

TNPSC Current Affairs – 28 October 2026

Daily notes for TNPSC Group 1, 2, 2A, 4 & RRB · English

TNPSC Quick Bits

- **Lionel Messi** received the **2026 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports**. He is the first footballer to be honoured individually (not as part of a team).
- **Pankaj Advani** took his **29th world title** at the WBL World Billiards Championships, held at **Great Wyrley, England**.
- Physicist **Ashoke Sen** was awarded the **Oskar Klein Medal 2026**, the first Indian physicist to get it.
- The Indian Army is inducting **Nagastra-2**, a home-grown anti-tank loitering munition supplied by **Solar Defence and Aerospace Ltd (SDAL), Nagpur**.
- Researchers of **Kobe University** detected fresh magma building up under the **Kikai Caldera** – a largely undersea supervolcano south of Kyushu Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, **Japan**.
- Kikai's blast roughly **7,300 years ago** is the biggest volcanic eruption known from the **Holocene** epoch.
- **Vigilance Awareness Week 2026**: 26 October – 1 November. Theme: "**Probity for Prosperity**".
- **Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week 2026**: 24 – 31 October. Theme: "**We All Play a Part – Media and Information Literacy for the People**".

Economy

RBI revises the Leverage Ratio framework

- RBI updated its capital adequacy rules to match **Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS)** norms. New rules apply from **1 April 2027**.
- Minimum leverage ratio: **4% for D-SIBs** (Domestic Systemically Important Banks) and **3.5% for all other banks**.
- Leverage ratio = a bank's core (Tier-1) capital compared with its **total exposure**, with **no risk weights** applied to assets.
- Exposure counts on-balance-sheet assets, derivatives and off-balance-sheet commitments. The minimum must be kept **at all times**.

- It works as a **backstop** to risk-weighted capital rules and makes bank balance sheets sturdier.
- RBI **turned down** banks' plea for more time to comply.

Exam point: D-SIBs 4% · Other banks 3.5% · Effective 1 April 2027 · Aligned with BCBS.

Environment

Greater Flamingos at Veeranam Lake

- **18 Greater Flamingos** were spotted at **Veeranam Lake, Cuddalore district**. Seeing them at an inland freshwater lake is rare.
- Scientific name **Phoenicopiterus roseus**; IUCN status **Least Concern (LC)**.
- Normally found in coastal wetlands, mudflats, lagoons and shallow waters.
- Poor rainfall, lower **Cauvery** inflow and less food on coastal mudflats may have shifted their route.
- Usual winter movement: from the **Gulf of Kutch** towards the east coast.

Two new Ophiorrhiza plant species

- **Ophiorrhiza shidiensis** and **Ophiorrhiza pema** were described from **Changlang district, Arunachal Pradesh**.
- Found at **Vijoyanagar**, inside the **Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot**.
- Family: **Rubiaceae** (coffee / madder / bedstraw family).
- shidiensis comes from "Shidi", the Lisu (Yobin) name for Gandhigram; pema honours Chief Minister **Pema Khandu**.

IUCN: Global coral reef decline

- In its **first global assessment** of coral reef ecosystems, IUCN rated **96%** of assessed shallow-water reef ecosystems as **Critically Endangered**.
- Coverage: **188,362 sq km** of reefs in **127** tropical/subtropical ecoregions across **80+** countries and territories.
- Biggest threat: **heat stress from climate change** – ocean warming, marine heatwaves, coral bleaching.
- Other threats: overfishing, pollution, coastal construction, mass tourism. Falling fish stocks endanger **63%** of reef ecosystems.
- Great Barrier Reef, Coral Triangle, Mesoamerican reef and Red Sea reefs are all listed Critically Endangered.

- Reefs shelter about **25% of marine species**; stronger climate action can still slow the collapse.

Exam point: First global IUCN reef assessment · 96% Critically Endangered · 127 ecoregions · 25% of marine life.

State News

Ladakh – India’s first 100% organic Union Territory

- Declared by **Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena**; covers **Leh** and **Kargil** districts.
- In **July 2026** Ladakh banned buying, distributing, selling, marketing and using chemical/synthetic fertilisers for farming.
- **207 villages** had organic certification by 27 July 2026.
- Main organic produce: apricot, sea buckthorn, buckwheat, barley, vegetables.
- **NPOP** (National Programme for Organic Production) sets India’s organic standards and is run by **APEDA**.
- **Sikkim** became India’s first fully organic state in **2016**.

Exam point: First organic UT – Ladakh · First organic State – Sikkim (2016) · NPOP → APEDA.

Hydroseeding technology in Jharkhand

- **Tata Steel** started hydroseeding at its **West Bokaro Division, Ramgarh district**, over **50+ acres** of mined land, nurseries and overburden dumps.
- Hydroseeding = machine-spraying a slurry of seeds, mulch, fertiliser, binders and soil conditioners on bare ground.
- Mulch keeps moisture in, shields seeds and checks erosion by wind and water.
- Helps reclaim mine land and stabilise slopes; avoids risky manual planting and covers large areas fast.

Personalities, Awards & Events

Ballon d’Or 2026 (London)

- **Harry Kane** (Bayern Munich, England) won – the **first English winner in 25 years**, finishing ahead of Kylian Mbappé and Lamine Yamal.
- Women’s Ballon d’Or: **Alexia Putellas** (Spain) – her **third** (earlier 2021, 2022).
- Young Talent: **Lamine Yamal** (men), **Vicky López** (women).
- Club of the Year: **Paris Saint-Germain** (men), **Barcelona** (women).

- Striker of the Year: **Kane** with **73 goals** (men), **Charlyn Corral** of Mexico (women).

Important Days

World Development Information Day – 24 October

- Draws attention to global development problems and the need for international cooperation.
- Set up by the **UN General Assembly in 1972** through a resolution.
- Falls on **UN Day (24 October)**, the date of the 1970 adoption of the International Development Strategy for the **Second UN Development Decade**.
- Seeks wider spread of development information, especially to mobilise young people.
- Stresses the role of science, technology and **ICT** in economic and social progress.

Quick Revision

Topic	Key fact
Princess of Asturias (Sports) 2026	Lionel Messi
WBL World Billiards 2026	Pankaj Advani – 29th world title
Oskar Klein Medal 2026	Ashoke Sen (first Indian physicist)
Nagastra-2	SDAL, Nagpur
Kikai Caldera	Japan – Kobe University study
Vigilance Awareness Week 2026	Probity for Prosperity
RBI leverage ratio	D-SIB 4% / others 3.5% – 1 Apr 2027
Veeranam Lake	Cuddalore – 18 Greater Flamingos
New Ophiorrhiza species	Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh
Coral reefs (IUCN)	96% Critically Endangered
First 100% organic UT	Ladakh
Hydroseeding	Tata Steel, West Bokaro, Jharkhand
Ballon d’Or 2026	Harry Kane / Alexia Putellas
World Development Information Day	24 Oct – UNGA 1972

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