

## SHORTNEWS

### MADRAS DAY

August 22 is annually celebrated as Madras Day, to commemorate the foundation day of the city of Madras (now Chennai). It was on this day in 1639 that the town of Madrasapatnam, was purchased by the East India Company (EIC) from local kings.

#### About Madrasapatnam

**Name Origins** – The name Madras has debated roots: from Madresan (a fisherman), a Madrassa, or the church Madre de Deus; patnam means “coastal town.”

**Pre-British Rule** – The region was earlier under the Pallavas, Cholas, and Vijayanagar Empire.

**Land Grant (1639)** – Vijayanagar chieftain Damarla Venkatapathy Nayak granted land between the Cooum and Egmore rivers to the English.

**Fort St. George** – Established in 1639–40; in 1641, Andrew Cogan shifted the East India Company's agency from Masulipatnam to Madras.

**Chennapatnam & Chennai** – The adjoining settlement, Chennapatnam (named after Chennappa Nayak), later merged with Madrasapatnam, inspiring the name Chennai.

**Growth Under British** – City expanded around Fort St. George, with “White Town” (Europeans) and “Black Town” (Indians); Governor Elihu Yale (1687–92) set up a mayor and corporation, later adding areas like Egmore and Tondiarpet.

### LIPULEKH PASS

India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated that Nepal's objection to trade through Lipulekh Pass is not justified and emphasised that trade through Lipulekh has been a long-standing practice with no alteration of the status quo.

#### About Lipulekh Pass

**Location** – Tri-junction of India (Uttarakhand – Pithoragarh district), Nepal (Darchula district), and China (Tibet Autonomous Region).

**Altitude** – ~5,000 m, in the Kumaon Himalayas.

**Strategic & Historical Significance** – Gateway to higher Himalayas, connecting the Indian subcontinent with the Tibetan plateau. Served as an ancient trade route for centuries. First Indian border post opened for trade with China (1992). Later followed by Shipki La (Himachal Pradesh, 1994) and Nathu La (Sikkim, 2006).

**Religious Importance** – The Old Lipulekh Pass in the Vyas Valley, Pithoragarh is a key part of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra route.

#### India–Nepal Dispute –

**Nepal's Claim** – Claims Lipulekh–Kalapani–Limpiyadhura (372 sq km) as its own territory. Incorporated into its 2020 revised political map.

**India's Stand** – Disputes Nepal's claims, calling them unilateral and unjustified. The region is an integral part of Uttarakhand. Trade and pilgrimage through Lipulekh are a time-tested practice with no new alterations.

#### Strategic Importance for India

**Security** – Key vantage point at India–Nepal–China tri-junction for monitoring Chinese activities.

**Connectivity** – Border Roads Organisation (BRO) developed the Dharchula–Lipulekh road (2020), improving access.

**Pilgrimage** – Shortest and most secure route to Kailash Mansarovar.

**Trade Gateway** – Facilitates Indo–China border trade in essential goods and traditional commodities.

## BROLIGARCHS

The Cambridge Dictionary (2025 edition) has added several Internet-origin words such as Skibidi, Broligarchy, Delulu, and Tradwife, sparking debate on the evolution of language in the digital age.

### About Newly Added Words

**Tradwife** – Derived from traditional wife; a woman embracing traditional gender roles as homemaker and mother.

**Broligarchy** – Bro + oligarchy; powerful, wealthy “tech bros” with political/economic influence.

**Delulu** – Short for delusional; used for those detached from reality.

**Skibidi** – A nonsensical Internet slang; popularized by YouTube “Skibidi Toilet” videos; now used as a flexible filler for “cool/bad/joke.”

### Why These Words?

**Lexicographers’ criteria** – Frequency, context spread, staying power.

**Reflect global social trends** – Rise of identity-based communities (tradwives, fandoms). Growing tech power and digital oligarchs. Absurdist humor as escape in chaotic times (skibidi).

**Algorithmic culture** – Words gain traction due to TikTok/Instagram algorithms: shows AI-driven evolution of culture.

### Broader Significance

**Sociological Dimension** – Mirrors cultural wars: gender roles, tech power, escapist humour.

Expands digital sociology: language is a barometer of societal anxieties.

**Linguistic Dimension** – Reinforces the idea that language is dynamic, not static. Internet is a new linguistic laboratory producing portmanteaus, abbreviations, memes. Connects with Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis, language influences thought.

**Political & Economic Relevance** – Terms like broligarchy indicate growing unease over Big Tech’s role in governance and democracy.

**Ethical Dimension** – Raises questions like should dictionaries record usage neutrally, or act as gatekeepers of linguistic purity. Reflects freedom vs responsibility debate in knowledge systems.

## MONSOON SESSION 2025

The Monsoon Session 2025 of Parliament was adjourned sine die a day early after passing 15 bills amidst frequent disruptions.

### Key Outcomes of Monsoon Session 2025

**Legislative Work Completed** – Significant legislations included the Income-tax (No. 2) Bill, 2025, National Sports Governance Bill, 2025, Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, and five major shipping bills. The Houses also approved the extension of President’s Rule in Manipur and passed the state budget. Article 356 enables Parliament to pass state Bills including Budget during President’s Rule.

**Special Discussions and Debates** – Operation Sindoor was debated.

**Productivity and Disruptions** – Lok Sabha recorded only 31% productivity, while Rajya Sabha achieved 33%. Out of 120 available hours, Lok Sabha functioned for just 37 hours, reflecting the impact of

continuous opposition protests over the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

### **What is Legislative Productivity?**

Legislative productivity refers to the ratio of actual hours spent in deliberation, debate, and lawmaking compared to the total scheduled hours of a session. Over the last decade, average productivity in Lok Sabha ranged between 45–65%, except during highly disrupted sessions where it fell below 40%.

### **Constitutional Provision for Parliamentary Sessions**

**Article 85(1)** – The President summons each House of Parliament at such time and place as deemed fit.

**Adjournment** – Temporary suspension of a sitting for a specified time, such as hours or days, by the Presiding Officer (PO).

**Adjournment Sine Die** – Termination of a session by PO without fixing a date for its next sitting.

**Prorogation** – Formal termination of a session by the President after adjournment sine die, ending all pending business.

**Frequency** – As per Article 85 there should not be more than a six-month gap between two sessions.

**Types of Sessions** – Parliament generally meets in three sessions annually.

1. **Budget Session** – Held February–May; focuses on Union Budget and financial business.
2. **Monsoon Session** – Held July–August; addresses legislative business and current issues.
3. **Winter Session** – Held November–December; reviews pending bills and urgent national matters.
4. **Special Session** – Apart from these regular sessions, a special session can be summoned by the President under Article 85 to discuss urgent or extraordinary matters outside the normal session calendar.

