

January - 26

TNPSC BITS

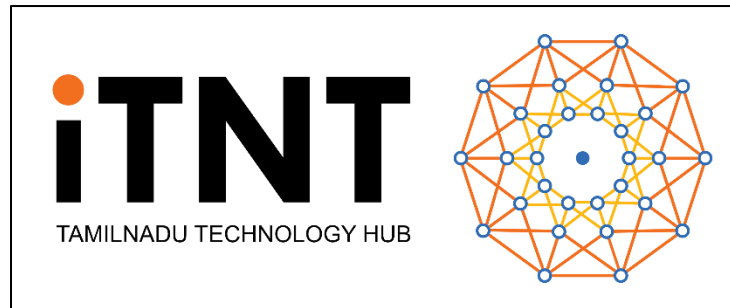
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister laid foundation stone for a new open-air museum in Keezhadi and museum in Gangaikonda Cholapuram.
- ❖ The union government announced the annulment of the auction of Tamil Nadu's Nayakkarpatti tungsten mineral block, which is near the Arittappatti biodiversity site.
- ❖ TN Chief Minister will inaugurate the Thamirabarani – Karumeniyar – Nambiyar River linking scheme, which benefiting over 15,000 acres of lands in rain-shadow regions in Nanguneri, Thisaiyanvilai and Sattankulam areas.
- ❖ The theme of Republic Day 2025 is Swarnim Bharat – Virasat aur Vikas' (Golden India – Heritage and Development).
- ❖ Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto is the chief guest for Republic Day 2025, marking a significant milestone in the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Indonesia.
- ❖ Indian High Commission announced the renaming of the Jaffna Cultural Centre (Srilanka) as 'Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre', in honour of the great Tamil poet-philosopher Thiruvalluvar.
- ❖ The first astronomical observatory in Eastern India has been inaugurated in Garpanchkot Hills in West Bengal's Purulia district.
- ❖ Usha Vance became the first Indian-American and Hindu Second Lady after her husband J.D. Vance was sworn in as the 50th Vice President of the US.
- ❖ Kerala launched Kerala Warnings, a Crisis and Hazard Management System or 'KaWaCHaM', India's first fully integrated disaster warning system, under the National Cyclone Preparedness Project.
- ❖ The Union govt has set a target of reaching 10,000 Geographical Indication (GI) Tags by 2030 from current 605 tags.
- ❖ Janet Petro has been appointed as the acting administrator and the first female to lead NASA.

TAMIL NADU

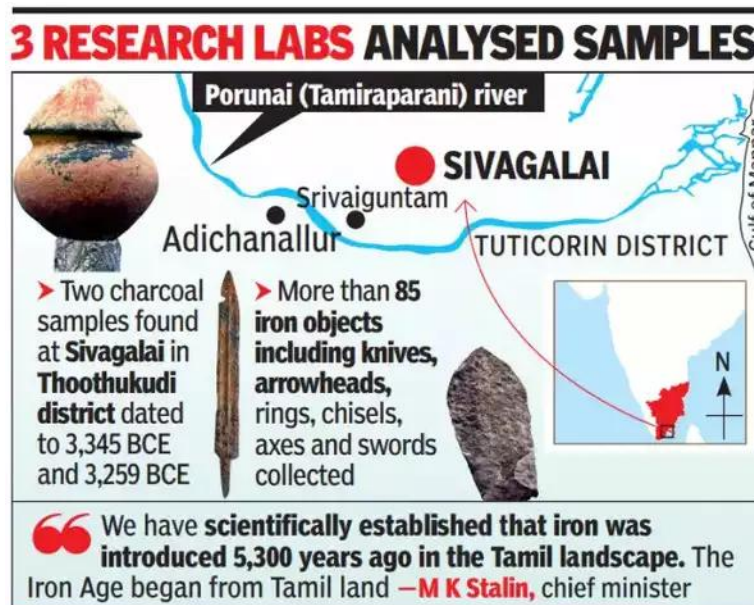
iTNT - Foundation Fund

- ❖ iTNT Hub has launched its Foundation Fund (Financing Opportunities for the Unleashing Deeptech Advancements & Transformative Innovations).

- ❖ With the support from MeitY of GoI, the first tranche of Rs 2 crore will be invested in TN-based deep and emerging tech startups.
- ❖ Such startups would be supported by iTNT, up to Rs 40 lakh per venture.



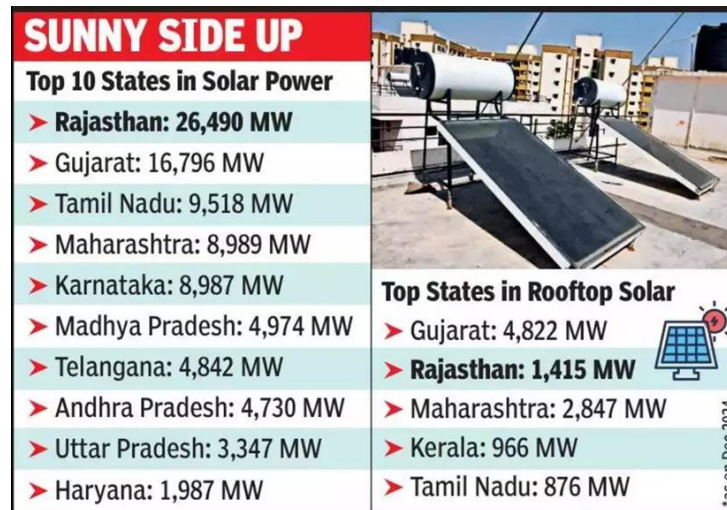
Iron Age in Tamil Nadu



- ❖ TN Government has released a report titled, ‘Antiquity of Iron: Recent Radiometric Dates from Tamil Nadu’.
- ❖ The discovery was made through the radiometric dating of burial urn samples from Sivagalai in Thoothukudi district.
- ❖ The study has revealed that the Iron Age may have begun in present-day Tamil Nadu as early as 3,345 BCE.
- ❖ The new findings push the introduction of iron in the Tamil landscape back 5,300 years.
- ❖ The discovery suggests that a contemporary Iron Age civilization existed in the southern India at the same time as the Indus Valley Civilization in northern and northwestern India.

- ❖ Before these discoveries, the earliest iron objects in Tamil Nadu were dated to around 2172 BCE from Mayiladumparai in Krishnagiri district.
- ❖ Additionally, another site, Adichanallur in Thoothukudi district, had produced a charcoal sample associated with iron objects that was dated to 2517 BCE.
- ❖ In comparison, the iron objects from other regions of India, such as Brahmagiri in Karnataka and Gachibowli near Hyderabad, were dated to around 2140 BCE and 2200 BCE, respectively.
- ❖ Earlier, the Hittite Empire (in modern-day Turkey) was believed to be the first civilization to use iron, with evidence dating back to around 1,380 BCE.

Share of rooftop solar systems - Tamilnadu



- ❖ The share of electricity generated from rooftop solar accounted for just 1% of Tamil Nadu's total energy mix.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's total installed power capacity has stood at 41, 741.45 MW as on December 31, 2024.
- ❖ Out of this, the renewable energy capacity was 24, 323.42 MW.
- ❖ Roof top solar energy generation accounted for 5% of total energy mix for Gujarat, 2% in Maharashtra, 1% in Karnataka and 5% in Kerala.

NATIONAL

NITI Aayog Fiscal health Index 2025

- ❖ Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Goa and Jharkhand have emerged as the top-performing 'achievers' among the States listed in NITI Aayog's first Fiscal Health Index (FHI) report.



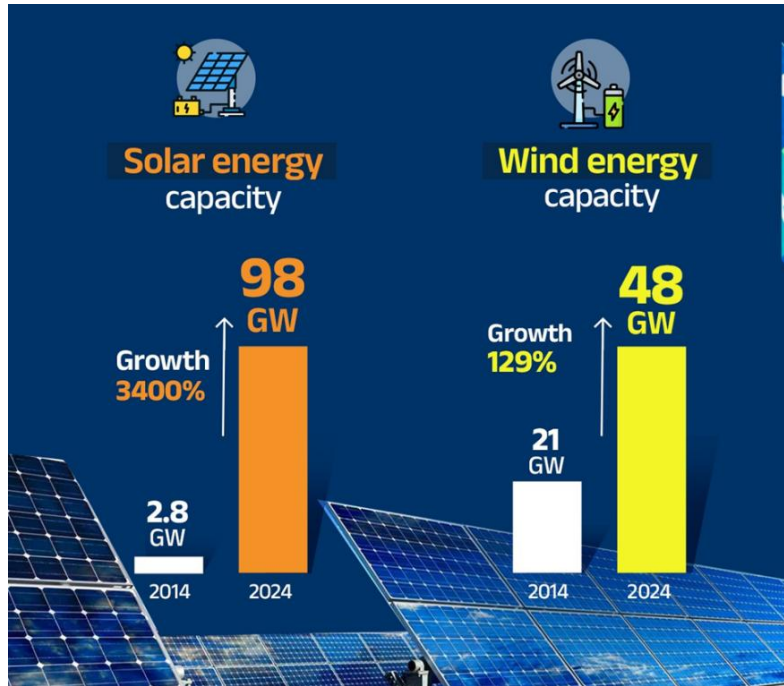
- ❖ The report is titled 'Fiscal Health Index 2025' ranked States for 2022-23, covering 18 major States.
- ❖ Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Kerala were the worst-performing States in the Index.
- ❖ Each one is focusing significant fiscal challenges, and listed under 'aspirational' category.
- ❖ Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka are listed under 'front-runners' category.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Rajasthan and Haryana were classified as performers.

States	FHI Score	Rank 2022-23	Quality of Expenditure	Revenue Mobilization	Fiscal Prudence	Debt Index	Debt Sustainability
Odisha	67.8	1	52.0	69.9	54.0	99.0	64.0
Chhattisgarh	55.2	2	55.1	56.5	56.0	79.6	29.0
Goa	53.6	3	45.5	87.1	59.4	51.0	25.2
Jharkhand	51.6	4	47.3	45.7	62.4	66.9	35.7
Gujarat	50.5	5	40.0	48.7	52.7	69.0	42.0
Maharashtra	50.3	6	37.1	59.1	41.8	76.4	36.8
Uttar Pradesh	45.9	7	45.8	34.6	44.7	59.9	44.5
Telangana	43.6	8	36.9	75.2	40.8	53.3	11.7
Madhya Pradesh	42.2	9	59.7	27.6	35.6	61.0	27.2
Karnataka	40.8	10	47.4	43.9	43.9	62.2	6.7
Tamil Nadu	29.2	11	32.0	41.2	25.8	36.0	11.1
Rajasthan	28.6	12	38.3	35.4	19.9	32.3	16.8
Bihar	27.8	13	56.1	5.3	11.5	47.2	18.8
Haryana	27.4	14	24.8	47.8	26.1	24.1	14.3
Kerala	25.4	15	4.2	54.2	34.0	23.1	11.3
West Bengal	21.8	16	32.3	12.4	25.4	18.3	20.6
Andhra Pradesh	20.9	17	31.4	22.1	13.3	37.8	0.0
Punjab	10.7	18	4.7	28.1	5.6	0.0	15.2

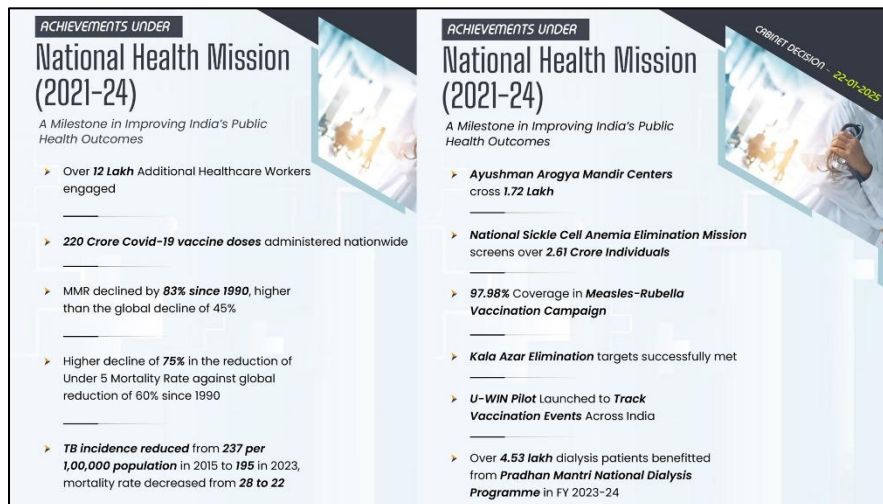
India Renewable Energy Achievement 2024

- ❖ India achieved a record-breaking milestone in 2024 with the addition of 24.5 GW of solar capacity and 3.4 GW of wind capacity.
- ❖ India's total non-fossil fuel-based energy capacity to 217.62 GW as of January 2025.
- ❖ India is on track to meet its goal of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based energy capacity by 2030.
- ❖ In 2024, India saw a more than twofold increase in solar installations and a 21% rise in wind installations compared to 2023.

- ❖ Solar energy now accounts for 47% of India's total installed renewable energy capacity.
- ❖ The rooftop solar sector grew by 53%, adding 4.59 GW of new capacity.
- ❖ Gujarat, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu are accounting for 98% of the new 3.4 GW capacity of Wind energy.



National Health Mission Extension



- ❖ Centre approved the extension of the National Health Mission (NHM) for another five years after reviewing its progress over the past three years.

- ❖ First was launched in 2005 as the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).
- ❖ The scheme has been extended the multiple times, with the most recent extension granted in 2021 to run until 2026.

India in Eurodrone

- ❖ India has, as an observer state, officially joined the Medium Altitude Long Endurance Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (MALE RPAS) or the Eurodrone programme.
- ❖ Eurodrone is a four-nation initiative involving Germany, France, Italy, and Spain.
- ❖ Japan became the first official OCCAR observer state in November 2023.
- ❖ The Eurodrone is a remotely piloted aircraft system (RPAS).
- ❖ It is designed for the long-endurance missions such as intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition, and reconnaissance (ISTAR), maritime surveillance, anti-submarine warfare, and airborne early warning.
- ❖ With a maximum mission payload of 2.3 tonnes and an endurance period of up to 40 hours.
- ❖ Previously, India joined Russia's Su-57 fighter programme but withdrew in 2018.



INTERNATIONAL

Project Stargate

- ❖ OpenAI, Oracle, SoftBank and MGX have united for setting up the world's largest AI project - 'Stargate'.

- ❖ Stargate is a \$500 billion initiative aimed at creating an AI infrastructure in the US over the next four years.
- ❖ It aims to propel the US into global leadership in AI advancements.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Crew Module's Liquid Propulsion System – Gaganyaan



- ❖ ISRO has received the Crew Module for the first uncrewed mission of Gaganyaan (G1) after successfully completing the integration of the liquid propulsion system.
- ❖ Before sending the crew, the ISRO is planning to send uncrewed mission to the space under its Gaganyaan project.
- ❖ Gaganyaan-G1 is expected to be launched in early part of this year.

- ❖ The subsequent two uncrewed missions Gaganyaan-G2 and G3 will lead to India's maiden human spaceflight.

STATES

Geo-Tagging of Chinar Tree



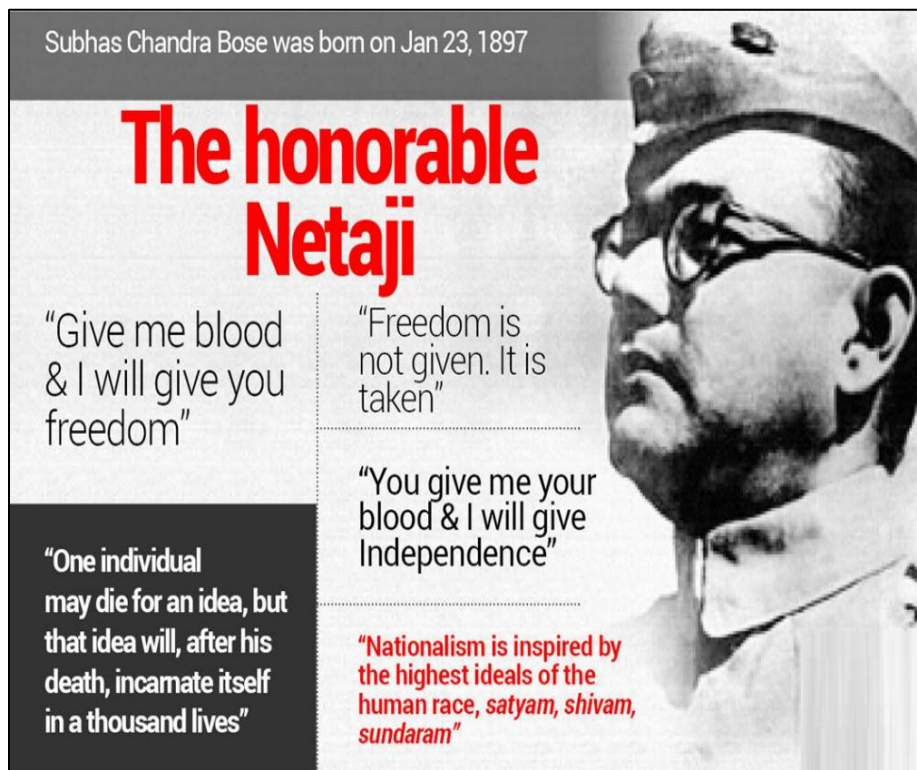
- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir's government began the process of geo-tagging in its bid to preserve heritage Chinar trees in Kashmir.
- ❖ Chinars are oxygen producers.
- ❖ They provided 'Digital Aadhaar' to these trees and installed scannable QR codes.
- ❖ Now, every Chinar has its own 'Aadhar' number and have linked to Digital India.
- ❖ Every district has its own district code with the number of Chinars.
- ❖ So far, they have identified and geo-tagged 28,560 Chinar.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Parakram Diwas 2025 - January 23

- ❖ Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti is known as Parakram Diwas or the Day of Valour.
- ❖ Subhas Chandra Bose, born on January 23, 1897, in Cuttack, Orissa.
- ❖ To honour Bose for his efforts in restoring the Indian freedom, in 2021, the government announced this day.

- ❖ He had cleared the Indian Civil Services (ICS) examination in 1920, securing the fourth rank.
- ❖ Bose became the youngest-ever President of the Indian National Congress in 1938.
- ❖ Netaji established the Indian National Army (INA) in 1943 to fight British colonial rule.
- ❖ The phrase “Jai Hind,” was popularized by Bose as a rallying cry for national unity and freedom.
- ❖ On October 21, 1943, Bose declared the establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India (Azad Hind Government) in Singapore
- ❖ Bose was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1937 for his efforts to end the colonial rule through nonviolent means.



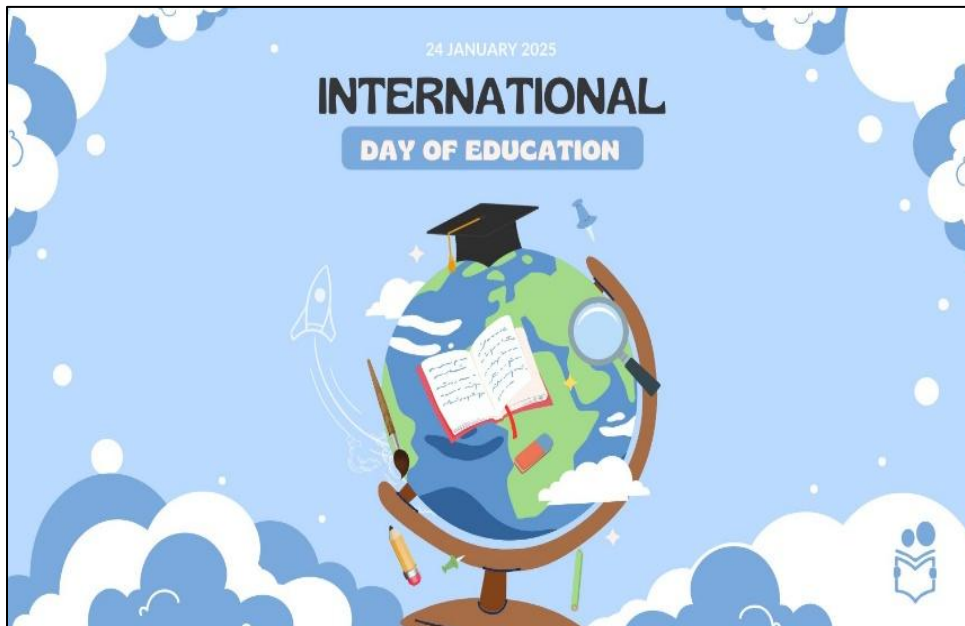
National Girl Child Day 2025 - January 24

- ❖ The day was first introduced in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to promote gender equality and address the issues surrounding the welfare of girls in India.
- ❖ The theme for National Girl Child Day 2025 is “Empowering Girls for a Bright Future.”

- ❖ The Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save the Girl Child, Educate the Girl Child) scheme was launched on January 22, 2015.



International Day of Education 2025 - January 24



- ❖ This day marks the importance of education in ensuring peace and development.
- ❖ The first International Day of Education was observed on January 24, 2019.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is 'AI and education: Preserving human agency in a world of automation.'

- ❖ India celebrates its National Education Day celebrated on November 11 to mark the birth anniversary of India's first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

MISCELLANEOUS

India's First eVTOL Air Taxi 'Shunya'



- ❖ The Bengaluru-based Sarla Aviation, introduced its innovative electric flying taxi, Shunya.
- ❖ The Shunya prototype is designed for the short-distance commutes, capable of covering 20-30 km trips at speeds up to 250 km/h.
- ❖ With a capacity to carry six passengers and a maximum payload of 680 kg,

