Jallikattu

The Tamil Nadu government has issued a **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for safe [Jallikattu](#) events in 2025**, guided by the **Animal Welfare Board of India.**

- Events must adhere to **Section 3(2) of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Conduct of Jallikattu) Rules, 2017,** allowing **Jallikattu only at notified locations with permissions**, ensuring bull safety and cruelty prevention.
- Tracing back over 2,000 years, Jallikattu, a traditional sport of Tamil Nadu was originally held to select a **suitable bridegroom.**
  - The sport is linked to the **Ayars,** an ethnic group in India, and its name derives from **"Jalli" (coins) and "Kattu" (tied).**
  - It is celebrated on **Mattu Pongal Day** (3rd day of Pongal), where a bull is released, and participants **tame a bull to win coins tied to its horn.**
  - The sport uses the **Pulikulam or Kangayam breed of bulls,** which are highly valued for breeding and market sales.
- A seal representing Jallikattu was found at the **[Indus Valley site](#)**, preserved in the National Museum, New Delhi. A 1500-year-old cave painting near Madurai also depicts the sport.
- Different Jallikattu versions, like **Vadi manjuviraṭṭu, Vēli viraṭṭu, and Vaṭam manjuviraṭṭu,** have varying rules on the duration of holding the bull or the distance to cover.

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