



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per.uthalaivar Kamarajar"

MAP OF THE DAY 04-05-26

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Kamaraj IAS Academy

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Monday, 04 May 2026



GIFT City

Introduction

- GIFT City stands for **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City**.
- It is located between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar on the banks of the Sabarmati River.
- It is India's first operational **International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)**.
- Conceived as a world-class financial and technology hub with integrated urban infrastructure.

Institutional and Legal Framework

- Developed under the provisions of the **Special Economic Zones Act, 2005**.
- Regulated by the **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)**.
- Designed to provide a globally competitive jurisdiction for financial services in India.

Key Objectives

- **Bring offshore financial transactions back to India.**
- Attract global capital flows and multinational institutions.
- Promote fintech innovation and technology-driven services.
- Develop India as a reinsurance, aircraft leasing, and fund management hub.
- **Generate employment in finance, IT, and support sectors.**

Major Activities in GIFT City

- Insurance and reinsurance operations.
- Alternative investment funds and wealth management.
- Aircraft leasing and ship financing.
- Fintech sandboxes and digital innovation platforms.
- Bullion exchange and capital market services.

Strategic Importance

- Reduces dependence on overseas centers like **Singapore or Dubai for certain financial services**.
- Strengthens India's ambition to become a **global financial powerhouse**.
- Supports internationalization of **Indian financial markets**.
- Enhances ease of doing business through tax incentives and simplified regulation.

Infrastructure Features

- **Smart city planning with underground utility tunnels.**
- High-speed digital connectivity and green buildings.
- Mixed-use development: offices, residences, schools, and social spaces.
- Modern transport connectivity with nearby airports and highways.

Challenges

- Competition from established global financial centers.
- Need for continuous regulatory clarity and talent attraction.

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Jaffna Peninsula

Introduction

- The **Jaffna Peninsula** is located in the **northernmost part of Sri Lanka**.
- It is connected to the mainland by the narrow **Elephant Pass** corridor.
- The region has historically been the cultural and political center of the **Sri Lankan Tamil community**.

Strategic Importance

- Controls access to **northern Sri Lanka** and nearby maritime routes in the **Palk Strait**.
- Proximity to India, especially Tamil Nadu, gave it geopolitical significance.
- During the **Sri Lankan Civil War**, it served as a major operational zone for the **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam**.

Role During Civil War

- Considered a symbolic and strategic stronghold of **Tamil separatist politics**.
- Witnessed intense fighting between the **Sri Lanka Army and Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam**.
- Experienced prolonged military deployment, checkpoints, displacement, and infrastructure damage.

India's Involvement (IPKF)

- After the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord, Indian Peace Keeping Force was deployed.
- The Jaffna Peninsula became the main theater of **IPKF operations against the LTTE**.
- Heavy urban combat occurred during the **Battle of Jaffna (1987)**.
- Civilian casualties and political backlash affected India-Sri Lanka relations.

Humanitarian Impact

- Large-scale displacement of civilians.
- Destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, and public facilities.
- Economic disruption due to **fishing bans, transport restrictions, and war conditions**.
- Psychological trauma and migration of Tamil population abroad.

Post-War Significance

- After the end of the **Sri Lankan Civil War**, Jaffna became **central to reconciliation debates**.
- Issues remain: land rights, demilitarization, missing persons, rehabilitation, and political autonomy.
- It remains an important cultural **center of Sri Lankan Tamils**.

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