

Daily Current Affairs

October 24, 2026

TNPSC Group 1, 2, 2A & 4 • RRB • SSC – Key exam points in simple English

Today's Sections



TNPSC Bits



Tamil Nadu News



National News



International News



Science & Technology



Environment News



Reports & Indices



Important Days

Top 5 Stories Today

1. Tamil Nadu extends **special officers** for rural local bodies in 37 districts till **19 April 2027**
2. **₹180 crore** 5-year Tamil Nadu scheme to reduce **human-wildlife conflict** in 100 villages
3. **VOC Port's TICT** (Thoothukudi) declared a **green terminal** – 100% electrified equipment
4. India hosts the **7th Agrivoltaics World Conference** – first time in the Global South
5. UNEP **Emissions Gap Report 2026**: 1.5°C without significant overshoot no longer possible



TNPSC Bits

QUICK BITS

- **Jindal Steel – 2026 Steelie Award** for “Excellence in People” for its **Dakshata** engineering-safety programme (role-specific safety training & competency assessment).
- **SBI** – Global Finance magazine’s “**World’s Best Consumer Bank 2026**” for the **2nd consecutive year**.
- **BHASHINI’s ‘Shrutlekh’** – real-time English–Spanish translation at an **NCGG** programme in **Mussoorie** (voice-first multilingual AI).
- US President **Donald Trump** renewed his call to rename **New Mexico** as “**New America**” (first proposed Sept 2026; rejected by state officials).
- **Two new subterranean fish** – Gitchak nakana & Rakthamichthys anchi – found in wells of **Goalpara district, Assam**.



Remember for the exam: **NCGG** (National Centre for Good Governance) – Ministry of Personnel; campuses in **New Delhi & Mussoorie** • **BHASHINI** – National Language Translation Mission under MeitY.



Tamil Nadu News

TAMIL NADU

VOC Port – Green Container Terminal

Unit IX

22 Oct 2026

TICT declared green terminal

100%

Operational equipment electrified

10 Aug 2026

India’s 1st Scope-2 emission-free major port

- **Tuticorin International Container Terminal (TICT)** at **V.O. Chidambaranar Port**, Thoothukudi.
- VOC Port holds **ISO 50001:2018** certification for energy management.



Remember for the exam: **Scope 2 emissions** = indirect emissions from **purchased electricity** (Scope 1 = direct; Scope 3 = value chain) • VOC Port is named after freedom fighter **V.O. Chidambaram Pillai** (‘Kappalottiya Tamizhan’).

Rural Local Bodies – Special Officers

Unit V



5 Jan 2025

Elected representatives’ term ended in **28 districts**; special officers appointed



19 Oct 2026

Term ended in remaining **9 districts**



19 Apr 2027

Special officers to administer village panchayats, panchayat unions & district panchayats till this date

- Reason for delay: **46 rural local bodies** being merged with urban local bodies; **delimitation & reservation** pending in **23 districts**.
- Notified: **9 new panchayat unions, 93 new village panchayats**, amalgamation of 1 village panchayat.



Remember for the exam: Article 243E – 5-year term for panchayats; elections must be held before expiry • **Article 243K** – State Election Commission • Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act **1994**.



National News

NATIONAL

7th Agrivoltaics World Conference 2026 – New Delhi

- **First time in the Global South** • Host: **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** • Theme: **"Powering the Global South"**.
- **Agrivoltaics (AgriPV)** – farming and **solar PV power generation on the same land**.
- Launched: **AgriPV Policy Handbook, India Agrivoltaics Alliance (IAA)** Decision-Making Tool, **IWMI** Book of Abstracts.



Remember for the exam: PM-KUSUM (2019) – solar pumps & solar plants on farmland • India's target – **500 GW** non-fossil capacity by 2030.



International News

INTERNATIONAL

Bangladesh Measles Outbreak – World's Worst in 2026

2.02 lakh+

Suspected cases (since mid-March)

1,147

Deaths – 94% children under 5

~22,000

Lab-confirmed cases

1st dose (2025)

90%

2nd dose (2025)

86%

Needed to stop outbreaks

95%

- Measles – highly contagious **viral** disease; spreads through **respiratory droplets**.
- Causes: falling immunisation, unregistered children, health-worker shortage, weak health-data systems.



Remember for the exam: India uses the **MR (Measles-Rubella)** vaccine under the **Universal Immunisation Programme** and **Mission Indradhanush** (2014).



Science & Technology

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Martian Moons Exploration (MMX) – Japan

- Led by **JAXA** (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) – to study Mars and its moons **Phobos** & **Deimos**.
- Will be the **first mission to land on a Martian moon** and **return samples** to Earth.
- Target: **Phobos** – the **larger and closer** moon of Mars.

- Samples may reveal the origin of Mars, its moons and the early Solar System.



Remember for the exam: India's **Mangalyaan (MOM)** – launched **5 Nov 2013**, reached Mars orbit **24 Sept 2014** – India first Asian nation to reach Mars orbit, and first in maiden attempt.



Environment News

ENVIRONMENT

Human-Wildlife Conflict Scheme – Tamil Nadu

Unit III

₹180 crore

5 years (2026-27 to 2030-31)

100

Conflict-prone villages

11

Western Ghats districts

2026-27	20 cr
2027-28	40 cr
2028-29	40 cr
2029-30	40 cr
2030-31	40 cr

- Districts include **Coimbatore, Erode, Nilgiris, Salem, Theni, Tirunelveli, Tiruppur**.
- Measures: **hanging solar fences**, steel wire-rope fencing, **elephant-proof trenches**, fodder development, water augmentation.
- **95 Anti-Depredation Committees**, village SMS early-warning, **AI surveillance**, radio-collaring, GPS vehicles, night patrols.

Blue Tiger Butterfly Migration

- Millions of **blue tiger** (Tirumala limniace), dark blue tiger, common crow & double-banded crow migrate from the **Eastern Ghats to the Western Ghats** with the **North-East monsoon**.
- Reason: escape heavy NE monsoon rain; reach forests with host plants to feed, mate and lay eggs.
- Next generations return to the Eastern Ghats around **May**, before the South-West monsoon.
- Seen in Coimbatore, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur, Madurai, **Silent Valley, Parambikulam**.



Remember for the exam: Tamil Nadu's state butterfly – **Tamil Yeoman** (2019).

WII Bear Population Study – India's First

Bear	Scientific name	IUCN
Himalayan brown bear	Ursus arctos (subspecies)	LC (brown bear globally)
Asiatic black bear	Ursus thibetanus	VU
Sloth bear	Melursus ursinus	VU
Sun bear	Helarctos malayanus	VU

- **Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun** – first national study of population, distribution & range of all **4 bear species** (family **Ursidae**).

- Older estimate of ~**20,000 sloth bears** refers to the Indian subcontinent.

Contagious Cancer in Catfish

- **University of Vermont** – **4th known** naturally transmissible cancer in animals: **melanoma** in **brown bullhead catfish** (*Ameiurus nebulosus*), **Lake Memphremagog**.
- ~**30%** of catfish sampled since 2013 had melanoma; **mitochondrial DNA** differences show cells came from another fish.
- Earlier known: **dogs, Tasmanian devils, bivalve molluscs** (clams, mussels).



Reports & Indices

REPORTS & INDICES

UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2026

58.4 GtCO₂e

Global GHG emissions 2025 (slight fall)

76%

Share of G20 (excl. African Union)

+0.7%

G20 emissions 2025 (excl. land use)

By 2030

18%

By 2035

45%

By 2040

69%

Cuts needed vs 2025 levels for the lowest possible 1.5°C overshoot

- Limiting warming to **1.5°C without significant overshoot is no longer possible**; fossil-fuel CO₂ still rising.
- Large-scale **CO₂ removal** needed to bring warming back to 1.5°C by 2100.



Remember for the exam: UNEP – founded **1972** (Stockholm Conference); HQ **Nairobi, Kenya** • 1.5°C goal – **Paris Agreement (2015)**.



Important Days

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Solidarity Day – 20 October



20 Oct 1962

China attacked India in **NEFA** (now Arunachal Pradesh) & **Ladakh** – start of the war



21 Nov 1962

China announced a **unilateral ceasefire**



1966

National committee under PM **Indira Gandhi** designated 20 Oct as National Solidarity Day

- Honours the Armed Forces & soldiers who sacrificed their lives; promotes national unity.
- Sectors: **eastern (NEFA) & western (Ladakh, incl. Aksai Chin)**.



One-Page Quick Revision

QUICK REVISION

Steelie Award 2026	Jindal Steel • Dakshata safety programme
World's Best Consumer Bank 2026	SBI • Global Finance • 2nd year in a row
Shrutlekh	BHASHINI • English-Spanish • NCGG Mussoorie
New subterranean fish	Gitchak nakana & Rakthamichthys anchi • Goalpara, Assam
TICT green terminal	VOC Port • 22 Oct 2026 • 100% electrified • ISO 50001
Special officers (TN)	37 districts • till 19 Apr 2027 • 9 new unions, 93 new panchayats
Agrivoltaics World Conference	7th • New Delhi • MNRE • "Powering the Global South"
Bangladesh measles	2.02 lakh cases • 1,147 deaths • dose-1 90%, dose-2 86%
MMX	JAXA • Phobos sample return • first landing on a Martian moon
HWC scheme (TN)	₹180 cr • 100 villages • 11 districts • 95 Anti-Depredation Committees
Blue tiger migration	Eastern → Western Ghats • NE monsoon • return in May
WII bear study	4 species • Ursidae • sloth, sun, Asiatic black – VU
Transmissible cancer	Brown bullhead catfish • melanoma • 4th known case
Emissions Gap Report 2026	UNEP • 58.4 GtCO ₂ e • G20 76% • cuts 18/45/69%
National Solidarity Day	20 Oct • 1962 war • ceasefire 21 Nov 1962 • declared 1966

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