

January - 02

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced that the last week of December will be celebrated as 'Kural Week' (Kural Vaaram) every year.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government announced the institution of an award in the name of late AJT Johnsingh, a renowned wildlife biologist to an individual or institution for exemplary contribution to wildlife conservation.
- ❖ ISRO is going to make a remarkable achievement with its 100th rocket launch scheduled for January 2025.
- ❖ Maharashtra has received its first made-in-India surgical robot-SSI Mantra surgical robot in Pune's Noble Hospitals and Research Centre.
- ❖ India's badminton player Lakshya Sen, secured a third-place at the inaugural King Cup International Badminton Open in Bangkok, Thailand.

TAMIL NADU

Tamil Nadu tops gold ownership

இந்தியாவில் தங்கம்!



இந்திய பெண்கள் சுமார் 24,000 டன் தங்கம் வைத்துள்ளனர். மற்ற நாடுகள் வைத்திருக்கும் தங்கத்தை விட இது அதிகம்

உலகின் தங்கத்தில் 11% இந்தியப் பெண்களிடம் உள்ளது. உலகின் முதல் 5 நாடுகளின் தங்கத்தை விட இது அதிகம்

அமெரிக்கா 8,000 டன், ஜெர்மனி 3,300 டன், இத்தாலி 2,450 டன், பிரான்ஸ் 2,400 டன், ரஷ்யா 1,900 டன் தங்கம் வைத்துள்ளனர்

இந்தியாவில் இருக்கும் தங்கத்தில் 40% தென்னிந்தியப் பெண்களிடம் உள்ளது

தமிழ்நாட்டு பெண்களிடம் மட்டும் 6,720 டன் தங்கம் உள்ளது

இந்தியாவில் மணமான பெண்கள் 500 கிராம், மணமாகாத பெண்கள் 250 கிராம், ஆண்கள் 100 கிராம் வரையிலும் தங்கம் வைத்திருக்கலாம்


- உலக கோல்டு கவுன்சில் தகவல்

- ❖ A recent report by the World Gold Council has revealed a data about Tamil Nadu's gold ownership
- ❖ The state owns the largest amount of gold in the world, with a staggering 6,720 tons.

- ❖ This impressive figure accounts for 28% of India's total gold reserves.
- ❖ Also, it surpasses the gold reserves of women of top countries like the United States of America, Germany, Italy, France, and Russia.
- ❖ Indian women own a total of 24,000 tons of gold, with 40% of it held by women in South India.
- ❖ According to Indian income tax laws, married women are allowed to hold up to 500 grams of gold, while unmarried women can hold up to 250 grams, and men up to 100 grams.
- ❖ The United States holds 8,000 tons of gold, Germany 3,300 tons, Italy 2,450 tons, France 2,400 tons, and Russia 1,900 tons.

Draft employment policy on young adults

The Tamil Nadu Employment Policy has flagged several pressing problems in the current labour market in the State. A look at some of the challenges in securing quality jobs for the State's labour force

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A mismatch between the proliferation of low-end jobs and the demand for quality jobs from those with higher educational attainment ■ Despite a high gross enrolment in tertiary education, almost 50% of the youth do not pursue it. This figure touches 60% in the case of youth from the Scheduled Caste. Employment opportunities need to be generated for this segment as well ■ There are barriers for first generation students in securing quality employment, particularly in high-end services ■ Despite the rising 	<p>half of the women in the prime age group and three out of four women in the age group of 20-29 are not a part of the paid workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Most non-farm jobs are being created in low-end services, given the declining employment elasticity in manufacturing and lower employment intensity in high-end services ■ The exit of young workforce from agriculture, citing poor returns, and a decline in employment elasticity in agriculture ■ Inter-district disparities in economic 	 <p>What are the State's advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tamil Nadu has the best trained workforce. The average years of formal training of its workforce are higher than that of States such as Gujarat and Maharashtra ■ The State has a strong manufacturing base, besides IT and healthcare services. Given the technological shifts 	<p>it is arguably best-positioned to diversify into more value-adding segments in the manufacturing and services sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The large number of higher educational institutions, including technical educational institutions, and a relatively higher representation in the National Institutional Ranking Framework allow T.N. to generate skills that are in
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- ❖ The draft Tamil Nadu Employment Policy was formulated by the Tamilnadu State Planning Commission (SPC).
- ❖ It has highlighted several critical issues in the current labour market- from high unemployment rates among the educated youth to mismatches between skills and aspirations, and job opportunities.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's total labour requirement in 2031-32 would be around 36.5 million as against 34.11 million in 2021-22 — a net increase of 2.3 million.
- ❖ In the previous ten years (from 2011-12 to 2021-22), the net increase in employment was 2.12 million.

- ❖ The report highlighted that the proportion of employed young adults (aged 20–29) had fallen below 50% in 2021-22 — a dip of over 15% since 2004-05.
- ❖ The decline is fully attributed to a drastic reduction in the proportion of young adults working in the agriculture sector, which now stands at a mere 5.9%.
- ❖ The unemployment rate increased to 7.4% for young women (aged 20-29) in 2021-22.

NATIONAL

Most deported foreigners in 2023-24

<p>TWO OPTIONS</p> <p>➤ Foreigners, except in grave cases, like murder, will face either of two options:</p>		
<p>Deportation • Criminal case</p>		
<p>DEPORTATION PROCESS</p> <p>➤ Foreigners to be kept in detention centre</p>	<p>➤ FRRO to contact High Commission of accused's home country to confirm nationality</p>	
<p>➤ Police will propose deportation to Foreigners Regional Registration Officer</p>	<p>➤ FRRO officials will then share papers with cops. Accused will be deported</p>	

- ❖ A total of 2,331 foreigners were deported by the Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRROs) from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.
- ❖ Of these, 1,470 people belonged to Nigeria, 411 people were from Bangladesh and 78 belonged to Uganda.
- ❖ During the same period, 1,112 Long-Term Visas (LTV) were granted by the Home Ministry for minority communities from Pakistan.
- ❖ LTVs, ranging from a year to five years, are precursors to citizenship.
- ❖ A total of 1,699 citizenship certificates have been granted by both the Union and State governments.
- ❖ Around 98 lakh foreigners visited India during the period and the highest number of visitors were from Bangladesh (21,08,734).

- ❖ It is followed by United States of America (17,37,549), United Kingdom (9,86,954), Australia (4,72,913), Canada (4,00,417), Sri Lanka (2,85,664), Malaysia (2,80,578), Germany (2,39,271), Nepal (2,02,197) and Singapore (2,00,708).
- ❖ The 10 countries accounted for 70.27% of the total arrival of foreigners.

INTERNATIONAL

Trial run of new Suez Canal channel extension



- ❖ Egypt had successfully tested a new 10 km channel near the southern end of the Suez Canal.
- ❖ The latest expansion extends the total length of the canal's two-way section to 82 km from 72 km, making the canal 193 km long.
- ❖ During the trial run two ships passed through a new stretch of the canal's two-way section without incident.
- ❖ This expansion will boost the canal's capacity by an additional 6 to 8 ships daily and enhance its ability to handle potential emergencies.
- ❖ Due to “regional challenges,” Egypt lost approximately \$7 billion in Suez Canal revenue in 2024, more than a 60% drop from 2023.

China's CR450 Bullet Train

- ❖ China has revealed a prototype of its next generation high-speed train- CR450.
- ❖ It had reached test speeds as high as 450 Km (281 miles) per hour and an operational speed of 400 Km (248.5 miles) per hour.

- ❖ Once in commercial service, it could be the fastest high-speed train in the world, surpassing China's current CR400 model, which debuted in 2017.



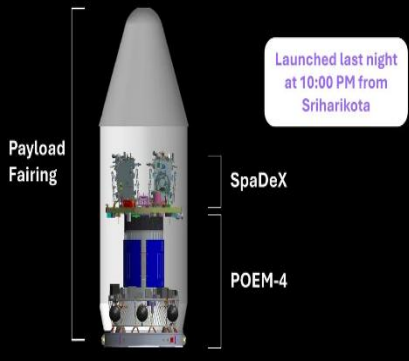
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

PSLV-C60 Mission

- ❖ This mission enables the ten Indian space start-up companies to fly their instruments into space.
- ❖ It facilitated the successful establishment and the operationalisation of 10 hosted payloads from Non-Government Entities (NGEs) on board the POEM-4 module of the PSLV-C60/SPADEX mission.
- ❖ The last stage of the PSLV has been re-purposed to last a few months in space and named PS4-Orbital Experiment Module (POEM).
- ❖ The PSLV POEM is a practical solution deployed by ISRO.




- ❖ It allows Indian start-ups, academic institutions, and research organizations to test their space technologies without the need to launch entire satellites.

POEM-4 is part of
PSLV-C60 used for **SpaDeX** Mission



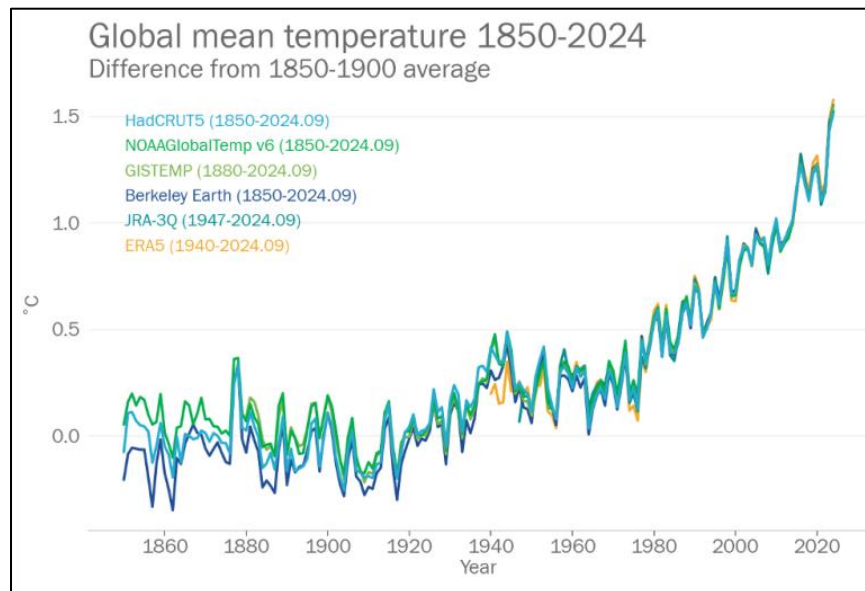
Launched last night
at 10:00 PM from
Sriharikota

Why POEM?

-  **Save Money** by reducing launches for simpler scientific missions
-  **Reduce Space Debris** by reusing stages that aren't useful anymore
-  **Provide Opportunities** for those who can't afford full launch payloads

ENVIRONMENT

2024 – A Year of Climate Crisis - UN Report



- ❖ The year 2024 is set to be the warmest on record, capping a decade of the unprecedented heat fuelled by human activities.
- ❖ Greenhouse gas levels continue to grow to record observed highs.
- ❖ The climate change added 41 days of dangerous heat in 2024.



- ❖ Climate change intensified 26 of the 29 weather events that killed at least 3700 people and displaced millions.
- ❖ 2025 is designated as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, facilitated by UNESCO and WMO.

STATES

Violent incidents in the northeast in 2023

Manipur accounted for 77% violent incidents in Northeast in 2024, says MHA in annual report

- ❖ Manipur accounted for 77% of violent incidents that took place in northeastern India in 2023.
- ❖ There were 243 violent incidents reported in the northeast in 2023, of which 187 were in Manipur.
- ❖ 187 incidents reported in 2023, which resulted in the deaths of 35 civilians and seven security personnel.
- ❖ There were 137 insurgency-related incidents registered in the State in 2022.

MISCELLANEOUS

International year 2025

- ❖ The United Nations has proclaimed 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ).
- ❖ The UNGA declared 2025 as the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC2025) to be celebrated under the theme "Cooperatives Build a Better World."
- ❖ The United Nations declared 2025 as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation.

- ❖ It also accompanied by the proclamation of the 21st March of each year as the World Day for Glaciers starting in 2025.
- ❖ 2025 is marks the 80th anniversary since the end of World War II and the approval of the UN Charter.
- ❖ So, the UN General Assembly has proclaimed 2025 as the International Year of Peace and Trust (IYPT).








Sevdalinka of Bosnia



- ❖ Sevdalinka is a form of traditional urban singing that is practised in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- ❖ The main function of sevdalinka is to tell a story.
- ❖ It is practised by the professional and amateur performers of all genders and backgrounds and is a key part of stage folklore.

- ❖ It is often transmitted within families, with younger members learning through imitation, then adding individual variations over time.
- ❖ Now, it is added to UNESCO's National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Richest Chief Minister in 2024

Chief ministers	State	Assets (₹cr)
WITH HIGHEST ASSETS		
 N Chandrababu Naidu	Andhra Pradesh	931.83
 Pema Khandu	Arunachal Pradesh	332.56
Siddaramaiah	Karnataka	51.93
Neiphiu Rio	Nagaland	46.95
Mohan Yadav	Madhya Pradesh	42.04
WITH LOWEST ASSETS		
 Mamata Banerjee	West Bengal	0.15
 Omar Abdullah	Jammu and Kashmir	0.55
Pinarayi Vijayan	Kerala	1.18
Atishi Marlena	Delhi	1.41
 Bhajan Lal Sharma	Rajasthan	1.46
TOTAL ASSETS OF 31 CMs		₹1,630 CR

Source: ADR's analysis of current CMs of 28 states and three UTs

- ❖ The total assets of 31 Chief Ministers are worth ₹1,630 crores.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu is the richest Chief Minister in India with assets worth over ₹931 crore.
- ❖ India's per capita net national income or NNI was approximately ₹1,85,854 for 2023-2024.
- ❖ The average self-income of a Chief Minister is ₹13,64,310, around 7.3 times the average per capita income of India.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh's Pema Khandu is the second richest Chief Minister with total assets worth over ₹332 crores.
- ❖ Karnataka's Siddaramaiah is the third on the list with assets worth more than ₹51 crore.
- ❖ West Bengal's Mamata Banerjee is the poorest with just ₹15 lakh.
- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, with assets worth ₹55 lakh, is the second poorest in the list and Pinarayi Vijayan is third with ₹1.18 crore.
- ❖ 13 (42%) Chief Ministers have declared criminal cases against themselves, while 10 (32%) have declared serious criminal cases.



- ❖ Out of the 31 Chief Ministers, only two are women — West Bengal's Mamata Banerjee and Delhi's Atishi.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin ranked in 14th with ₹8.8 crores.
- ❖ He has the second highest number of cases, 47 in number, against him with a maximum of 11 cases under provisions of the IPC.

