



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DECEMBER 01, 2025

TAMILNADU

➤ Tree census

- ✓ The Forest Department plans to launch a long-awaited comprehensive tree census and green space survey in six major cities like Chennai, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Madurai, Tiruchi, and Salem.
- ✓ The objective of the survey is to map the current extent, distribution, and density of green spaces using high-resolution satellite imagery and advanced geospatial technologies.
- ✓ The Forest Department has reportedly allocated ₹90 lakh for the project.



- ✓ A major component of the project is the development of a web-based dashboard that will integrate satellite data, GIS mapping, AI-powered image processing, and ecosystem service modelling.
- ✓ This tool will provide real-time insights to help city planners and authorities make data-driven decisions on urban green spaces.

➤ **TN 100 Chip Varsity Programme**

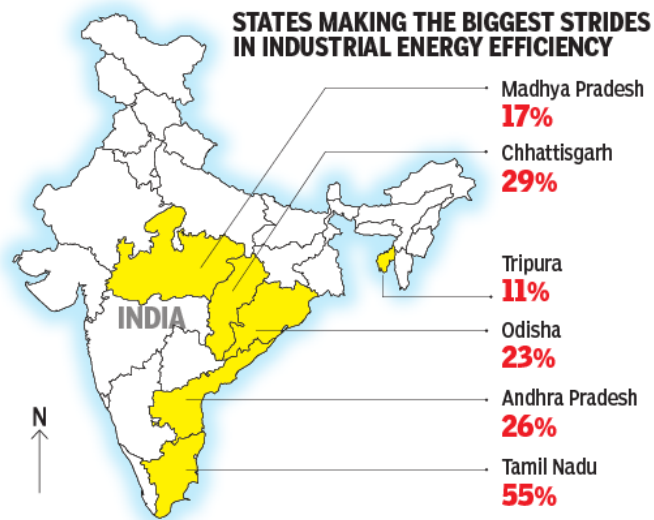
- ✓ Under the programme, Guidance Tamil Nadu and iVP Semi will jointly support the creation of a State-wide network of chip design facilities embedded within engineering colleges.
- ✓ The project has a dual mandate: enabling the development of 100 new chip designs, and training 5,000 students in advanced semiconductor design skills every year.



- ✓ In the next five years, more than 1,000 products will come out of colleges and universities in the State.
- ✓ In August, the State government sanctioned the Semiconductor Design Promotion Scheme under the ₹500-crore Tamil Nadu Semiconductor Mission 2030 (TNSM 2030).
- ✓ The State is also making a strong push to set up Centres of Excellence (CoEs) to provide the necessary infrastructure for chip design, testing, and validation.

➤ **TN Leads in Industrial Energy Efficiency**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has emerged as the national leader in industrial energy efficiency, securing the top position in Group 1 of the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2024 with a score of 55.3%.
- ✓ According to the index, Andhra Pradesh recorded the nation's highest improvement, registering a 27.5% jump and leading Group 2. Several other states also posted strong progress, including Odisha (23.1%), Chhattisgarh (28.8%), Madhya Pradesh (16.5%), and Tripura (10.9%).
- ✓ Tamil Nadu, in Group 1, has emerged as a leading state in promoting and implementing energy efficiency initiatives in the building sector, and it is among the top three states with the highest number of certified green buildings.



- ✓ Tamil Nadu's PEACE programme has driven energy efficiency efforts for MSMEs, with 2023-24 investments totalling 2.6 crore for awareness, training, energy audit subsidies and implementation initiatives.
- ✓ In recognition of energy conservation efforts, 25 states have received Energy Conservation Awards, with Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha leading in the number of awards, followed by Gujarat.
- **TN to set up advanced research centres**
- ✓ The state govt has announced the setting up of two advanced research centres in basic sciences in Chennai and Coimbatore with the help of top institutes such as IISc Bengaluru.
- ✓ "We are exploring the tie-up possibilities with top research institutes including IISc Bengaluru, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) in Mumbai, and International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Italy for setting up these research institutions.
- ✓ There are 30 research institutions at the national level. States such as Kerala and Odisha have established basic science research institutions, and now, Tamil Nadu is planning to set up such institutions to focus on basic research to create new jobs.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ **India's National coral reef research institute**

- ✓ National Coral Reef Research Institute (NCRI) is set to be established in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to spearhead advanced research and conservation of coral ecosystems.
- ✓ The institute will be built at Chidiyatapu in South Andaman, a region known for its rich marine biodiversity.
- ✓ The project is estimated to cost Rupees 120 crore and will be funded and executed by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- ✓ This initiative is under the guidance of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Andaman and Nicobar Regional Centre.
- ✓ The institute will function as a center of excellence for advanced research, management, and preservation of coral reefs, focusing on both restoration technologies and monitoring reef health.

➤ **BlueBird-6 Satellite**

- ✓ NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), Space PSU, which has a contract to launch US's commercial satellite – "BlueBird Block-2" or "BlueBird-6" – through ISRO's LVM-3 launch vehicle, is expected to launch it on Dec 15.
- ✓ Next-generation BlueBird satellites are designed to deliver 24/7 high-speed cellular broadband every day to smartphones worldwide.
- ✓ These advanced satellites feature nearly 2,400 square feet arrays, which will make them the largest commercial phased arrays ever deployed in low Earth orbit, surpassing the previous re-cord held by our first-generation BlueBirds at 693 square feet.
- ✓ BlueBird Block-2 satellite will be part of a constellation of satellites AST has in place. With our proprietary AST5000 application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC), each satellite will support peak speeds of 120 Mbps per coverage cell.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ World AIDS Day - December 1

- ✓ World AIDS Day is a global observance held on 1st December every year to raise awareness about the HIV/AIDS epidemic, remember those who have died from HIV-related illnesses, and support people living with HIV/AIDS.
- ✓ **Theme: "Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response,"**



- ✓ India marks World AIDS Day each year through nationwide awareness campaigns, community outreach activities, and renewed government commitments led by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

