

ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO



MONTHLY MAGAZINE

JANUARY-2025

NEWS-INSHORTS



- Human metapneumovirus (HMPV)
- Project VISTAAR
- India has joined the Eurodrone
- Exercise 'Devil Strike'
- Uttarakhand is poised to become the first Indian state to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC)
- The first bird census in Karnataka
- Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025, launched by NITI Aayog
- first wolf sanctuary in Karnataka
- Manu Bhaker, D Gukesh, Harmanpreet Singh, and Praveen Kumar were awarded the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna by President Droupadi Murmu
- Indore and Udaipur in Global Wetland Cities list.



KARNATAKA/INDIA/INTERNATIONAL-CURRENT AFFAIRS



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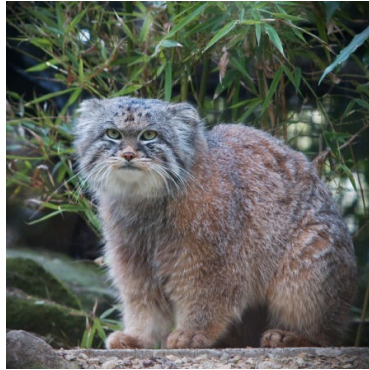
502, 2nd Floor, Opposite TTMC Bus stop, Vijayanagar Bengaluru

January:2025

- The **India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Ind-Aus ECTA)** was signed in April 2022 and ratified in November 2022, marking a significant period of growth in bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the two nations.
 - The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) came into force on **December 29, 2022.**
 - The agreement is expected to boost economic growth in both countries by facilitating increased trade and investment.
- **E-waste generation in India** has grown significantly, showing a **72.54%** rise over five years, increasing from 1.01 million metric tonnes in 2019-20 to 1.751 million metric tonnes in 2023-24.
 - **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** has pioneered in initiating pan-India awareness programme on e-waste management since March 2015.
- **Myanmar** shares a 1,643 km long unfenced border with the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has mandated the implementation of a name lookup facility for **NEFT&RTGS** transactions by April 1, 2025.
- - **The National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT)** system was introduced in India in November 2005.
 - **RBI launched the Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)** system in India on March 26, 2004.
- The **Defence Ministry** has declared 2025 as the '**Year of Reforms**' to prioritize modernization and enhance the combat readiness of India's Armed Forces.
- **Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar**, a distinguished IAS officer of the 1995 batch from the Uttar Pradesh cadre, has taken charge as the CEO of UIDAI.
- **Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra**, a decorated fighter pilot with over 3000 flying hours and 38 years of distinguished service, has taken command of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command WAC covers crucial aspects of India's military strategy and defences

- The first photographic evidence of Pallas's cat in India was captured in **Himachal Pradesh**, specifically during a snow leopard survey in the Kinnaur area.

- The Pallas' cat (*Otocolobus manul*) is a small wildcat known for its unusual, and adorable look.



- The **e-Shram portal**, aimed at helping unorganised workers access welfare schemes, has expanded to support all 22 scheduled languages in India.

- The e-Shram portal is a flagship program of the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E) to support unorganized workers in India.

- Microsoft has announced a significant \$3 billion investment to boost AI and cloud infrastructure in India, a move aligned with the Prime Minister's vision for a developed India by 2047.

- **V. Narayanan** has been appointed as the new chairman of ISRO, succeeding S Somanath.

- ISRO was formed on August 15, 1969 and superseded INCOSPAR with an expanded role to harness space technology. DOS was setup and ISRO was brought under DOS in 1972.



- **Bahadur Singh Sagoo**, an Asian Games gold medalist in shot put and a Padma Shri awardee, has been unanimously elected as the new president of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) during the Annual General Meeting in Chandigarh.

- **India and the United States** have collaborated to co-produce sonobuoys, advanced devices designed for underwater detection and monitoring.

- India has set ambitious goals to achieve **500 GW** of non-fossil fuel based energy capacity by 2030, demonstrating its commitment to transitioning towards renewable energy sources.

- **China** is facing a significant outbreak of Human metapneumovirus (HMPV), along with other respiratory illnesses like influenza A, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, and Covid-19. The surge in cases has overwhelmed hospitals and crematories.
 - The HMPV virus, or Human **Metapneumovirus**, is a respiratory virus discovered in 2001.
- **ISRO** is set to launch a United States communications satellite in early 2025 using the GSLV.
- IIT Madras, in collaboration with the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, launched **Project VISTAAR** to modernize India's agricultural extension system.
 - It will empower farmers communities by providing them with timely, and relevant information to improve their productivity and ensure that they can benefit from new technologies and innovations.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** was founded in 1958 and celebrated its **67th Foundation Day on January 2, 2025**.
 - DRDO is responsible for the indigenous design, development and production of state-of-the-art weapon systems required by the Armed Forces
- Researchers from IIT Bombay have developed innovative bacteria, including **Pseudomonas and Acinetobacter**, to tackle soil pollution.
- **N Space Tech**, a start-up based in **Andhra Pradesh**, achieved a significant milestone by successfully testing UHF communication technology via SwetchaSat on ISRO's POEM-4 platform.
 - PS4-Orbital Experiment Module, designated as POEM, refers to the usage of the spent fourth stage of the Polar Synchronous Launch Vehicle.
- **West Bengal**, particularly the Sundarbans region, faces severe human trafficking challenges exacerbated by socio-environmental vulnerabilities.
 - The **Sundarbans region**, spanning India and Bangladesh, is vulnerable to human trafficking due to its socio-economic challenges, including poverty, lack of education, and limited livelihood opportunities.

- The dense mangrove forests and remote locations make it easier for traffickers to exploit vulnerable communities, particularly women and children.
- **Telangana** has expanded its RythuBharosa scheme to offer ₹7,500 per acre to approximately 70 lakh farmers for each crop season, beginning January 2025.
- **Assam** recorded an elephant population of 5,828 in the 2024 Elephant Population Estimate, reflecting an increase of 109 elephants since 2017.
 - As per the 2017 census, The total estimated wild population ranges from 23,000 to 41,000 individuals across the range
- **India** has reached the milestone of over 1,000 km of metro network, making it the **3rd largest in the world**.
 - The first metro system in India was the Kolkata Metro, which opened on October 24, 1984.
 - The Delhi Metro is the longest metro system in India, with a length of about 391 kilometers. It's also the busiest metro system in India.
- **The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** is tracking cases of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in **Karnataka**.
 - The Government of India funds ICMR. It comes under the Department of Health Services (DHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW). The headquarters of ICMR is in New Delhi.
- In 2024, the United States ranks first globally in **cyberattacks**, with India following as the second most targeted nation.
 - A **cybersecurity** threat is a malicious and deliberate attack by an individual or organization to gain unauthorized access to another individual's or organization's network to damage,
- The **Uttar Pradesh** government has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Google Cloud (India)** to launch the Uttar Pradesh Open Network for Agriculture (UPONA).



- **National Bird Day** is observed every year on January 5 to celebrate the significance of birds in our ecosystems and to promote their conservation.
- **Ecuador** declared a 60-day state of emergency in seven provinces, including Guayas and Manabí, to address rising crime and organized armed groups.
- The **Banded Royal butterfly (Rachana jalindra)** was first discovered in Tripura, specifically within the Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary.



- **Rachana jalindra**, the banded royal, is a lycaenid or blue butterfly found in the Indomalayan realm. The species was first described by Thomas Horsfield in 1829.
- **Assam** launched **Gunotsav 2025**, a flagship education evaluation program aimed at assessing and enhancing the quality of education for 14.11 lakh students across 16,056 schools. Themed **“Ensuring Quality Education,”** is conducted in three phases, involving external evaluators and stakeholders.
- **Israel** has launched an e-visa system for Indian citizens, allowing them to apply online for travel authorization.
- **Earth’s Rotation Day** is celebrated on **January 8** to commemorate Léon Foucault’s 1851 pendulum experiment, which conclusively proved Earth’s rotation on its axis.
 - The day commemorates when French Physicist, Leon Foucault, demonstrated the Earth rotates on its axis in 1851.
- **India’s National Highway** network has achieved a remarkable **60%** growth over the past decade, expanding from 91,287 km in 2014 to 146,195 km in 2024.
- India’s first Generation Beta baby, **Frankie RemruatdikaZadeng**, was born in Mizoram on January 1, 2025.
- India has set an ambitious goal to achieve **500 GW of clean energy by 2030**.

- **Karnataka** has introduced the "Garudakshi" online FIR system to improve the management of forest and wildlife crimes.
 - 'Garudakshi', the software reduces the time taken by officials in filing an FIR and generates the multiple documents except Mahajar, required to be submitted before the court in the cases.
- In the 2025 **Henley Passport Index**, India's ranking has fallen to 85th, down from 80th in 2024.
 - The Henley Passport Index is a ranking of the world's passports based on how many destinations passport holders can visit without a visa. The index is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- The **Karnataka** High Court invalidated the Green Energy Open Access (GEOA) Rules, 2022, citing overreach by the Central Government.
 - It is a mechanism that allows consumers to buy electricity directly from generators or the open market.
- The government has prioritized the development of **Inland Waterways** with a massive investment of ₹50,000 crore over five years.
 - a system that provides real-time data and information about navigational conditions on inland waterways like rivers and canals
- **HIMKAVACH** is a multi-layered cold weather clothing system developed by DRDO to enhance the operational efficiency of military personnel in extreme climates, from +20°C to -60°C.
- **Anti-Tank Guided Missile** were conducted at the Pokhran Field Range in **Rajasthan**. The field trials of the indigenously developed **NAG MK 2**
 - The trials validated the missile's firing range and made it ready for induction into the Indian Army
 - The Nag Mk-2, a third-generation anti-tank guided missile.



- The NAMICA Mk-2, the second generation launch platform for the Nag missile
- The **Lokpal Act**, aimed at addressing corruption through the establishment of an ombudsman, was enacted in 2014.
 - Under **Section 20(7)**, the Lokpal will take comments of the public servant as well as his competent authority on the investigation report, before passing any further order for grant of sanction for prosecution or any other appropriate action against the public servant.
- **Kappad beach** in Kozhikode and **Chal beach** in Kannur have been awarded the Blue Flag certification by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE).
 - The Blue Flag certification is an eco-label given to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating operators.
- **Odisha** has become the state to 34th implement the **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)**, aligning it with the state's own Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana.
 - **The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)**, also known as Ayushman Bharat, is a government-backed health insurance scheme designed to provide financial protection for secondary and tertiary healthcare to economically vulnerable families in India
- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** launched the multi-purpose vessel INS Utkarsh for the **Indian Navy from its Kattupalli Shipyard**.
 - The MPV Utkarsh measures 106 meters in length and 18.6 meters in width, with a displacement exceeding 3,750 tonnes.
- The **Boda Tyohar**, or **Magho ko Tyohar**, Celebrated by over three lakh community members, this month-long festival marks the conclusion of the '**Magha**' month.
 - Three lakh community members, this month-long festival marks the conclusion of the '**Magha**' month.
- **Indian Army Day** is observed every year on **January 15** to commemorate the historic occasion when the Indian Army's leadership transitioned to Indian hands in 1949.

- **M. Rajeshwar Rao**, a seasoned Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has been entrusted with the responsibility of heading the **Monetary Policy and Economic Research Departments**.
- **NATO**, led by **Secretary-General Mark Rutte**, has announced a new mission aimed at safeguarding undersea cables in the Baltic Sea region.
 - The mission includes surveillance, deterrence, and response to threats to undersea cables and pipelines.
- The **Gaan-NGai festival**, the largest post-harvest celebration of the Zeliangrong community, takes place in Manipur.

- In this festival where people thank their deity "**Tingkao Ragwang**" for a good harvest through rituals, dances, feasts, and the symbolic creation of a "new fire" signifying the start of a fresh cycle;



- Scientists from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** have discovered a new species of pangolin, named the Indo-Burmese pangolin (*Manisindoburmanica*), in Arunachal Pradesh.

- Genetic analysis has shown that the Indo-Burmese pangolin is 3.8% different from the Chinese pangolin (*Manis pentadactyla*).



- **India** is in the final stages of a \$450 million **BrahMos** missile deal with Indonesia. This deal is expected to be officially announced during the **Indonesian President's** visit for Republic Day 2025.
- India has joined the **Eurodrone (MALE RPAS)** programme as an observer, marking a significant step in international defence cooperation.
 - The Eurodrone program, a European initiative, aims to develop or intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions

- **The International Day of Education** is celebrated annually on January 24, recognizing the crucial role of education in fostering peace and sustainable development.

- It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2018 to celebrate the role of education in peace and development, and to highlight the importance of inclusive, equitable, and quality education for all.



- Exercise '**Devil Strike**' will be conducted by the **Indian Armed Forces** from January 16 to 19, 2025.
 - Exercise '**Devil Strike**' is showcasing seamless integration and operational readiness to operate in challenging environments
 - Its main focus on Precision troop insertion, complex airborne operations, logistical sustenance in extreme conditions.
- **India** is on track to become the '**GCC Capital of the World**,' with an impressive 1,700 global capability centres (GCCs) currently in operation, employing around 2 million people.
- **India and Spain** have jointly declared 2026 as a 'dual year' to focus on cultural exchanges, tourism promotion, and advancements in **artificial intelligence (AI)**.
- **India ranks 2nd** globally in the QS Future Skills Index 2025, showcasing its strong preparedness in AI, digital, and green industries, only behind the US.
- The **Archaeological Experiential Museum** has been inaugurated in Vadnagar, highlighting its 2,500-year-old history.
- The **Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ)** has been declared near the **Shikari Devi Wildlife Sanctuary** in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
- **India ranks as the 3rd largest** start-up ecosystem in the world, with more than 100 unicorns, which highlights the country's strong entrepreneurial culture.

- The Union Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the establishment of the **Third Launch Pad (TLP) at ISRO's SatishDhawan Space Centre located in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.**

- signifying a significant step towards enhancing India's space launch capabilities and potentially supporting future human spaceflight missions;



- The **World Bank** projects **India's economic growth rate at 6.7%** for the next two fiscal years (2025–2027), reflecting an increase from the current fiscal year's growth rate of **6.5%**.
 - India shows the fastest-growing large economy globally, as detailed in the January 2025 edition of the Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report.
- The **Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan App, launched** during the 77th Army Day celebrations, aims to promote battlefield tourism.
 - The app is designed to guide visitors to over 70 significant battleground locations across India.
 - It provides detailed information about: War memorials and museums. Stories behind pivotal battles.
- **Odisha**, in partnership with Singapore's Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a FinTech hub in Bhubaneswar.
- PM Modi inaugurated the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 **in New Delhi, India's largest mobility expo**
 - The Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 was a six-day event held in January 2025 that showcased India's automotive industry and mobility sector.
- **ISRO** achieved a groundbreaking milestone in space agriculture by germinating black-eyed pea (lobia) seeds aboard its Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies (CROPS).
 - CROPS stands for Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies which is an unmanned experimental module designed to develop ISRO's capabilities for growing and sustaining plants in space.

- **NITI Aayog** organized a workshop on **Carbon Capture, Utilization & Storage (CCUS)** focusing on the Indian cement sector, which contributes 5.8% of the nation's CO₂ emissions.
 - NITI Aayog emphasizes Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) as crucial for India's emissions reduction goals, particularly in hard-to-abate sectors, aiming for a low-carbon energy economy and achieving net-zero by 2070, with a proposed CCUS capacity of 750 million metric tons per year by 2050
- The Lokpal of India celebrated its inaugural Foundation Day on January 16, 2025, marking 11 years since its establishment under **the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013**.
 - The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, aims to combat corruption by establishing a central anti-corruption body (Lokpal) and state-level counterparts (Lokayuktas) to investigate allegations against public officials and take necessary action.
- **Gyanendra Pratap Singh**, a 1991 batch IPS officer from the Assam-Meghalaya cadre, has been appointed as **the Director General of the CRPF**, with tenure extending till November 30, 2027.
- **India and the United States** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation and information sharing on cyber threat intelligence and digital forensics, specifically in criminal investigations
- On January 17, 2025, **China successfully launched Pakistan's first indigenous Electro-Optical Satellite (PRSC-EO1)** from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center using the Long March-2D rocket.
- **Mission SCOT**, launched by **Digantara**, focuses on enhancing Space Domain Awareness by enabling precise object tracking and imaging in Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
 - **Digantara's Mission SCOT** (Space Camera for Object Tracking), launched on **January 14, 2025**, aboard SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission, is a commercial space surveillance satellite designed to enhance tracking and monitoring of Resident Space Objects (RSOs), a key step in Space Situational Awareness (SSA).
- **Uttarakhand** is poised to become the first Indian state to implement **the Uniform Civil Code (UCC)** after its government approved the UCC rules manual.

- The **SVAMITVA Scheme**, launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, aims to establish clear ownership rights in rural areas by mapping land parcels using advanced drone technology.
 - SVAMITVA, a Central Sector scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj provides a '**Record of Rights**' to village household owners with the issuance of legal ownership cards (Property cards/Title deeds) to the property owners by mapping land parcels using drone technology.
- The **World Economic Forum 2025** is being held in Davos, Switzerland.
 - The World Economic Forum (WEF) is a not-for-profit organization that brings together leaders from business, government, and civil society to address global issues.
- The **first astronomical observatory in Eastern India** was inaugurated atop **Panchet Hill** in the **Garpanchkot area of Purulia district, West Bengal**
 - astronomical observatory, any structure containing telescopes and auxiliary instruments with which to observe celestial objects.
 - 8 Observatories in India To Marvel At Astronomy.
- **The International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has reduced India's FY25 growth forecast to **6.5%**, citing challenges like an industrial slowdown.
- **Telangana** has signed MoUs for major investments in the energy and space sectors.
- **Moody's** has revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY25 to 7%, a decrease from the 8.2% growth observed in the previous fiscal year.
 - It reflecting a slowdown in key sectors and overall economic conditions. India's GDP per capita increased by 11% year-on-year to \$10,233 in FY 2023, highlighting improvement in the standard of living.
- **Hyderabad's Musi River heritage sites**, including landmarks like the Telangana High Court, State Central Library, Osmania General Hospital, and British Residency, were added to the **World Monuments Watch**.

- The **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana** was launched on 22nd January 2015 as part of the **BetiBachao, BetiPadhao** campaign to promote financial inclusion for the girl child in India.
 - The Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY) is a government-backed savings scheme for girls. It helps parents and legal guardians provide financial security for a girl's higher education or marriage.
- The Flamingo Festival 2025 took place in **Andhra Pradesh**, with a focus on the conservation of biodiversity in **Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary**.
 - This year's event focused on the environmental challenges faced by Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary, such as water pollution, habitat loss, and the impact of human activities.
- The 7th India-France Maritime Cooperation Dialogue was held in New Delhi, where India and France discussed enhancing cooperation in **the Indian Ocean Region**.
- **National Tourism Day** is observed every year on January 25 to promote responsible, sustainable, and accessible tourism across India.
 - The theme for this year's National Tourism Day is "Tourism for Inclusive Growth".
- **The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)** celebrates its Raising Day annually on January 19. Established in 2006, the NDRF is a specialized rescue force dedicated to disaster response and relief.
 - It provide specialized response to natural and man-made disasters, including chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) disasters.
- **Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura** celebrated their 53rd Statehood Day on January 21, 2025, marking their attainment of full statehood under the North Eastern Region (Reorganization) Act of 1971.



- The **Indian Sustainable Natural Rubber (iSNR)** initiative was launched in Kottayam, Kerala, to align with global sustainability principles and the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).
 - Aims to promote sustainable and responsible natural rubber production in India, ensuring compliance with global standards like the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) and fostering a transparent and traceable supply chain.
- China completed the **TianshanShengli** Tunnel in Xinjiang, which at 22.13 km is the world's longest expressway tunnel.
 - The Tianshan Shengli Tunnel, designed to cut travel time through the Tianshan Mountains from three hours to about 20 minutes, and is expected to open to traffic in 2025.
- The Army Hospital (Research & Referral), located in New Delhi, performed India's first Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) implantation using the **HeartMate 3**.
- The Governor of Manipur reviewed the **NIK-SHAY** and **TB Control Programme** to assess progress and strategies in tackling tuberculosis.
 - The **NIKSHAY - TB Notification incentive** for Private Sector scheme is a Government of India initiative to incentivize private sector healthcare providers for notifying tuberculosis (TB) cases to the government.
 - The scheme was launched in 2018 and is implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- DRDO will showcase its tableau titled '**Raksha Kavach** – Multi-layer Protection against Multi-domain Threats' on Republic Day.
 - It is a multi-layered, multi-domain protection system designed to safeguard military assets, soldiers, and critical infrastructure against diverse threats, showcasing India's growing indigenous defense capabilities.
- **Vision Nxt** is India's first AI and Emotional Intelligence-driven fashion forecasting platform, launched at NIFT's 40th Foundation Day in Hyderabad.



- The Government of India launched **Entity Locker**, a secure, cloud-based platform for efficient business document management.

- Entity Locker is a secure, cloud-based platform for organizations to store, share, and verify digital documents, aiming to streamline business operations and enhance digital governance, particularly in the Government-to-Business (G2B) domain.

- **National Girl Child Day** is observed annually on January 24 in India to raise awareness about the issues faced by girls and to promote their rights and welfare.

- Slogan of **National Girl Child Day**
'Raise a girl with dreams, and watch her conquer the world. Educate a girl, and you educate the future. A girl child today, a leader tomorrow. Let every girl's ambition soar beyond limits'.



- The Indian Navy conducted a **hydrographic** survey of Mauritius' waters, mapping 25,000 square nautical miles.
 - The Indian Navy ship INS Sarvekshak recently completed the final phase of a hydrographic survey of Mauritius.
- The **International Day of Clean Energy** is observed on January 26 each year, established by the UN in 2009.
 - It is a United Nations initiative aimed at raising awareness and mobilizing action for a just and inclusive transition to clean energy, commemorating the founding of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).
- **Sarla Aviation**, a Bengaluru-based aerospace startup, unveiled '**Shunya**,' India's first electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) air taxi.
- **Uttar Pradesh** Foundation Day is celebrated annually on January 24.
 - It's theme "Development and Heritage: Uttar Pradesh on the Path to Progress" .

- Nepal hosted the 1st **International Pashmina Festival**, a 3-day event featuring over 150 stalls and promoting its "Chyangra Pashmina," known for its traditional craftsmanship and use of natural dyes.

- Samples of wool fibres recovered from corroded copper artifacts from Harappa dating back to the Indus Valley Civilisation are believed to be Pashmina and Shahtoosh.
- The material gained prominence through its use in the Kashmir shawl. In Mughal times, this was used as an indicator of rank and nobility.



- The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), located in Hyderabad, won the 2025 **Subhash Chandra Bose** Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar in the Institutional Category.

- **National Youth Day** is celebrated every year on **January 12** in India to honor **Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary**. The Government of India declared this day in 1984, recognizing Vivekananda's teachings and ideals as a source of inspiration for Indian youth.



- The very **first bird census in Karnataka**, specifically for the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary (CWS), was held from January 10th to 12th, 2014, jointly organized by the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) and Jungle Lodges and Resorts Ltd (JLR).
 - The survey is scheduled to take place on February 1 and 2 at **the Male Mahadeshwara Betta Wildlife Sanctuary**. While tiger and elephant counts are regularly conducted in Karnataka's forest regions.
- **Indian Army Day** is celebrated annually on **January 15th** to commemorate the appointment of Field Marshal K. M. Cariappa as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army in 1949, marking the handover of power to Indian leadership after independence.



- **‘National Voters’ Day** is celebrated annually on January 25, a day before Republic Day. The 15th edition of the event highlights the theme “Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure.”

- It encourages the youth to participate in the electoral process also focuses on the fact that the right to vote is a basic right.



- **Odisha** secured the top position in the **Fiscal Health Index (FHI)** 2025, launched by NITI Aayog to evaluate the fiscal health of 18 major Indian states.

- The Fiscal Health Index (FHI) is an assessment tool to evaluate the fiscal health of Indian states and highlights specific areas for improvement.
- FHI ranks states based on five key sub-indices. Quality of Expenditure: Measures the proportion of spending on long-term growth (development)

- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its **Statehood Day** annually on January 25, marking its transition to India’s 18th state in 1971.
- **Telangana**’s first 24-hour drinking water supply project was launched in Karimnagar Smart City.
- **M. Mohan** was appointed as the Director of ISRO’s Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) in **Thiruvananthapuram** on January 25, 2025. He succeeded Dr. V. Narayanan, who became the ISRO Chairman earlier.
- **Channapatna toy**-inspired artwork was introduced on metro walls in **January 2025**, it would highlight government efforts to promote local heritage.

- Channapatna toys are **traditional wooden toys** and dolls that originate from Channapatna, a town in the Ramanagara district of Karnataka, India.



- These toys are known for their vibrant colors, smooth finish, and eco-friendly nature, as they are made from ivory wood (Hale Mara) and colored with natural dyes.

- The theme for Republic Day 2025 was ‘**Swarnim Bharat: Virasataur Vikas**’, which translates to ‘**Golden India: Heritage and Progress**’.
- ISRO’s 100th mission from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre** will launch the GSLV–F15 rocket on January 29, 2025.

- The **GSLV-F15** with indigenous Cryogenic stage will place NVS-02 satellite into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit & the launch will take place from the Second Launch Pad (SLP) at **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, SHAR**.



- The **Bankapur** Wolf Sanctuary is located in Karnataka and is the state’s first wolf sanctuary.
- **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** is observed on January 27 each year to honour the victims of the Holocaust and commemorate the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau by Soviet troops on this date in 1945.
 - commemorates the liberation of **Auschwitz-Birkenau**, the largest Nazi concentration and death camp, and serves as a day to remember the millions of victims of the Holocaust and to reaffirm the commitment to human rights and justice.
- **National Geographic Day** is celebrated every year on **January 27** to honour the foundation of the National Geographic Society, which was established on this date in 1888.
 - It honors the iconic National Geographic magazine and its contributions to education, exploration, and awareness about geography, science, history, and world cultures.
- The **Telangana** government introduced four major beneficiary schemes: Rythu Bharosa, Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa, IndirammaIndlu, and New Ration Cards.
- India is preparing to launch its first **human-operated underwater submersible** as part of the Deep Ocean Mission.

- Initial submersible will operate at a depth of up to 500 meters, with a subsequent goal of reaching a staggering depth of 6,000 meters under the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM).



- **Doordarshan**, India's national broadcaster, was recognized for its exceptional voter awareness and education campaign during the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections.
- Pune, Maharashtra, has recently reported a sudden increase in cases of **Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)**, a rare but serious neurological disorder.
 - The recent surge in **Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)** cases in Pune is suspected to be linked to contaminated water, potentially contaminated with *Campylobacter jejuni*, a bacteria that can cause foodborne infections and, in some cases, trigger GBS.
- **Indore** and **Udaipur** have been recognized as part of the **Global Wetland Cities list**, an exclusive group of 31 cities worldwide that integrate wetland conservation into their urban planning.
 - **The recognition highlights the cities'** commitment to preserving wetland ecosystems, which are vital for biodiversity, water management, and climate resilience.
 - By balancing urban growth with environmental sustainability, Indore and Udaipur serve as models for other cities aiming to protect and sustainably manage their wetland resources.
- The loan is being given under the **World Bank's Program-for-Results Financing (PforR)**, where the grant of loans are linked to outcomes. The water resilience project now approved for the city will be carried out during a five-year period (2026-31) and the money will be disbursed in three to five installments and each installment is linked to these DLIs.
- **The Karnataka Water Security and Disaster Resilience Programme (KWSRDP)**, a ₹5,000 crore project, aims to enhance Bengaluru's water resilience, with ₹3,500 crore coming from a World Bank loan, and the remaining from the state government, to be implemented between 2025 and 2031.

- **Manu Bhaker, D Gukesh, Harmanpreet Singh, and Praveen Kumar** were awarded the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna by President Droupadi Murmu at the National Sports Awards ceremony in New Delhi on January 17, 2025.

- The Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award is **India's highest sporting honor**, given for outstanding performance in sports at the international level.

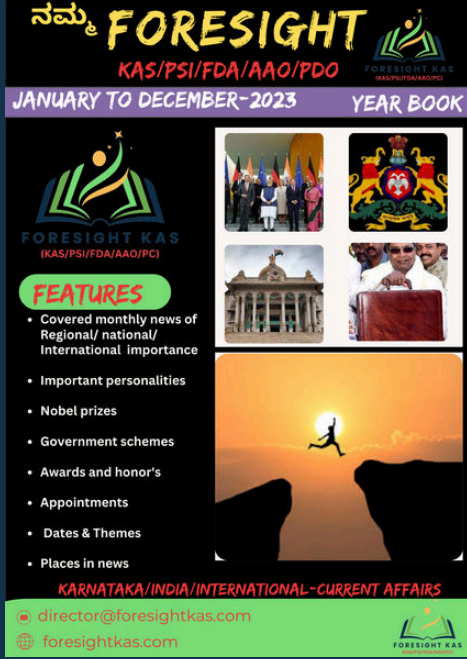


- It was originally called the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award but was renamed in 2021 after Major Dhyan Chand, India's legendary hockey player.

- The new **wildlife sanctuaries** in **Karnataka** include:
 - Uttaregudda wildlife sanctuary: Located in Hiriya of Chitradurga district
 - Arsiikere sloth bear sanctuary: Located in Hassan
 - Bankapura wolf wildlife sanctuary: Located in Koppal
 - Chikkasangama bird conservation reserve: Located in Bagalkot
- **Poovanahalli in Mandya district** has been chosen under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) scheme aimed at bringing people from the tribal community into the mainstream by empowering them socially and economically.
 - the Union Cabinet approved the **PM-JANMAN** programme to cover all the **75 PVTG** communities in India.
- **The International Trade Fair 2025—Organics and Millets** took place at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru from January 23 to 25.
 - Millets are nutrient-rich, drought-resistant, and climate-friendly grains that have been a staple in India for centuries. They are known for their high fiber content, essential minerals, and gluten-free properties.
- The **S. M. Krishna Rashtriya Smaraka Prashasti** is an award named after S. M. Krishna, the former Chief Minister of Karnataka and former External Affairs Minister of India. It is given to individuals for their outstanding contributions to society, politics, administration, or public service.

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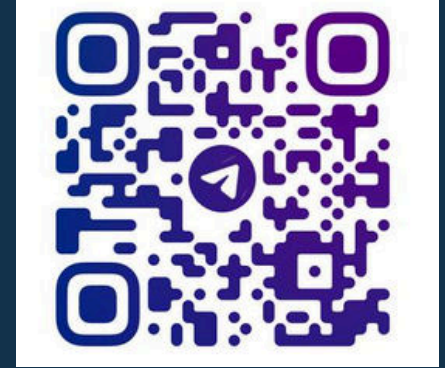
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MONTHLY MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY-2025

NEWS-INSHORTS ✨

- Gujarat's first Biodiversity Heritage Site **Guneri village**.
- **Union Budget** on February 1
- India's tiger population has increased
- **four** new wetlands to **Ramsar** List.
- **R Praggnanandhaa** secured Tata Steel Masters Chess title
- **BIMSTEC** Youth Summit 2025.
- **Karnataka** has been declared 'Naxal-free'
- **Bengaluru** hosted , Asia's largest aerospace exhibition.
- **Microsoft** introduced **Majorana 1**, the world's first **quantum chip**.
- Archaeologists uncovered **three Kannada inscriptions**.
- **NASA**'s newest space telescope, **SPHEREx**,



KARNATAKA/INDIA/INTERNATIONAL-CURRENT AFFAIRS ✨



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February:2025

- India is set to host the BRICS Youth Council Entrepreneurship Working Group Meeting from March 3-7, 2025, under the theme “**Youth Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Growth.**”
 - BRICS was formally established in **2009**, and it does not have a single permanent headquarters, but the New Development Bank (NDB), its financial institution, is headquartered in **Shanghai**, China.
 - The member countries of BRICS are Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
- **Guner** village in the Kutch district has been designated as Gujarat’s **first Biodiversity Heritage Site** to protect its rare inland mangrove ecosystem.
 - It was declared Gujarat’s first Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS) in 2021 under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. This recognition was given due to its unique ecological and cultural significance.
 - **Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS)** are areas of unique ecological, cultural, or historical significance. They are designated to conserve biodiversity, promote sustainable development, and raise awareness about the importance of preserving natural heritage.
- **Niger** has become the first African country and the fifth globally to eliminate **onchocerciasis**, a disease caused by the Onchocerca volvulus parasite and transmitted by black flies in riverine areas.
 - The disease is spread by the bites of infected female blackflies.
 - The disease is a major cause of blindness in endemic regions, affecting millions of people.
 - It also causes significant social and economic burdens, as it often affects rural communities reliant on agriculture and fishing near rivers.
- Indian-origin astronaut **Sunita Williams** has set a new record for the longest spacewalking time by a woman, surpassing the previous record held by Peggy Whitson.
 - **Sunita Williams** is a distinguished Indian-American astronaut and former Navy officer, known for her record-breaking spacewalks and contributions to NASA’s space exploration missions



- **Nirmala Sitharaman** has made history by presenting her **8th consecutive** Union Budget on February 1, 2025.
 - The budget will be presented against the backdrop of India's economic growth trajectory, inflation trends, and global economic conditions.
 - The budget will be presented against the backdrop of India's economic growth trajectory, inflation trends, and global economic conditions.
- According to a study published in the journal Science, **India's tiger population** has increased by 30% over the past two decades.
 - India is now home to over 70% of the world's wild tiger population, with an estimated **3,167 tigers** as of the latest census (2022).
 - This growth is a testament to the success of India's conservation efforts, including strict anti-poaching measures, habitat restoration, and community involvement in wildlife protection.
- India has recently added **four new wetlands** to the **Ramsar** List, bringing the total number of Ramsar sites in India to **89**.
- The four newly designated wetlands are:
 - Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve (Karnataka)
 - Aghanashini Estuary (Karnataka)
 - Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve (Karnataka)
 - Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary (Tamil Nadu)
- The **saffron reedtail damselfly** (*Indosticta deccanensis*) was discovered in **Madhugundi**, Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka, its first recorded presence in the northern Western Ghats.
 - It is a rare species of damselfly called Kesar Reedtail has been observed, which is found in the Western Ghats of India.
 - Scientifically known as *Indosticta deccanensis*.
- The **DRDO** successfully conducted **three consecutive flight trials** of the Very Short-Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) system, demonstrating its capability to intercept low-altitude, high-speed threats.
- **Gujarat** has appointed a panel, led by retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Desai, to draft the state's **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)**.



- The **unemployment rate** in the country has reduced to 3.2% from the **previous 6%** in the last fiscal year during July 2023 – June 2024, as per the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).
 - This marks a substantial reduction and reflects positive developments in the country's labor market and economic recovery.
- **R Praggnanandhaa** secured his first-ever **Tata Steel Masters Chess title** by defeating **D Gukesh** 2-1 in a dramatic tie-breaker held in the Netherlands.
- **India** has emerged as the world's **2nd largest mobile manufacturer**, driven by the rapid expansion of its electronics industry.
- Out of **the total 4,096.7 km** of the **India-Bangladesh border**, around **864.482 km** remains unfenced due to various challenges, including land acquisition and objections from Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).
 - Fencing the India-Bangladesh border faces challenges like land acquisition delays, objections from Border Guard Bangladesh, difficult terrains, environmental concerns, disruption of cross-border communities, and high costs.
- **Tshego Gaele** made history by becoming the first Black woman to win the **Mrs World title in 2025**.
- The Indian Army has renamed **Kolkata's Fort William 'Vijay Durg'** as part of a decolonization initiative aimed at honouring India's indigenous military heritage.
- The **BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025** is taking place in **Gandhinagar**, Gujarat, from 7th to 11th February.
 - Its member countries, including India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Thailand.
 - Focused on fostering regional cooperation, the summit aims to empower youth through dialogue, innovation, and cultural exchange.
- The **Kodava community** is an endogamous **Dravidian ethnolinguistic** group native to the Kodagu region in **Karnataka**.
 - It known for their martial traditions, unique customs, and reverence for weapons, including the **"Kailpodh"** festival.

- **Karnataka** has been declared 'Naxal-free' after the surrender of its last active Naxalite, Lakshmi, in Udupi.
- The **Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully completed three successive flight trials of the Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) off the Odisha coast.

- **Assam** is set to host the **world's largest Jhumur dance festival** on February 24, 2025, as a prelude to the Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment Summit.



- Organised to commemorate over two centuries of Assam's tea industry, the grand spectacle also marks the beginning of the Advantage Assam 2.0 Summit.

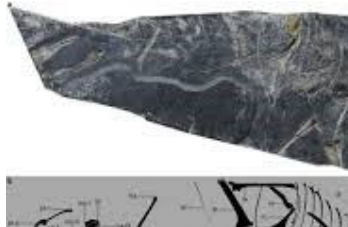
- **Uganda**, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and global partners, has initiated the first-ever **clinical trial** for a vaccine targeting the **Sudan species of the Ebola virus**.
- The **Para-Archery Asia Cup** took place in Bangkok, where Indian **archer Sarita** secured a gold medal in the Women's Compound Open category by defeating Singapore's Nur Syahidah Alim 143-142.
- **The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, in collaboration with MyGov, has launched the 'Culinary, Crafts & Clicks – Moods & Magic' festival to celebrate India's cultural heritage.
 - It aims to showcase India's cultural diversity through food, traditional arts, and photography.
 - It brings together artisans, photographers, and food enthusiasts at **Kartavya Path** and **Amrit Udyan**.
- **DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) of India** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Korea Transport Institute (KoTI) to enhance logistics and infrastructure cooperation.

- **Bengaluru** hosted , Asia's largest aerospace exhibition. The event highlighted India's growing capabilities in aerospace and defense sectors, attracting global participants and fostering collaborations.



- **Biovet** has developed **Biolumpivaxin**, the world's first DIVA marker vaccine for Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), and has received CDSCO approval for it.
 - Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), caused by the Lumpy Skin Disease Virus (LSDV), is a highly infectious viral disease of cattle and water buffalo, characterized by nodules on the skin, fever, and potential mortality, primarily spread by biting insects.

- The **Jurassic-era bird fossils** were discovered in **Fujian Province, China**, by a team of researchers led by Professor Wang Min from the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP).



- The **Haryana government** has approved **Nilgai culling** to address the growing human-wildlife conflicts, particularly due to the damage these animals cause to agricultural lands.
 - Human-wildlife conflict occurs when encounters between humans and wildlife lead to negative impacts, such as property damage, loss of livelihoods, or even injuries or deaths, often due to competition for resources or perceived threats.
- Two remote tribal hamlets, **Buriga** and **China Konela**, located in Andhra Pradesh's ASR district, celebrated "**freedom from darkness**" after receiving electricity for the first time in 78 years.
- The **Representation of the People Act, of 1951**, was enacted to regulate elections and establish disqualification criteria for elected officials.
 - The Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RPA), is a crucial piece of legislation for India's democratic framework, ensuring free and fair elections by supplementing constitutional provisions and providing a legal framework for electoral processes, candidate eligibility, and addressing malpractices.
- The statue of the Tamil poet and philosopher **Thiruvalluvar** was unveiled in the **Philippines**, specifically at the Gullas College of Medicine (GCM) in Cebu.
- The Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), under MeitY, launched a new advanced IT incubation centre in **Salt Lake, Kolkata**.

- The study indicates that nearly **44%** of the global population, which equates to **3.5 billion people**, is potentially exposed to **zoonotic diseases**.
 - Zoonotic diseases, or zoonoses, are infectious illnesses that can spread between animals and humans, often caused by germs like viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi.
 - They can be transmitted through direct contact, contaminated food/water, or vectors like insects.
- **The 17th BRICS Summit** will take place in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**, on July 6-7, 2025. The summit will bring together leaders from BRICS countries and selected invited nations to discuss critical global governance reforms and cooperation.
 - The first BRICS summit, which was initially the BRIC summit, was established in Yekaterinburg, Russia, on June 16, 2009.
 - The BRICS headquarters is in Shanghai, China.
 - The summit's focus was on improving the global economic situation, reforming financial institutions.
- **The Digital Inner Line Permit System** has been launched in **Chamoli** for tourists visiting the **India-Tibet border** areas.
 - **Inner Line Permit (ILP)** is an official travel document issued by the state government concerned to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period. It is obligatory for Indian citizens from outside those states to obtain a permit to enter the protected state.
- The National Geospatial Knowledge-based Land Survey of Urban Habitations (NAKSHA) has been launched by the **Ministry of Rural Development** in India.
 - The **NAKSHA** program aims to create and update land records in urban areas to ensure accurate and reliable documentation of land ownership. This initiative will empower citizens, improve ease of living, enhance urban planning, and reduce land-related disputes.
- **Kerala** is launching **the 'nPROUD' initiative**, India's first government-led program for the safe collection and disposal of expired medicines.
- **Mount Dukono**, one of **Indonesia's** most **active volcanoes**, erupted on February 20, 2025, sending a massive ash cloud into the sky.
 - It erupted after 92 years since its first eruption in 1933.

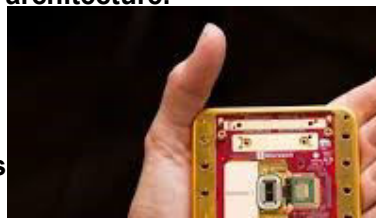
- The presence of **faecal coliform bacteria** in the **Ganga River** at Prayagraj has raised serious public health concerns, particularly during the Maha Kumbh Mela.

- Fecal coliform bacteria, a subgroup of coliform bacteria, are used as indicators of fecal contamination in water, suggesting the presence of other potentially harmful pathogens.



- The **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**, which is collaborating with India's Department of Technology (DoT) on AI-driven digital twin technologies, has its headquarters located in **Geneva, Switzerland**.
- On **January 29, 2025**, the World Health Organization (WHO) officially declared Guinea free from the gambiense form of human African trypanosomiasis (HAT), a significant achievement in public health.
 - It known as West African sleeping sickness, is a chronic, slowly progressing disease caused by the Trypanosoma brucei gambiense parasite, transmitted by tsetse flies, primarily in West and Central Africa.
- The Karnataka government has announced the provision of an additional 5 kilograms of rice starting from February, as part of the pre-poll **Anna Bhagya guarantee**.
- **The 2nd Simolu Festival** was held in **Assam**, specifically at Bwisang-Na, an ethnic eco-resort located in Barunguri, Laokhowa.
 - The two-day festival was held to celebrate the blooming Bombax ceiba (Shimul) flowers and promote eco-tourism, conservation, and local culture.
- India's first **zoo-based wildlife biobank** has been established at the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHNP) in Darjeeling, West Bengal.
 - It is a facility that collects, preserves, and stores biological samples (like DNA, tissues, and reproductive cells) from animals, especially endangered species, for conservation and research purposes.
- The new bat coronavirus, **HKU5-CoV-2**, was discovered by researchers in China, specifically at the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

- **West Bengal** topped India's bird species count for the third consecutive year in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) held from February 14 to 17, 2025.
 - It encouraging people to observe and document birds in their local areas, contributing to scientific data on bird populations.
 - Nagaland's Forest Management Project (NFMP) was recognized with the prestigious **SKOCH Award 2024** for its outstanding contributions to national development.
 - The **SKOCH Award** aims to identify and celebrate exemplary leadership, projects, and institutions that contribute to positive socio-economic transformations and make India a better nation.
 - **Uttarakhand's** Cabinet approved the **Bhoo Kanoon** (Land Law Amendment Bill), which aims to regulate land transactions involving non-residents.
 - The **Bhu Kanoon** is Uttarakhand's land law regulating property ownership. The 2025 revision restricts non-residents from buying agricultural/horticultural land in 11 districts to protect local culture, prevent environmental degradation, and stabilize land prices.
 - Microsoft introduced **Majorana 1**, the world's first **quantum chip**, which is powered by a Topological Core architecture.
 - This chip utilizes topological qubits, which are based on Majorana particles—particles that are their own antiparticles—offering enhanced stability and scalability for quantum computing.
 - The 51st **Khajuraho Dance Festival 2025** is being hosted by the Department of Culture, **Madhya Pradesh**, with support from Madhya Pradesh Tourism.
 - The festival not only showcased traditional dance forms but also promoted innovation in choreography, fostering a deeper appreciation for India's cultural heritage.
- Bisleri** International has partnered with the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** under the 'Adopt a Heritage 2.0 Programme' to restore and protect historic water bodies at heritage sites across India.



- **John McFall**, a former **British Paralympian** with a prosthetic leg, has been medically approved by the **European Space Agency (ESA)** for long-duration space missions to the International Space Station (ISS).
- The proposed **Aravali Safari Park**, which is planned to be the world's largest safari park, is located in **Haryana**.
 - **Aravali Safari Park Project**: It is envisioned as the world's largest safari park (approx 10,000 acres) and aims to support eco-tourism and compensatory afforestation.
- **Childhood cancers**, defined as cancers affecting children aged 0-14 years, account for 4% of all cancer cases in India.
 - This translates to an estimated 52,366 new cases annually within this age group.
- India and the United Kingdom agreed to resume **free trade negotiations** following discussions between Prime Minister Modi of India and Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer of the United Kingdom.
 - The resumption of these negotiations reflects the commitment of both nations to strengthen their economic ties and explore new investment opportunities across various sectors.
- The **northern region of Iraq** is experiencing a slow sinking effect caused by the movement of tectonic plates.
 - Tectonic plate movement is the driving force behind many geological phenomena, including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and the formation of mountain ranges.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has recorded the **highest vulture** population in India, with **12,981** vultures counted in the first phase of the 2025 census.
 - **India's vulture population** experienced a drastic decline in the 1990s due to the widespread use of the veterinary drug diclofenac, leading to a near-extinction crisis, and now conservation efforts focus on protecting the remaining species, particularly the critically endangered White-backed, Slender-billed, and Long-billed vultures.
- The international art exhibition titled "Topographies of Tents, Terracotta, and Time" will be hosted in **Hyderabad**.

- According to a recent study, **Australia and New Zealand** have the **highest breast cancer** incidence rates in the world.
 - Australia and New Zealand have some of the highest breast cancer incidence rates globally. In Australia, it's estimated that 1 in 7 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, while in New Zealand, it's 1 in 9.
- **Heart Lamp** is a short story collection by Kannada author **Banu Mushtaq**, which has been longlisted for the prestigious **International Booker Prize 2025**.
 - **The Booker Prize** is one of the most prestigious literary awards, recognizing outstanding works of fiction written in English. Established in 1969, it has celebrated authors from around the world, including those from Australia and New Zealand.
- The successful test-firing of **India's Naval Anti-Ship Missile (NASM-SR)** was conducted from Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha.

- The missile successfully hit a small ship target in sea skimming mode at maximum range.



- The missile deployed its indigenous IIR seeker for terminal guidance.

- The **Karnataka government** proposed tax waivers and financial incentives to promote clean mobility. This includes significant tax cuts for hybrid cars and incentives ranging from **15% to 25%** for manufacturers of electric vehicles and related components.
- Archaeologists uncovered three Kannada inscriptions from the **Kalyana Chalukya era** in **Kankal village, Vikarabad district**. Dating back to 1129-1132 CE, these inscriptions provide valuable insights into the region's historical heritage.

- It providing insights into temple construction, land donations, and the region's history during the reign of Emperor Someswara-III Bhulokamalladeva.



- In **2025**, the United Nations designated the year as the "**International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ)**" to celebrate 100 years of quantum mechanics and raise global awareness of its importance and applications.



- Quantum science and technology (QuST) leverages quantum mechanics to develop innovative technologies, including quantum computing, communication, and sensing, with applications ranging from medicine to materials science.

- **Central Zoo Authority (CZA)** approved India's first **white tiger breeding centre** in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh. The centre will be set up in Govindgarh, near Mukundpur's white tiger safari. The project received in-principle approval in 2011.

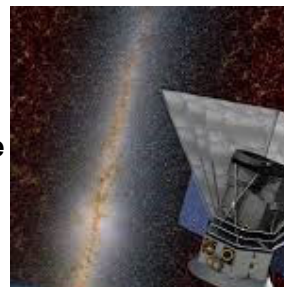
- The **king cobra**, previously considered a single species, has been reclassified into four distinct species: Northern King Cobra, Sunda King Cobra, Western Ghats King Cobra, and Luzon King Cobra.



- This reclassification highlights the importance of ongoing research in understanding biodiversity and the evolution of species.

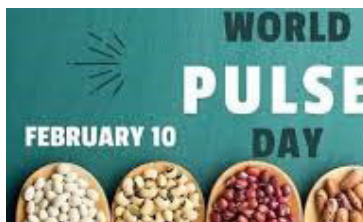
- **The Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)**, or Prime Minister's Farmer Income Protection Scheme, is an umbrella scheme aimed at ensuring farmers receive remunerative prices for their produce, including pulses, oilseeds, and copra, through mechanisms like Price Support Scheme (PSS) and Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS).
- The **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** is a survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSO) to measure employment and unemployment in India. The survey is conducted quarterly for urban areas and annually for both rural and urban areas.

- **NASA's** newest space telescope, **SPHEREx**, launched on **March 12, 2025**, aims to map the entire sky and search for the building blocks of life, while the James Webb Space Telescope continues to capture stunning images of the early universe and exoplanets.



- The **Genome India Project (GIP)** is a government-funded initiative to sequence the genomes of 10,000 healthy Indians.

- **Indian Coast Guard Day**, observed annually on **February 1st**, commemorates the establishment of the Indian Coast Guard on that day in 1977, recognizing its vital role in maritime security and safety.
- **World Wetlands Day** is observed every year on **February 2** to raise awareness about the crucial role wetlands play in supporting biodiversity, human well-being, and cultural heritage.
- **World Cancer Day** is observed annually on **February 4th**, aiming to raise awareness, promote action, and encourage global collaboration to address the growing burden of cancer.
- **February 4 International Day of Human Fraternity 2025**, the day generally focuses on promoting unity, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence, inspired by the "Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together".
- **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation** was observed on **February 6, 2025**.
 - It is a global initiative to raise awareness and take action against the harmful practice of FGM.
 - This day highlights the physical, psychological, and social consequences of FGM on women and girls and calls for its eradication through education, advocacy, and community engagement.
- **International Epilepsy Day** is observed on the **second Monday of February** each year to raise awareness about epilepsy, its diagnosis, treatment, and impact on individuals.
 - It aims to raise global awareness about epilepsy, its diagnosis, treatment, and the impact on individuals, families, and communities.
- **World Pulses Day** is observed every year on **February 10** to highlight the importance of pulses as a sustainable and nutritious food source.
 - The theme for World Pulses Day 2025 Pulses: Bringing diversity to agrifood systems,"
- The **International Day of Women and Girls in Science** is observed annually on **February 11** to promote gender equality in STEM fields.
 - It recognising that equal access to and participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) are critical for achieving gender equality.



- **World Interfaith Harmony Week February 1st to 7th** is a vital initiative that underscores the importance of unity in diversity. By fostering dialogue, respect, and collaboration among people of all faiths, it contributes to a more peaceful and harmonious world.
- **Anti-Smuggling Day** is observed annually **on February 11** to raise awareness about the threats posed by smuggling to national security and the economy.
 - This day highlights the dangers of illegal trade, including arms smuggling, fake currency circulation, and drug trafficking.
- **National Productivity Day** is observed annually on **February 12th** in India to raise awareness about the importance of productivity for economic growth and sustainability, and it's celebrated under the guidance of the National Productivity Council (NPC).
 - It to generate awareness about the importance of productivity in achieving economic growth and sustainability, under the guidance of the National Productivity Council (NPC).
- **World Radio Day** is celebrated on **February 13th** an opportunity to celebrate Radio as a medium. It is a chance to promote international cooperation between radio broadcasters to encourage major networks and local radio stations to access to information and freedom of expression.
- **February 13** is celebrated as **National Women's Day** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu, a prominent freedom fighter, poet, and women's rights activist, also known as the "Nightingale of India".
- **February 14** - February 14th is remembered as a **"Black Day"** in India, a day to remember the sacrifices of the soldiers who lost their lives in Pulvama attack.
- **India Energy Week** 2025 February 11 to 14 was held in **New Delhi**, organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, along with the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI).

- **International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD)** is observed on **February 15** each year.
 - It is to raise awareness about childhood cancer and support children and adolescents battling the disease, well as their families.
- **Global Tourism Resilience Day** is observed annually on **February 17**.
 - This day focuses on the significance of building a resilient tourism sector capable of withstanding challenges.
- The **World Day of Social Justice** is observed annually on **February 20**.
 - It is a UN-designated day to raise awareness about the importance of social justice and to promote efforts to combat poverty, exclusion, and unemployment, according to the United Nations.
- International Mother Language Day is observed annually on **February 21**.
- **World NGO Day** is celebrated annually on February 27 to acknowledge and appreciate the vital contributions of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in addressing global challenges.
 - It is a global event recognizing and honoring the contributions of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in addressing global challenges and promoting social good.
- **National Science Day** is observed on **February 28** each year to commemorate Sir C.V. Raman's discovery of the Raman Effect, which earned him the Nobel Prize in 1930.
 - On February 28, 1928, Sir C.V. Raman announced his ground breaking discovery of the Raman Effect, a phenomenon in spectroscopy where light scatters when passing through a transparent material, with some of the scattered light changing in wavelength.
- **Financial Literacy Week** to be observed during **February 24 – 28**, 2025 is 'Financial Literacy - Women's Prosperity' with emphasis on 'Financial Planning', 'Saving and Risk Management' and 'Availing Credit for Growth'.



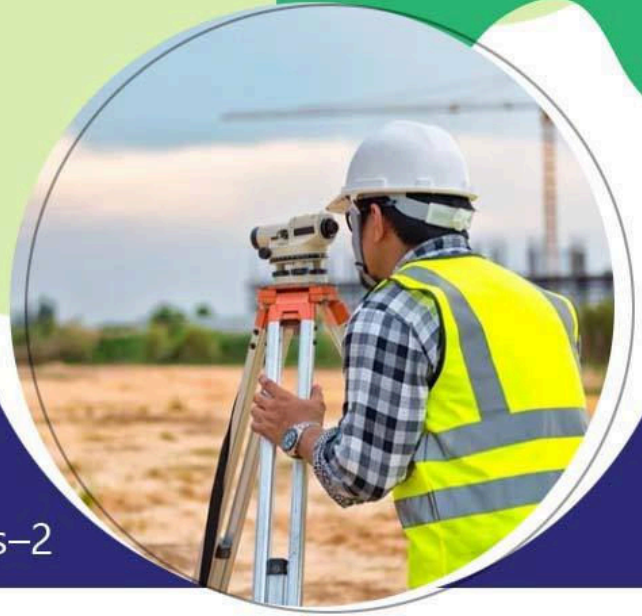
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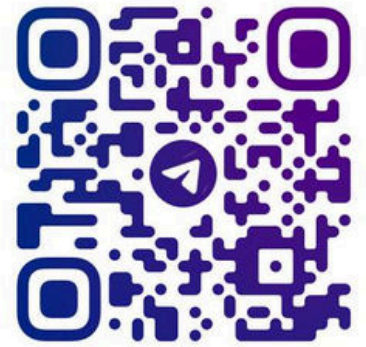
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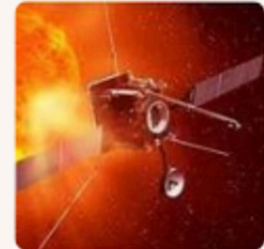
FORESIGHT MAGAZINE
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MONTHLY MAGAZINE

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)**



KARNATAKA/INDIA/INTERNATIONAL-CURRENT AFFAIRS



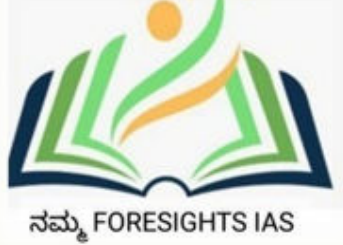
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MARCH CURRENT AFFAIRS 2025

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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'..

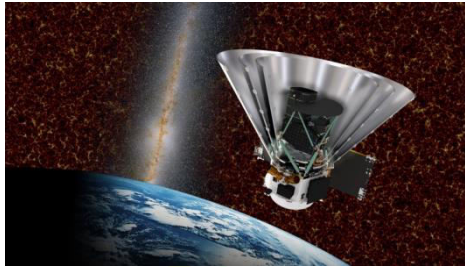
MARCH CURRENT AFFAIRS: 2025

Revision points

- **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

legally binding treaty adopted at the United Nations 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.

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

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.

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

- 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.

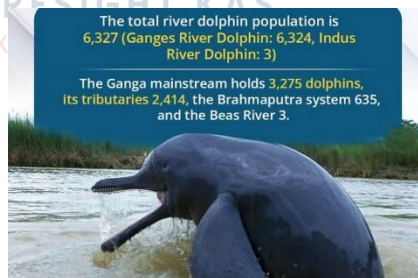
- Conducted by the **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)** in collaboration with state forest departments and non-profit organizations, the findings were announced during the 7th National Board for Wildlife meeting at Gir National Park.

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.

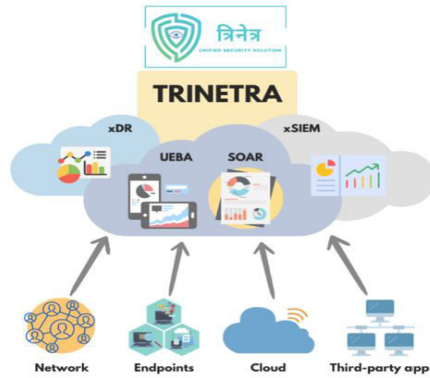
- Focus: **Eliminating the "Mukhiya Pati" or "Sarpanch Pati" culture**, ensuring that women representatives exercise authority independently. This initiative aims to promote gender-sensitive governance at the **grassroots level**, ensuring **safety, inclusivity, and gender equality for women and girls**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

Green hydrogen is hydrogen produced through the electrolysis of water using renewable electricity sources like solar 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 AI-powered 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.

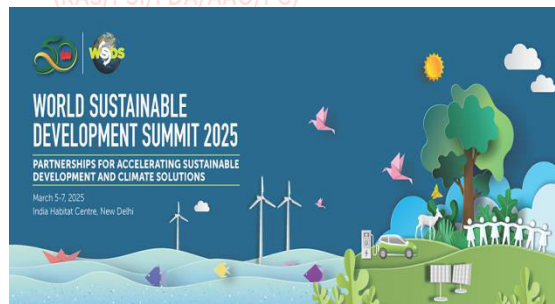
Eligibility of Visually Impaired Candidates: The Court ruled that visually impaired candidates are eligible to participate in **judicial service** selection processes.

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 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 Government Renames Bangalore City University & Announces Higher Education Reforms

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

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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

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 as 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 second-largest 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.



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:**

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



by

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



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.

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.**

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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.



Uttar Pradesh introduced the '**Rapid Immunisation Skill Enhancement' (RISE)** app to enhance its **immunization program**

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**.

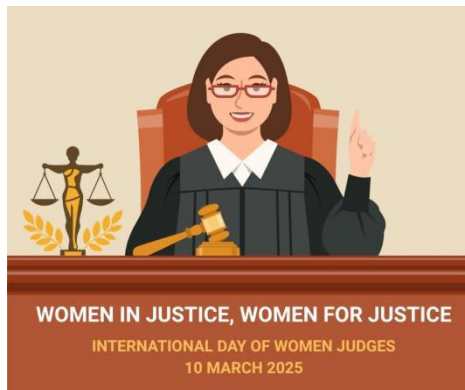


Theatre Level Operational Exercise (TROPEX) was indeed **conducted by the Indian Navy**.

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.



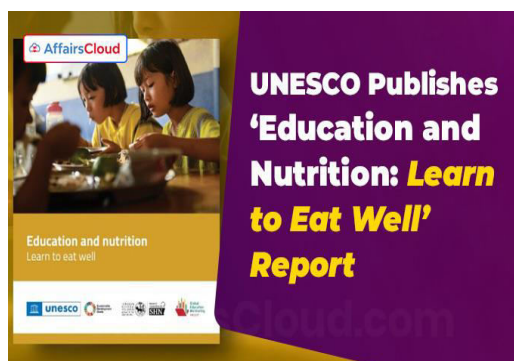
The Strengthening Multimodal and Integrated Logistics Ecosystem (SMILE) Program in India is funded by the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**. The SMILE program aims to improve **India's logistics infrastructure, reduce costs, and enhance efficiency** by strengthening **multimodal logistics, standardizing 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 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**.



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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 existing Eastern Kosi Main Canal (**EKMC**) command area.

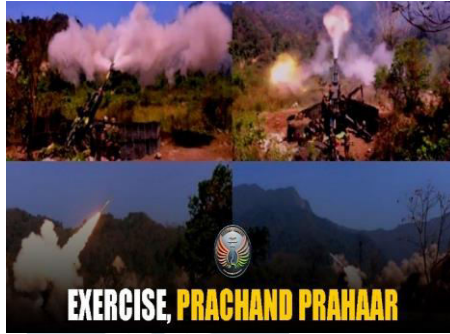
Telangana Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 2025, was indeed passed by the state of **Telangana**.

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 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 **AI-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) Academy Awards for 2024.

Top Honorees:

Mylahalli Revanna and **Dr. Venkatas** 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 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

(KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PC)

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.

ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

KAS, VO, AO, ACF, RFO, PSI

Inspired by N. Krishna Rao's novel.

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

Electricity Tariff Hike Announcement

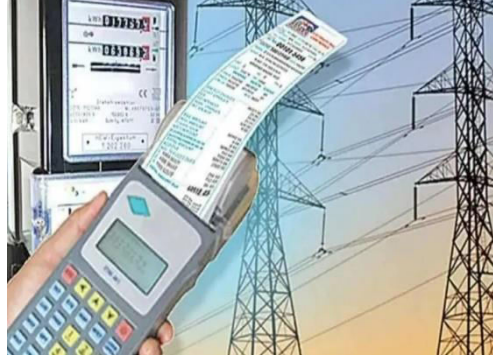
- Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) and Electricity Supply Companies (ESCOMs) have increased electricity tariff.
- Hike of 36 paise per unit** imposed to cover employee pension and gratuity expenses.

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**.

FORESIGHT 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:
 - Classic Café (small): ₹7 lakh.
 - 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.

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.

SI/PDA/AAU/PCJ

Understanding the Issue

What is Internal Reservation?

- Internal reservation refers to sub-classification 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.

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, Lakshmiapur, 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).

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

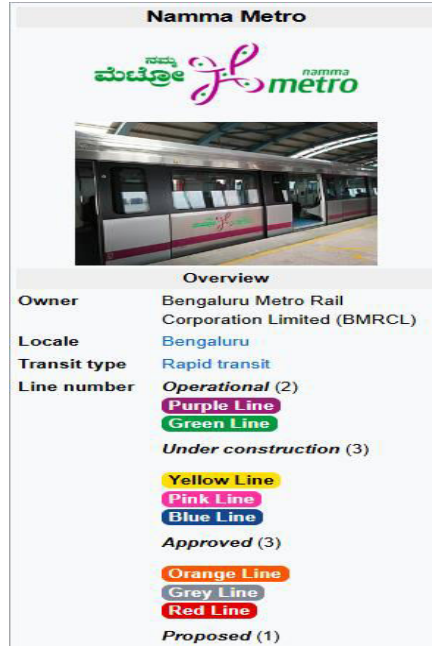
About IGBC:

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.



FORESIGHT KAS

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)
 - **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.



ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

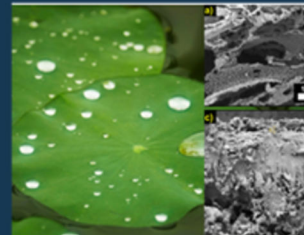
IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

APRIL-2025

NEWS - INSHORTS

- Prime Minister of India ,Modi received Sri Lanka's highest civilian honour, Mithra Vibhushana, in Colombo .
- Togalu Gombeyaata Artist Bhimavva received Padma Award.
- India to become world's third-largest economy by 2028, overtaking Germany, says Morgan Stanley.
- India's First Frozen Zoo has been established at the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park in Darjeeling.
- Kannadippaya has become the first tribal handicraft from Kerala to receive the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- IIT Bombay Scientists Developed a lotus leaf-like solar evaporators for salt-water treatment.
- AI Kiran, an initiative to empower women in Artificial Intelligence, has been launched.
- DRDO successfully conducts release trials of Long-Range Glide Bomb 'Gaurav'. Weapon
- PROJECT VARSHA is a classified naval project aimed at strengthening India's underwater nuclear capabilities.



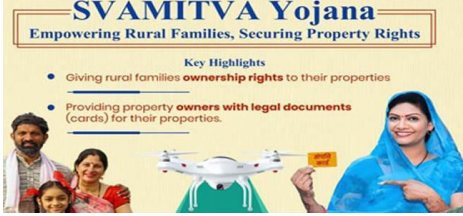
KARNATAKA/INDIA/INTERNATIONAL/CURRENT AFFAIRS

#502, 2nd Floor, opposite to TTMC Bus Stop Vijayanagar,
Bengaluru- 560040
Contact: 8050709380

April 2025- CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. The SVAMITVA scheme :

The SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme has **completed 5 years** of its launch.



About SVAMITVA :

Launch: 2020.

Implemented by: The Scheme is implemented with the collaborative efforts of the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj, State Revenue Department, State Panchayati Raj Department and Survey of India.**

objective is to provide a legal ownership title to rural residents for their residential properties through drone-based surveys and mapping, thereby enabling them to leverage their property as a financial asset.

2. PANCHAYAT ADVANCEMENT INDEX :

Ministry of Panchayati Raj Introduced Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) to Assess Gram Panchayat Performance and promoting better governance and contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Categories in the PAI

- **Achiever (0%):** No panchayat in India achieved the 'achiever' rank in this year's assessment.
- **Aspirant (61.2%):** The largest percentage of panchayats falls under this category.
- **Performer (36%):** A significant portion of panchayats has achieved moderate progress.
- **Front-Runner:** Gujarat topped the rankings with the highest number of panchayats in this category.

3. INDIA – SRI LANKA RELATIONS :

Prime Minister of India ,Modi received Sri Lanka's highest civilian honour, **Mithra Vibhushana**, in Colombo .



4. INDIA-UAE RELATIONS:

The Prime minister's recent visit of Crown Prince of Dubai, was his first official to India.

During the visit Bharat Mart & Virtual Trade Corridor (VTC) was inaugurated. It is to boost bilateral trade and strengthen the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC). The **Bharat Mart is India's warehousing facility** which would help the Indian exports showcase their products under one roof. This is similar to China's Dragon Mart.

5. 6TH BIMSTEC SUMMIT :

The 6th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Summit with the theme "**BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open**", concluded in Bangkok under the chairmanship of Thailand.

About BIMSTEC

- Genesis: It is a regional **organization established in 1997** with signing of the Bangkok Declaration. Secretariat located at Dhaka, Bangladesh

It was originally formed with 4 Members (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka & Thailand) with the acronym 'BIST-EC'.

- Member States (7): Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

6. MORAG AXIS :

Israel has completed the takeover of a new security corridor known as the Morag axis. Morag axis .

- This area consists mainly of agricultural land located between **Khan Yunis and Rafah**, stretching from east to west across the Gaza Strip.
- The name "Morag" refers to an illegal Israeli settlement that was established in the region between 1972 and 2005.



7. PRADHAN MANTRI MUDRA YOJANA (PMMY) :

On 8 April 2025, India marks 10 years of the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY). Ministry of finance launched it in the year 2015.

Objective: The main objective of the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) is to provide access to formal financial services for micro-enterprises and small businesses.

Categories of the loan :

- o **Shishu:** covering loans upto 50,000/-
- o **Kishor:** covering loans above 50,000/- and upto 5 lakh
- o **Tarun:** covering loans above 5 lakh and upto 10 lakh

Value Addition by MUDRA

- **Mudra Card:** It provides a facility of working capital arrangement in the form of an overdraft facility to the borrower.
- **Mudra Mitra:** It is a mobile phone application. It guides a loan seeker to approach a Banker in availing MUDRA loan under PMMY.
- o **Tarun Plus:** covering loans above 10 lakh and upto 20 lakh for those entrepreneurs who have availed and successfully repaid previous loans under the 'Tarun' category.

8. ONE STATE, ONE RRB :

Recently, Department of Financial Services notified amalgamation of 26 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) on the principles of "One State One RRB".

The amalgamation was done by the Central Government in exercise of the powers conferred under **Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976**.

- This is the fourth phase of amalgamation and post amalgamation, there will be **28 RRBs (down from 43 earlier) in 26 states and 2 UTs**.

Genesis: Regional Rural Banks were established in 1975 based on the recommendations of the Narasimham Working Group.

Ownership: Jointly owned by Government of India (**50% stake**), the concerned State Government (**15%**), and the sponsoring commercial bank (**35%**).

9. NANO SULPHUR :

TERI scientists have developed nano sulphur which reportedly increased mustard yield by 30-40%.

- DMH-11 is the genetically-modified mustard.

Nano-sulphur

- It is a completely green product that uses biological agents like plant promoting bacteria that secrete enzymes and metabolites.
 - o This makes it different from other **nono-fertilizers** such as nano urea and nano diammonium phosphate.
- Nano-sulfur has antibacterial and insecticidal properties.
- Benefits: Acts as a plant growth promoter, enhancing plant stress resistance, and improving the nutritional quality of plants, etc.

10. RAFALE MARINE (M) FIGHTER JETS :

Centre approved 26 Rafale Marine (M) Fighter Jets From France. These fighter jets will be for the Indian Navy and will be deployed on the country's **first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant**. The Indian Air Force operates 36 Rafale jets, acquired earlier.

11. LONG-RANGE GLIDE BOMB 'GAURAV' :

DRDO successfully conducts release trials of Long-Range Glide Bomb 'Gaurav'. Weapon Specifications

- Type: Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB).
- Weight: 1,000 kg class
- Range: 'Gaurav' **achieved 100 km** range with pinpoint accuracy.
- Development: Designed and developed indigenously.



12. PROJECT VARSHA

It is a classified naval project aimed at strengthening India's underwater nuclear capabilities.

- **Objective:** To develop a secure underground base to house a fleet of over 12 nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs).
- **Location:** Coastal village Rambilli in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Similar to Project Varsha** from the east, Karwar base in Karnataka under Project Seabird safeguards the west coast.

13. EXERCISES IN NEWS :

i. Exercise Desert Flag-10 : Indian Air Force is participating in Exercise Desert Flag-10. It is a premier multinational air combat exercise being hosted by the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

ii. Operation ATALANTA : European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) Operation ATALANTA has proposed a joint exercise with the Indian Navy. It operates in the Western Indian Ocean and the Red Sea region.

iii. Exercise 'Dustlik' : 6th edition of Exercise Dustlik started in Pune, Maharashtra. It is a yearly Joint military Exercise event conducted alternatively in India and Uzbekistan.

iv. Exercise Tiger Triumph : The Fourth edition of Exercise Tiger Triumph has commenced at Vishakhapatnam coast. It is the Bilateral Tri-Service India-US Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise.

v. INIOCHOS-25 : Indian Air Force to Participate in Multinational Air Exercise in Greece. It is an annual multinational air exercise hosted by Greece's Hellenic Air Force.

14. REVISED CLASSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIES :

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has directed State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to adopt a revised classification of industries.

In the new revised classification, CPCB has classified a total of 419 sectors into Red (125), Orange (137), Green (94), White (54) and Blue (9) category. o Blue category has been newly introduced.

About Blue Category :

- It includes **Essential Environmental Services (ESSs)** for management of waste generated from domestic/ household activities. ESSs are those facilities which are essential to control, abate and mitigate pollution generated from Domestic and Industrial activities.

15. COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT AND WATER MANAGEMENT (M-CADWM)

M-CADWM as a sub-scheme of **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)** is set to run for the period 2025-2026. PMKSY was launched in 2015-16 to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under

assured irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency, etc.

16. GREEN MUNICIPAL BONDS :

Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam pioneered India's first certified Green Municipal Bonds. It was issued under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban, raising ₹150 crore for the development of a cutting-edge Tertiary Sewage Treatment Plant (TSTP).

Green bonds are used to raise funds specifically for the climate mitigation, adaptation and other environment friendly and low carbon projects (World Bank).

17. SIMILIPAL TIGER RESERVE :

Odisha notified Similipal tiger reserve as national park. Out of the 2,750 sq km of the Reserve, 845.70 sq km has been notified as National Park, making it largest in Odisha, leaving behind **Bhitarkanika**. It is the 107th National Park and the second in the eastern state, after the Bhitarkanika.

18. GANDHI SAGAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY :

Cheetah Project Steering Committee cleared the relocation of some of the cheetahs from Kuno National Park to Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary.

Gandhi Sagar is a wildlife sanctuary located at eastern Madhya Pradesh. It is spread over two districts of Madhya Pradesh i.e. **Mandsaur and Nimach**. This region is known as Nimar region. River Chambal Passes through it.

19. GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK (GGN):

During the 10th Anniversary of UNESCO Global **Geoparks** (UGGPs), 16 new sites across 11 countries were added to the GGN. GGN is a non-profit International Association founded under UNESCO. It establishes ethical standards that must be adopted by Global **Geoparks**.

There are 229 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 50 countries (none in India).

20. PARTICULATE EMISSION TRADING MARKET IN GUJARAT'S SURAT :

It is the world's first-ever market for trading in particulate matter emissions.

o It is also India's first pollution trading scheme of any kind. o The concept of ETS first originated in US, targeting sulfur dioxide (SO₂) pollution.

A new study has revealed that the **Surat Emission Trading Scheme (ETS)** launched in 2019 has been successful in controlling particulate matter emissions cutting Pollutants By 20-30%. Pollution abatement costs also dropped by over 10 %, and

compliance with environmental rose laws among participating plants.

21. BAKU TO BELEM ROADMAP:

India urges BRICS nations to unite on 'Baku to Belem Roadmap' to mobilise USD 1.3 trillion in climate finance annually by 2035 to support Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Baku to Belem Roadmap

- UNFCCC COP29, held in Baku (**Azerbaijan**), agreed on a new global finance goal and a framework for raising ambition for climate finance in run-up to COP30 in Belém (Brazil).
- It aims at scaling up climate finance to developing country parties to support low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development pathways and implement NDCs.

22. AIM 4 NATURE INITIATIVE :

The **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** on Earth Day (22nd April) launched Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Nature Restoration (AIM4NatuRe).

- AIM4NatuRe is an acronym of Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Nature Restoration. It is part of FAO's AIM4Forests Programme, expanding the scope beyond forests to provide a holistic approach to nature restoration monitoring.

23. SMALL HIVE BEETLE (SHB) :

Alien or non-native beetle, Small Hive Beetle (**Aethinatumida**), was recorded for the first time in India in West Bengal. It is found in Sub-Saharan Africa. It seldom causes harm to Africa but creates havoc across other regions.



- Characteristics: Oval-shaped, reddish-brown, and 5-7 mm long, its life cycle goes through different stages: eggs, larva, pupa and adult.

24. MOSPI RELEASED "WOMEN AND MEN IN INDIA 2024: SELECTED INDICATORS AND DATA :

Report offers a comprehensive overview of the gender landscape in India across key areas like population, education, health, economic participation, and decision-making. Key Highlights from Report

- **Sex Ratio at Birth:** Between 2014-16 and 2018-20, sex ratio in urban areas (910)

has surpassed that of rural areas (907).

- **Health:** Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) declined from 122 in 2015-17 to 97 in 2018-20.
- **Education:** Literacy rates in India reached 84.7% for males and 70.3% for females in 2017 with Kerala having the smallest gender literacy gap, while Rajasthan having the highest.
- **Economic Participation:** Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LPFR) increased significantly from 23.3% in 2017 18 to 41.7% in 2023-24.
- o **Financial Inclusion:** Women own 39.2% of all bank accounts and contribute to 39.7% of total deposits.
- o **Leadership roles:** Women held 28.7% share in board of directors in FY25, up from 26.7% in FY20.
- **Political Participation:** Female voter turnout varied over the years, reaching 67.2% in 2019 but slightly declining to 65.8% in 2024.
- **Violence against Women:** Nearly one-third (31.9%) of married women aged 18-49 in India experience spousal violence, with the highest rates in Karnataka (48.4%), Bihar (42.5%) and Manipur (41.6%).

25. AI KIRAN :

AI Kiran, an initiative to empower women in Artificial Intelligence, has been launched.

- **Objective:** To foster a vibrant AI community where women can thrive as innovators, changemakers, and leaders.
- **Led by:** Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India.
- **Focus Areas:** It highlights contributions of over 250 women driving advancements in AI across critical sectors such as education, healthcare.

26. NON-NUCLEAR HYDROGEN BOMB :

Recently a non-nuclear hydrogen bomb has been detonated by china.

Key Features of the Non-Nuclear Hydrogen Bomb

- **Chemical Reaction:** It deploys chemical reaction with Magnesium Hydride to create a powerful explosion without nuclear materials.

o **Hydrogen bomb**, on the other hand, is primarily based on the **nuclear fusion** process.

Magnesium Hydride is a silvery powder that acts as a solid-state hydrogen storage material.

o When ignited it releases hydrogen that rapidly mixes with air and on reaching explosive limits, the gas ignites creating a self-sustaining combustion cycle.

27. MISSION "FRAM2" :

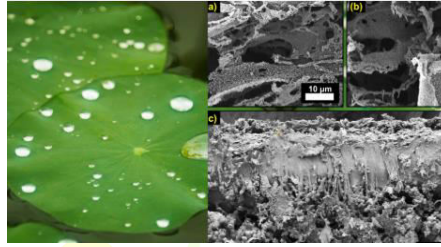
Mission titled "Fram2" has been launched using Dragon spacecraft of SpaceX.

- It will carry out a series of experiments, including the first X-ray in space and the cultivation of mushrooms in microgravity.
- It will be the first human spaceflight to cruise directly over Earth's Polar Regions.

28. DESALINATION TECHNOLOGIES :

IIT Bombay Scientists Developed a **lotus leaf-like solar evaporators** for salt-water treatment.

- Developed a new hydrophobic **Graphene-based material** that can facilitate water desalination, this could be a significant breakthrough to address the fresh water crisis in the world.



29 . BANARSI SHEHNAI AND TABLA :

Geographical Indication (GI) certificates awarded to Banarasi Shehnai and Banarasi Tabla.

About Banarasi Shehnai

- It is an Indian wind instrument similar to the oboe in tone and has seven holes on its staff in place of keys. Its music is associated with the temple music of the country. It gained global recognition through the legendary Ustad Bismillah Khan.



About Banarasi Tabla

- Benares tabla gharana was developed a little over 200 years ago by the legendary Pandit Ram Sahai . Banaras Gharana is recognized as one of the six principal tabla gharanas in Indian classical music. Noted tabla player Padma Vibhushan Pandit Kishan Maharaj belonged to the Banaras gharana of Hindustani classical music.



30. KANNADIPPAYA TRIBAL CRAFT :

Kannadippaya has become the first tribal handicraft

Contact: 8050709380



nammaforesight.com

from Kerala to receive the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. It is a beautifully woven mat, also known as "mirror mat" due to its unique reflective pattern.

31. CHINA'S RARE EARTH ELEMENTS EXPORT CONTROL:

China's Ministry of Commerce imposed export restrictions on seven rare earth elements (REEs) and magnets used in the defence, energy, and automotive sectors in response to U.S. tariff increases.

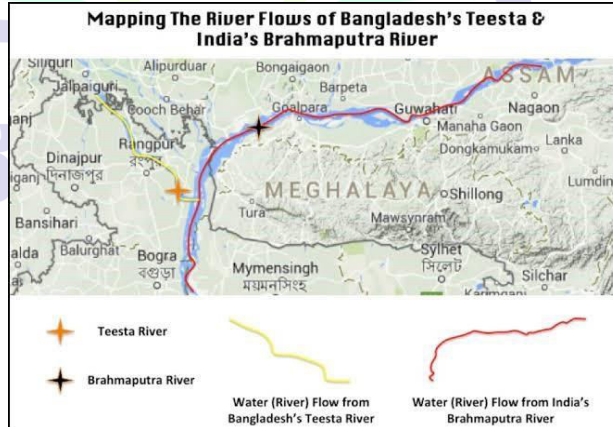
The new restrictions apply to 7 of 17 REEs: It requires companies to secure special export licenses to export these minerals and magnets.

Rare Earth Elements (REEs): As per the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) in 2005, are a group of 17 elements. o These elements share similar properties such as high density and high conductivity. o cerium (Ce), dysprosium (Dy), erbium (Er), europium (Eu), gadolinium (Gd), holmium (Ho), lanthanum (La), lutetium (Lu), neodymium (Nd), praseodymium (Pr), promethium (Pm), samarium (Sm), scandium (Sc), terbium (Tb), thulium I, ytterbium (Yb), and yttrium (Y).

- Source: Main sources of REEs are minerals such as bastnasite, loparite and monazite.

32. Bangladesh Welcomes China's Participation in Teesta Project

- 1) Teesta river is a tributary of the Brahmaputra (known as Jamuna in Bangladesh), flowing through India and Bangladesh.
- 2) It originates in the Himalayas near **Chunthang, Sikkim** and flows to the south through West Bengal before entering Bangladesh
- 3) Teesta River agreement regarding the sharing of Teesta River waters, but a formal treaty has **not been finalized**.



33. The India Justice Report 2025

The report ranks **Karnataka as the top state for justice delivery among 18 large and mid-sized states**, excelling in four pillars: police, judiciary, prisons, and legal aid, while West Bengal ranks at the bottom, highlighting regional disparities in judicial

efficiency.

34. Frozen Zoo:

India's First Frozen Zoo has been established at the **Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park in Darjeeling.**

This pioneering facility is designed to preserve the genetic material of endangered Himalayan species.

The initiative is a collaborative effort with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad.

The frozen zoo will collect and store genetic samples, enabling future scientific research and conservation programs.

This marks a major advancement in biodiversity preservation, focusing on the protection of the region's vulnerable wildlife.



35. India to become world's third-largest economy by 2028, overtaking Germany, says Morgan Stanley.

- The report says the Indian economy, valued at 3.5 trillion dollars in 2023, is projected to expand to 4.7 trillion dollars by 2026



36. Amazon launches first Kuiper internet satellites, taking on Starlink.

The satellites are the first of 3,236 that Amazon plans to send into low-Earth orbit for Project Kuiper, a \$10 billion effort unveiled in 2019 to beam broadband internet globally.

37. Togalu Gombeyaata Artist Bhimavva Among Several Achievers Conferred Padma Awards.

At a ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, President Droupadi Murmu conferred the prestigious Padma Awards for the year 2025 to 71 distinguished individuals for their outstanding contributions in various fields. Among the awardees was **Togalu Gombeyaata (traditional leather puppet theatre)** artist Bhimavva.



38. The Karnataka recipients of the 2025 Padma Awards:

Padma Vibhushan (2nd Highest Civilian Honour)

- L. Subramaniam (Violin Maestro & Composer) – honored for his outstanding contributions to music

Padma Bhushan (3rd Highest)

- Anant Nag (Actor, Kannada actor, known for 300+ films)
- A. Surya Prakash (Journalist & Educationist, ex-Prasar Bharati Chair)

Padma Shri (4th Highest)

- Five honoured from Karnataka:
- Bhimavva Doddabalappa Shillekyathara (age 96) – Togalu Gombeyaata shadow-puppeteer from Koppal
- Venkappa Ambaji Sugatekar – Gondhali folk artist & storyteller
- Dr. Vijayalakshmi Deshamane – Oncologist from Kalaburagi
- Ricky Kej – Grammy-winning music composer .
- Prashanth Prakash – Founding partner of Accel India, recognized for trade & industry
- Hassan Raghu (listed also as Hasan Raghu) – Film producer/director from Hassan .

Award	Recipient(s)
Padma Vibhushan	L. Subramaniam
Padma Bhushan	Anant Nag, A. Surya Prakash
Padma Shri	Bhimavva Shillekyathara, Venkappa Sugatekar, Dr. Vijayalakshmi Deshamane, Ricky Kej, Prashanth Prakash, Hassan Raghu

A total of **nine Karnataka-based achievers were felicitated** as part of the 2025 Padma Awards.

39. Justice B.R. Gavai succeeds Chief Justice Sanjeev Khanna, who superannuated on

Justice B.R. Gavai set to take oath as 52nd Chief Justice of India on 14th May

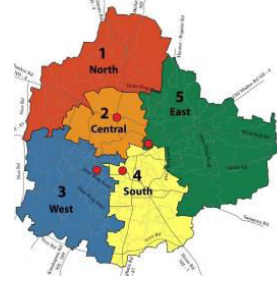
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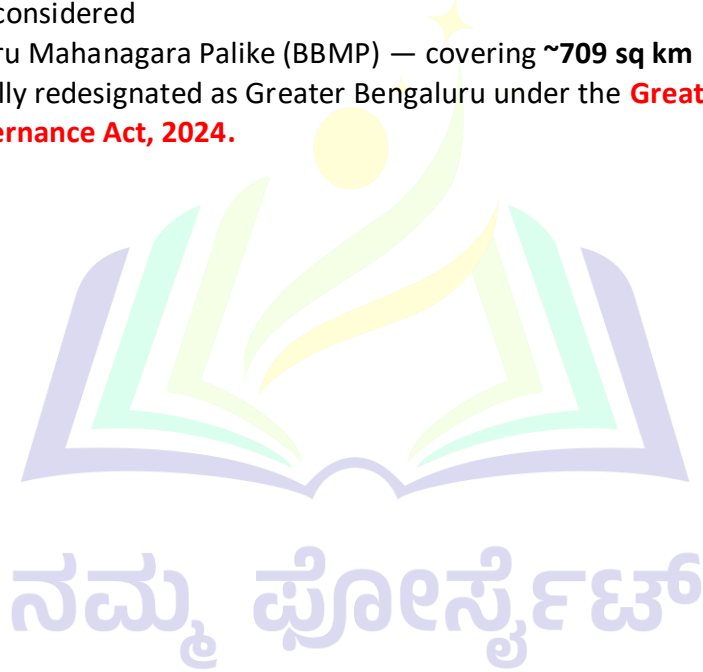
Tuesday. Gavai will serve as CJI for the next six months and retire on November 30

40. Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) :

It came into being on **15 May 2025**, replacing BBMP as the top administrative body



- Chaired by **CM Siddaramaiah**, with **DK Shivakumar** as vice-chairm
- Initially at least **three municipal corporations** under GBA (Central, North, South), with the possibility of expanding up to **seven**.
- In draft plans, **five Palikes** based on zones (North, Central, West, South, East) are being considered
- Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) — covering **~709 sq km** — has been officially redesignated as Greater Bengaluru under the **Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2024**.



Remember

Indian Constitution

Parts of Indian Constitution

You can fly directly from US to UP meet Shyam & Ram.
Fruit taste sweet to eat so on, eat Maggie as tasty snack.

TRICKS	PARTS	SUBJECTS	ARTICALS
U	1	Union and its territory	1-4
can	2	Citizenship	5-11
fly	3	Fundamental Rights	12-35
directly	4	Directive Principles of state Policy	36-51
from	4-A	Fundamental Duties	51.A
U	5	Union Government	52-151
S	6	State Government	152-237
to	7	<i>deleted by the 7th Amendment Act (1956)</i>	
U	8	Union Territory	239-242
P	9-A	Panchayat	243.A-243.O
Meet	9-B	Municipalities	243.P-243.ZG
Shyam	10	Schedule and Tribal Area	244-244.A
Ram	11	Relation between Union and States	245-263
Fruit	12	Finance, Property, Contracts	264-300.A
Taste	13	Trade and Commerce	301-307
Sweet	14	Services under Union and the States	308-323
To	14-A	Tribunals	323.A-323.B
Eat	15	Election	324-329.A
So	16	Special provisions relating to certain Classes	330-342
On	17	Official Languages	343-351
Eat	18	Emergency Provision	352-360
Maggie	19	Miscellaneous	361-367
As	20	Amendment of the Constitution	368
Tasty	21	Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions	369-392
Snack	22	Short title, commencement, Authoritative Text in Hindi and Repeals	393-395



ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

Social Reformer



Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, born on April 11, 1827, and passed away on November 28, 1890, was a prominent Indian social reformer, activist, thinker, and writer from Maharashtra. He is best known for his work in eradicating untouchability and the caste system, as well as for his efforts in educating women and lower-caste individuals.

Phule was born into a Mali (gardener) caste family in Pune, Maharashtra. Despite facing societal barriers, he received an English education at the Scottish Mission High School in Pune.

Phule and his wife, Savitribai Phule, were pioneers in women's education in India. They established the first school for girls in India in 1848 in Pune.

In 1873, Phule founded the Satyashodhak Samaj (Society of Seekers of Truth), an organization that aimed to achieve equal rights for people from lower castes by challenging Brahminical dominance and promoting social justice.

SCAN ME HERE



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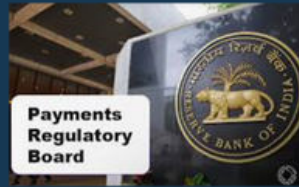
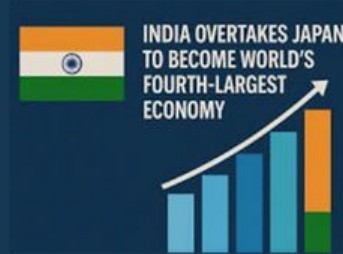
IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

MAY-2025

NEWS - INSHORTS

- **Banu Mushtaq** received International Booker Prize for 2025, **Heart Lamp** is the first-ever Kannada work to receive the award.
- Prime Minister of India inaugurated the **Rising North East Summit 2025** hosted by the ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region (**DoNER**).
- **India** has surpassed Japan to become **4th largest** economy worldwide.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) notified the Payments Regulatory Board Regulations, 2025, under Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- As per the RBI, India achieves **highest ever exports**
- The Defence Minister inaugurated the **Brahmos Aerospace Testing Facility** in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- US President has unveiled an ambitious missile defence system named as **Golden Dome**.
- India has successfully test-fired an indigenously developed anti-drone system, **Bhargavastra**.



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May 2025 CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. World Press Freedom Index 2025

- Published by - Reporters without Borders
- India ranked 151st out of 180 countries this year .
- India had ranked 159th in 2024 and 161st in 2023
- Index ranked Eritrea at the bottom most and **Norway topped the list.**

2. In winning the International Booker Prize for 2025, **Banu Mushtaq** has scripted history on several counts. Her book **Heart Lamp**, translated from the Kannada by **Deepa Bhashthi**, is the first collection of short stories to be awarded the £50,000 prize, and it's the first time Kannada has been honoured.



Heart Lamp is the first-ever Kannada work to receive the award.

It is the first short story collection ever to win the International Booker Prize

It is only the second Indian title to take home the award after Geetanjali Shree's Tomb of Sand in 2022.

3. CHINA PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR (CPEC)

The foreign ministers of China, Pakistan and Afghanistan agreed to extend the China Pakistan Economic Corridor to Afghanistan.

CPEC is the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) launched in 2015.



- It is the link between the Silk Road Economic Belt and the Maritime Silk Road.
- The projects under the CPEC mainly relate to energy and infrastructure.
- The 3000 kilometres of roads, railways and pipelines are intended to transport oil and gas from Pakistan's Gwadar Port to Kashgar City in north western China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR).

4. CONCERNS RAISED BY INDIA OVER IMF'S LENDING TO PAKISTAN

International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Executive Board completed the first review of Pakistan's economic reform program supported by the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) Arrangement.

- IMF allowed the disbursement of around \$1 billion (Special Drawing Rights (SDR) 760 million) under EFF.

It also approved lending of US\$1.4 billion (SDR 1 billion) under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) lending program.

- India criticized the approval of the lending and abstained from the voting process.

5. NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK

- Algeria became 9th member of NDB.

About NDB

Headquarters: Shanghai, China

- Genesis: 2015 by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) countries.
- Purpose: It is a multilateral development bank for mobilising resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in emerging markets and developing countries (EMDCs).
- Members: Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, UAE, Egypt, Algeria. o The membership is open to members of the United Nations, including both borrowing and non-borrowing members (Article 2 of the NDB).

Capital and Shareholding: Out of the initial authorized capital of \$100 Billion, all 5 founding members have an equal share totaling \$50 Billion.

6. NORTHEAST AS 'FRONTRUNNER OF GROWTH'

Recently, Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Rising **North East Summit 2025** hosted by the Ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region (**DoNER**).

Highlighting the importance of Northeast India's strategic location, Prime Minister also gave the Vision of EAST (Empower, Act, Strengthen, and Transform) as a policy framework for Northeast.

Prime Minister, while describing the region's eight States as '**Ashta Lakshmis**' (eight forms of Goddess Lakshmi), listed the bio-economy, bamboo, tea production, petroleum, sports and eco-tourism as some of the areas where the region is an emerging hub.



7. REVAMPED PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (PLFS)

National Statistics Office (NSO) has revamped Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) from January 2025.

Conducting agency: National Statistics Office (NSO)

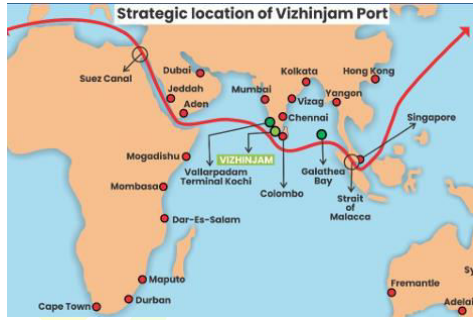
- Ministry: Introduced in 2017 by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

8. VIZHINJAM INTERNATIONAL SEAPORT

Recently, Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Vizhinjam International Transshipment Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport in Kerala.

About Vizhinjam International Seaport.

- It is **India's First Deep-Water Container** Transshipment Port. This ambitious project is taken up by Government of Kerala.



- Purpose: It is designed primarily to cater container transshipment besides multi-purpose and break bulk cargo.
- Developmental model: The port is being currently developed in landlord model with a Public Private Partnership (PPP) component on a Design, Build, Finance, Operate, and Transfer (DBFOT) basis.

9. NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY BOARD

A report was placed in the Parliament by the Standing Committee on Coal Mines and Steel reviewing the implementation of the DMF Fund and the **Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana** (PMKKKY) in India.

District Mineral Foundation (DMF)

Enactment: Created in 2015, via an amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957

Concept: The DMF is a non-profit statutory 'Fund' for every Indian district affected by mining related operations. It is set up as a non-profit trust.

10. INDIA OVERTAKES JAPAN TO BECOME 4TH LARGEST ECONOMY

As per the recent World Economic Outlook of the IMF, India has surpassed Japan to become 4th



largest economy worldwide. As per the recent World Economic Outlook of the IMF, India has surpassed Japan to become 4th largest economy worldwide. Key drivers for India's Economic Leap

Structural: Urbanization and rising aspirations leading to rise in per capita income and lifestyle consumption, demographic **dividend (India's current median age is ~29 years)**, strong domestic demand (private consumption contributes nearly 70% to GDP), etc.

- **Policy:** Taxation and business reforms (implementation of GST, IBC, Corporate Tax cuts, etc.), push for infrastructure (National Infrastructure Pipeline, PM Gati Shakti, etc.), Atmanirbhar Bharat and Production-linked incentive, etc.

- **Technological:** Digital Public Infrastructure (UPI, JAM Trinity, etc.), strong global demand for Indian IT, software exports, and consulting services, etc.

- **External and global factors:** Increased FDI inflows, Global supply chain rebalancing with strategies like 'China Plus One' and Supply Chain Resilience Initiative, etc.

11. US HOUSE APPROVES 3.5% OUTWARD REMITTANCE TAX

US House Approves '**One, Big, Beautiful Bill**' with 3.5% outward remittance tax provision

- Called the '**Excise tax on remittance transfers**', the newly proposed provision will be effective from January 1, 2026.

Remittances

- Definition: The movement of funds from the country of work back to a home country is known as remittances.

In 2023, remittances back to home countries totalled about \$656 billion.

- India got 14.3% of global remittances in 2024 (its highest ever). Key highlights of the Bill

- **Remittance tax (excise tax) will apply only to non-US citizens and US citizens are exempted.**

Affected groups include Visa holders (H-1B, F-1), Green card holders, etc.

- The bill reduced the Outward remittance tax from 5% (which was previously proposed) to 3.5%.



12. ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS (AIFs)

RBI has revised the rules for investment in Alternative Investment Funds.

About AIFs

- Any fund incorporated in India which is a privately pooled investment vehicle which collects funds from sophisticated investors, whether Indian or foreign, for investing it in accordance with a defined investment policy for the benefit of its investors.

- AIFs are regulated by the SEBI, as per the SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012.

Categories of AIFs

- **Category I AIF:** Invest in start-ups, early-stage ventures or sectors considered socially or economically beneficial. E.g. Venture Capital Funds, Angel funds, SME Funds, Infrastructure Funds

- **Category II AIF:** They do not use leverage or debts other than to cover their day-to-day operational expenses. E.g. Private Equity Funds, Debt Funds, Real Estate Funds.

- **Category III AIF:** It may use leverage including through investment in listed or unlisted derivatives. E.g. Hedge Funds, Private investment in public equity (PIPE).

13.PREDATORY PRICING

Recently, Competition Commission of India has notified the Cost Regulations, 2025 providing new definitions to curb predatory pricing.

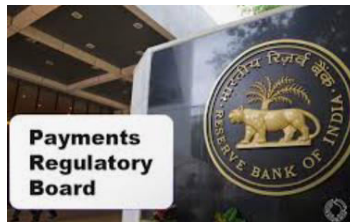
About Predatory Pricing

- Definition: The sale of goods or provision of services at a price below the cost with a view to reduce competition or eliminate competitors.

14.PAYMENTS REGULATORY BOARD

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) notified the Payments Regulatory Board Regulations, 2025, under Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

- These regulations replace the earlier Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement Systems Regulations, 2008. About Payments Regulatory Board



Composition

- Chairperson: RBI Governor
- Ex-officio Members: Deputy Governor in charge of payment systems, 1 RBI-nominated officer.
- 3 members nominated by Central Government.

- Board may also invite experts from fields like payments, IT, cybersecurity, law etc.
- Tenure of Members: Government-nominated members will have a fixed tenure of 4 years and no re-nomination is allowed.
- Meetings: At least twice a year.
- Quorum: Minimum of 3 members, including Chairperson or Deputy Governor.
- Decisions: by majority vote. In case of a tie, Chairperson has a casting vote.

15. OPINION TRADING PLATFORMS

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has cautioned investors against dealing with opinion trading platform.

About Opinion trading platforms

- Concept: These platforms allow participants to earn money by investing in their predictions on any sports, political, weather, or crypto events,
 - o Participants can bet on any event based on their predictions.
 - o If the predictions are correct, a participant makes money, and in case the prediction goes wrong they lose.
- Legal Status: **Not regulated by SEBI** because the items being traded are not classified as securities under Indian law.
- Economy: These platforms have registered transaction volumes of over Rs 50,000 crore a year with a user base of more than 5 crore people.



16. INDIA ACHIEVES HIGHEST EVER EXPORTS

As per the RBI, India's total exports (Merchandise + Services) have reached \$824.9 billion in 2024-25 rising by 6.01 % from \$778.1 billion in 2023-24.

- This is despite global slowdown triggered by trade disruptions due to Red Sea crisis, Ukraine war, drought in Panama Canal, increase in Non-Tariff Measures, rising energy prices etc. Key data and trends

- **Merchandise Exports:** Have marginally increased to US\$437.4 billion, from US\$437.1 billion in 2023-24.
- **Services Exports:** Reached a historic high of US\$387.5 billion in 2024-25, up 13.6% from US\$341.1 billion in 2023-24.



o Key sectors included telecommunications, computer and information services, transport, travel, and financial services.

17. INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT) has been launched by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in collaboration with FICCI and CII. About IICT:

- It will serve as a National Centre of Excellence (NcoE) dedicated exclusively to Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) sector.
 - o Extended Reality (XR) technologies blend physical and digital worlds e.g. Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), and Mixed Reality (MR).
- It will follow same template as IITs and IIMs in India to transform itself into a massive world-class education and training hub for students who aspire to be professionals in AVGC-XR sector.

18. BRAHMOS AEROSPACE TESTING FACILITY

The Defence Minister recently inaugurated the Brahmos Aerospace Testing Facility in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Alongside the testing facility, a **Brahmos missile** production unit was also inaugurated.



- These units are part of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor and are expected to play a critical role in missile testing, assembly, and production.

19. GOLDEN DOME

US President has unveiled an ambitious missile defence system named as Golden Dome.

About Golden Dome

- The Golden Dome is a ground- and space-based missile defence system designed to protect all of the U.S.A.
- It will be a multi-layered defence system against hypersonic and cruise missile threats, integrating space-based interceptors and advanced tracking technologies.
 - o The Dome will detect, track and stop missiles at multiple stages of flight, potentially destroying them before takeoff or intercepting them in mid-air.



20. FINANCIAL FRAUD RISK INDICATOR

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has introduced a Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI) to combat mobile based cyber fraud.

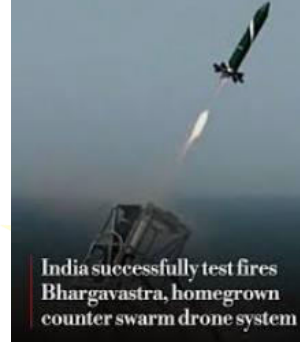
The Indicator allows for swift, targeted, and collaborative action against suspected frauds in both telecom and financial domains.

21. BHARGAVA STRA

India has successfully test-fired an indigenously developed anti-drone system, Bhargavastra.

About Bhargavastra

- It is a low-cost, 'hard kill' anti-drone system designed to neutralize threats from drone swarms.
- Developed By: Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL),
- Key Features o Two-layer security system: > Layer 1: Unguided micro-rockets with a 20m lethal radius for swarm drones > Layer 2: Guided micro-missiles for precision strikes



22. MULTI-INFLUENCE GROUND MINE (MIGM)

The Indian Navy and DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) successfully tested the indigenously developed MIGM. About MIGM

- Advanced underwater naval mine designed to enhance the Indian Navy's capabilities against modern stealth ships and submarines.
- Designed and Developed by: **Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL)** under DRDO.
- **Features:** It uses multiple sensors to detect acoustic, magnetic, and pressure signals from marine vessels.

o It has built-in electronics with processors to process data and trigger appropriate actions. o It is deployable from ships, submarines etc.

23. IGla-S

Indian Army received new Russian Igla-S missiles to counter drones, choppers, jets.

About Igla-S

- It is a man-portable, shoulder-launched surface-to-air missile (SAM) system



designed for mobile ground units operating in high-threat environments o It is an improved version of Very Short Range Air Defence Systems (VSHORADS).

24. OPERATION HAWK

CBI launched Operation Hawk to crack down on global cybercrime networks involved in online child sexual exploitation.

- The operation follows Operation CARBON (2021) and Operation Megh Chakra (2022) to track suspects and dismantle such networks with international links.

25. GLOBAL METHANE TRACKER 2025

Global Methane Tracker 2025 has been released by the International Energy Agency (IEA). Methane (greenhouse gas) is responsible for around **30 % of the rise in global temperatures** since the Industrial Revolution.



26. ASIATIC LION POPULATION INCREASES IN GUJARAT

Asiatic Lion population increases from 674 to 891 in 5 years according to the Lion Census (2025).

There has been an increase in the number and distribution area of Asiatic Lions (also outside Gir National Park), exemplifying the success of 'Project Lion.'

- The census conducted (**every 5 years**) by the Gujarat Forest Department.

About Asiatic Lion (Panthera leo persica)

- Habitat: Grasslands, savannas, dense scrub, and open woodlands.
- o Concentrated in the Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary (Gujarat).
- o Barda Wildlife Sanctuary has emerged as a "second home" for lions.
- IUCN Status: Vulnerable.
- Listed in Schedule I and IV of Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, in Appendix I of CITES.



27. LADAKH'S SNOW LEOPARD POPULATION

Study by Ladakh's Department of Wildlife Protection has estimated 477 snow leopards in Ladakh.

- Ladakh has one of the **world's highest densities of Snow Leopard**, representing 68% of India's species population.

Conservation status:

- o IUCN Red List: Vulnerable.
- o CITES Appendix I and CMS Appendix I
- o Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

28. OPERATION OLIVIA

Operation Olivia has shielded over 8-lakh olive Ridley turtles on Odisha's Gahirmatha coast.

Operation Olivia

- Initiated: In 1980s, by the Indian Coast Guard & It is conducted every year from November to May.
- The operation focuses on: **Gahirmatha Beach, Rushikulya River Mouth, and Devi River Mouth.**
- These coastal zones witness the arrival of over 800,000 Olive Ridley turtles annually for mass nesting called arribada.



About Olive Ridley Turtles:

IUCN Status: Vulnerable; CITES: Appendix I.

29. TSARAP CHU CONSERVATION RESERVE

State Government of Himachal Pradesh notified Tsarap Chu Conservation Reserve (India's largest) in Spiti Valley.

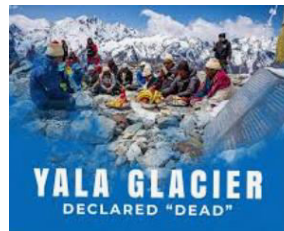
About Tsarap Chu

- It is the location for the confluence of the Unam River and Charap Nala.
- It is bounded by the UT of Ladakh to the north, the Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary extending up to Malang Nala and Lungar Lungpa to the east, Kabjima Nala to the south and Chandratat Wildlife Sanctuary to the west.
- It is particularly known for the snow leopard, often called the 'ghost of the mountains'.



30. YALA GLACIER DECLARED DEAD

Glaciologists and local communities mourned the loss of Nepal's Yala glacier after it has shrunk by 66% since the 1970s, making it among Nepal's first likely to be declared dead.



Glacier Funeral

- It is a symbolic ceremony held to mark rapid disappearance of glaciers due to climate change.
- Other major glaciers declared dead: Pizol Glacier, Switzerland (2019); Clark Glacier, US (2020); Ayoloco glacier, Mexico (2021); etc.
- The world's first funeral was held for Okjokull glacier in Iceland in 2019.

31.WORLD'S FIRST COMMERCIAL-SCALE E-METHANOL PLANT OPERATIONALISED IN DENMARK

E-methanol offers a viable path for reducing emissions in hard-to-abate sectors such as shipping and chemical manufacturing.

- It is a low-carbon energy produced by combining green hydrogen with captured carbon dioxide.



32.RIMES

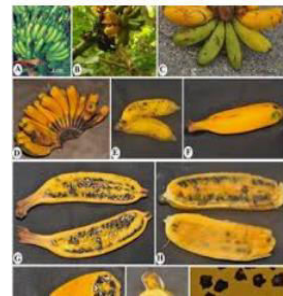
Declaration on Disaster Preparedness has been adopted at the 4th Ministerial Conference of **Regional Integrated Multi Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES)**, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. About Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), 2009

- It is an intergovernmental body that provides early warning services, disaster risk reduction strategies, and capacity building to its Member States. o It evolved from the efforts of countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, to establish a regional early warning system.
- Membership: It has 22 member states and 26 collaborating states.
- It operates from its regional early warning center located at Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand.

33. BANANA MUSA INDANDAMANENSIS

An infructescence of about 4.2 metres has been recorded in a species of wild banana *Musa indandamanensis*, making it the longest infructescence recorded in bananas.

- Infructescence is a group or cluster of fruits arranged on an axis/stem that is composed of a main stalk, and often having a complex arrangement of branches.



About Musa indandamanensis

- Discovery: First recorded from a remote tropical forest near Krishna Nala reserve forest in the Andaman and Nicobar islands in 2012.

34.HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2025

The United Nations Development Programme released its Human Development Report 2025 which appreciated India for its progress in human development but also warned about rising inequality, particularly significant income and gender disparities.

India's rank in HDI improved from 133 in 2022 to 130 out of 193 countries in 2023.

35. URBAN POVERTY

Odisha government launched a collaborative initiative 'SAHAYOG' to facilitate access to government welfare schemes for the urban poor.

About SAHAYOG initiative

- Aim: To improve the living standards of the economically backward through various government schemes.

Urban population nearly doubled from 17.29% (1951) to 31.16% (2011), growing from 62 million to 377 million people.

- Extreme poverty in urban centres reduced from 10.7% (2011-12) to 1.1% (2022-23).

36.MIZORAM ACHIEVES FULL FUNCTIONAL LITERACY

Recently, the Chief Minister of Mizoram officially declared Mizoram a fully literate state, making it the first state in India to achieve full functional literacy.

- Mizoram crossed above 95% literacy rate (98.20% as per the PLFS Survey 2023-24).
- Goa has become the second state to achieve full functional literacy.

37.TRACHOMA

India was awarded the Certificate of Elimination of Trachoma as a Public Health Problem by the World Health Organisation (WHO).



- India was declared the 3rd (after Nepal and Myanmar) Southeast Asian region country to have eliminated Trachoma in 2024.

About Trachoma

- Cause: It is an eye disease caused by the bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis. o It is categorized as a Neglected Tropical Disease by the WHO.

38. KARNI MATA TEMPLE

Prime Minister visits Karni Mata temple in Rajasthan.

About Karni Mata Temple

- Located in Bikaner district, Rajasthan.
- Dedicated to Karni Mata, believe is an incarnation of Goddess Durga.
- Establishment: Rao Jaitasi built this temple, to commemorate the victory of Bikaner King over the Mughal King Kumaran.
- Religious Sect: The temple belongs to Shakta Sampradaya.
- Unique Feature: In the whole world this is a unique temple where thousands of rats freely move out. o Despite the presence of the rats in great numbers, there was no incidence of plague at all.

39. MAJOR DHYAN CHAND KHEL RATNA AWARD

Satwicksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty received the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award. The badminton pair reached the No. 1 rank in Badminton World Federation rankings in 2023 & clinched Asian Games gold medal in Hangzhou.

About Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- Objective: To recognize the most outstanding performance by a sportsperson over the preceding 4 years.
- Award: ₹25 lakh cash prize, Medal and a certificate of honour.

40. PULITZER PRIZE

The New York Times won four Pulitzer Prizes and The New Yorker three for journalism in 2024.

About Pulitzer Prize

Pulitzer Prizes were established by Joseph Pulitzer, a Hungarian-American journalist and newspaper publisher, who left money to Columbia University upon his death in 1911.



41. ATAL PENSION YOJANA

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) completed 10 years.

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

• Launched in: 2015

• **Implementing agency:** Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) under the National Pension System (NPS).

• Type: Central Sector Scheme

• Eligibility:

o APY is open to all bank account holders in the age group of 18 to 40 years who are not income tax payers. o All eligible family members can join scheme.

• Benefits: o Guaranteed Monthly Pension: Lifelong pension between ₹1,000 to ₹5,000 from age 60 until death.

42. PRADHAN MANTRI JEEVAN JYOTI BIMA YOJANA

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana completed 10 years.

Features:

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

• Type: central Sector Scheme

• Nature: Life insurance scheme (life cover up to age 55)

• Premium rate: Rs. 436 per annum. It will be auto-debited in one instalment.

43. PRADHAN MANTRI SURAKSHA BIMA YOJANA

Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana completed 10 years.

Features

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

• Type: Central Sector Scheme

• Eligibility: Citizen (including NRIs) in the age group 18 to 70 years

• Premium rate: ₹ 20 per annum per member

• Enrolment period: The cover shall be for one-year period stretching from 1st June to 31st May

44. SHAKTI (SCHEME FOR HARNESSING AND ALLOCATING KOYALA TRANSPARENTLY IN INDIA) POLICY

About Shakti Policy:

- Introduced in: 2017
- Ministry Involved: Ministry of Coal
- Implemented by: Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)
- Supply of coal to thermal power plants was earlier governed by New Coal Distribution Policy, 2007 (NCDP). o Coal under these policies is supplied as per the commercial terms and conditions of the Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) executed between the coal companies and the power plants.

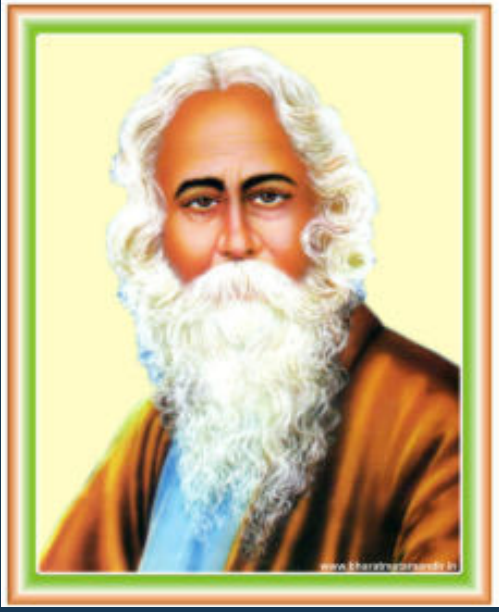




ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

Indian writer and philosopher



Rabindranath Tagore (7 May 1861– 7 August 1941) was a renowned Indian poet, philosopher, artist, and Nobel laureate. Born in Kolkata (then Calcutta), he was a key figure of the Bengal Renaissance and a pioneer in modern Indian literature. Tagore wrote in Bengali and English and is best known for "**Gitanjali**" (Song Offerings), a collection of poems for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913—becoming the first non-European to receive the honor.

Tagore composed the national anthems of India (**Jana Gana Mana**) and Bangladesh (Amar Shonar Bangla), and inspired the national anthem of Sri Lanka. He was a social reformer, educationist, and founder of Visva-Bharati University in Santiniketan, which promoted holistic and global learning.

His works include poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and essays, and he strongly opposed colonial rule while promoting universal humanism and cultural unity. Tagore's legacy continues to influence literature, music (**Rabindra Sangeet**), art, and Indian nationalism.

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IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

JUNE-2025

NEWS - INSHORTS

- Dr. Banu M R, Assistant Nursing Superintendent at NIMHANS, Bengaluru, Karnataka, honoured with the National Florence Nightingale Award 2025.
- Miss World Thailand, Opal Suchata Chuangsri was crowned Miss World 2025
- The THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) is an advanced missile defence system developed by the United States .
- India is aiming to build first indigenous Polar Research Vehicle (PRV).
- Rudrastra is a Hybrid Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) UAV manufactured by Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL).
- Khichan and Menar wetlands in Rajasthan were declared Ramsar Sites on world environment day 2025
- The Axiom-4 Mission carrying Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and 3 other astronauts successfully returned on July 15, 2025.



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JUNE CURRENT AFFAIRS 2025

1. Dr. Banu M R, Assistant Nursing Superintendent at NIMHANS, Bengaluru, Karnataka, honoured with the National Florence Nightingale Award 2025.



2. MISS WORLD 2025

Miss World Thailand, Opal Suchata Chuangsri was crowned Miss World 2025 at the 72nd edition of the Miss World pageant at the HITEK Exhibition Centre in Hyderabad, Telangana.



3. Mizoram and Goa declared themselves "fully literate" states last month as part of the ULLAS scheme.

ULLAS is a literacy initiative for individuals aged 15 and above who have not received formal schooling.

ULLAS - Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society.

Mizoram has a literacy rate of 98.2%.

And Goa has 99.72%.

Mizoram & Goa are the first in India to declare themselves "fully literate"

4. Kappatagudda final notification puts ESZ at 323 sq. km.

As per the June 4 notification, the ESZ spans 322.695 sq km, covering 298.89 sq km of revenue village area and 23.80 sq km of forest area. A total of 62 villages fall within this zone.

The ESZ extends 1 km to the northeast, east, southeast, and south, and between 1 km and 4.3 km in other directions from the sanctuary boundary.

Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It spans across the Gadag, Mundaragi, Shirahatti, and Laxmeshwar taluks of Gadag district of Karnataka.

2. It was officially notified by the Karnataka government in May 2019.

3. It is often referred to as the 'Western Ghats of North Karnataka'.

5. In the 2025 Sustainable Development Report, India achieved a rank of 99th out of 167 countries, marking a significant milestone as its first time breaking into the top 100. This is a notable improvement from previous years, including 109th in 2024. India's score on the index was 67.0.

6. THAAD Missile System:

The THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) is an advanced missile defence system developed by the United States to intercept and destroy short-, medium-, and intermediate-range ballistic missiles during their terminal phase (the last phase of their flight).



It was developed by the U.S. after their experience of Iraq's Scud missile attacks during the Persian Gulf War in 1991.

7. Statistics Day is celebrated annually on 29th June to commemorate the birth anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, a pioneering Indian statistician and planner.

Theme of Statistics Day 2025: "75 Years of National Sample Survey"

8. ECINET APP

The Election Commission of India (ECI) used the new ECINET digital platform during recent bye-elections in five Assembly constituencies across Kerala, Gujarat, Punjab, and West Bengal.



About ECINET app

- ECINET is a new one-stop platform for timely voter turnout reporting.
- o Under the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, the Presiding Officers are required to furnish Form 17C to booth-level agents nominated by political parties, who are present at the polling station at the close of polls.

9.ADI KARMYOGI PROGRAMME

The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** launched the Adi Karmyogi Programme. About the Adi Karmyogi Programme

- **Aim:** Building a cadre of highly motivated officers and change makers dedicated to grassroots transformation.
- **Objective:** To take capacity-building to about 20 lakh field-level stakeholders by creating a batch of trainers and master trainers at the State, district, and block levels.

10. ISRAEL-US-IRAN CONFLICT

Recently, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) launched “Operation Rising Lion”, a major strike against Iranian nuclear infrastructure and ballistic missile capability.

11. GROUP OF SEVEN (G7)

India had participated as an Outreach Country in 51st G7 Summit (2025) held in Kananaskis, Canada.

About Group of Seven (G7)

- **Genesis:** 1975 in response to economic and financial cooperation due to energy crisis.
- An informal bloc of industrialized democracies comprising: France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Japan, the United States, and Canada.

o Russia was a member from 1998 to 2014, during which the forum was called the G8.



12.WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO) REFORMS

Recently, India called for reforms to the WTO during a high-level mini-ministerial meeting in Paris ahead of 14th Ministerial Conference in Cameroon, 2026. About WTO • **Genesis:**1995 post the Marrakesh Agreement. o Successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). o 1986-94 Uruguay Round negotiations led to WTO’s creation.

13. UN SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC)

5 countries were elected to serve as non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

- These countries are Bahrain, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Latvia, and Liberia. About UNSC
- Genesis: Established in 1945 through the UN Charter as one of the 6 principal organs of the UN.

14. UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

India has been elected to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the term 2026–2028.

Membership in ECOSOC is region-based and divided among five geographic groups Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, Latin American & Caribbean, and Western European and other States.

- India is elected under the Asia-Pacific group, alongside China, Lebanon, and Turkmenistan (4 seats available)

15. US PULLS FUNDING FROM GAVI, THE VACCINE ALLIANCE

The US has accused Gavi, along with the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, of silencing dissenting views and legitimate questions about vaccine safety.

In recent years, the United States has exhibited a rising trend of withdrawing from key global alliances and institutions such as the WHO, the Paris Climate Agreement, UN Human Rights Council, UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), etc.

16. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION (IALA)

India participated in 2nd Session of IALA Council as Vice President in Nice, France.

- India will also be hosting the 3rd IALA General Assembly in December 2025 and the 21st IALA Conference in 2027, both to be held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

About IALA

- Genesis: ESTABLISHED IN 1957 AS AN NGO as the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA). o In 2024,

IALA became an Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) to strengthen its global role in maritime safety and standard setting.

17. ZANGEZUR CORRIDOR

Türkiye urged Armenia and Azerbaijan take steps to open the Zangezur Corridor.

The two countries have been in conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) since 1917. The region is internationally part of Azerbaijan, but mainly ethnic Armenians live there.



18. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI)

As per RBI Bulletin (June 2025), India's net FDI inflows fell by 96% in FY25 in comparison to FY24 despite rise in its gross FDI inflows.

About Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

- It refers to the investment through equity instruments by a person resident outside India in an unlisted Indian company; or in 10% or more of the post issue paid-up equity capital on a fully diluted basis of a listed Indian company.

19.SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT (2025)

For first time, India has entered top 100 in SDG Index, ranking 99th out of 167 countries in Sustainable Development Report (2025).

India's Performance: India has steadily improved its standing from 120th (2021) to 99th (2025), with a score of 67 out of 100.

20.DIGITAL PAYMENT INTELLIGENCE PLATFORM (DPIP)

DPIP will be developed as a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) under the supervision and guidance of the RBI.

- DPI refers to foundational digital systems that are accessible, secure, and interoperable, supporting essential public services e.g., Aadhaar, Unified Payment Interface (UPI) etc.

About DPIP

- It seeks to bolster fraud risk management by facilitating real intelligence sharing and gathering by harnessing advanced technologies.

21.SAGARMALA FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED (SMFCL)

SMFCL is India's first Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) in the maritime sector.

Formerly known as Sagarmala Development Company Limited, SMFCL is a Mini Ratna, Category-I, Central Public Sector Enterprise (under Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways).

22.INDIGENOUS POLAR RESEARCH VESSEL (PRV)

India is aiming to build first indigenous Polar Research Vehicle (PRV).

To achieve this, an MoU was signed between Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) and Norway's Kongsberg Oslo marking an important milestone for India's shipbuilding sector.



23.MODIFIED INTEREST SUBVENTION SCHEME (MISS)

Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the Interest Subvention (IS) component under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) for 2025-26.

About MISS • Type: Central Sector Scheme

- Ministry: Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- Aim: Ensuring the availability of short-term credit to farmers at an affordable interest rate through **Kisan Credit card (KCC)**.

24.NATIONAL TURMERIC BOARD

Headquarters of National Turmeric Board was inaugurated in Nizamabad, **Telangana**.

Aim: To provide leadership on turmeric related matters, augment the efforts, and facilitate greater coordination with Spices Board and other Government agencies in development and growth of the turmeric sector.

Ministry: Ministry of Commerce & Industry

25.NANO FERTILIZERS

Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) to set up its first overseas nano fertiliser plant in Brazil.

- IFFCO had launched world's first 'Nano Liquid Urea' fertiliser in 2021 & then Nano-DAP in 2023.

About Nano Fertilizers

- Nano fertilizers are nutrients that are encapsulated or coated within nanomaterial (measuring 100 nanometres or less).
- It enables controlled release and its subsequent slow diffusion into the soil.

26 .FIFTH-GENERATION FIGHTER JET AMCA

The Defence Minister has approved an execution model for India's indigenous 5th-generation fighter jet named Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA).



AMCA Programme Overview

- Background: Received approval from the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in 2024.
- Purpose: To manufacture the indigenous 5th generation fighter jet aircraft AMCA.

About the 5th Generation Fighter Jet

- The concept of fighter jet generations emerged in the 1990s and has been applied retrospectively to earlier jets.
- o The first-Generation fighter jets are Introduced in the late stages of World War II, these early jets were faster than piston-engine planes but still flew mostly at subsonic speeds.

27.SILVER NOTICE

The INTERPOL has issued the first silver notice on India's request. • It was issued to track the global assets of former French Embassy officer Shubham Shokeen, who is wanted in connection with a visa fraud.

About Silver notice

- Silver Notice is the newest addition to the INTERPOL's colour-coded Notices.
- o INTERPOL's colour-coded notices are international requests for cooperation or alerts allowing police in member countries to share critical crime-related information (refer to the infographic)

28.SUCCESSFUL TRIAL RUDRASTRA CONDUCTED AT POKHRAN, RAJASTHAN

Hybrid Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Rudrastra demonstrated vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) capabilities, extended flight range, real-time surveillance, and accurate target engagement over a range of 50 kilometres.



About Rudrastra

- It is a Hybrid Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) UAV manufactured by Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited (SDAL).
- Features:
 - o Total range (including loitering over the target) is 170 km, with an estimated endurance of 1.5 hours.
 - o Equipped with precision-guided anti-personnel warheads with mid-altitude release capability.
 - o Can relay back live video and return to the launch position in automated mode.

29.BHARAT FORECAST SYSTEM

Ministry of Earth Sciences unveils Bharat Forecast System (BFS), one of the world's first indigenously developed high resolution weather forecast systems.

About Bharat Forecast System

- Developed by: Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, an autonomous institute of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

- **Role:** It enhances India's weather prediction resolution from 12 km to 6 km, enabling every village in India to access more precise and location-specific forecasts.

30.ILO CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

International Labour Organization's (ILO) member states have adopted the first ever international convention on biological hazards at work.

About the Convention (ILO Convention 192)

- It calls on Member States to formulate national policies and adopt measures on occupational safety and health that include–
 - o the prevention and protection against biological hazards, and
 - o the development of preparedness and response measures to deal with accidents and emergencies.
- **India's Concerns:** o The blanket application across all sectors and enterprise sizes, regardless of exposure level, may place greater burden on MSMEs and informal enterprises in developing countries.

31.STATE AND TRENDS OF CARBON PRICING 2025

State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2025 Report is released by the World Bank Group.

- As per the report, number of operational Carbon Pricing (CP) instruments has grown, from 5 (2005) to 80 presently, with India, Brazil, and Türkiye actively developing them.

32.STATE OF THE CLIMATE IN ASIA 2024

World Meteorological Organization releases State of the Climate in Asia 2024 Report

- WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

Key Findings

- **Hottest Year:** 2024 was Asia's warmest or second warmest year on record, with temperatures 1.04°C above the 1991–2020 average.
- **Rapid Warming:** Asia is warming twice as fast as the global average.

33.GLOBAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK, 2025 RELEASED

The report has been released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Key findings

- Increase in severity: 40% of the world's land area faces increasingly frequent and severe droughts.

o Some of the recent examples of major droughts include Europe (2022), California (2021), Horn of Africa & Somalia, etc.

34.BLUE NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDC) CHALLENGE

Brazil and France Launch launched the Blue NDC Challenge.

- An inaugural group of eight countries – Australia, Fiji, Kenya, Mexico, Palau, and Seychelles – has already joined the initiative.

About Blue NDC Challenge

- It calls on all countries to place the ocean at the heart of their NDCs ahead of COP30.
- Supported by: Ocean Conservancy, the Ocean & Climate Platform, and the World Resources Institute through the Ocean Resilience and Climate Alliance (ORCA).

35.THIRD UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE (UNOC3)

The third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3) concluded with the adoption of the Nice Ocean Action Plan.

- UNOC3 was held in Nice, France.
- It was co-hosted by France and Costa Rica.

36.NEW RAMSAR SITES IN RAJASTHAN

India added two more wetland into Ramsar list of Wetlands of International Importance.

- Khichan and Menar wetlands in Rajasthan were declared Ramsar Sites on world environment day 2025, raising India's total count to 91.

37. GREATER FLAMINGO SANCTUARY

Tamil Nadu notified Greater Flamingo Sanctuary at **Dhanushkodi** to preserve a critical stopover point along the Central Asian Flyway for thousands of migratory wetland birds. About Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*):

- **IUCN Status: Least Concern**
- **Distribution:** Africa, western Asia (India), and southern Europe.
- **Habitat:** Breeds in shallow wetlands that are either saline or alkaline.

38. IBAT ALLIANCE

IBAT Alliance doubled its investment in biodiversity data from 2023 to 2024

- Increased investment will support three key global biodiversity datasets i.e., World Database on Protected Areas, IUCN Red List and World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas. About IBAT Alliance

- **Headquarter: The UK**
- **Genesis:** Founded in 2008
- It is a coalition of four of the world's largest and most influential conservation organisations.

39. INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE (IBCA)

The 1st assembly of the IBCA convened in New Delhi, endorsed the India's Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, as the President of IBCA.

- The Assembly of the IBCA serves as its apex decision-making body and is convened annually/biannually.

About IBCA

- It is a multi-country, multi-agency coalition of 95 big cat range countries, non-range countries with an interest in big cat conservation. o These Big Cats include Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar & Puma.

40. ENERGY TRANSITION INDEX (ETI), 2025

World Economic Forum (WEF) recently released Energy Transition Index (ETI), 2025. Key Findings

- Sweden ranked first followed by Finland, Denmark and Norway
- India's rank dropped from rank 63 in 2024 to rank 71 in 2025.

41.THIRST WAVE

Researchers have coined a new term to describe extended periods of atmospheric thirst called Thirstwaves.

About Thirstwave

- A thirst wave has at least three consecutive days when daily evaporative demand is greater than its historical 90th percentile value for that period. o Evaporative demand is a measure of how thirsty the atmosphere is.

42.SALKHAN FOSSIL PARK ADDED TO UNESCO TENTATIVE LIST FOR WORLD HERITAGE SITES

It is officially known as **Sonbhadra Fossils Park** and is located in the Sonbhadra District of Uttar Pradesh.

- It qualifies as a geo-heritage site under IUCN's 2020 guidelines for "Evolution of Life" and matches UNESCO's 2021 framework on Earth's history and life evolution. About Salkhan Fossil Park
- It is located in Kaimur Range (part of the Vindhya range), adjacent to Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary.
- It is one of the oldest and most well preserved sites in the world (fossils dating approx 1.4 billion years).

43.GLOBAL GENDER GAP 2025

The Global Gender Gap Report 2025 was released recently.

About Global Gender Gap Index

- About Index: It was introduced by the World Economic Forum in 2006 to benchmark progress towards gender parity across four dimensions; Economic opportunities, Education, Health and Political leadership.

44.STATE OF WORLD POPULATION REPORT 2025

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) released its State of World Population (SWP) 2025 report titled '**The real fertility crisis: The pursuit of reproductive agency in a changing world**'.

‘The real fertility crisis: The pursuit of reproductive agency in a changing world’.

About the Report

- The report argues that the actual global fertility crisis is not one of overpopulation or underpopulation, but rather a crisis in reproductive agency.

45. GLOBAL EDUCATION MONITORING 2024 REPORT

Report is mandated by UNESCO’s ‘Education 2030 Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action’ for monitoring and reporting on SDG 4 (Quality education) and in the other SDGs.

46.GENDER BUDGETING KNOWLEDGE HUB PORTAL

Portal was launched by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development at the National Consultation on Gender Budgeting. About Gender Budgeting Knowledge Hub Portal

- It is a centralized repository of tools including policy briefs, best practices, and gender-disaggregated data.
- Intended for use by central and state government ministries/departments and stakeholders.

47.AXIOM-4 MISSION

The Axiom-4 Mission carrying Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and 3 other astronauts successfully returned on July 15, 2025.



About Axiom-4 (Ax-4) Mission

- It is the 4th private astronaut mission, to the International Space Station (ISS), of private US Company Axiom Space in collaboration with NASA and SpaceX.
- It was a 14-day mission launched aboard a SpaceX Dragon Spacecraft by the Falcon 9 launch vehicle from NASA’s Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.

48.CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES INDEX

Critical and Emerging Technologies Index has been launched to assess how 25 countries perform across five technology sectors: AI, biotechnology, semiconductors, space, and quantum.

- Published by the Harvard Kennedy School.

49. QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT-BASED COMMUNICATION ACHIEVED

DRDO & IIT Delhi achieved quantum entanglement based free space communication.

- The free-space quantum secure communication was demonstrated over a distance of ~1 km via a free-space optical link.
- ISRO demonstrated 1st free-space QKD over 300m in 2021.

50.FIBER OPTIC DRONES

Recently used in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, fiber optic drones are seen as a game-changer in drone warfare due to their resistance to electronic warfare (EW). About Fiber Optic Drones

- These drones are tethered to the operator using long fiber optic cables (up to 20 km) instead of radio links.
 - o Fiber optic cable is made up of a collection of glass tubes spun as thin as hairs.
 - o They can support faster speeds, longer distances, and simultaneous communications.

51.DHRUVA (DIGITAL HUB FOR REFERENCE AND UNIQUE VIRTUAL ADDRESS)

The Department of Posts (DoP) has released a comprehensive policy document outlining the framework for DHRUVA, a national-level Digital Address Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).



About DHRUVA

- DHRUVA is a DPI being developed by DoP to provide a unique digital address for every home in India.

o It creates a secure digital environment through which users can share accurate address information by leveraging a geo-coded framework.

52.TIANWEN-2 PROBE

China launched Tianwen-2 probe to return samples from an asteroid near Mars.

- Earlier, Tianwen-1 probe consisting of an orbiter, a lander and a rover (Zhurong) landed on mars' surface in 2021.
- Tianwen-3, scheduled for (launch) around 2028, aims to collect and bring samples back to Earth from Mars while Tianwen-4 aims to explore Jupiter around 2030.

53.INDIA'S FIRST GENE-EDITED SHEEP PRODUCED

India's first gene-edited sheep has been produced by researchers from Kashmir University in collaboration with ICAR using CRISPR-Cas9 technology.

This follows the release of India's first gene-edited rice variety recently.

About CRISPR-Cas9 Technology

- CRISPR-Cas9 works on a cut and-paste mechanism for DNA Strands.
- The 2020 Nobel Prize for Chemistry was awarded for their discovery.

54.HIV PREVENTION DRUG APPROVED

US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves new HIV prevention drug Lenacapavir

- FDA approval also paves the way for WHO prequalification, which can accelerate national regulatory approvals.
- WHO Prequalification of Medicines Programme (PQP) helps ensure that medicines supplied by procurement agencies meet acceptable standards of quality, safety and efficacy.

55.INS KAUNDINYA AND TANKAI METHOD

The Indian Navy formally inducted and named the Ancient Stitched ship as INSV Kaundinya, built using the Tankai method. A

About INS Kaundinya

- It is based on a 5th-century CE ship depicted in the paintings of Ajanta Caves.
- The project was initiated through a tripartite agreement between the Ministry of Culture, the Indian Navy, and M/s Hodi Innovations. About the Tankai Method
- It is a 2000-year-old technique of shipbuilding known as the 'stitched shipbuilding method.
- It involves stitching wooden planks together rather than using nails, offering flexibility and durability.

56.EMBLEMS AND NAMES (PREVENTION OF IMPROPER USE) ACT, 1950

Recently, the Supreme Court dismissed a plea with respect to honoring legacy of a freedom fighter under Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950.

About Emblems Act:

- Aim: Prevents misuse of certain emblems and names for professional and commercial purposes or for trade mark, or patents without Central Government permission.

57.KUMBAKONAM VETRILAI AND THOVALAI MAANIKKA MAALAI

Kumbakonam vetrilai and Thovalai maanikka maalai from Tamil Nadu were recently granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

About Kumbakonam Vetrilai

- It is a betel (pan) leaf.
- It is grown in Thanjavur's fertile Cauvery River basin.
- It is known for its high antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties, due to the presence of chavicol.



About Thovalai maanikka maalai

- It is a special type of garland that is made only in Thovalai.
- The flowers are carefully folded and arranged in precise patterns to create the appearance of gems (especially rubies) in a geometrically manner.



58. WORD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP

South Africa recently won the World Test Championship against titleholder Australia. About World Test Championship (WTC)

- Genesis: In 2019.
- Teams playing WTC: The Top nine test teams of the world.





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IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO

Freedom Fighter



Rani Lakshmibai, also known as the **Rani of Jhansi**, was a pivotal figure in the Indian Rebellion of 1857. She is remembered as one of India's greatest freedom fighters and a powerful symbol of resistance against British rule.

Born **Manikarnika Tambe** on November 19, 1828, in Varanasi, she was trained in martial arts, including shooting, horsemanship, and fencing, a very unconventional upbringing for a girl of her time. At the age of 14, she married Maharaja Gangadhar Rao of Jhansi and was renamed Lakshmibai.

After her husband's death in 1853, the British East India Company, under the "Doctrine of Lapse," refused to recognize her adopted son as the rightful heir and sought to annex Jhansi. Rani Lakshmibai defiantly declared, "**I will not give up my Jhansi**".

She joined other rebel leaders, including Tatya Tope, and continued her fight. Rani Lakshmibai was **killed in battle in Gwalior on June 18, 1858**, at the young age of 29. Even her enemies praised her bravery and leadership. Her legacy as a fearless warrior and a symbol of patriotism continues to inspire generations of Indians.

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