

October - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister released a digital commemoration titled 'Tamilvel P.T. Rajan Ninaivugalil 50' to mark the 50th death anniversary of the Justice Party leader and former CM of the erstwhile Madras Presidency P.T. Rajan.
- ❖ Keeladi has been selected as the Best Tourism Village 2024 under the heritage category by the Union Ministry of Tourism.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Udhayanidhi Stalin, has been elevated as Tamil Nadu's Deputy Chief Minister.
- ❖ The Mankidia community becomes 6th PVTG to get habitat rights over forests in Odisha.
- ❖ The Maharashtra government has approved renaming Pune Airport to 'Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Pune International Airport' to honour the 17th-century saint.
- ❖ The 10th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare organized the National Conference on Implementing Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in New Delhi.
- ❖ Bollywood producer Vinod Bachchan received the prestigious Global Prestige Award at the House of Lords, UK for his significant contributions to the Indian film industry.
- ❖ The 2024 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize will be awarded to Alexander Dunn of the Georgia Institute of Technology, U.S.
- ❖ India launched the Computer Security Incident Response Team- POWER (CSIRT-POWER) in New Delhi.
 - The facility will aim to address the specific cyber security issues faced by the Power sector in India.

TAMIL NADU

Chief Justice of Madras High Court 2024

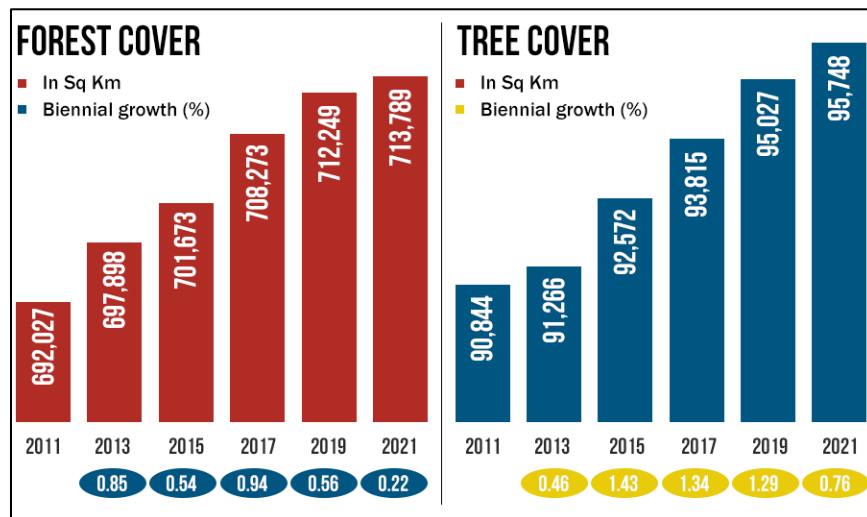
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Governor administered the oath of office to Justice Shriram on his assumption of office as the 53rd Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.
- ❖ The Madras High Court has got a Tamil-speaking Chief Justice after a long gap of 43 years.

- ❖ The last Tamil-speaking Chief Justice of the High Court was M.M. Ismail who resigned on July 9, 1981.



NATIONAL

India State of Forest Report (ISFR)



- ❖ The India State of Forest Report (ISFR), due for release in 2023, has been delayed by over a year.
- ❖ The report, which is released every two years, is produced by the Forest Survey of India (FSI).
- ❖ It has been published since 1991 and provides a comprehensive overview of the state of India's forests.
- ❖ This delay marks the second occasion when the government has missed the report's publication deadline — the last instance occurred in 2007.



- ❖ The last report, published in 2021, recorded the country’s total forest cover at 713,789 square kilometres or 21.71 per cent.
- ❖ It was a marginal increase of 1,540 square kilometres compared to the 2019 ISFR publication.
- ❖ From 2013 to 2023, 95 per cent of deforestation occurred in natural forests.3
- ❖ As per MoEFCC, India had lost 173,396 hectares (1,733 square kilometres) of forest for development works.
- ❖ It also claimed that compensatory afforestation had recovered 21,761 square kilometres of forest area between 2013 and 2023.
- ❖ In Odisha, the unclassified forests increased from 17 square kilometres to 16,282 square kilometres between 1999 and 2015.
- ❖ But it was dropped to 22 square kilometres in the 2017 report

Wildlife Habitats Development Scheme 2024

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats scheme for the 15th Finance Commission cycle for an overall outlay of ₹2,602.98 crore.
- ❖ The centrally sponsored scheme includes critical components such as Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of Wildlife Habitat.
- ❖ The scheme envisages to boost technological interventions in different thematic areas over the current and next financial year in our tiger and wildlife bearing forests.

S. No.	Name of Scheme	Central Share	State Share	Total
1	Project Tiger	1575.00	955.00	2530.00
2	Project Elephant	182.58	54.00	236.58
3	Development of Wildlife Habitat	845.4	273.02	1118.42
* All figures in Rs. Crores Total:		2602.98	1282.02	3885.00

INTERNATIONAL

Same-sex marriage – Thailand

- ❖ Thailand’s king has signed a landmark marriage equality bill into law.
- ❖ This is making the kingdom the first country in Southeast Asia to recognise same-sex marriages.

- ❖ LGBTQ+ couples will be able to register their marriage in January next year.



Pact for the future

- ❖ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted an ambitious pact-“Pact for the Future”.
- ❖ It aims to make the organisation more relevant and effective on the global stage in the 21st century.
- ❖ It will promote global peace, sustainability, and inclusivity for future generations.
- ❖ Countries like Russia, Iran, the North Korea, and Syria proposed changes to the Pact.



ECONOMY

Minimum wage rates for workers 2024

- ❖ The Union government announced a hike in minimum wage rates for workers up to ₹1,035 a day by revising variable dearness allowance.



- ❖ After revision, minimum wage rates in the area 'A' for workers in construction, sweeping, cleaning, loading & unloading for unskilled work will be ₹783 a day (₹20,358 per month).
- ❖ For semi-skilled workers, the minimum wage rate will be ₹868 a day (₹22,568 per month).
- ❖ For skilled, clerical and watch & wards without arms at ₹954 a day (₹24,804 per month).
- ❖ The minimum wage rate for highly skilled and watch & ward with arms will be ₹1,035 a day (₹26,910 per month).
- ❖ The new wage rates will take effect from October 1, 2024.
- ❖ Last revision was done in April 2024.

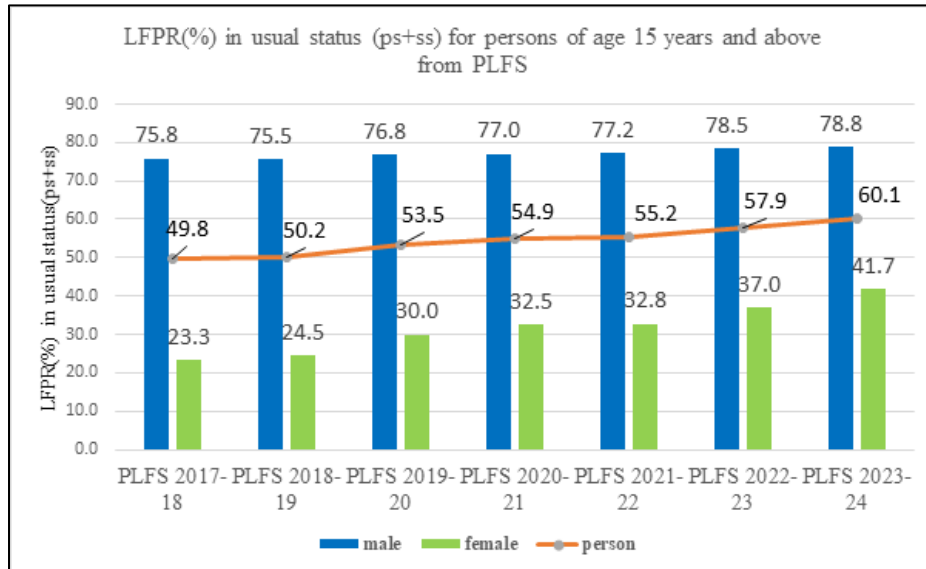
Increment in the Minimum Rate of Wages
the employees in Construction & Maintenance Sectors

Category Of Worker	Rate of wages including Variable Dearness Allowance (V.D.A) per day (in Rupees)		
	Area 'A'	Area 'B'	Area 'C'
Unskilled	783	655	526
Semi-Skilled/ Unskilled Supervisory	868	739	614
Skilled/Clerical	954	868	739
Highly Skilled	1035	954	868

7th annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

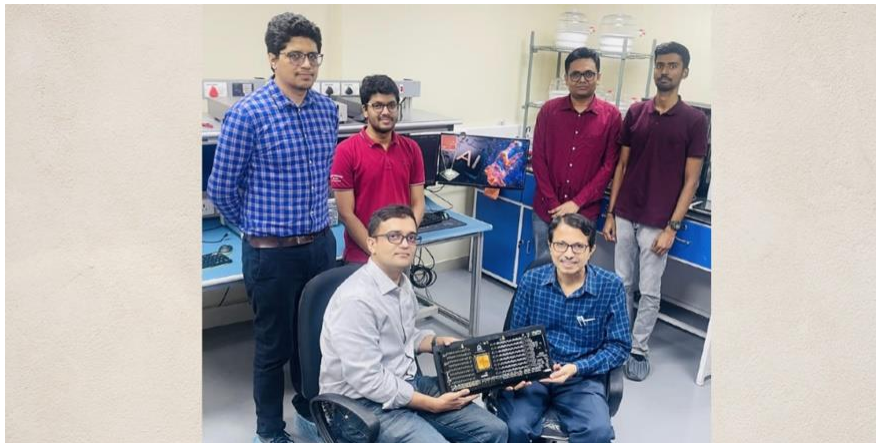
- ❖ The National Statistics Office (NSO), released the results of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2023-24.
- ❖ The unemployment rate for 2023-24 remained unchanged at 3.2%, the same as in 2022-23.
- ❖ Since 2017-18, the unemployment rate has not shown a year-on-year decline.
- ❖ The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) increased to 60.1% in 2023-24 from 57.9% in 2022-23 at national level.
- ❖ The rural LFPR rose to 63.7%, while the urban LFPR increased to 52%.
- ❖ Increasing Trend in Worker Population Ratio (WPR) was 58.2% in the year 2023-2024.
- ❖ The same for male and female was 76.3% and 40.3% respectively.

- ❖ The unemployment rate in rural areas showed a little increase, rising to 2.5% in 2023-24 from 2.4% in 2022-23.
- ❖ But the urban unemployment rate improved to 5.1% from 5.4%.
- ❖ The unemployment rate for women rose to 3.2% from 2.9% in 2022-23.
- ❖ For men, the unemployment rate is decreased to 3.2% from 3.3%.
- ❖ The share of people engaged in self-employment, including small businesses increased to 58.4% from 57.3% in 2022-23.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IISc Neuromorphic Computing



- ❖ Scientists at the IISc, Bengaluru developed a technology that could change the data processing methods.

- ❖ They have developed a type of semiconductor device called Memristor by using a metal-organic film rather than conventional silicon-based technology.
- ❖ This material enables the Memristor to mimic the way the biological brain processes information using networks of neurons and synapses.
- ❖ The Memristor, when integrated with a conventional digital computer, enhances its energy and speed performance by hundreds of times.
- ❖ Neuromorphic computing is a field in which computers are designed and modelled to mimic the structure and function of the human brain.

Shahed-136B drone

- ❖ Iran for the first time has showcased the Shahed 136B drone and Jihad ballistic missile.
- ❖ The Shahed-136B is the new one-way attack drone which is also known as a 'kamikaze' drone.
- ❖ With a new feature, it has an operational range of more than 4,000 kilometres (2,500 miles).
- ❖ "Jihad" is the single-stage liquid-fuel ballistic missile with a high-explosive detachable warhead has a range of 1,000 km.



REPORTS AND INDICES

World Talent Ranking 2024

- ❖ India's ranking at the IMD's World Talent Ranking 2024 has come down to 58 from 56 last year.
- ❖ In 2022, India was at the 52nd rank.

- ❖ Switzerland came first, Singapore second, and Luxembourg third out of 67 economies in the eleventh edition.
- ❖ Singapore’s steady rise to the top – for the first time since the inception of the ranking in 2014.

