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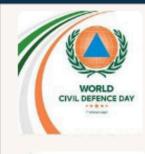
MONTHLY MAGAZINE

MARCH-2025

NEWS-INSHORTS



- United Nations World Wildlife Day is observed on March 3rd
- The first-ever river dolphin survey in India
- India secured a Global Rank 3 in start-ups.
- International Women's Day celebrated on March 8
- Madhav National Park has been declared as India's 58th Tiger Reserve.
- World Sustainable Development Summit(WSDS) 2025
- India ranks 39th on the Global **Innovation Index 2024**
- Jayshree Vencatesan, Ramsar Award for Wetland Wise Use.
- Geological Survey of India (GSI) celebrated its 175th Foundation Day on March 4
- Karnataka Budget (2025)















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Guidance: All Current Affairs marked according to important based on priority.

WHY US?

FREE Monthly compilation

MONTHLY ONE-LINER WITH KEYWORDS

All in one place : Relevant Current Affairs & Related News with accurate information

Revision: Keywords + CA one liner for Quick Revision.

No Irrelevant News & NO unnecessary Information overloaded

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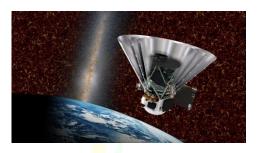
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16th Conference of Parties (CoP-16) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) concluded in Cali, Colombia 'Peace with Nature'..

MARCH CURRENT AFFAIRS: 2025

- COP16, the 16th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), was held in Rome, where global leaders committed to securing \$200 billion annually to protect biodiversity and implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
 - > CBD, with currently 196 contracting parties
 - ➤ It was opened for signing at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.
- NASA is preparing to launch the SPHEREX telescope, (Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization, and Ices Explorer) which is



designed to create the most detailed and colourful map of the universe.

- This mission aims to explore the universe's beginnings, search for water in the Milky Way, and map the distribution of galaxies.
- James Webb Space Telescope, which focuses on small regions,
 SPHEREx will map large-scale areas to help scientists understand the formation of the universe, galaxy evolution, and the distribution of life-forming molecules.
- India has pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070 as part of its commitment under the Panchamrit strategy at COP26
 - COP26, the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, saw India commit to five key climate action goals known as the "Panchamrit"

Joida Taluka of Uttara-Kannada district will be converted as the first 'organic taluka' of the state to promote sustainable organic farming.

Sikkim is the first and only fully organic state in India. In January 2016, Sikkim became the first state to achieve 100% organic certification, meaning all farming practices within the state are conducted without the use of synthetic fertilizers or

500 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Energy Capacity by 2030. 50% Energy from Renewable Sources by 2030. 45% Reduction in Carbon Intensity of GDP by 2030 (from 2005 levels). Reduction of 1 Billion Tonnes of Carbon Emissions by 2030. Achieving Net-Zero Emissions by 2070.

Revision points

legally binding treaty adopted at the United Nation's Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), Earth Summit, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992.

operates under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Secretariat: Montreal, Canada.

KMGBFIt is a non-binding framework adopted at the CoP-15 to CBD at Montreal, Canada

pesticides. This initiative was part of the Sikkim Organic Mission, launched in 2010

The Indian government has included a around 10,000 sq km deep-sea region of the Gulf of Mannar (GoM) in Tamil Nadu in its latest hydrocarbon exploration tender



India is the top producer of milk in the world and has set a target of producing 300 million metric tons (MMT) of milk in the next five years from the present 239 MMT.

India's Aditya-L1 mission has made a significant discovery by capturing the

first-ever image of a solar flare "kernel" in the lower solar atmosphere, thanks to its Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT). This observation is considered a major step forward in understanding solar flares and their impact on Earth.



Sarbananda Sonowal, has unveiled the 'One Nation-One Port' initiative, a significant step aimed at enhancing efficiency and improving the ease of doing business across India's maritime sector.

The core objective of the 'One Nation-One Port' (ONOP) initiative is to standardize and harmonize processes and procedures across all major Indian ports.

MAITRI App: Digitalizing Trade with AI & Blockchain

• **Objective**: Simplify international trade through **AI and Block chain** technology.

MAITRI is significantly associated with trade and investment in India, it primarily refers to the **Maharashtra Industry**, **Trade and Investment Facilitation Cell (MAITRI)**. This is a dedicated body and an online portal established by the Government of Maharashtra to act as a single point of contact for investors and businesses.

Centre Plans to Reduce States Tax Share to 40%:

- The Union government is considering a reduction in the share of central tax revenues allocated to states, lowering it from the current 41% to at least 40%.
- This recommendation will be submitted to the **Finance Commission of India**.

India Inaugurates First World Peace Center in Gurugram, Haryana

FCs are constitutional bodies set up under Article 280 of the Constitution every five years to make recommendations on the distribution of financial resources between the Union and the states.

Tax distribution: The commission will recommend how to distribute the net proceeds of taxes between the Union and the states. Grants-in-aid: The commission will recommend principles for grants-in-aid of state revenues. Consolidated Fund: The commission will recommend measures to increase the Consolidated Fund of a state. Disaster management

River Dolphin: 3)

The Ganga mainstream holds 3,275 dolphins, tributaries 2,414, the Brahmaputra system 635, and the Beas River 3.

- India has taken a major step towards **global peace and harmony** with the inauguration of its first World Peace Center in Gurugram, Haryana.
- Established by Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti under the guidance of Jain Acharya Lokesh, the center aims to promote non-violence, spiritual awareness, human values, and universal brotherhood.

India Advances Green Hydrogen Leadership with Hydrogen-Powered Truck Trials

National Green Hydrogen Mission, aim to assess the viability of hydrogen as a clean fuel for heavy-duty transportation, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance energy security.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurates Vantara:

It aims to be one of the **world's largest animal rescue and rehabilitation** centers.

Vantara (meaning 'Star of the Forest') is an ambitious program spread over 3,000 acres within the Green Belt of Reliance's Jamnagar Refinery Complex in Gujarat.

A Landmark **Wildlife Conservation Center** in Gujarat, an advanced animal rescue, conservation, and rehabilitation center in Jamnagar, Gujarat.

India's First Comprehensive River Dolphin Survey Records 6,327 Dolphins in Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Beas.

- India's first-ever comprehensive river dolphin population survey (2021–2023) has recorded a total of 6,327 river dolphins, covering the Ganga and
- Brahmaputra river basins and the Beas river.
- Conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in collaboration with state forest departments and non-profit organizations, the findings were announced during the 7th National

Board for Wildlife meeting at **Gir National Park**.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj to Launch Model Women-Friendly Gram Panchayats Initiative at National Convention

Objective: Strengthen leadership skills, decision-making abilities, and ensure active participation in rural governance.

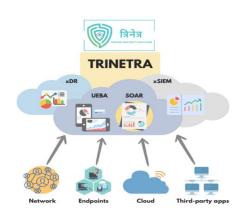
• Focus: Eliminating the "Mukhiya Pati" or "Sarpanch Pati" culture, ensuring that women representatives exercise authority independently. This initiative aims to promote gender-sensitive governance at the grassroots level, ensuring safety, inclusivity, and gender equality for women and girls in Gram Panchayats across India.

Green hydrogen is hydrogen produced through the electrolysis of water using renewable electricity sources like splar or wind power.

National Institute of Solar Energy NISE) will be the Scheme Implementation agency (SIA).

India Bolsters Cybersecurity with Indigenous AI Platform TRINETRA

The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, has developed TRINETRA, an Alpowered cybersecurity platform designed to protect enterprises and critical sectors.



Supreme Court Declares Right Against Disability-Based Discrimination as Fundamental Right

• The Supreme Court has ruled that the right against disability-based discrimination must be considered a fundamental right, reinforcing the constitutional principles of equality and nondiscrimination.

Eligibility of Visually Impaired Candidates: The Court ruled that visually impaired candidates are eligible to participate in **judicial service** selection processes.

This ruling is seen as a crucial step towards ensuring substantive equality and a more inclusive environment for persons with disabilities, reinforcing their entitlement to live with dignity and avail opportunities without arbitrary barriers.

World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2025: India Leads Global

WORLD SUSTAINABLE

Climate Action.

 Organized by: The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) focused on global partnerships for accelerating sustainable development and climate solutions

Theme: "Partnerships for

Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Solutions."



Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that Bangalore City University would be renamed Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru University in honor of the former Prime Minister.

• Government Arts College and Government RC College will be integrated as constituent colleges of the university

Madhav National Park Declared as India's 58th Tiger Reserve

 India has officially designated Madhav National Park in Madhya Pradesh as its 58th Tiger Reserve.

Madhya Pradesh's status as the 'Tiger State' of India, bringing its total number of tiger reserves to nine. Strengthens wildlife corridors and promotes ecological balance.



Project Tiger

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), launched in 1973

Implementing Agency: National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).NTCA was launched in 2005, following the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force. It was given statutory status by 2006 amendment of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

e-Shram Portal Facilitates Social Security Access for 30.68 Crore Unorganised Workers

- The e-Shram portal, launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment aims to create a **National Database of Unorganised Workers** (NDUW).
- It provides unorganised workers with a **Universal Account Number** (UAN) and links them to various **social security and welfare schemes**.

The portal has introduced multilingual support, a mobile application, and integration with multiple welfare schemes to improve accessibility.

• Additionally, the "e-Shram – One-Stop-Solution", integrates multiple welfare programs to provide a single access point for workers.

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) launched the

SheTrades India Hub, a ground breaking initiative aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs and strengthening India's export ecosystem.



 This initiative is part of a global effort led by the

International Trade Centre (ITC).

• With this launch, FIEO became the host institution for the 20th SheTrades Hub worldwide.

Unique Identification Authority of India Partners with Sarvam AI to Enhance Aadhaar Services with AI

• The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has partnered with Bengaluru-based Sarvam AI, an indigenous Generative AI (GenAI) company, to enhance the user experience of Aadhaar services.

IIT Madras Hyperloop Facility to Become the World's Longest High-Speed Tube

The 410-meter-long Hyperloop tube will be the world's longest high-speed tube.

• Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Chennai is developing electronic technology for the Hyperloop system.

ICF Chennai, known for Vande Bharat trains, is leading the

Hyperloop
Transportation

A high-speed train that travels in a near-vacuum tube

IIT MADRAS UNVEILS INDIA'S FIRST
HYPERLOOP TEST TRACK

development of advanced electronic systems for Hyperloop.

Lok Sabha Passes Oilfield (Regulatory and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024

- The Bill aims to modernize India's legal framework for oil and gas exploration and production, encouraging investment, increased production, and energy security.
- **Separation of Mining and Petroleum Operations**: Ends the outdated practice of clubbing mining and petroleum operations under one framework.
- Single Permit System: **Replaces multiple licenses** with a unified Petroleum Lease for different hydrocarbons.
- Encouragement of Advanced Technologies: Supports Carbon Capture Utilization and Sequestration (CCUS) and Green Hydrogen Production.
- **Dispute Resolution Mechanism**: Introduces an efficient dispute resolution system for global investors

India Hosts First Nano Electronics Roadshow to Boost Semiconductor Innovation

● The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), in collaboration with IISc Bengaluru, IIT Bombay, IIT Madras, IIT Delhi, IIT Kharagpur, and IIT Guwahati, successfully hosted India's first Nano Electronics Roadshow at the National Science Seminar Complex, IISc Bengaluru.



Kerala -First State to Establish Senior Citizen Commission Aim:

- 1. To safeguard the rights and welfare of elderly citizens.
- 2. Also acts as an advisory body for policy making.

Vinod Kumar Shukla Wins 59th Jnanpith Award, Becomes First Recipient

from Chhattisgarh

- Eminent Hindi writer Vinod Kumar Shukla has been named the recipient of the 59th Jnanpith Award, India's highest literary honour.
- At 88 years old, he is recognized for his unique literary style, blending linguistic creativity and emotional depth.



Operation Brahma Launched:

India initiated a disaster relief operation is a humanitarian mission launched in response to the **devastating earthquake** in Myanmar, deploying medical teams and aid under 'Operation Brahma' led by the **Indian Army**.

India's GDP Growth Accelerates: India's GDP growth is estimated to have **risen to 6.7%** in the January-March quarter, driven by improved rural consumption.

Economists predict this growth is due to strong agricultural output and rural demand.

India Becomes 2nd Largest 5G Market: India emerged as the secondlargest 5G market globally, highlighting significant advancements in telecommunications driven by affordable devices and rising consumer demand. Additionally, Indian Railways has achieved a remarkable milestone, now ranking as the world's second-largest freight carrier, handling an impressive 1.6 billion tonnes this year.

India - New Zealand resume talks on free trade agreement after nearly a decade discussions on the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) began in April 2010 to enhance trade in goods, services, and investment.

India and Malaysia will co-chair the 14th
ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus
(ADMM-Plus) Experts Working Group
(EWG) on Counter-Terrorism
This marks the first time India is leading the Counter-Terrorism EWG.



Project Hifazat

A Safer and Happier

Punjab for Women

Indonesia to join New Development Bank of BRICS:

- Indonesia's president Mr Prabowo Subianto announced to join the **New Development Bank (NDB),** a multilateral bank developed by member nations of the **economic bloc BRICS.**
- The NDB is a multilateral development bank established in 2014 by BRICS, a grouping founded by Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa Currently, BRICS accounts for 40% of the world's population and 35% of global GDP, making it a significant player on the **geopolitical stage**.

Punjab Government Launches 'Project Hifazat' to Protect Women and Children from Violence to provide immediate assistance to women and children.

 The initiative includes an integrated emergency helpline system with Women and Child Helpline (181) and Child Helpline (1098)

operating round the clock.

 Urgent cases will be directly transferred to the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS112) for immediate intervention.

Assam to launch first satellite 'ASSAMSAT' for governance and development

• Assam is set to launch its first satellite, 'ASSAMSAT,' marking a major step in utilizing space technology for governance and development.

Aim: Two bolster data access for crucial social-economic initiatives and enhance Border Security. The project is being developed in collaboration with INSPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre) and ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)



The satellite will enhance the flow of critical data for better management of key socio-economic initiatives, benefiting agriculture, disaster management, infrastructure, border security, and law enforcement.

Nagaland Prioritizes Early Warning System, Rooftop Solar Installations for Immediate Implementation

 Nagaland plans to implement an Early Warning System (EWS) to boost disaster preparedness in the state, especially ravaged by natural calamities.

• This system will provide crucial warnings for **earthquakes**, **heatwaves**, **heavy rainfall**, **lightning strikes**, **landslides** and other extreme weather events that could cause disasters.

In addition to the EWS, Nagaland has also launched the **Nagaland Solar Mission by expanding solar energy** adoption in the state.

Gujarat Becomes Second State to Implement Uniform Civil Code

• Gujarat is set to become the second state in India to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) after Uttarakhand.

The decision to introduce the UCC aligns with the vision of **'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'** and reflects the state's commitment to uniformity in civil laws.

HDFC Bank launches Project HAKK to support Indian Air Force (IAF) veterans

- HDFC Bank has introduced Project HAKK (Hawai Anubhavi Kalyan Kendra) to support Indian Air Force (IAF) pensioners, veterans, and their families by providing essential services and financial empowerment.
- HDFC Bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Air Force (IAF), represented by the Assistant Chief of Air Staff –
 Accounts & Air Veterans, and CSC Academy

97th Academy Awards (Oscars 2025)

- The 97th Academy Awards took place at the Dolby Theatre, Los Angeles, hosted Conan O'Brien, celebrating the best of global cinema.
- Best Picture: Anora
- Most Nominated Film:

97TH ACADEMY AWARDS

by

Emilia Pérez (13 nominations – record for a non-English film)

• Big Winner: Anora – Multiple wins including Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Director, and Best Editing

Bharti Airtel Partners with SpaceX to Bring Starlink Internet to India

In a landmark agreement, Bharti
Airtel has partnered with Elon
Musk's SpaceX to bring Starlink's
satellite internet services to India.
This first-of-its-kind agreement is
subject to SpaceX obtaining the



necessary regulatory approvals from the Indian government.

Google has unveiled Gemma 3, the latest addition to its family of lightweight open AI models.

Gemma 3 is designed to run efficiently on devices such as **smartphones**, **laptops**, **and other computing platforms**, offering low-latency processing

capabilities and multi-modal processing with text-only output. This innovation aims to enhance user experiences and provide developers with a scalable and efficient AI solution.



Indian Railways participation in

Mission Amrit Sarovar focuses primarily on water conservation.

The initiative aims to **combat water scarcity** near railway tracks by **digging** and rejuvenating ponds.

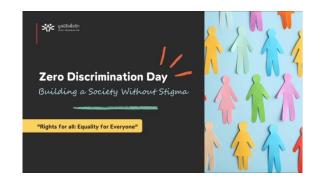
This project is part of the second phase of **Mission Amrit Sarovar**, which emphasizes both **climate resilience and community participation**.



Zero Discrimination Day, observed annually on March 1, is a global

initiative led by UNAIDS to promote equality and rights for all individuals, free from discrimination.

The day aims to raise awareness about discrimination based on various factors like gender, race, sexual orientation, and



HIV status, and advocates for policies that ensure fairness and respect for all.

The theme for 2025 is "We Stand Together," highlighting the role of community-led initiatives in supporting the HIV response and broader global health efforts.

Microsoft developed Project Farm Vibes (PFV) in collaboration with the Agricultural Development Trust, Baramati, Maharashtra.

This partnership aims to revolutionize farming practices by leveraging data and artificial intelligence to **enhance crop yields**, **improve sustainability**, **and boost farmer incomes**.

Project FarmVibes utilizes a range of technologies, including **sensors**, **drones**, **satellites**, **and cloud computing**, to gather and analyze crucial farm-related data.

This data encompasses soil conditions, weather patterns, crop health, and resource utilization.

Women's Role in India's Financial Growth Story:

NITI Aayog, in partnership with TransUnion CIBIL, the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP), and MicroSave Consulting (MSC), launched the report "From Borrowers to Builders

This report aims to provide **critical insights into women** as a distinct customer segment, encouraging the development of **targeted financial solutions** and fostering an **inclusive ecosystem** that supports **women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.**

United Nations World Wildlife

Day is observed on March 3rd each year to celebrate wild animals and plants.

The date is significant because it marks the anniversary of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), signed in



The United Nations proclaimed 3rd March – the day of signature of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as UN World Wildlife Day to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild animals and plants.

1973 and this year will be the **50th year of the organisation operating.**

The Uttarakhand government launched the "Mukhyamantri Ekal Mahila Swarozgar Yojana" to support single women by providing financial assistance of up to ₹2 lakh.

This initiative is designed to empower and **promote self-reliance** among single women in the state by providing them with financial assistance to set up their own enterprises.

Objective: To enable single women, including widows, divorced, abandoned, and unmarried women over a certain age, as well as other vulnerable categories like trafficked women, to become economically independent through self-employment.

Financial Assistance: The scheme provides a grant (subsidy) of 50% on the total project cost, for **projects up to ₹2 lakh.** This means the maximum subsidy a beneficiary can receive is ₹1 lakh (50% of ₹2 lakh)

The Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 took place in Barcelona

Key themes and discussions at MWC 2025 revolved around advancements in 5G and its evolution towards 6G, the proliferation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in various applications, the Internet of Things (IoT), fintech, and the overall digital transformation across industries.





It aims to improve vaccination coverage, **Monitor vaccine safety**, and reduce vaccine hesitancy by offering **real-time updates** and **digital training for healthcare professionals**.

The RISE app was initially tested in **181 districts across India** and has now been implemented in all **75 districts of Uttar Pradesh**, marking a significant step towards improving child immunization.

The first World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) will be

hosted by the Government of India in Mumbai, Maharashtra, from May 1 to 4, 2025. The event will focus on four key pillars, including Broadcasting & Infotainment, AVGC-XR, Digital Media & Innovation, and Films-WAVES.



Theatre Level Operational Exercise (TROPEX) was indeed conducted by the Indian Navy.

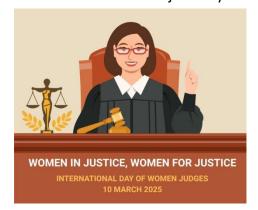
This biennial exercise, which is the **Navy's capstone exercise**, aims to validate their **core warfighting skills** and ensure a synchronized, integrated response to various threats.

The exercise involved a large number of **ships**, **submarines**, **and aircraft**, including participation from the Indian Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard The exercise focused on enhancing the Navy's combat capability in the **Indian Ocean**, particularly in the **Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal**.

The International Day of Women Judges is observed annually on March 10 to recognize and celebrate the contributions of women in the judiciary.

The decision was made to honor the achievements of female judges and recognize their efforts in promoting gender equality in judicial systems

This day highlights the crucial role of women in ensuring fairness, representation, and equality within judicial systems. It was declared by the United Nations General Assembly through Resolution 75/274.



The Strengthening Multimodal and Integrated Logistics Ecosystem (SMILE) Program in India is funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The SMILE program aims to improve India's logistics infrastructure, reduce costs, and enhance efficiency by strengthening multimodal logistics, standardizing warehousing, and promoting digitalization.

The program supports the implementation of the National Logistics Policy and PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

UNESCO released the report "Education and Nutrition: Learn to Eat Well"

This report highlights the crucial link between education and nutrition,

emphasizing how education can improve nutrition outcomes and how better nutrition can enhance learning.

The report also advocates for a life-cycle and systems-based approach to advance both education and nutrition.

The report focuses on the

UNESCO Publishes 'Education and Nutrition: Learn to Eat Well'
Report

nutritional quality of school meals globally, urging governments to enhance food standards in schools. It highlights the importance of nutritious meals in reducing **child undernourishment** and **boosting academic performance**.

The Kosi Mechi Intra-State Link Project, approved by the Cabinet under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) is set to benefit the state of Bihar.

This project will utilize surplus water from the Kosi river to irrigate the Mahananda basin in Bihar. It will also restore shortfall in irrigation to the

Telangana Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 2025, was indeed passed by the state of Telangana.

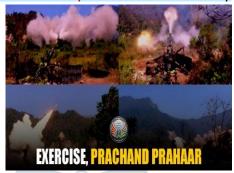
existing Eastern Kosi Main Canal (EKMC) command area.

The bill was passed in the Telangana Legislative Assembly with bipartisan support. This legislation aims to align the state's organ transplantation regulations with the central law, aiming to curb illegal organ trade and ensure efficient utilization of organs from brain-dead patients

Exercise Prachand Prahar was a tri-service military exercise conducted by

the Indian Army, Air Force, and Navy in Arunachal Pradesh.

The exercise, was designed to test joint warfighting capabilities and simulated future warfare scenarios. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), in collaboration with IIIT-Hyderabad has launched a



large-scale competition to test age invariance in biometric algorithms. This challenge aims to test how biometric algorithms perform across different ages, specifically focusing on fingerprint matching between children aged 5-10 and their prints after a 5-10 year period

Agri Stack is a digital platform designed to improve agriculture in India,

prioritizing data accuracy, farmers' privacy, and security.

The Agri Stack system is designed to ensure the accuracy of crop production data collection and prioritizes the privacy and security of farmers' information, adhering to data protection laws.

It is developed to adhere to data

Driving Indian Agriculture Forward Through Innovation

Agri Stock

A farmer-Centric Digital Public Infrastructure (DP)

Enabling Efficient, Easier and Fasters Service and Schema Delivery to Farmers

Key Components:

Key Components:

Geo-referenced Village Maps

Crop Sown
Registry

Crop Sown
Registry

protection laws like the Digital Personal Data Protection Act of 2023

AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences) collaborated with **SAMEER** (Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research) to focus on advanced medical devices.

This collaboration aims to enhance India's self-reliance in medical technology through the development of indigenous MRI systems and related technologies

SAMEER, under the **Indigenous Magnetic Resonance Imaging (IMRI)** project, is developing a **1.5 Tesla MRI** system for medical imaging.

The Haryana government launched the Al-driven chatbot 'Sarathi' to enhance public access to government documents and policies.

Artificial intelligence-powered chatbot 'Sarathi', aimed at bringing revolutionary changes in citizen engagement by providing easy access to important government directives, notifications, and circulars

India's largest greenfield domestic cargo terminal (DCT) was launched at the Bengaluru International Airport. The Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (KIAB/BLR Airport), operated by Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), has partnered with Menzies Aviation for the initiative.



Karnataka Janapada Academy announces 2024 akademi awards:

Event:

Karnataka Janapada Academy announced the Janapada (Folk) AcademyAwards for 2024.

Top Honorees:

Mylahalli Revanna and Dr. Venkatash received the highest honors for their contributions to folk literature and research.

Total Awards:

30 individuals were recognized for their contributions to folk art, literature, and culture.

Includes awards for writers, singers, artists, and performers from various districts.

Prize Details:

Each award includes a cash prize of ₹50,000, a memento, and a certificate.

Solar Power and Irrigation in Karnataka

Karnataka is actively promoting solar power for irrigation, aiming to reduce reliance on traditional power sources and improve water management.

The state has several initiatives, including the Karnataka Surya Raitha Scheme, which provides solar-powered pump sets to farmers. The state also plans to migrate lakhs of irrigation pumps to solar energy, saving on subsidies and promoting decentralized solar power generation

Surya Raitha Scheme:

- This scheme aims to empower farmers by providing them with
 - solar-powered pump sets for irrigation, dependence on traditional power sources.
- The scheme is designed to address faced by farmers in accessing reliable and affordable for agricultural purposes.



It promotes sustainable farming practices by harnessing solar energy.

Shakti Sthala Solar Park:

- The Shakti Sthala solar park in Pavagada, Tumkur district, is part of Karnataka's solar policy.
- It aims to reduce dependence on traditional power sources and promote environmentally friendly energy sources.
- It also aligns with the central government's plan to generate 100 GW of solar power.

PM-KUSUM Scheme:

- The Karnataka government is implementing Component-B of the Pradhan
- Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme to install off-grid solar pump sets.
- This scheme aims to provide farmers with standalone off-grid solar water
- · pumps.

State Initiatives and Policies:

- The Karnataka Solar Policy 2014-21 aimed for 6,000 MW solar capacity by 2021, which was surpassed with an installed capacity of 7,523 MW.
- The Karnataka Renewable Energy Policy 2022-27 aims to further harness the potential of renewable energy in the state.
- The state government is working on promoting solar-wind hybrid projects with energy storage.

Floating Solar Power Units on Lakes:

 Karnataka is exploring the potential of harnessing solar energy from 40 lakes through floating solar power units.

These lakes, covering around 10,000 acres, have the potential to generate around 2,500 MW of electricity.

Solarization of Irrigation Pump Sets:

- The Karnataka government is working on solarization at two levels: standalone irrigation pump sets owned by farmers and through substations.
- The initiative aims to save substantial amounts of money spent on power subsidies for irrigation pumps.
- It also aims to decentralize solar power generation and reduce reliance on thermal plants.

Solar Irrigation Pumpsets Project:

- This project is being implemented in four phases, with beneficiaries receiving solar pumpsets.
- Under the scheme, farmers seeking new power supply connections are eligible.
- The scheme also benefits SC/ST beneficiaries with free pumpsets.

Hampi Utsav 2025: Grand Celebrations and Cultural Extravaganza

The festival celebrates the rich heritage of the Vijayanagara Empire and Karnataka through music, dance, art, and more. It's a three-day event (February 28th to 2nd March) that will feature cultural performances, illuminated monuments, and a vibrant atmosphere.

- The festival, organized by the Vijayanagar district administration, concluded with a grand finale featuring a folk art procession.
- Artists from across Karnataka showcased traditional dance forms like Veeragase,
 Dollu Kunitha, Yakshagana, and Somana Kunitha.
- The evening also featured a dance drama, Sri Krishnadevaraya Vaibhava, performed by Bengaluru-based Arth Charitable Trust.
- Kannada rock band Dark Road performed popular Hindi and Kannada songs.

Cultural Performances:

- Traditional dance forms showcased:
 - Veeragase, Dollu Kunitha, Yakshagana, Somana Kunitha.
- Dance Drama: Sri Krishnadevaraya Vaibhava by Arth Charitable Trust, Bengaluru.

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Inspired by N. Krishna Rao's novel.

Depicted the efforts of Sri Krishnadevaraya to abolish the Devadasi system.

Electricity Tariff Hike Announcement

- Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) and Electricity Supply Companies (ESCOMs) have increased electricity tariff.
- Hike of 36 paise per unit imposed to cover employee pension and gratuity expenses.

Reasons for the Tariff Hike

KPTCL and ESCOMs need funds to cover employees' **pension and gratuity**. High Court ruling allows recovery of funds from consumers.

KERC approved a surcharge to recover pending dues over the next three years.



Future Tariff Increases (2025-2028)

2025-26: Increase of 36 paise per unit. **2026-27:** Increase of 35 paise per unit. **2027-28:** Increase of 34 paise per unit.

Impact on Consumers

- Government continues to bear the cost for beneficiaries under the Gruha
 Jyoti Scheme (up to 200 units).
- Commercial consumers and non-scheme beneficiaries must bear the increased cost.

FORFSIGHT KAS

Akka Café Initiative

 Akka Cafés are being set up to empower women through self-help groups (SHGs).

- Aim: To provide livelihood opportunities and make women reliant.
- The initiative is led by the Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, and Livelihood.



Implementation

- 50 Akka Cafés planned for 2024-25; 7 already operational.
- High customer demand led to requests for 16 additional cafés.
- Budget for 2024-25: ₹7.50 crore allocated.
- Future plan: 200 cafés (50 in 2024-25, 150 in the next year).

Financial Model

- Daily revenue per café: ₹15,000 ₹17,000.
- Profit per café: ₹6,000 ₹7,000 per day.
- Government subsidy:
 - o Classic Café (small): ₹7 lakh.
 - o Premium Restaurant: ₹15 lakh.

Eligibility Criteria to Start a Café

- Must be a member of an SHG under Aajeevika Mission/NULM.
- Interest in culinary skills preferred.
 Café team must have 5 to 10 members.

Rise in 'Baala Bhikatane' (Child Begging) Cases in Karnataka

Background

- The 'Baala Bhikatane' (Child Begging) program, initiated by the
- Karnataka State Child Protection Commission, has been tackling Child begging across major cities in the state.
- The initiative aims to rescue and rehabilitate children involved in begging.

Key Observations

 Bengaluru has the highest child beggars (212 cases) followed by Mysuru Kalaburagi (119).



- Most children involved in belong to economically backward families and migrant communities.
- Child begging is prevalent near temples, mosques, traffic signals, and busy markets.

Reasons for Child Begging

- Poverty and lack of education.
- Forced begging by families or criminal groups.
 Migrant labor families using children for begging.

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Study on Policing in India: Arrest Procedures & Compliance

- Karnataka police are least likely to follow arrest procedures, with
- 70% not complying.
- Kerala police are the most likely to follow procedures, with 94% reporting full compliance.

Observations

- Bihar: 51% of police officers reported rarely or following arrest procedures.
- **Jharkhand**: **43**% reported non-compliance with procedures.

The study highlights that police responses reflect perceptions of compliance rather than adherence to legal procedures.



Internal Reservation in Karnataka: Fresh Survey & Cabinet Decision Key Highlights

- The State government has decided to conduct a fresh survey of Scheduled Castes (SC) population in Karnataka within the next two months.
- This decision was taken in the Cabinet meeting based on the H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission's interim report submitted to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.
- Confusion in caste nomenclature (Adi Karnataka, Adi Dravida, Adi Andhra) is a major issue.

Understanding the Issue

What is Internal Reservation?

 Internal reservation refers to subclassification within Scheduled (SCs) to equitably distribute the 17% reservation quota among various SC groups.

Need for a Fresh Survey

The 2011 Census estimated Karnataka's SC population at 1.04 crore, but it is now projected to be 1.25 to 1.30 crore.

H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission's Four Key Recommendations

- 1. Conduct a Fresh Survey to determine SC population and sub-caste distribution.
- 2. Use Modern Technology to complete the survey within 30-40 days.

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Legal and Historical Context of Internal Reservation

- Internal reservation has been debated for over three decades.
- In 2012, the A.J. Sadashiva Commission recommended a sub-quota formula,
- but it was opposed by Dalit Right communities due to discrepancies in population data.
- In August 2024, the Supreme Court upheld internal reservation if based on empirical data.
- Many states, including Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra,
- Bihar, and Tamil Nadu, have formed commissions to study internal reservation.

Comprehensive Waste Management Plan

1. Introduction

- Aimed at solving Bengaluru's garbage problem.
- BBMP to implement a 30-year waste management plan.
- Divided into 4 packages covering different the city.
- 2. Key Features of the Waste Management Plan
 4 Package Implementation
- Waste disposal in 100-acre zones across four of Bengaluru.

Management of Heritage Waste

- 82 lakh tonnes of accumulated waste to be processed.
- Mandur Phase-1: 60 lakh tonnes through biomining.
- Bellahalli Unit: Bioremediation for waste treatment.
 Swachh Bharat Nagar 2.0 Implementation
- 07 lakh tonnes of waste managed under this scheme.
- Sites covered: Mandur Phase-2, Mavallipura, Doddabidarakallu, Lakshmipur, Bingipur, Subbarayanapalya.
- Funded by ₹187 crore from central, state, and BBMP resources.

Construction & Debris Waste Management

- 4,500 metric tonnes of debris waste generated daily.
- Current capacity: 1,750 metric tonnes treated in 2 operational units.
 3 additional waste collection & transport units to be set up under PPP model (Private- Public Partnership).



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BMRCL gets green award

Awarded By: Indian Green Building Council Stations Recognized:

- Konanakunte Cross
- Doddakallasandra
- Talaghattapura
- · Reshme Sanstha

Reason for Recognition:

- Efficient energy usage & air conditioning
- Use of solar energy for station
- Rainwater harvesting & water recycling
- Eco-friendly construction materials



About IGBC:

Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)

- Established: 2001 (Part of CII)
- Mission: Promote energy-efficient, water-efficient, and eco-friendly building practices.

Vision:

Make India a global leader in green buildings by 2025.



Karnataka's Performance in Junior Athletics Championship

Overview

- Karnataka won 5 medals at the 4th Junior National Athletics Championship held in Bengaluru.
- Medal tally: 2 Silver, 1 Bronze, 2 Fourth-place finishes.

Medal Winners

- 1. Silver Medals
 - Vishwajith Sandesh (Decathlon)
 - Prathama Bala (Steeplechase 2000m)
- 2. Bronze Medal
 - Riya (Under-18 Girls 1500m)
- 3. Fourth-Place Finishes
 - Jeevitha (High Jump 1.80m)
 - o Chaitra (Shot Put 1.74m

Performance Highlights

- Vishwajith Sandesh: Secured silver in decathlon, an event that tests overall athletic ability.
- Prathama Bala: Won silver in the 2000m steeplechase with a time of 6.09 minutes.
- Riya: Achieved bronze in the Under-18 1500m race with a timing of 5.09 minutes.
- Jeevitha: Competed in high jump and cleared 80m, finishing fourth.

Chaitra: Competed in **shot put**, achieving a distance of **1.74m**, finishing fourth.

Rural Solar Power Initiative in Malur, Karnataka

- 1. Introduction to Rural Solar Power Initiatives
- The government is promoting **solar energy projects** in rural areas to ensure **sustainable development**.
- Focus on empowering villages through renewable energy and reducing dependency on traditional electricity sources.
- **Objective**: To provide **affordable and clean energy** to rural households and agricultural sectors.

2. Key Highlights from the Malur Project

- State Government's Role: Encouraging rural communities in Malur,
- Karnataka to adopt solar energy as an alternative power source.
- **Project Launch**: A new **solar power initiative** inaugurated in Malur for village development.
- Impact Areas: Beneficial for farmers and rural enterprises, ensuring uninterrupted power supply.
- **Financial Support**: Government subsidies and incentives available for solar energy projects.

Government Initiatives for Rural Solar Development

- **PM-KUSUM Scheme**: Provides subsidies for **solar pumps** in rural areas.
- Rooftop Solar Program: Encourages installation of solar panels on village homes.
- **Solar Microgrids**: Establishment of **off-grid solar power systems** for remote areas.
- **Financial Assistance**: Loans and subsidies to promote solar adoption in agriculture.