DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS - 15.11.2026

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Director,
Department of Employment and Training.

Tamil Nadu Highlights

Three More Tamil Nadu Beaches Get Blue Flag Certification (2026–27)

Context

- **Three beaches** in **Tamil Nadu** received the international **Blue Flag certification** for the **first time**, for the **2026–2027 season**.
- **Awarded by:** The **Foundation for Environmental Education**, based in **Denmark**.

New Blue Flag Beaches

Beach	District
Silver Beach	Cuddalore
Kameswaram Beach	Nagapattinam
Ariyaman Beach	Ramanathapuram

Retained

- **Kovalam Beach (Chengalpattu district)** kept its **Blue Flag** for the **sixth consecutive year**.
- It became **Tamil Nadu's first Blue Flag beach** in **2021**.
- It drew about **5.5 lakh visitors** in **2025–26**.
- **Total: Tamil Nadu** now has **four Blue Flag beaches**, placing it among **India's top performers**.

About the Blue Flag Certification

- A **global benchmark** for **eco-friendly beaches**.
- **Awarded and renewed every year** after inspections by **national and international juries**.
- **33 strict criteria**, covering:
    - **Cleanliness**.
    - **Safety**.
    - **Environmental management**.
    - **Bathing water quality**.
    - **Environmental education**.
    - **Visitor amenities**.

Implementation

- **Programme: Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN-SHORE)**.
- **Coordinated by:** The **Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Tamil Nadu**.
- **Focus:** Upgrading **coastal infrastructure** while protecting **marine ecosystems**.

Facilities at Certified Beaches

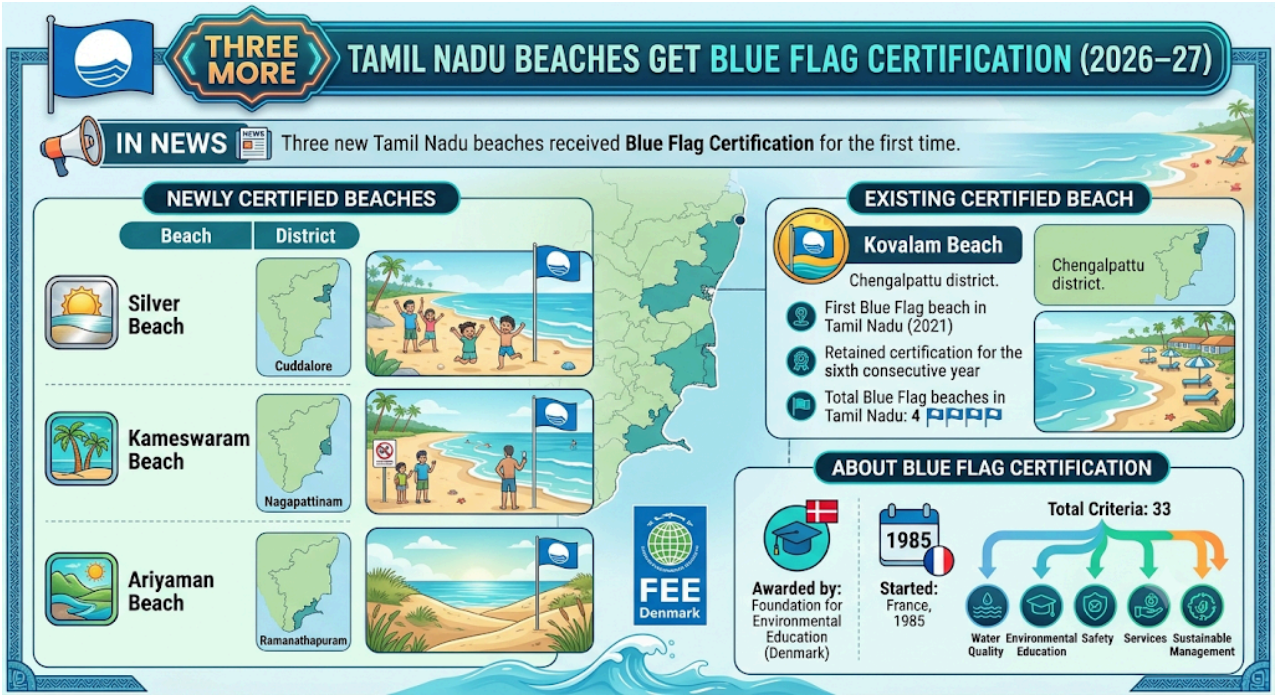
- **Shaded umbrellas, lounge chairs**.
- **Changing rooms, washrooms**.
- Facilities for **persons with disabilities**.
- **Safety: CCTV cameras, watchtowers, trained lifeguards**.

Season

- The **2026–27 Blue Flag season** begins in **January 2027**, after the **northeast monsoon**.

Significance

- Boosts **sustainable coastal tourism**.
- Protects **marine biodiversity** and improves **water quality**.
- Raises **Tamil Nadu's international tourism profile**.



Do You Know?

- **Blue Flag Programme:**
  - Started in **France (1985)**.
  - Run by the **Foundation for Environmental Education**, founded in **1981**.
- **Kovalam (Tamil Nadu)** and **Eden (Puducherry)** in **2021**; **Minicoy Thundi** and **Kadmat (Lakshadweep)** in **2023**.
- **BEAMS (Beach Environment and Aesthetics Management Services):** The **Union Environment Ministry's** programme to help beaches meet **Blue Flag standards**, under **Integrated Coastal Zone Management**.

- **TN-SHORE:** Launched in **2024**, about **₹1,675 crore**, **World Bank-assisted**. Covers **coastal restoration**, **mangroves**, **coral reefs** and **pollution control**.
- **Tamil Nadu coastline:** About **1,076 km** (**second-longest in India**).
- **Swachh Coastal Towns Award 2025–26: Puri** came first (covered on **12 November**).

Topic: Schemes and Initiatives

One Nation One Ration Card – Now in All 36 States and Union Territories

Context

- The **One Nation One Ration Card** scheme is now implemented in **all 36 States and Union Territories**.
- It covers **100% of beneficiaries** under the **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana**.

About the Scheme

- **Launched: 2019** by the **Department of Food and Public Distribution**.
- A major **Public Distribution System reform** that allows **nationwide portability of ration cards** for beneficiaries under the **National Food Security Act**.
- Especially helps **migrant workers**, who can draw rations from **any ration shop** in the country.

National Food Security Act, 2013

- **Coverage:**
  - Up to **75% of the rural population** and **50% of the urban population (Census 2011)**.
  - About **81.35 crore people**.
- **Delivered through:** The **Targeted Public Distribution System**.
- **Entitlements:**
  - **Antyodaya Anna Yojana** (poorest of the poor) – **35 kg per household per month**.
  - **Priority Households – 5 kg per person per month**.
- **Original Issue Prices:**
  - **Rice: ₹3/kg**.
  - **Wheat: ₹2/kg**.
  - **Coarse grains: ₹1/kg**.
- **Maternity Benefit:** At least **₹6,000** for **pregnant and lactating women**.

Antyodaya Anna Yojana – Eligible Categories

- Households headed by **widows**, **terminally ill**, **disabled** or **elderly (60+)** persons with **no support**.
- **Single women or men** with no family support.
- All **primitive tribal households**.

- **Landless labourers**, **marginal farmers**, **rural artisans**, **slum dwellers**, **informal daily-wage workers**.
- **Below Poverty Line families** of **HIV-positive persons**.
- **Priority Households** are selected by **States** using their own criteria.

Merger with Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

- **2020:** Launched during **COVID-19** to give **extra free foodgrains**.
- **January 2023: Merged** with the **National Food Security Act**, making the regular entitlement **free**.
- Extended for **five years – January 2024 to December 2028**.

Transparency Measures

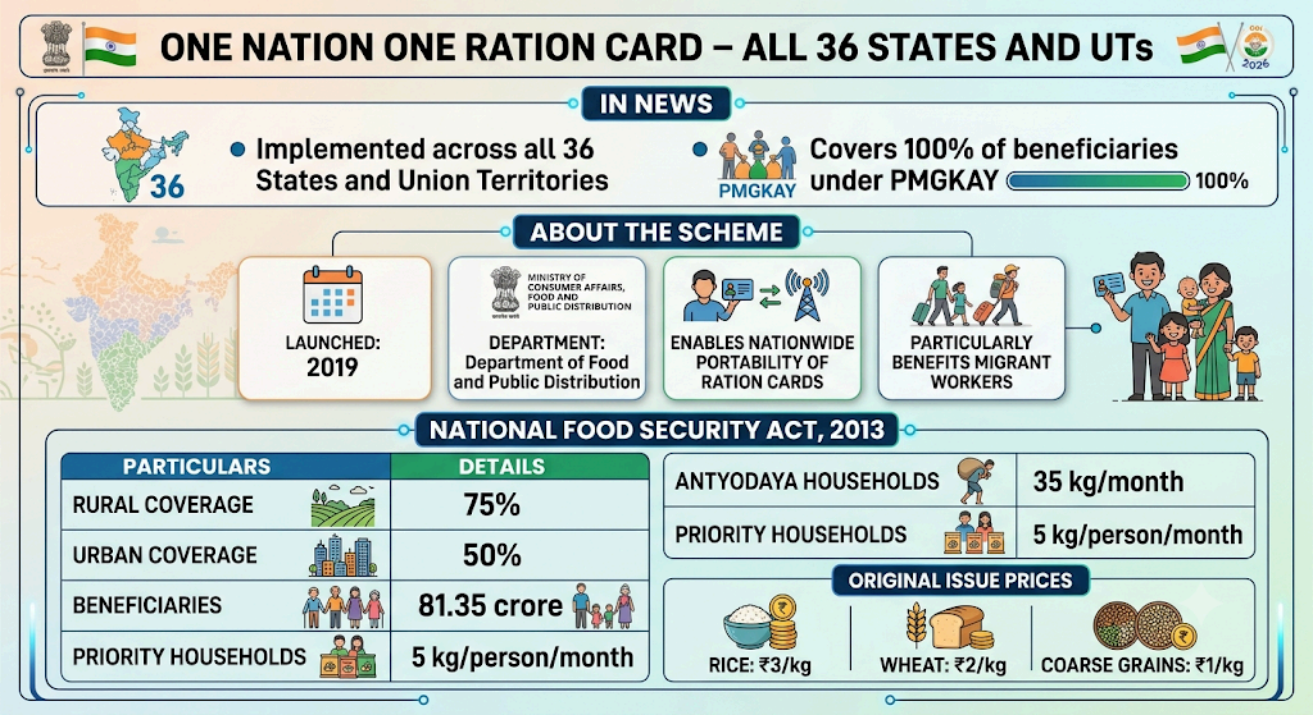
- **100% Digitisation: Ration card databases** fully digitised (**October 2026**), covering about **78.65 crore beneficiaries**.
- **e-KYC:** Done for **71.52 crore beneficiaries (91%)** in **2026**.
- **Grievance Redressal: Transparency portals**, **online grievances** and **toll-free helplines** in all **States/Union Territories**.
- **Supply Chain: Online allocation** nationwide; supply chain **computerised** in **31 States/Union Territories**.
- **Clean-up: 5.95 crore suspicious records** flagged; **2.58 crore duplicate or ineligible entries** deleted.
- **SMART-PDS (Scheme for Modernisation and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System):** Digitally integrates **ration cards**, **distribution**, **supply chain** and **grievances**.

Related Food and Nutrition Schemes

- **PM POSHAN (Mid-Day Meal)**.
- **Fortified rice**, **wheat flour** and **edible oils**.
- **Poshan Tracker:** Uses **World Health Organization growth standards** to track **stunting**, **wasting**, **underweight** and **obesity**.
- **Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0:** Combines **POSHAN Abhiyaan**, **Anganwadi Services** and the **Scheme for Adolescent Girls**.

Do You Know?

- **Mera Ration App** – helps **migrants** find nearby **ration shops**.
- **Tamil Nadu link:**
  - **Tamil Nadu** runs a **Universal Public Distribution System**, giving **free rice** to **all rice card holders**, not just targeted groups.
  - **Tamil Nadu** joined **One Nation One Ration Card** in **2020**.



Topic: Economy

Personal Insolvency Under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code – Venugopal Dhoot Declared Bankrupt

Context

- **Venugopal Dhoot**, former promoter of **Videocon**, was **declared bankrupt** by the **National Company Law Tribunal**.
- The case concerns his **personal guarantees** for loans of **₹12,668 crore** taken by **Videocon companies**.

Key Terms

- **Insolvency: Inability to pay debts** when due.
- **Bankruptcy:** The **formal legal process** that declares an insolvent person **bankrupt**, so their **assets** are distributed to **creditors**.

About the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

- A **time-bound framework** to resolve insolvency and **maximise asset value**.
- **Personal guarantor provisions** came into force in **December 2019**.

Categories of Insolvency

- **Corporate Insolvency:**
  - Applies to **companies** and **Limited Liability Partnerships**.

- **Financial or operational creditors** approach the **National Company Law Tribunal** to start the **Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process**.
- The aim is **revival**. If that fails, the company goes into **liquidation**.

- **Personal Insolvency:**
  - **Personal Guarantors to Corporate Debtors** (usually **promoters or directors**) – handled by the **National Company Law Tribunal**.
  - **Other Individuals and Partnership Firms** – handled by the **Debt Recovery Tribunal**.

Process for a Personal Guarantor

- **Initiation:**
  - By **creditors** under **Section 95**.
  - Or by the **guarantor voluntarily** under **Section 94**.
- **Resolution Professional** appointed to **verify the debt** and **report**.
- **Repayment Plan** submitted; **creditors approve or reject** it.
- If it fails, **bankruptcy proceedings** begin under **Section 121**.
- A **Bankruptcy Trustee** sells assets and pays creditors by **priority**.

Objectives of the Code

- **Business revival** through **restructuring** or **ownership change**.
- **Maximise asset value**.
- Promote **entrepreneurship** and **credit availability**.
- **Time limit: 330 days** for resolution; otherwise **liquidation**.

Institutional Framework

- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India** – **regulator**.
- **National Company Law Tribunal** – **adjudicating authority**.
- **Insolvency Professionals** – manage **distressed entities**.
- **Committee of Creditors** – **financial creditors** who vote on **resolution plans**.

Do You Know?

- **Supreme Court** in **Lalit Kumar Jain v. Union of India (2021):** Upheld the **personal guarantor provisions** of the Code.
- **National Company Law Appellate Tribunal** – hears **appeals** from the **National Company Law Tribunal**; appeals beyond it go to the **Supreme Court**.
- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India** – set up in **2016**; HQ **New Delhi**.

Topic: Reports and Indices

NITI Aayog Report – "Impact Assessment of PLI Schemes"

Context

- **NITI Aayog** released a report assessing the **Production-Linked Incentive schemes** across **14 sectors**.

About the Scheme

- **Launched: 2020**.
- **Aim:** Boost **manufacturing** by giving incentives on **incremental sales**.
- Started with **3 sectors**, now covers **14**.

Key Findings

Parameter	Achievement	Share of Target
Investment	**₹2.4 lakh crore**	**76%**
Production and Sales	**₹22.66 lakh crore**	**64%**
Employment	**8.49 lakh jobs** (by March 2026)	**28%** (target **30.18 lakh**)

- **Time Elapsed: 58%** of the implementation period is over; **42%** remains.
- **On Track:** About **70%** of target segments.

Successes

- **White Goods: Domestic value addition** rose from **20% to 55%**.
- **Medical Devices: ₹14,945 crore** in sales by **March 2026**.
- **Solar Modules: Manufacturing capacity** rose from about **8 GW** to nearly **116 GW**.
- **Bulk Drugs:** Local production of **key starting materials**, **intermediates** and **active pharmaceutical ingredients**.
- **Drones:** Growth of a **domestic drone ecosystem**.

Challenges

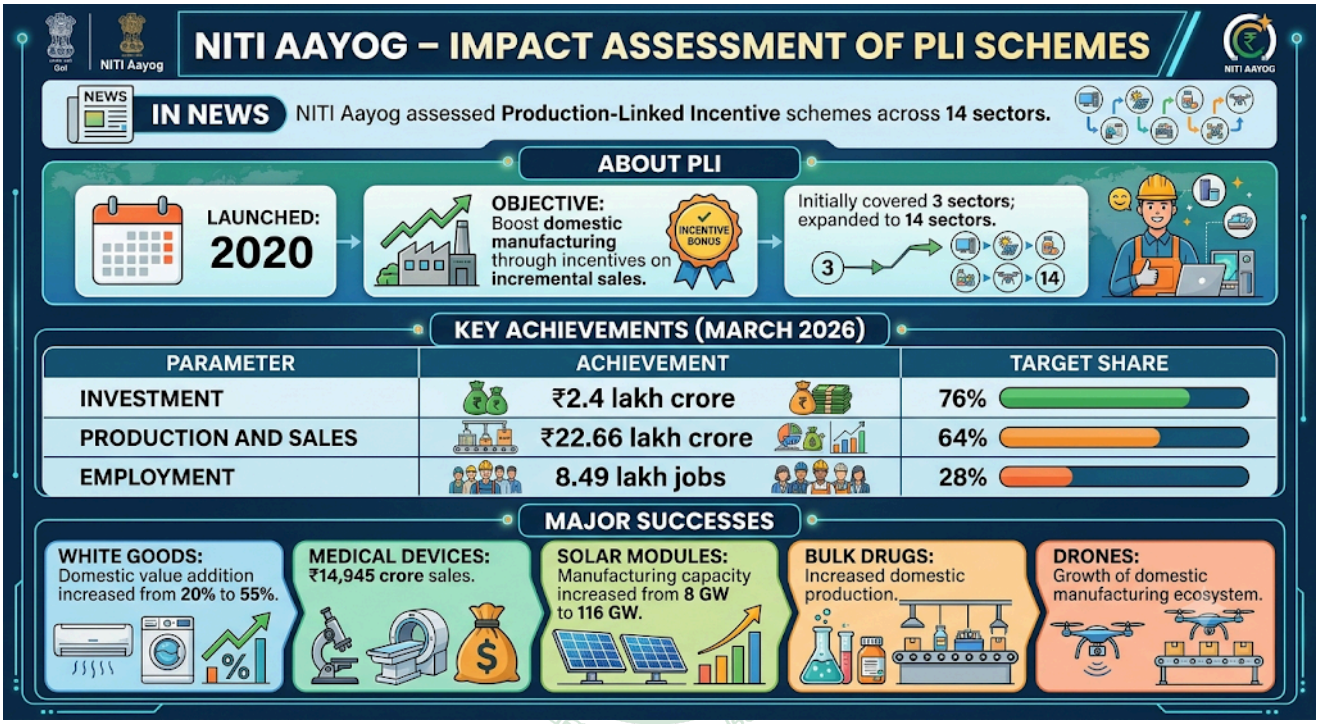
- **Low Job Creation:** Only **28%** of the target, because of **capital-intensive** and **automated production**.
- **High Entry Thresholds:** Keep out **small firms**, especially in **textiles**.
- **Shallow Manufacturing: Key components** still **imported**.
- **Uneven Results** across sectors.
- **Time Lag** between **investment** and **output**.

Do You Know?

- **14 PLI Sectors** include:

- **Mobile phones**, **IT hardware**, **pharmaceuticals**, **medical devices**.
- **Automobiles**, **Advanced Chemistry Cell batteries**, **white goods**, **textiles**.
- **Food processing**, **solar modules**, **telecom**, **specialty steel**, **drones**.

- **Total PLI outlay:** About **₹1.97 lakh crore** (announced in **2021**).
- **Medical Devices PLI** – extended to **2035–36** (covered on **11 November**).
- **Tamil Nadu link: Tamil Nadu** is a major beneficiary in **electronics** (**mobile phones** around **Sriperumbudur**) and **automobiles**.



Topic: Environment

Global Carbon Budget 2026

Context

- The **2026 Global Carbon Budget** projects **38.2 billion tonnes** of **fossil carbon dioxide emissions** this year.

About

- An **annual inventory** by the **Global Carbon Project**.
- It is a collaboration involving **Future Earth** and the **World Climate Research Programme**, under the **World Meteorological Organization**.
- Released at each **United Nations climate summit**, with **UNESCO** support.

Key Findings

- **Fossil emissions** projected to **fall 0.4%** this year, with declines in **China**, the **United States**, the **European Union** and **Japan**.

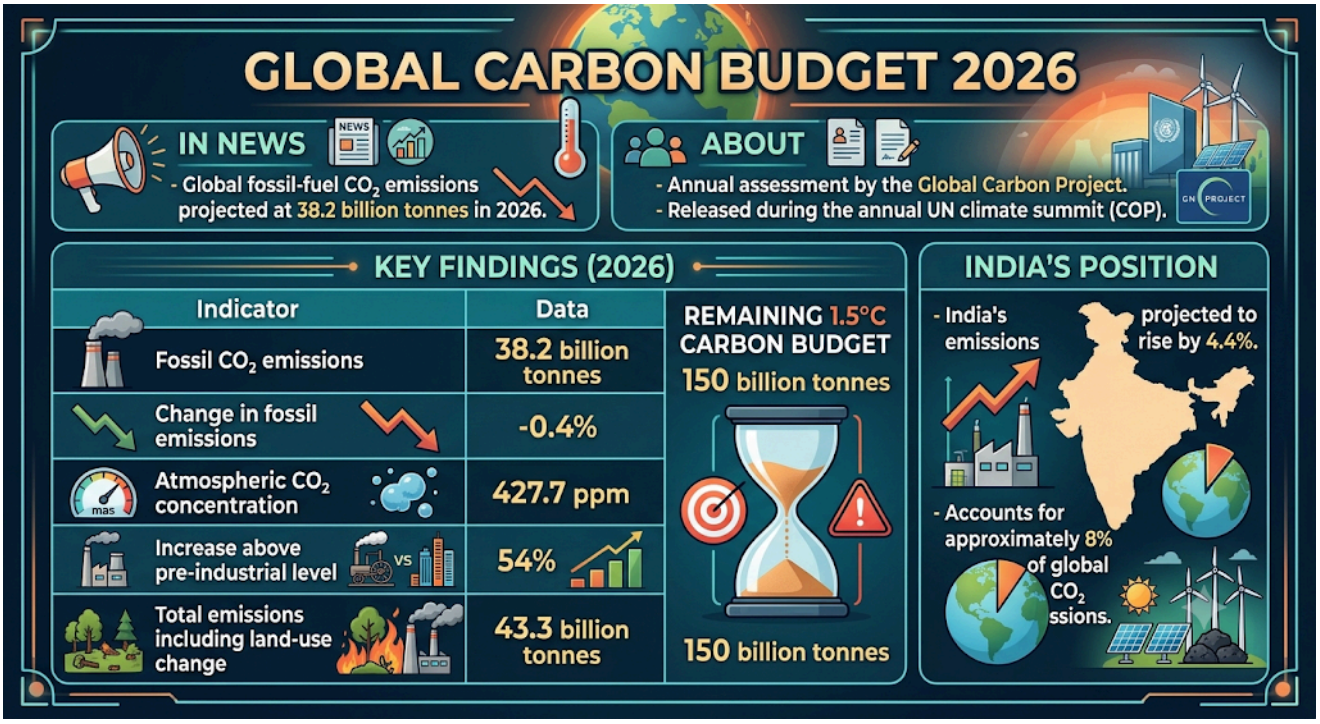
- **Reasons for the Decline:**
  - Expansion of **solar and wind power**.
  - **Energy shock** from the **West Asia conflict**.
  - **Cleaner energy mix** and **efficiency**.
- **Carbon Dioxide Concentration: 427.7 parts per million** in **2026**, which is **54% above pre-industrial levels**.
- **Total Emissions (including land-use change): 43.3 billion tonnes** in **2026** (up from **42.8 billion tonnes**).
- **Remaining Carbon Budget for 1.5°C:**
  - **150 billion tonnes**.
  - That is less than **four years** of emissions at the current rate.
- **India:**
  - Emissions to **rise 4.4%**.
  - India is about **8%** of **global carbon dioxide emissions**.

Why India's Emissions Are Rising

- **Higher Electricity Demand:** A **drier monsoon** and **heat** in **2026** increased **air-conditioning** use. **2025** had a **wetter pre-monsoon**.
- **Coal Dependence:** Extra demand is met mainly by **coal power**.
- **Road Transport:** More **vehicles** and **urbanisation**; unlike other big economies, India's **transport emissions** have not fallen.
- **Industrial Growth: Steel**, **cement** and **manufacturing**.
- **Rising Consumption:** Higher **incomes**, more **appliances**; **renewables** are not yet enough to offset the growth.

Do You Know?

- **Carbon Budget** – the **total carbon dioxide** that can still be emitted while keeping warming below a set limit.
- **World Meteorological Organization** reported **carbon dioxide** at **426.8 parts per million** in **2025** (covered on **10 November**).
- **Top Emitters: China**, **United States**, **India**, **European Union**, **Russia**.
- India's **per capita emissions** are much **lower than the world average**.



Topic: Defence

Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2026

Context

- The **Indian Navy**, with the **National Maritime Foundation**, held the **8th edition** of the **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue**.
- **Dates: 3–5 November 2026**.
- **Venue: Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi**.

Key Details

- **Theme: "Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific"**.
- **Participation:** Over **40 experts** from **20 countries**.

Key Sessions

- **"Collaborative Approaches to Ocean Governance and Maritime Resilience":**
  - **Ocean governance**.
  - Fair **deep-sea research**.
  - **Resource management**.
  - **Resilient island infrastructure** under the **Infrastructure for Resilient Island States** programme.
  - **Marine science–shipping cooperation**.
- **"Sahyog Ka Samvaad"** – an **ambassadors' interaction**.

- **"Perspectives from the Flag Bridge"** – with **former naval chiefs**.
- **Monograph Released: "Sea Blindness and Maritime Heritage in India"**.

Do You Know?

- **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative** – launched by India at the **East Asia Summit, Bangkok (2019)**. It has **seven pillars**:
  - **Maritime Security**.
  - **Maritime Ecology**.
  - **Maritime Resources**.
  - **Capacity Building and Resource Sharing**.
  - **Disaster Risk Reduction and Management**.
  - **Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation**.
  - **Trade Connectivity and Maritime Transport**.
- **National Maritime Foundation** – the **Navy's think tank**, founded in **2005**.
- **Infrastructure for Resilient Island States** – launched by India at **COP26 (2021)** under the **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure**.
- **MAHASAGAR** – announced in **2025**, expanding **SAGAR (2015)**.

Topic: Sports

Sunil Chhetri – First Male Participant in the FIFA Player Impact Programme 2026

Context

- On **11 November 2026**, the **All India Football Federation** announced that **Sunil Chhetri**, former captain of the **Indian men's football team**, is the **first male participant** in the **second edition** of the **FIFA Player Impact Programme**.

About the Programme

- **Launched: 2025** with **14 women footballers**.
- **2026 Edition: 13 participants** – **12 women** and **1 man (Sunil Chhetri)**.
- **Duration:** A **nine-month initiative**.
- **Objective:** Equip footballers with **skills and resources** to drive **social change**.
- **Focus Areas:**
  - **Education**.
  - **Mental health**.
  - **Equal access to sport**.

Notable Participants

- **Alexia Putellas (Spain) – Women's World Cup winner**.
- **Jessie Fleming (Canada)**.
- **Michelle Agyemang (England)**.
- **Rasheedat Ajibade (Nigeria)**.
- **Gabi Nunes (Brazil)**.

About FIFA

- **Fédération Internationale de Football Association**.
- **Founded: 21 May 1904**.
- **HQ: Zurich, Switzerland**.

Do You Know?

- **Sunil Chhetri:**
  - **India's all-time top scorer** and one of the **top international goal-scorers** among active players.
  - **Awards: Arjuna Award (2011)**, **Padma Shri (2019)**, **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna (2021)**.
  - **Retired in June 2024** but **returned** to the national team in **2025**.
- **All India Football Federation** – founded in **1937**; HQ **New Delhi**.
- **FIFA World Cup 2026** – hosted by the **United States**, **Canada** and **Mexico** (**48 teams**, the **first expanded edition**).

Topic: Important Days

World Quality Week (9–13 November) and World Quality Day (12 November) 2026

- **Led by:** The **Chartered Quality Institute** (HQ **London, United Kingdom**).
- **Purpose:** Celebrate **quality** and recognise people who **champion it** in organisations and communities.
- **Theme: "Quality: Powering Performance"**.
- **First World Quality Day: 9 November 1989**.

Do You Know?

- **Bureau of Indian Standards** – India's **national standards body**, set up in **1987**. It became **statutory** under the **Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016**.
- **Quality Council of India** – set up in **1997**.
- **World Standards Day: 14 October**.

National Education Day – 11 November

- Observed every year on **11 November**, the **birth anniversary** of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**.
- He was **independent India's first Education Minister** and a key architect of India's **modern education system**.

Background

- **Declared: 2008** by the **Ministry of Human Resource Development** (now **Ministry of Education**).
- **First Observed: 11 November 2008**.
- **Focus:** An **inclusive, equitable and future-ready education system** through **quality learning**, **innovation** and **skills**.

Do You Know?

- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:**
  - Born **11 November 1888** in **Mecca**.
  - **Education Minister** from **1947 to 1958**.
  - Awarded the **Bharat Ratna (1992)**, **posthumously**.
  - **Youngest President** of the **Indian National Congress (1923)**.
  - Founded the newspapers **Al-Hilal** and **Al-Balagh**.
- **Institutions Set Up During His Tenure:**
  - **IIT Kharagpur (1951)**.
  - **University Grants Commission (1953)**.
  - **Sangeet Natak Akademi (1953)**.
  - **Sahitya Akademi (1954)**.
  - **Lalit Kala Akademi (1954)**.
- **National Education Policy 2020** – India's **third national education policy**, after **1968** and **1986**.
- **International Day of Education: 24 January**.

Public Service Broadcasting Day (Jan Prasaran Divas) – 12 November

About

- Observed every year on **12 November**.
- Marks the **first and only live broadcast** by **Mahatma Gandhi** on **All India Radio (now Akashvani), New Delhi**, in **1947**.

Background

- **Gandhi's Visit:**

- On **12 November 1947**, after **Partition**, **Gandhi** visited the **All India Radio studio** at **Broadcasting House, New Delhi**.
- He addressed **displaced people** at a **refugee camp in Kurukshetra (Haryana)** in a special **Deepavali broadcast**.
- He was accompanied by freedom fighter **Rajkumari Amrit Kaur**.

- **1997:** Event held to mark **50 years** of the broadcast.
- **2001: 12 November** formally declared **Public Service Broadcasting Day**, an idea conceived by **Suhas Borker**, **Convenor of Jan Prasar**.

Do You Know?

- **All India Radio:**
  - Named in **1936**.
  - Called **"Akashvani"** from **1957**.
- **Prasar Bharati:**
  - India's **public service broadcaster**, set up in **1997** under the **Prasar Bharati Act, 1990**.
  - Includes **Akashvani** and **Doordarshan**.
- **Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:**
  - **India's first Health Minister**.
  - Played a key role in founding **AIIMS, New Delhi (1956)**.
- **World Radio Day: 13 February**.

Topic: History

151st Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda

Context

- The **National Tribal Pride March** was flagged off from **Ulihatu, Khunti district, Jharkhand**, **Birsa Munda's birthplace**.
- It marks his **151st birth anniversary** and **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (15 November)**.

Who Was He?

- A **tribal freedom fighter**, **religious reformer** and **folk hero** of the **Munda tribe**.
- Revered as **"Bhagwan"** and **"Dharti Aaba" (Father of the Earth)**.
- Led a mass **anti-colonial, agrarian uprising** in the **late 19th century**.

Early Life

- **Born: 15 November 1875**, **Ulihatu (Khunti, Jharkhand)**, to **Sugana Munda** and **Karmi Hatu**.
- **Education:** Studied at a **German Mission school, Chaibasa**.
  - Briefly became a **Christian** as **Birsa David/Daud**.

- Later **rejected missionary influence**.

- **Birsait Faith:**
  - Influenced by **Vaishnavism** and **tribal traditions**.
  - Taught worship of **Singbonga**.
  - Opposed **alcohol** and **superstition**.
  - Promoted **tribal identity**.

Region

- **Chhotanagpur Plateau – Ranchi**, **Khunti**, **Chaibasa**, **Singhbhum**.

The Ulgulan (Great Tumult), 1899–1900

- **Causes:**
  - Breakdown of the **Khuntkatti (community land ownership)** system.
  - Exploitation by **Dikus (outsiders)** and **Thikadars (contractors)**.
  - **High rents**.
  - **Beth begari (forced labour)**.
  - **Forest laws**.
- **Course:**
  - **Jailed** in **1895–1897**.
  - He then led the **Ulgulan**, demanding an **end to British rule**.
- **Guerrilla Attacks:**
  - From **December 1899**, by **Munda**, **Oraon** and **Kharia** fighters.
  - Major clashes at **Khunti** and **Dombari Hill (January 1900)**.

Legacy

- **United tribal communities** against **colonial rule**.
- Led to the **Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act, 1908**, which protected **tribal land** and recognised **Khuntkatti rights**.

Last Days

- **Arrested: 3 February 1900**, in **Jamkopai forest, Singhbhum**.
- **Died: 9 June 1900** in **Ranchi Jail**, aged **24**.
- The British blamed **cholera**; suspicions of **mistreatment** remain.

Do You Know?

- **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas** – observed on **15 November** since **2021**.
- **Jharkhand** was formed on **15 November 2000**, his birth anniversary.

- **Birsa Munda's portrait** hangs in the **Central Hall of Parliament**, the **only tribal leader** so honoured.
- **Other Tribal Revolts:**
  - **Santhal (1855–56, Sidhu–Kanhu)**.
  - **Kol (1831–32)**.
  - **Bhil**.
  - **Rampa (1922–24, Alluri Sitarama Raju)**.

