

Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS) 4.0

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Art & Culture

Why in news?

The Ministry of Education will organise Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS) 4.0 from 2^{nd} December, 2025, to celebrate the deep civilizational links between Tamil Nadu and Kashi.

- **Previous editions** The 1st edition of KTS was held in 2022, 2nd in 2023, and 3rd in Feb, 2025.
- Theme for 4.0 "Learn Tamil Tamil Karkalam".
- Aim To promote Tamil learning across India and foster wider appreciation for India's classical linguistic and literary heritage.
- Inspired by The vision to uphold the civilizational, cultural, linguistic, and people-to-people bonds between the two regions, reflecting the <u>spirit</u> of Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat.
- Coordinated by IIT Madras and Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi.
- 7 Categories -
 - Students
 - Teachers
 - Writers & Media Professionals
 - Agriculture & Allied Sectors
 - Professionals & Artisans
 - Women
 - Spiritual Scholars and Practitioners

Major Initiatives under KTS 4.0

- Sage Agasthya Vehicle Expedition from Tenkasi to Kashi
 - It recalls the efforts of Pandiyan ruler <u>Shri Adi Veera Parakrama</u> <u>Pandiyan</u>, who spread the message of cultural unity by traveling from Tamil Nadu to Kashi.

- He built a Shiva temple and renamed the town Tenkasi (Dakshin Kashi) to symbolize oneness.
- Highlights the civilizational linkages from the Chera, Chola, Pandya, Pallava, Chalukya and Vijayanagara periods, promoting awareness of Tamil literature, Siddha medicine and shared heritage.

• Teaching Tamil in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh Schools

 50 Hindi-knowing Tamil teachers will teach Tamil to school students in Kashi under the *campaign "Tamil Karkalam*".

• Tamil Learning Study Tours for Students of Uttar Pradesh

- A total of 300 college students from Kashi will travel to Tamil Nadu for a 15-day Tamil learning programme.
- Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), Chennai will provide orientation and learning materials.
- Host institutions will organize academic and cultural tours highlighting Tamil Nadu's heritage, traditions and historic ties with Kashi.

References

- 1. PIB | Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS) 4.0
- 2. KTS | Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS)

