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1. Tamil Nadu Revised Budget 2026–27 to be Presented

The newly formed TVK (Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam) Government will present the Revised Budget for the financial year 2026–27 on Wednesday (August 5).

Finance Minister N. Maria Wilson will present the Government's first budget and deliver the Budget Speech at 10:00 a.m.

2. Surplus Water Released from Kabini Dam Reaches Mettur Dam

The surplus water released from the Kabini Dam in Karnataka reached the Mettur Dam on Tuesday night. Water Resources Department officials stated that if the inflow continues, water may be released from Mettur Dam for Cauvery Delta irrigation by the end of August or during the first week of September.

i. Due to the ongoing Southwest Monsoon in Kerala, the inflow into Karnataka's Kabini Dam has been increasing steadily. As the reservoir has reached near full capacity, surplus water has been released into the Cauvery River since August 1 as a precautionary safety measure. Consequently, the Cauvery is witnessing flood conditions.

ii. After travelling for three days, the surplus water from Kabini reached the Adipalaru area within the Mettur reservoir limits on Tuesday afternoon, accompanied by foam and froth. Officials confirmed that the water reached the Mettur Dam on Tuesday night.

iii. Officials said that since surplus water continues to be released from Kabini Dam, the inflow into Mettur Dam is expected to increase further.

iv. As the floodwaters may damage fishermen's coracles and fishing nets, fishermen camping along the Cauvery river shifted their boats and nets to safer locations.

v. Due to continuous rainfall in the Cauvery catchment areas of Karnataka, the water level in the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) Dam, whose full reservoir level is 124.80 feet, has risen to 103.40 feet. Since the inflow has reached 31,122 cusecs, the reservoir is likely to fill soon, after which surplus water may also be released into the Cauvery.

vi. The Kabini Dam, with a full reservoir level of 65 feet, currently has:

- Water level: 63.71 feet
- Inflow: 27,988 cusecs
- Storage: 18.68 TMC

vii. As Kerala continues to receive heavy rainfall, all surplus water from Kabini Dam is being discharged into the Cauvery. This water will continue to reach Mettur Dam. Therefore, officials expect that water can be released from Mettur for Delta irrigation by the end of August or during the first week of September.

3. India Expected to Become a $5 Trillion Economy by 2029: Finance Minister

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman stated that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected India to become a $5 trillion economy by 2029.

i. In a written reply in the Lok Sabha regarding the Indian economy, she said that according to the IMF's World Economic Outlook (April 2026), India's nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is projected to reach $5.1 trillion in 2028–29.

ii. To achieve this goal, the Central Government is implementing several reforms covering:

- Agriculture and industrial production
- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- Infrastructure expansion
- Logistics development
- Ease of Doing Business
- Income Tax and GST reforms
- Digitalisation and innovation
- Human resource development
- Energy security

iii. These reforms are supported by:

- Higher public capital expenditure
- Increased Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- Growth in exports
- Sound fiscal management
- Price stability

In addition, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Comprehensive Economic Cooperation

Agreements (CECAs) are strengthening the resilience of India's trade environment.

iv. Manufacturing Sector Initiatives

The Government has launched several initiatives to boost domestic manufacturing, attract investments, create employment, and improve competitiveness, including:

- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme
- Make in India
- National Logistics Policy
- National Single Window System
- PM Gati Shakti Programme

v. MSME Development

Several measures have been introduced for the development of MSMEs, including:

- Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)
- Revised MSME classification
- Udyam Registration Portal
- Government e-Marketplace (GeM)
- PM Vishwakarma Scheme

vi. Growth of the Services Sector

The Central Government is also promoting skill development and employment through initiatives such as:

- Digital Public Infrastructure
- Global Capability Centres (GCCs)
- Medical Value Travel (Medical Tourism)
- Orange Economy
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies

Overall, the Government is focusing on accelerating growth in agriculture, manufacturing, and services to achieve the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047" (Developed India 2047).

4. The Appropriation Bill, 2026, authorising the Central Government to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India, was passed in the Lok Sabha.

i. The Bill authorises the Government to draw additional funds from the Consolidated Fund of India to cover expenditure incurred during the financial year ending March 31, 2023, where spending exceeded the amounts originally approved for certain services.

5. The Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha through a voice vote amid strong protests from Opposition members.

i. The Bill had already been passed by the Lok Sabha and has now received approval from the Rajya Sabha as well.

ii. Under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, registration of births and deaths is mandatory. According to the Amendment Bill, if an application for registration is made more than one year but within two years from the date of birth or death, the registration can be carried out only after obtaining an order from the District Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO).

iii. If more than two years have passed since the birth or death, the registration will be subject to a strict verification process. Such registration can be made only on the basis of an order issued by a Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC).

6. Reduction in tuberculosis (TB) incidence and mortality rates in India:

i. Significant Reduction in TB Incidence and Mortality

- Between 2015 and 2024, India has seen a significant reduction in the incidence of new TB cases and related mortality rates.
- A World Health Organization (WHO) report released last year highlighted that TB incidence in India has dropped by 21%.
- The death rate associated with tuberculosis has decreased from 28 deaths per lakh (100,000) to 21 deaths per lakh.
- Official records show TB registrations were 25.52 lakh in 2023, 26.18 lakh in 2024, and 26.37 lakh in 2025.

ii. National TB Elimination Efforts

- A major initiative, "Tuberculosis-Free India" was implemented in two phases between December 2024 and March 2026.
- The campaign focuses on identifying TB through systematic screening, providing timely treatment, and offering nutritional support to those at high risk of contracting the disease.

iii. Broader Health Screening and NCD Statistics

- Alongside TB efforts, the National Program for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) has screened over 2.29 crore people for diabetes in the last three years.
- Screening efforts identified 1.53 lakh cases of oral cancer, 24,969 cases of breast cancer, and 37,948 cases of cervical cancer.
- These screenings and treatments are facilitated through Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers, district NCD prevention centers, and community health centers.

iv. Financial Allocation

- For the fiscal year 2025–26, the Government has allocated and spent ₹6,763.85 crore specifically for the National TB Elimination Program and the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

7. Analysis of the global refugee crisis, specifically focusing on a recent mass migration attempt from Morocco to Spain.

i. Global Refugee and Displacement Statistics

- As of June 2024, approximately 12 crore (120 million) people worldwide have been forcibly displaced from their homes.
- This total includes 4.3 crore refugees, 7.2 crore internally displaced persons (within their own countries), and 80 lakh asylum seekers.
- In the 1990s, an average of 15 lakh refugees could return home annually; however, in the last decade, this number has dropped to just 3.85 lakh per year.
- The UN Refugee Agency notes that the rate of displacement is now far outstripping the speed at which solutions are being implemented.

ii. Major Conflict Zones and Displacement

- Syria: Holding the highest number of displaced people globally, 1.3 crore Syrians have been forced from their homes since 2011. This includes 74 lakh internal displacements and 56 lakh refugees in neighboring countries like Lebanon, Turkey, and Jordan.
- Ukraine: Following the 2022 Russian invasion, 37 lakh people are internally displaced, while 57 lakh have sought refuge in neighboring European nations.
- Other Regions: Afghanistan and Venezuela also remain major sources of global

displacement.

iii. The Incident at Ceuta

- Recently, thousands of Moroccans attempted to enter Ceuta, a North African enclave under Spanish control, by crossing the sea.
- Migrants attempted this dangerous journey in the hope that entering Spanish territory would provide a path to a better life in other European Union nations.
- While over 48,000 people were returned to Morocco within hours, more than 60 people lost their lives during this specific attempt.

iv. Role of Disinformation and Legal Policy

- The crisis was partly triggered by a Spanish Supreme Court ruling stating that illegal sea-bound migrants must be handled through proper legal procedures rather than immediate summary deportation.
- Human traffickers misinterpreted and spread rumors about this ruling, claiming that anyone reaching Ceuta would not be sent back to Morocco.
- Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez blamed these rumors for the sudden influx.

v. European Diplomatic Tensions

- Spain's use of security forces to stop the illegal entry was criticized by other European nations.
- Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni suggested excluding Spain from the Schengen Agreement (which allows travel without visas or document checks) to highlight the severity of the illegal immigration challenge.

vi. The Core Economic Lesson

- Morocco has focused its policies on infrastructure development but has failed to create adequate domestic employment for its youth.
- World Bank data shows that while the working-age population in Morocco grew by 11.4%over the last 10 years, job opportunities grew by only 1.5%.

Morocco provides a lesson for the world- illegal migration is primarily driven by unemployment, and without addressing job creation, such crises will continue regardless of security measures.