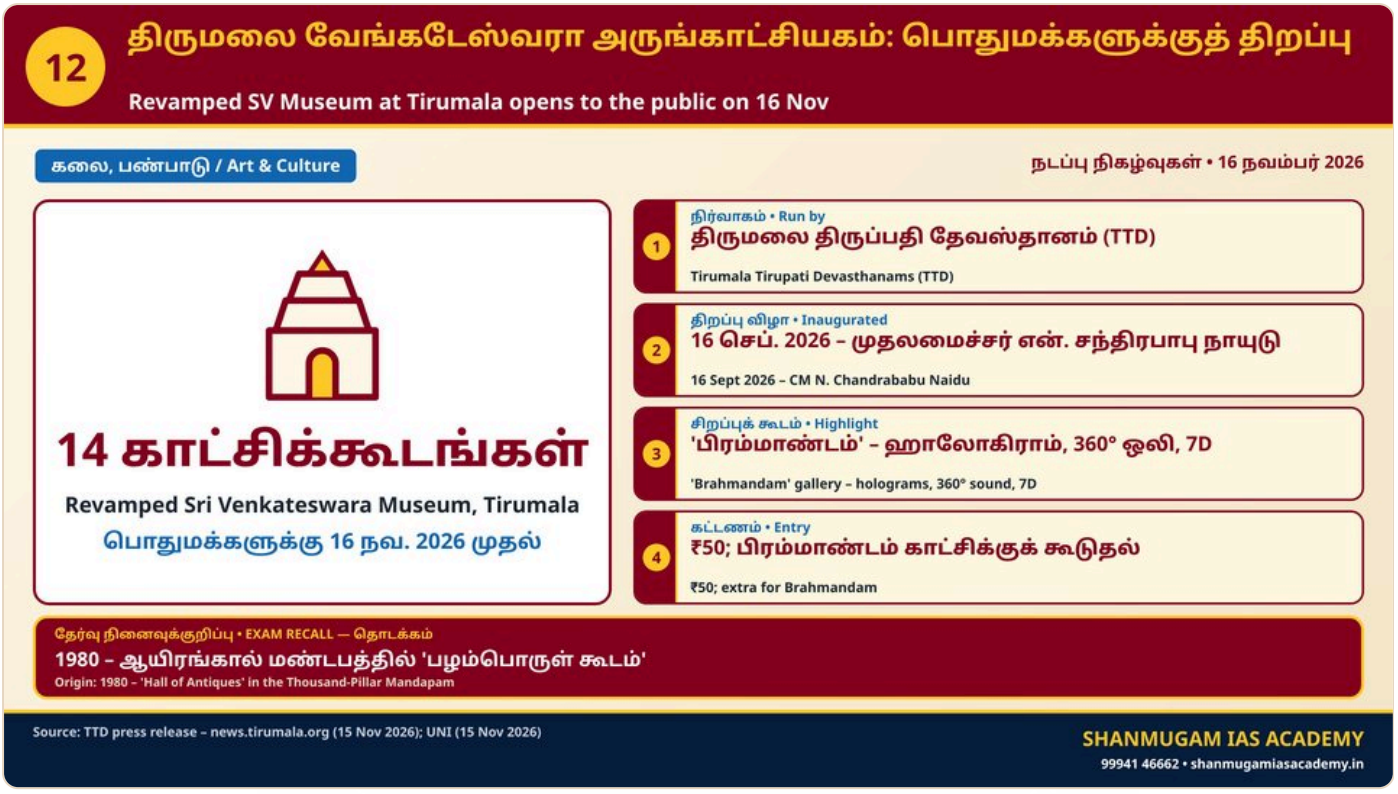
Revamped SV Museum at Tirumala opens to the public on 16 Nov

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News

The Sri Venkateswara (SV) Museum at Tirumala, modernised by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), opens to the public from Monday, 16 November 2026, the Deccan Chronicle reported on 15 November. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated it on 16 September 2026. Per TTD's release, its 14 galleries on four floors, over about 1 lakh sq ft, display more than 8,000 artefacts on the temple's history, sculpture, architecture, musical instruments, coins, weapons and Annamacharya's copper-plate songs. The 'Brahmandam' gallery, on creation, planets, cosmic time and the Viswaroopam, uses holograms, 360-degree sound and 7D technology. It was renovated with support from Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and MAP Systems. Offerings of Pallava, Chola, Pandya and Vijayanagara rulers and the 'Dhupa Ganta' donated by Krishnadevaraya are on show. Entry ₹50; Brahmandam experience ₹200 extra.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Museum	Sri Venkateswara (SV) Museum, Tirumala
Run by	Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD)
Inaugurated	16 Sept 2026 – CM N. Chandrababu Naidu
Open to public	From 16 Nov 2026 (TTD release)

Point	Details
Size	4 floors; 14 galleries; 8,000+ artefacts (TTD)
Support	Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), MAP Systems
Highlight	'Brahmandam' gallery – holograms, 360° sound, 7D
Origin	1980 – 'Hall of Antiques' in the Thousand-Pillar Mandapam
Entry	₹50; extra for Brahmandam

Background

- Tirumala temple: The Sri Venkateswara temple on the Seshachalam hills of the Eastern Ghats, in Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati district, is managed by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). TTD was created in 1933 by an Act of the Madras Legislature and now functions under the Andhra Pradesh Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Act, 1987. Worship follows the Vaikhanasa Agama.
- History: Pallava, Chola, Pandya and Vijayanagara rulers endowed the temple. An inscription records that Pallava queen Samavai (Kadavan Perundevi) gifted the silver image of 'Bhoga Srinivasa'. Vijayanagara emperor Krishnadevaraya visited Tirumala seven times and wrote the Telugu epic 'Amuktamalyada', the story of Andal. In the 15th century Tallapaka Annamacharya sang thousands of kirtanas on Venkateswara, later inscribed on copper plates.
- Museum history: It began in 1980 as a 'Hall of Antiques' in the Thousand-Pillar Mandapam opposite the temple and later moved to a building near the Vaikuntam Queue Complex. The present makeover blends technology (digital archives, holograms, 3D models) with heritage objects.
- Economy / governance: Museums boost cultural tourism. In India they are run by the Union Ministry of Culture, State Governments, trusts and temple boards; corporate social responsibility (CSR) and donor funds are a major source for such projects.

Tamil Nadu link: In the preface (payiram) of Tolkappiyam, Panamparanar names Vengadam (Tirumala) as the northern limit of the Tamil land – 'Vada Vengadam Then Kumari'. Sung by the Alvars as 'Thiruvengadam', it is one of the 108 Divya Desams, and most of the temple's early inscriptions are in Tamil. Tirupati, with Chittoor district, was in the Madras Presidency until 1953, and TTD itself was created by a Madras Act in 1933.

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

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What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Museum: Sri Venkateswara (SV) Museum, Tirumala; Run by: Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD); Inaugurated: 16 Sept 2026 – CM N. Chandrababu Naidu; Open to public: From 16 Nov 2026 (TTD release).

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Practice questions (with answers)

1. Who, in the preface of Tolkappiyam, defined the Tamil land as lying between 'Vada Vengadam' and 'Then Kumari'?

A) Ilango Adigal

B) Nakkeerar

C) Agathiyar

D) Panamparanar

Answer: D – Explanation: Panamparanar, Tolkappiyar's fellow student – Vengadam (Tirumala) in the north, Kumari in the south.

2. Annamacharya, the 'Pada Kavita Pitamaha' whose copper-plate songs are in the museum, hailed from which village?

A) Tallapaka

B) Tiruvaiyaru

C) Udupi

D) Bhadrachalam

Answer: A – Explanation: Tallapaka (now Annamayya district, Andhra). Tiruvaiyaru is linked to Thyagaraja; Bhadrachalam to Ramadasu.

3. Krishnadevaraya, who visited Tirumala seven times, wrote 'Amuktamalyada' on the life of which Alvar?

A) Nammalvar

B) Thirumangai Alvar

C) Poigai Alvar

D) Andal

Answer: D – Explanation: Andal of Srivilliputhur – 'she who wore and then gave the garland', the very meaning of 'Amuktamalyada', one of Telugu's five great kavyas.

4. The rituals of the Tirumala Venkateswara temple follow which Agama tradition?

A) Vaikhanasa

B) Pancharatra

C) Kamika

D) Shakta

Answer: A – Explanation: Vaikhanasa Agama. Srirangam in Tamil Nadu follows Pancharatra, and many Shiva temples the Kamika Agama.

5. Which silver image of the Lord was gifted to the Tirumala temple by Pallava queen Samavai (Kadavan Perundevi)?

A) Malayappa Swami

B) Ugra Srinivasa

C) Bhoga Srinivasa

D) Koluvu Srinivasa

Answer: C – Explanation: Bhoga Srinivasa – one of the five images (Pancha Beras) with the main deity; it receives the Sahasra Kalasabhishekam every Wednesday.

Sources: TTD press release – news.tirumala.org (15 Nov 2026); UNI (15 Nov 2026); Deccan Chronicle (15 Nov, 20 Sep 2026); The Pioneer/PTI (16 Sep 2026 – inauguration by CM Naidu). © Shanmugam IAS Academy.