

The

Future depends

on what you

Do Today



IM!

POSSIBLE

Important Issues of the Day

- **Startup India mission – Page No. 1, GS 2**
- **Inquiry committee – Page No. 1, GS 2**
- **On mute – Page No. 8, GS 2**
- **Budget – Page No. 8, GS 2,3**
- **Chabahar – Page No. 10, GS 2**
- **Tirukkural – Prelims**

Highest annual spike saw 44,000 start-ups added last year: Modi

Prime Minister says Startup India mission has become a 'revolution,' with the country becoming the third-largest start-up ecosystem globally

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Nearly 44,000 start-ups registered with the government in 2025, the highest annual addition since Startup India was launched, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday at an event commemorating the 10th anniversary of the scheme.

Launched on January 16, 2016, the flagship initiative seeks to foster innovation, promote entrepreneurship, and enable investment-driven growth.

The biggest jump

"I'm even more pleased to see that the momentum of Startup India is steadily increasing," Mr. Modi said.

"Today's start-ups are becoming unicorns, un-



Looking up: Narendra Modi visiting an exhibition during an event marking a decade of Startup India, in New Delhi, on Friday. ANI

icorns are launching their IPOs, and creating more and more jobs. Last year alone, in 2025, nearly 44,000 new start-ups were registered. This is the biggest jump in any single year since the launch of Startup India," the Prime Minister said.

He added that the Startup India mission has become a "revolution" in India, with the country taking its position as the third-largest start-up ecosystem in the world.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

- **Nearly 44,000 start-ups registered with the government in 2025, the highest annual addition since Startup India was launched, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday at an event commemorating the 10th anniversary of the scheme.**
- **Launched on January 16, 2016, the flagship initiative seeks to foster innovation, promote entrepreneurship, and enable investment-driven growth.**
- **It is flagship initiative aimed at supporting entrepreneurs, building a robust startup ecosystem and transforming India into a country of job creators instead of job seekers.**
- **Launched: 16th January, 2016 (celebrated as National Startup Day)**
- **Nodal Agency: Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry.**

Three Pillars:

- **Simplification & Handholding: Easier compliance, regulatory and patent support, market access.**
- **Funding Support: Tax exemptions, Seed Fund, Fund of Funds, Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGSS).**
- **Incubation and Industry-Academia Partnership: E.g. MAARG Portal (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth)**
- **Startup India Hub, Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) helping discovery and networking.**
- **SIPP (Startups Intellectual Property Protection) Scheme: Facilitates fast-tracking of patent applications.**

Decadal Achievements (2016–2026)

- **India is the world's 3rd-largest startup ecosystem.**
- **~2.09 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups (2016-25)**
- **120+ Unicorns with a combined valuation exceeding \$350 Billion.**
- **Employment Generation and Inclusivity: Over 21 Lakh jobs created, with a significant multiplier effect.**
- **~45% of recognized startups have at least one-woman director/partner.**
- **~50% of startups are based in Tier-II/III cities.**

What does venture capital mean? (2014)

- (a) A short-term capital provided to industries**
- (b) A long-term start-up capital provided to new entrepreneurs**
- (c) Funds provided to industries at times of incurring losses**
- (d) Funds provided for replacement and renovation of industries**

Mains Question

Q. *India's startup ecosystem has expanded rapidly in recent years and is often projected as a key driver of employment generation.*

Critically examine the contribution of startups to job creation in India. What challenges limit their capacity to generate sustainable and inclusive employment? Suggest measures to enhance the employment potential of the startup sector.

(250 words / 15 marks)

प्रश्न. *हाल के वर्षों में भारत का स्टार्टअप पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र तीव्र गति से विस्तार कर रहा है और इसे रोजगार सृजन का एक प्रमुख माध्यम माना जा रहा है।*

भारत में रोजगार सृजन में स्टार्टअप्स के योगदान का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। सतत एवं समावेशी रोजगार सृजन में उनकी भूमिका को सीमित करने वाली चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? स्टार्टअप क्षेत्र की रोजगार सृजन क्षमता को बढ़ाने हेतु उपाय सुझाइए।

(250 शब्द / 15 अंक)

SC rejects Justice Varma's challenge to formation of House inquiry committee

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday rejected a petition by Justice Yashwant Varma challenging the Lok Sabha Speaker's constitution of a committee to inquire into a motion for his removal, underscoring that safeguards for judges cannot paralyse the removal process.

The court said accepting the Allahabad High Court judge's interpretation of the Judges (Inquiry) Act would result in a "disabling consequence", pushing Members of Parliament back to square one.

Justice Varma is facing an inquiry for misbehaviour after sacks of half-burnt currency were allegedly found at his official residential premises after a blaze on the night of March 14, 2025. He was then a judge in the Delhi High



Justice Yashwant Varma

Court. "Constitutional safeguards for judges cannot come at the cost of paralysing the removal process itself," a Bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and S.C. Sharma observed in a 60-page judgment.

A balance has to be struck between the protection afforded to the judiciary and the effective functioning of the mechanism for removal of a judge triggered by the peoples' representatives, it said.

CONTINUED ON

» **PAGE 10**

- **The Supreme Court on Friday rejected a petition by Justice Yashwant Varma challenging the Lok Sabha Speaker's constitution of a committee to inquire into a motion for his removal, underscoring that safeguards for judges cannot paralyse the removal process.**
- **The court said accepting the Allahabad High Court judge's interpretation of the Judges (Inquiry) Act would result in a "disabling consequence", pushing Members of Parliament back to square one.**
- **Justice Varma is facing an inquiry for misbehaviour after sacks of half-burnt currency were allegedly found at his official residential premises after a blaze on the night of March 14, 2025. He was then a judge in the Delhi High Court.**

- **Articles 124(4) of the Constitution of India, along with the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, provide the framework for removing judges of the Supreme Court. Article 218 extends these provisions to High Court judges.**
- **Judges can only be removed for Proved misbehaviour (serious ethical or professional misconduct) and incapacity (Inability to discharge duties due to physical or mental reasons).**
- **An impeachment motion can be introduced in either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha.**
- **It must have the support of at least 100 Members of Parliament (MPs) in the Lok Sabha or 50 MPs in the Rajya Sabha.**
- **The motion can proceed only if accepted by the Speaker or the Chairman.**

- **Inquiry Committee:** A three-member committee is set up under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. It includes a Supreme Court judge (or the Chief Justice of India), the Chief Justice of a High Court, and an eminent jurist.
- **Committee Report and Parliamentary Debate:** The inquiry committee submits its report to the House that initiated the motion.
- **If the judge is found guilty,** the motion is debated and must be passed in both Houses by a special majority (two-thirds present and voting, plus absolute majority of total membership).
- **After Parliament's approval,** the President issues the final removal order.

The power to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court of India is vested in

(a) the President of India

(b) the Parliament

(c) the Chief Justice of India

(d) the Law Commission

Mains Question

Q. *The constitutional process for the removal of judges in India aims to ensure judicial accountability without compromising judicial independence.*

Critically examine the procedure for the removal of judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts in India. What are the limitations of the present impeachment mechanism? Suggest reforms to make the process more effective and credible.

(250 words / 15 marks)

प्रश्न. *भारत में न्यायाधीशों को हटाने की संवैधानिक प्रक्रिया का उद्देश्य न्यायिक स्वतंत्रता से समझौता किए बिना न्यायिक जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करना है।*

भारत में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय एवं उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीशों को हटाने की प्रक्रिया का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। वर्तमान महाभियोग तंत्र की सीमाएँ क्या हैं? इस प्रक्रिया को अधिक प्रभावी और विश्वसनीय बनाने हेतु सुधार सुझाइए।

(250 शब्द / 15 अंक)

On mute

India's interests can be secured only by assertion of its strategic autonomy

The new year has brought little change in the geopolitical turmoil unleashed by the Trump administration, beginning with the U.S.'s unlawful action in Venezuela, followed by its threats to carry out similar regime-changing operations in South America and stated plans to annex Greenland. The U.S. Congress is now expected to discuss a new law that mandates up to 500% in tariffs on countries purchasing oil or uranium from Russia. The U.S. also stepped up its rhetoric against Iran for crackdowns against protesters, imposing more sanctions and threatening to attack it. In a social media post, Mr. Trump said that he would levy an additional 25% tariff on trade with any country doing business with Iran and the U.S. is pushing India to wind up operations at Chabahar port, where India has invested billions of dollars. In the face of such aggressive and unilateral actions, New Delhi's responses have been muted, when not weak. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has expressed "deep concern" over events in Venezuela, but did not mention the U.S.'s egregious action of kidnapping the Venezuelan President and his wife, nor did it refer to the violation of basic tenets of international law. No statement has been made on the threats against the other countries (Cuba and Colombia), presumably as they are not in India's immediate vicinity. On Iran, however, which is a close neighbour and has a historical relationship

with India, the government's reaction has been the most puzzling. It has not commented on the street protests or the U.S.'s threats of strikes and tariffs. The MEA has, however, issued travel advisories for Iran and Israel and is preparing evacuation plans for Indian students in Iran. Government officials also say India will reduce its trade with Iran further from current low levels.

The government's motivations in not naming the U.S. for its obvious overreach can be explained. After a tense year in ties and a failure to conclude the India-U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement, there is some hope of some movement on relations soon. U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor has painted an optimistic future for ties, beginning with the trade agreement and the inclusion of India in the U.S.'s high-technology partnership 'Pax Silica' next month. Officials may argue that little can be gained by speaking up now and risking another downturn in ties. However, each new threat by the U.S. is hurting ordinary Indians and the Indian economy. Above all, India stands to lose economically, reputationally and in terms of its other relationships as well, in a year where it hopes to host the BRICS+ Summit. The Modi government's experience from 2019, when it gave up buying Iranian and Venezuelan oil under U.S. pressure should be a signal lesson – appeasement of a global power, however strong, cannot ensure India's interests, only an assertion of its strategic autonomy can do that.

- **The new year has brought little change in the geopolitical turmoil unleashed by the Trump administration, beginning with the U.S.'s unlawful action in Venezuela, followed by its threats to carry out similar regime-changing operations in South America and stated plans to annex Greenland.**
- **The U.S. Congress is now expected to discuss a new law that mandates up to 500% in tariffs on countries purchasing oil or uranium from Russia.**
- **The U.S. also stepped up its rhetoric against Iran for crackdowns against protesters, imposing more sanctions and threatening to attack it.**
- **The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has expressed “deep concern” over events in Venezuela, but did not mention the U.S.'s egregious action of kidnapping the Venezuelan President and his wife, nor did it refer to the violation of basic tenets of international law.**

- **On Iran, however, which is a close neighbour and has a historical relationship with India, the government's reaction has been the most puzzling. It has not commented on the street protests or the U.S.'s threats of strikes and tariffs.**
- **The MEA has, however, issued travel advisories for Iran and Israel and is preparing evacuation plans for Indian students in Iran.**
- **Government officials also say India will reduce its trade with Iran further from current low levels.**
- **The government's motivations in not naming the U.S. for its obvious overreach can be explained. After a tense year in ties and a failure to conclude the India-U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement, there is some hope of some movement on relations soon.**

Which one of the following is a part of the Congo Basin?

(a) Cameroon

(b) Nigeria

(c) South Sudan

(d) Uganda

In recent years Chad, Guinea, Mali and Sudan caught international attention for which one of the following reasons common to all of them?

- (a) Discovery of rich deposits of rare earth elements**
- (b) Establishment of Chinese military bases**
- (c) Southward expansion of Sahara Desert**
- (d) Successful coups**

Mains Question

Q. India–USA relations have evolved from strategic hesitation to comprehensive global partnership.

Critically examine the key dimensions of the India–USA strategic partnership. How do emerging geopolitical challenges and economic interests shape the future trajectory of bilateral relations?
(250 words | 15 marks)

प्रश्न. भारत-अमेरिका संबंध रणनीतिक संकोच की स्थिति से आगे बढ़कर एक व्यापक वैश्विक साझेदारी में परिवर्तित हो चुके हैं।

भारत-अमेरिका रणनीतिक साझेदारी के प्रमुख आयामों का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। उभरती भू-राजनीतिक चुनौतियाँ और आर्थिक हित द्विपक्षीय संबंधों की भविष्य दिशा को किस प्रकार प्रभावित कर रहे हैं?

(250 शब्द | 15 अंक)

Budget 2026-27 must keep the growth momentum

India faced global headwinds in 2025 but belied fears that America's 50% tariffs would hurt its economy. The resilience of the Indian economy had a lot to do with the government's reformist measures. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi said recently, "2025 will be remembered as a year when India treated reforms as a continuous national mission." Budget 2026-27 can give a fillip to the mission.

India needs to strengthen the domestic levers of growth. This can be done by prioritising growth-enhancing productive capital expenditure and social sector spending, while maintaining the current fiscal consolidation glide path and keeping debt risks contained.

Continue the focus on defence

First, the government should continue the focus on defence, with higher expenditure on the capex. The share of capital outlay in defence should be enhanced to 30% from the budgetary estimate for 2025-26 of 26.4%. The budgetary allocation for the Defence Research and Development Organisation should also be increased by at least ₹10,000 crore. Defence industrial corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have made strides in promoting defence indigenisation and raising defence production. The government should consider establishing an eastern India defence industrial corridor.

Second, private enterprises have played a key role in augmenting defence exports in recent times, contributing nearly 65% of total defence exports in 2024-25. There can be a further boost by setting up a defence export promotion council for enhanced coordination with armed services, their foreign directorates, defence public sector undertakings, private manufacturers, the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian embassies, the Ministry of Defence, and communicate with foreign governments and buyers. This will also help achieve the target of defence exports set at ₹50,000 crore by 2028-29.

Third, a transition toward clean energy, advanced manufacturing, electric mobility,



Iyoti Vij

is Director General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)

The steps to take must include strengthening the domestic levers of growth, policy certainty and sorting out structural bottlenecks

semiconductors and strategic technologies is driving a demand for critical minerals. The National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), approved in early 2025 provides a strong strategic foundation to secure these materials. This can be supplemented by a dedicated critical minerals tailings recovery programme under the NCMM, with the purpose of treating tailings recovery. The government should also consider offering dedicated financing for this.

Fourth, exports need a significant policy thrust in the current global environment. The present budgetary allocation for the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products Scheme, at around ₹18,233 crore needs to be raised significantly to make the exports more competitive.

Fifth, India has emerged as the world's leading hub for Global Capability Centres, but its transfer pricing (TP) framework has yet to evolve. The government may consider issuing clear guidance on acceptable TP models for different categories.

Sixth, to accelerate drone adoption, global competitiveness, and exports, the government should consider catalysing scale through targeted financial support, including enhancing the production linked incentive outlay from ₹120 crore to ₹1,000 crore and setting up a ₹1,000 crore drone research and development fund.

Finance credit and tax disputes

Seventh, deepening the corporate bond markets is critical for diversification of finance credit beyond the banking system. The government could consider lowering the qualifying borrowing threshold and include listed and unlisted corporates to widen the issuer base and stimulate bond supply, encourage large corporations to diversify borrowings through market issuances, increase investment caps for insurance companies beyond the current 25% limit and revise the 'Approved Investment' threshold from AA to AA-, enabling prudent allocation into high-quality but lower-rated issuers. It could also permit provident funds to invest in

non-convertible debentures issued by infrastructure investment trusts and real estate investment trusts, enabling long-term capital to support infrastructure aggregation vehicles.

Eighth, measures to address disputes pendency need to be prioritised. The first appellate level in direct tax disputes, the office of the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals) or CIT(A), is facing severe pendency. There is a need to prioritise high-pitched assessments, cases with complete submissions, cases covered by jurisdictional High Court or Supreme Court rulings, appeals older than five years, and matters that are chronologically the oldest. The need is a dual-track disposal system: a fast-track for simple or low-value matters and a detailed track for complex or high-value matters. Also, around 40% vacancies at the CIT(A) level need to be filled.

Ninth, newly incorporated companies (even for new companies formed by established Authorised Economic Operator or AEO-accredited groups) are ineligible for certification by the AEO. Removing this restriction for AEO-accredited groups will help enhance trade efficiency and facilitate greater trade.

Tenth, the reforms related to customs tariffs introduced in the last Budget must continue. Further reduction in the customs tariffs slabs can help streamline the duty structure, address the issue of inverted duties and benefit trade. Import duties should be calibrated across the value chain to support domestic manufacturing competitiveness and address the inverted duties.

Ensure competitiveness

Budget 2026-27 must focus on sustaining India's growth momentum by deepening competitiveness across sectors and strengthening the domestic engines of expansion. By combining fiscal prudence with unlocking growth potential across industries, ensuring policy certainty and addressing structural bottlenecks, the Budget can crowd in private investment and enhance India's global competitiveness.

- **India faced global headwinds in 2025 but belied fears that America's 50% tariffs would hurt its economy.**
- **The resilience of the Indian economy had a lot to do with the government's reformist measures.**
- **As Prime Minister Narendra Modi said recently, "2025 will be remembered as a year when India treated reforms as a continuous national mission." Budget 2026-27 can give a fillip to the mission.**
- **India needs to strengthen the domestic levers of growth. This can be done by prioritising growth-enhancing productive capital expenditure and social sector spending, while maintaining the current fiscal consolidation glide path and keeping debt risks contained.**

- **First, the government should continue the focus on defence, with higher expenditure on the capex.**
- **Second, private enterprises have played a key role in augmenting defence exports in recent times, contributing nearly 65% of total defence exports in 2024-25.**
- **There can be a further boost by setting up a defence export promotion council for enhanced coordination with armed services, their foreign directorates, defence public sector undertakings, private manufacturers, the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian embassies, the Ministry of Defence, and communicate with foreign governments and buyers.**
- **Third, a transition toward clean energy, advanced manufacturing, electric mobility, semiconductors and strategic technologies is driving a demand for critical minerals.**

- **Fourth, exports need a significant policy thrust in the current global environment.**
- **Fifth, India has emerged as the world's leading hub for Global Capability Centres, but its transfer pricing (TP) framework has yet to evolve.**
- **Sixth, to accelerate drone adoption, global competitiveness, and exports, the government should consider catalysing scale through targeted financial support, including enhancing the production linked incentive outlay from ₹120 crore to ₹1,000 crore and setting up a ₹1,000 crore drone research and development fund.**
- **Budget 2026-27 must focus on sustaining India's growth momentum by deepening competitiveness across sectors and strengthening the domestic engines of expansion.**

- **As per Article 112 of the Constitution of India, the Union Budget of a fiscal year refers to the annual financial statement of the Union Government for that particular fiscal year.**
- **From the budget year 2017-18 and onwards, the Union Budget is presented by the Union Finance Minister on February 1 of every year.**
- **Prior to the budget year 2017-18, the Budget was presented in the last week of February as per the colonial practice.**
- **The Railway Budget was merged with the General Budget from the fiscal year 2017-18 based on the recommendation of the Bibek Debroy Committee.**
- **The Railway Budget was separated from the General Budget by the British in 1924 on the recommendations of the Acworth Committee.**
- **The nodal agency for the preparation of the Union Budget is the Budget Division of the Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance).**

Which of the following is/are included in the capital budget of the Government of India?

- 1. Expenditure on acquisition of assets like roads, buildings, machinery, etc,**
- 2. Loans received from foreign governments**
- 3. Loans and advances granted to the States and Union Territories**

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

There has been a persistent deficit budget year after year. Which of the following actions can be taken by the government to reduce the deficit?

- 1. Reducing revenue expenditure**
- 2. Introducing new welfare schemes**
- 3. Rationalizing subsidies**
- 4. Expanding industries**

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 3 only**
- (b) 2 and 3 only**
- (c) 1 only**
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

'Talks on Chabahar will continue with U.S. and Iran'

Kallol Bhattacharjee

NEW DELHI

India remains engaged with both the United States and Iran about ways to continue operations at the port of Chabahar in south-eastern Iran, officials said on Friday.

India's relationship with Iran has come under renewed stress since U.S. President Donald Trump announced a new round of tariffs on January 12. The announcement brought into focus India's investments into the port of Chabahar, for which New Delhi had received an exemption from the Trump administration last year. Recent media reports had suggested that India would be wrapping up its work in Chabahar.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Friday, "On October 28, 2025, the U.S. Department of Treasury had issued a letter outlining the guidance on the conditional sanctions waiver valid till April 26, 2026. We remain engaged with the U.S. side in working out this arrangement." Describing the India-Iran relationship as "long standing", he said that the ties would be taken forward.



- **India remains engaged with both the United States and Iran about ways to continue operations at the port of Chabahar in southeastern Iran, officials said on Friday.**
- **India's relationship with Iran has come under renewed stress since U.S. President Donald Trump announced a new round of tariffs on January 12.**
- **The announcement brought into focus India's investments into the port of Chabahar, for which New Delhi had received an exemption from the Trump administration last year.**
- **Recent media reports had suggested that India would be wrapping up its work in Chabhar.**

- **Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Friday, “On October 28, 2025, the U.S. Department of Treasury had issued a letter outlining the guidance on the conditional sanctions waiver valid till April 26, 2026.**
- **We remain engaged with the U.S. side in working out this arrangement.” Describing the India-Iran relationship as “long standing”, he said that the ties would be taken forward.**
- **Chahabar is Iran's oceanic port nearest to India. It is situated in Sistan and Baluchistan Province, on the Makran coast. It lies in the Gulf of Oman.**
- **Chahabar Port project has two main ports called the Shahid Kalantari Port and the Shahid Beheshti Port.**
- **Iran had offered India the project of developing the Shahid Beheshti port which was well received by India.**

- **India signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the development of the Chabahar port in May 2015.**
- **In May 2016, India, Iran, and Afghanistan signed a trilateral agreement to establish the International Transport and Transit Corridor, also known as the Chabahar Agreement.**
- **This agreement aimed to improve transportation and trade connectivity between the three countries by utilising the port of Chabahar in Iran as a key transit point.**
- **However, the finalisation of the long-term agreement has been delayed by several factors including differences on some clauses in the pact.**

- **Historically, India's access to Afghanistan and Central Asia has been largely dependent on transit routes through Pakistan.**
- **Chabahar Port offers an alternative route that bypasses Pakistan, reducing India's reliance on its neighbour for trade with Afghanistan and beyond.**
- **Also, Chabahar port will boost India's access to Iran, the key gateway to the International North-South Transport Corridor(INSTC) that has sea, rail and road routes between India, Iran, Russia, Central Asia and Europe.**
- **Economic Benefits: Chabahar will play a crucial role in India's efforts to enhance connections with the resource-rich Central Asian countries and Afghanistan.**

Tirukkural



- **Prime Minister of India paid homage to Thiruvalluvar on Thiruvalluvar Day and urged citizens to read the Tirukkural, highlighting its timeless ethical and social values.**
- **Thiruvalluvar was a celebrated Tamil poet–philosopher, traditionally linked to the Sangam/post-Sangam intellectual milieu, revered as a moral teacher across South India.**
- **History:**
- **His exact dates are debated (often placed roughly between 300 BCE and 600 CE in different traditions), but he is strongly associated in popular memory with Mylapore (Chennai).**

- **Ethical philosophy for common life: Presented practical morality for individuals, society and rulers through concise couplets.**
- **Governance and statecraft: Laid down ideals of just rule, good administration, and public welfare.**
- **Universal humanism: Advocated values like truth, compassion, self-control, non-violence, and social harmony beyond sectarian boundaries.**
- **The Tirukkural is a classical Tamil text of 1,330 short couplets (kurals) offering teachings on ethics, polity/economics, and love.**

- **Traditionally attributed to Thiruvalluvar.**

Key features:

- **Structure: 3 books — Aram (Virtue), Porul (Wealth/Polity), Inbam (Love).**
- **Style: Extremely concise aphorisms, easy to remember, rich in meaning.**
- **Scope: Covers personal conduct, social life, governance, justice, leadership, friendship, and family life.**
- **Universal tone: Often seen as secular and widely applicable, hence called “Tamil Veda” in popular tradition.**

खण्ड—B / SECTION—B

5. मैले पानी को अकेला छोड़ने से ही उसे सबसे अच्छा साफ़ किया जा सकता है।
Muddy water is best cleared by leaving it alone.
6. वर्ष बहुत कुछ सिखाते हैं, जो दिन कभी नहीं जानते।
The years teach much which the days never know.
7. जीवन को एक यात्रा के रूप में देखना सर्वोत्तम है, न कि एक गंतव्य के रूप में।
It is best to see life as a journey, not as a destination.
8. संतोष स्वाभाविक संपत्ति है; विलासिता कृत्रिम निर्धनता है।
Contentment is natural wealth; luxury is artificial poverty.

Thank You!

