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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Tamil Nadu: 18-07-2024

<b>TechFini's NPCI Certification</b>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TechFini, affiliated with Chennai-based fintech IppoPay, has achieved certification from the <b>National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to operate as a provider of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) solutions.</b></li><li>• This certification allows <b>TechFini to offer UPI-based payment infrastructure services to banks and fintech companies.</b></li></ul> <p><b>National Payments Corporation of India:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India, <b>is an initiative of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007,</b> for creating a robust Payment &amp; Settlement Infrastructure in India.</li><li>• It has been incorporated as a <b>"Not for Profit" Company under the provisions of Section 25 of Companies Act 1956 (now Section 8 of Companies Act 2013),</b> with an intention to provide infrastructure to the entire Banking system in India for physical as well as electronic payment and settlement systems.</li></ul>
<b>Tamil Semmal Award 2024</b>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Tamil Semmal Award 2024, initiated by the Tamil Development and Information department</b> of the state government, aims to honor individuals who have made notable contributions to the advancement of the Tamil language.</li><li>• This prestigious award specifically targets activists within Sivagangai district, recognizing their efforts in promoting and developing Tamil culture.</li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <p><b>Award Purpose:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognizes Tamil activists for significant contributions to Tamil language development.</li></ul>



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	<p><b>Eligibility:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open to activists in Sivagangai district.</li><li>• Emphasizes contributions to Tamil literature, associations, and organizations.</li></ul> <p><b>Award Details:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cash prize of ₹25,000 and a certificate for recipients.</li></ul>
<p><b>Archaeological Discoveries at Vembakota Excavation Site</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The ongoing archaeological excavations at Vembakota, located in Virudhunagar District, Tamil Nadu, have unveiled significant insights into the region's historical development.</li><li>• Spanning multiple phases, these excavations aim to uncover artifacts and structures spanning over 5000 years, focusing particularly on the micro stone age in Vijayakaraisalkulam near Vembakkottai.</li></ul> <p><b>Archaeological Finds:</b></p> <p><b>Unearthed artifacts include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A woman's headpiece adorned with glass and stone beads, showcasing an archaic hairstyle (c).</li><li>• More than 300 artifacts such as coins, ornaments, and conch bangles dating back to the 16th century.</li></ul> <p><b>Discovery of Conch:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recently discovered during the current excavation phase.</li><li>• <b>Significant find:</b> A fully shaped conch, possibly used as raw material for manufacturing conch bangles.</li><li>• <b>Confirmation:</b> Previous phases identified evidence of a conch bangle industry, with this discovery reinforcing its existence.</li></ul>