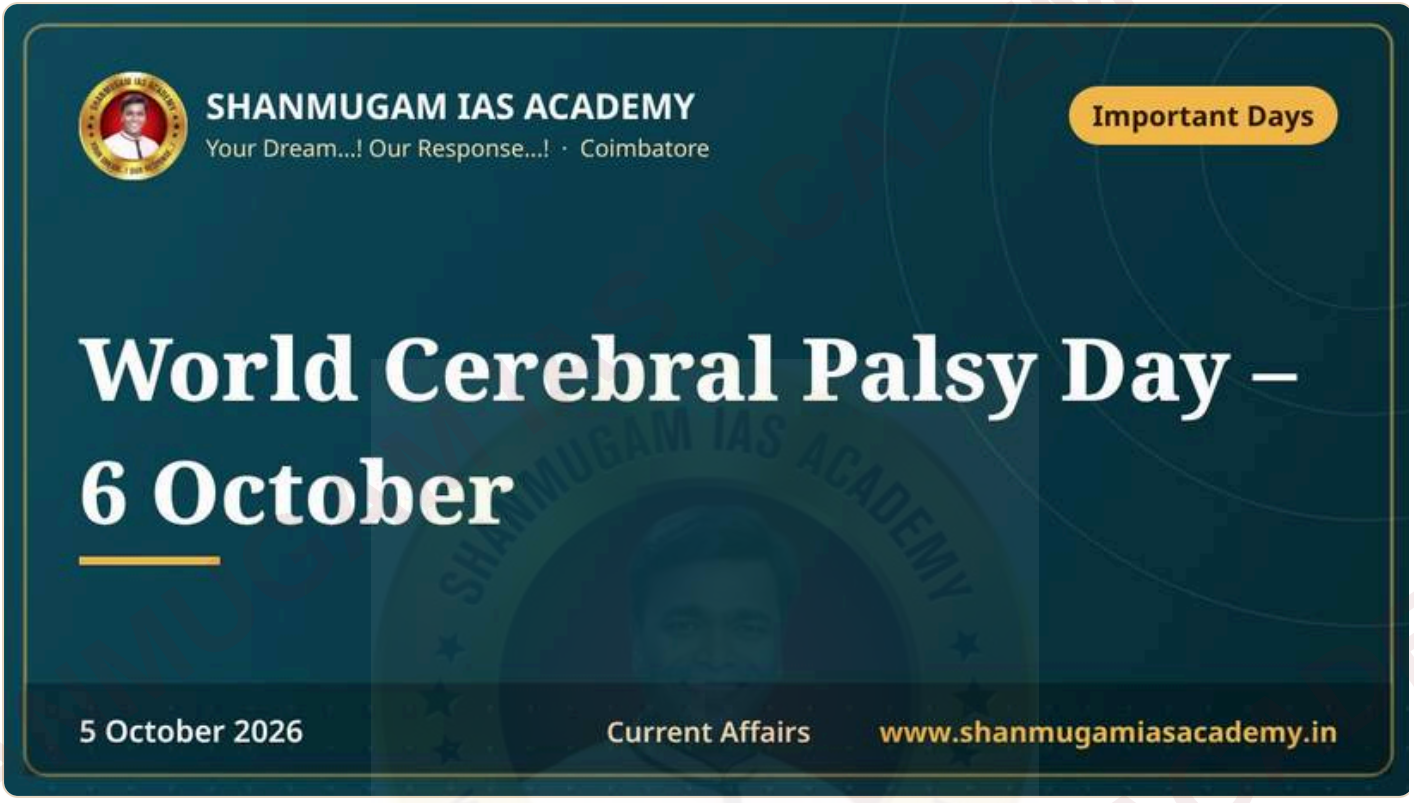
World Cerebral Palsy Day – 6 October

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News

World Cerebral Palsy Day is observed on **6 October**. The **2026 theme is '#UniqueANDUnited'**: it celebrates each person's own experience while building one shared voice for access and inclusion. In India the **National Trust** is holding a virtual **National Meet** on **6 October 2026**.

Key facts

Began	**2012**, by the **Cerebral Palsy Alliance**, Sydney, Australia
Colour	**Green**
People with CP	About **50 million** worldwide; the most common lifelong physical disability of childhood
2026 theme	**#UniqueANDUnited**

Background

- **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016** lists **21 disabilities** (up from 7 in the 1995 Act); **cerebral palsy** is under **locomotor disability**. It gives **4% reservation** in government jobs and **5%** in higher education; 'benchmark disability' means at least **40%**.
- **National Trust Act, 1999** covers **Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities**; schemes include **Niramaya** (health insurance), **Disha**, **Vikaas** and **Gharaunda**.
- India ratified the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** in **2007**.

- **International Day of Persons with Disabilities: 3 December**.

What is cerebral palsy? A group of **permanent, non-progressive** disorders of **movement and posture** caused by damage to the **developing brain**, mostly before or around birth. Types: **spastic** (most common), dyskinetic, ataxic and mixed. It is not contagious.

Tamil Nadu link: Vidya Sagar (formerly the **Spastics Society of Tamil Nadu**) was founded in **Chennai in 1985** by **Poonam Natarajan**, who later chaired the National Trust. The **National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD)** is at **Muttukadu**, Chennai. The term **'Maatru Thiranaali'** (differently abled) was adopted by the Tamil Nadu Government.

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