with the IRDAI's plan to improve policyholder convenience and ensure transparency in premium payments.
- ❖ Bima-ASBA enables policyholders to opt for the UPI's One-Time Mandate (OTM), allowing them to authorise the blocking of a specified amount up to Rs 2 lakh in their bank account.
- ❖ The amount is only debited once the insurance company completes the underwriting process and accepts the policy proposal.
- ❖ If the application is not processed within 14 days or is declined, the blocked amount is automatically released back to the customer's account.
- ❖ This ensures that policy buyers' funds remain accessible and continue earning interest until policy issuance is confirmed.
- ❖ All insurers must offer the Bima-ASBA facility by March 1.

Under Bima-ASBA (Bima Applications Supported by Blocked Amount), the IRDAI has introduced the option to set up a **One-Time Mandate (OTM) through UPI**. This ensures that premiums are debited only after the insurer accepts the proposal.

Both the **Life and General Insurance Councils** must issue a **standard declaration** within a **week of IRDAI's circular**, which will be included in the proposal for authorisation.

This facility will go live on or before **March 1, 2025**.

INTERNATIONAL

New International terrorist organizations tag

- ❖ The U.S. government designated eight Latin American organized crime groups as international terrorist organizations.
- ❖ They include six Mexico-based groups, Venezuela's Tren de Aragua, and Central America's MS-13.

- ❖ After US, Canada also designates 7 Latin American groups as terrorist entities.
- ❖ The designation effectively freezes a group's assets and property.



EU Classification on Caffeine



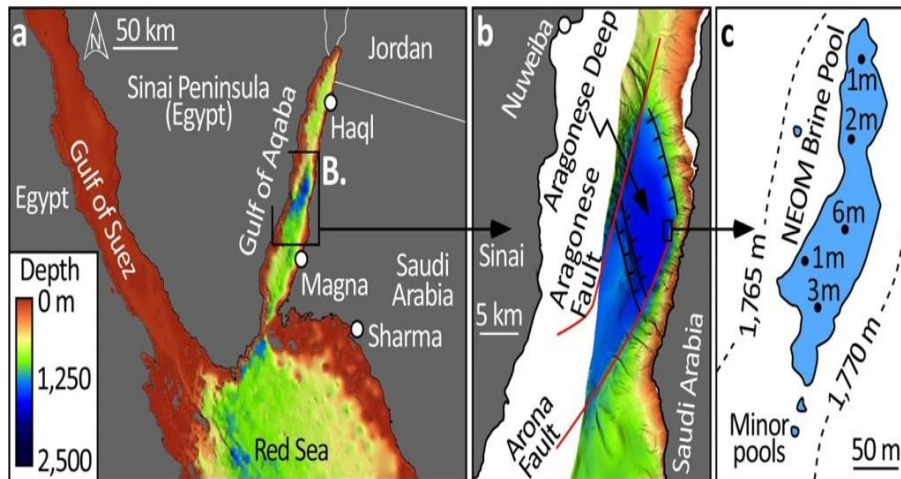
- ❖ The European Union (EU) has issued a warning about caffeine, labelling it very "harmful to humans if swallowed" under new chemical safety regulations.
- ❖ The 27-nation bloc in a fresh regulation has also banned the use of caffeine as a pesticide.
- ❖ It was stating that the central component of coffee could cause adverse effects on the heart, hydration, and body temperature.

- ❖ The warning is unlikely to deter coffee consumption but as the regulation kicks into effect.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Brine Pools at Red Sea

- ❖ The Scientists who have been exploring the Red Sea have discovered the natural death traps in the region.
- ❖ The newly discovered NEOM Brine Pools are located mere 1.25 miles from shore.
- ❖ It is believed to be the location where Moses parted the waters.
- ❖ The brine pools were found 4,000 feet below the surface of the Gulf of Aqaba.
- ❖ Here the water is estimated to be up to 10 times saltier than the normal seawater and a lack of oxygen causes the pools to kill or stun all marine life that enters it.

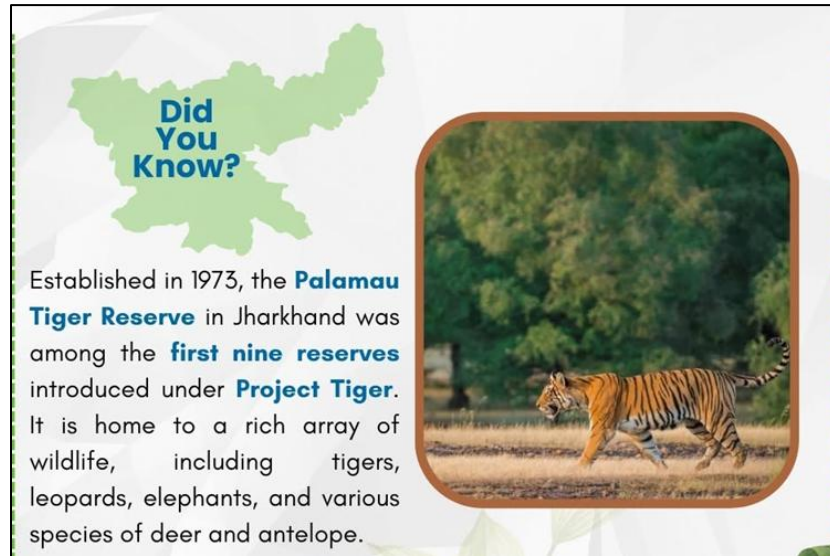


STATES

Palamu Tiger Reserve 2025 status

- ❖ For the first time in Jharkhand, the tiger of which had vacated from the Palamu Tiger Reserve (PTR) brought back to its native territory.
- ❖ It is vacated and wandered off into the Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary in Jharkhand and West Bengal's Purulia a few months back.
- ❖ The tiger, finally habited in Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary, is starving and struggling to navigate the unfamiliar forest.
- ❖ The Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary (Shelter) located in Jamshedpur is famous for the elephants.

- ❖ Palamu Tiger Reserve is the first such sanctuary in the world, where tiger census was done on the basis of footprint count.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

5 Guinness records - Ayush ministry



- ❖ Ayush ministry's campaign Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyaan has achieved an unprecedented five Guinness World Records.
- ❖ The most pledges received for a health campaign in one week: with 6,004,912 pledges, surpassing the minimum requirement of 14,571.
- ❖ The most pledges received for a health campaign in one month: with 13,892,976 pledges.



- ❖ It is surpassing the previous record of 58,284 pledges held by Cigna & CMB Life Insurance Company Limited (China).
- ❖ The most pledges have received for a health campaign: overall with 13,892,976 pledges, surpassing the previous record of 569,057 pledges held by Zifi FDC Limited (India).
- ❖ The largest online photo album of people displaying a digital certificate is with 62,525 photos.
- ❖ This is breaking the previous record of 29,068 photos held by the Accenture Solutions Private Limited (India).
- ❖ The largest online video album of people saying the same sentence is with 12,798 videos.
- ❖ This is surpassing the previous record of 8,992 videos held by Ghe Bharari, Rahul Kulkarni, and Neelam Edlabadkar (India).

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Science Day 2025 - February 28

THE RAMAN EFFECT

Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, Indian physicist, was born on Nov 7, 1888

Won the 1930 Nobel Prize for Physics, also awarded the Bharat Ratna

His work on the scattering of light led to his discovery of "Raman Scattering" and the "Raman Effect"

First Indian and Non-white to receive any Nobel Prize in the Sciences

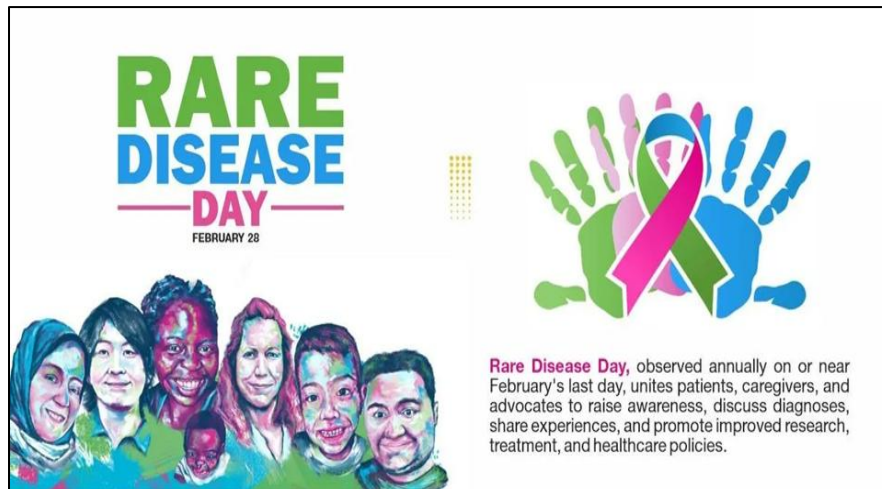
He was so confident of winning that he booked his tickets to Sweden four months before the announcement

- ❖ This day commemorates the discovery of the Raman Effect by the physicist CV Raman in 1928.
- ❖ He won a Nobel prize in 1930 for the discovery of the Raman Effect.
- ❖ The Raman Effect (1928) explains the scattering of light and its interaction with molecules.

- ❖ The day highlights the scientific advancements and inspires future generations to take up careers in science.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science and Innovation for Viksit Bharat'.

Rare Disease Day 2025 - February 28

- ❖ This day typically observed either on the last day of February or near the last day of February each year.
- ❖ It aims to bring together the patients suffering from the rare diseases and create a awareness to all.
- ❖ The frequency of any rare disease should be less than 6.5-10 per 10,000 people.
- ❖ The Organization for Rare Diseases India (ORDI) considers an illness rare if it affects one in every 5,000 Indians or less.
- ❖ ORDI has listed 263 rare diseases in India.
- ❖ This year's theme is "More than you can imagine; an anthology of the rare experiences."



Financial Literacy Week 2025 - February 24/28

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has observed the 10th edition of Financial Literacy Week (FLW) between February 24 and 28.
- ❖ The initiative is the part of RBI's ongoing commitment to promoting the financial inclusion across the country.
- ❖ The focus on women underscores the need for the gender equality in a financial participation to foster a more balanced and prosperous economy.



❖ The theme for 2025 is “Financial Literacy: Women’s Prosperity.”

