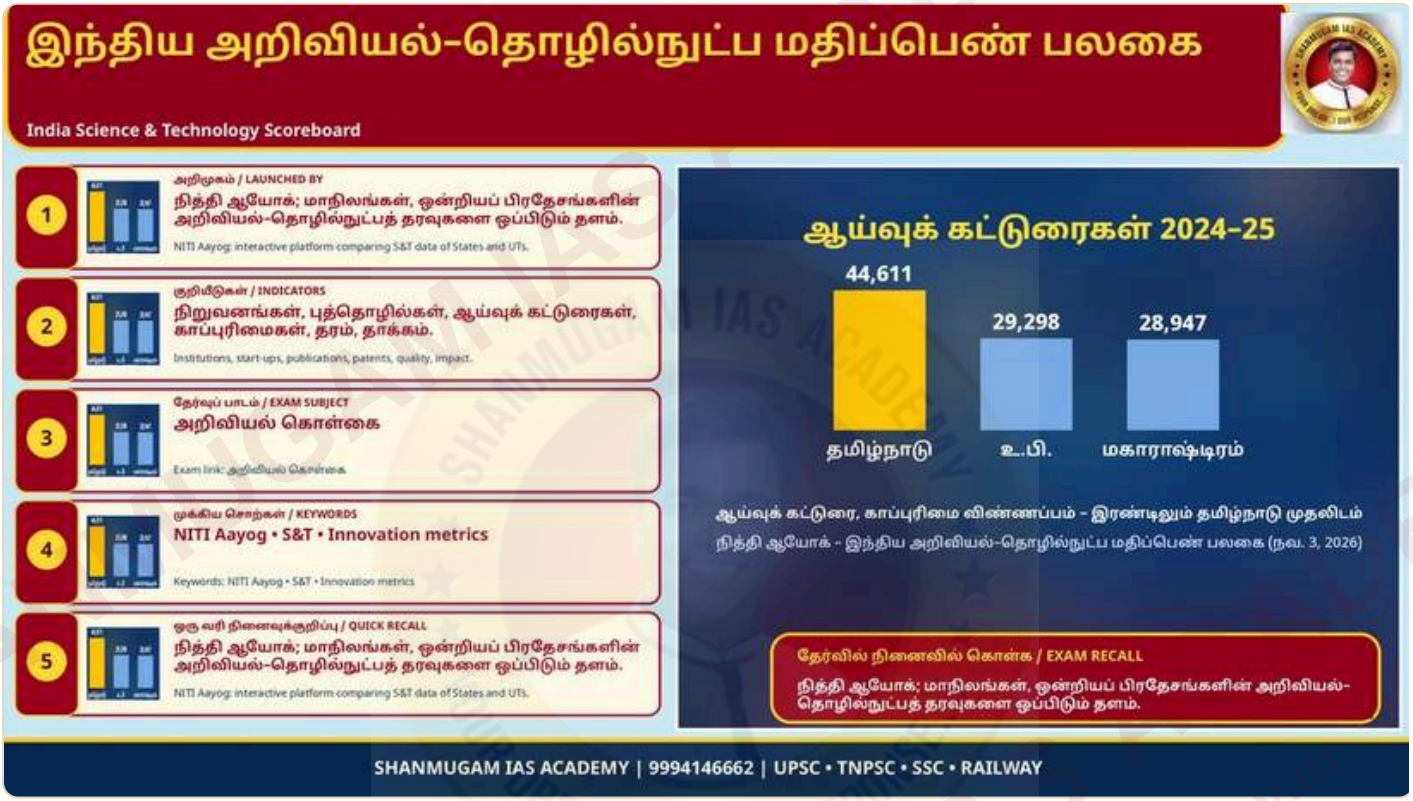
NITI Aayog launches 'India S&T Scoreboard' to compare States' research & innovation – Tamil Nadu tops in research publications and patents

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News

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Ashok Kumar Lahiri released the 'India S&T Scoreboard', an interactive data platform built by NITI's Science & Technology Division, in New Delhi on 3 Nov 2026. It brings together data on States' and UTs' higher-education institutions, R&D institutions, deep-tech start-ups, incubators, research publications and patents, and measures research quality, impact, collaboration and open access across three sectors – academia, government R&D labs and industry. Any two States can be compared side by side. In 2024–25 Tamil Nadu ranked first in research publications with 44,611 (UP 29,298; Maharashtra 28,947), and first in patent applications too.

Key facts

Name	India S&T Scoreboard – interactive platform
Launch	3 Nov 2026, New Delhi – NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Ashok Kumar Lahiri
Others	Abhay Karandikar (NITI Member – S&T); Umesh V. Waghmare (DST Secretary)
Indicators	Institutions, start-ups, publications, patents, quality, impact, collaboration, open access

Tamil Nadu	First in both research publications (44,611, 2024–25) and patent applications
India	Global Innovation Index 2026 – 38th (81st in 2015); 3rd in the world in publications

Background

- NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India): set up on 1 Jan 2015 by a Union Cabinet resolution, replacing the Planning Commission (1950); chaired by the Prime Minister. It is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body. In the April 2026 reconstitution, economist Ashok Lahiri became Vice Chairman.
- Economy: India's Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) is below 1% of GDP (about 0.64% in 2020–21 as per DST). To raise it, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) Act, 2023 was passed – ₹50,000 crore for 2023–28 (about ₹36,000 crore of it from private sources).
- ANRF: the Prime Minister is President of its Governing Board; the Union Ministers of Science & Technology and of Education are ex officio Vice-Presidents. The ANRF Act repealed the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) Act, 2008.
- Sci-tech: India is 6th in the world in patent filings; the share of resident applicants has risen to over 55%.

Tamil Nadu link: on the new Scoreboard Tamil Nadu is first in both research publications (44,611) and patent applications. Earlier the State had reported topping the country in 2024–25 with 15,440 of India's 68,201 patents (about 23%), up from 9,565 in 2023–24.

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