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2025, June 27-28

SCO:

- ➔ At the 2025 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Qingdao, China, India's Defence Minister made headlines by refusing to sign the joint statement at the Defence Ministers' meeting.
- ➔ The draft omitted any reference to the Pahalgam terror attack, despite highlighting the Jaffar Express hijacking in Pakistan, prompting India to reject the final statement.
- ➔ This firm stance underscored India's unwavering commitment to fighting terrorism and maintaining strategic autonomy, sending a strong signal to the international community.



International Day of Deafblindness:

- ➔ The International Day of Deafblindness is observed globally on June 27 every year to recognize and advocate for the rights of individuals living with deafblindness—a unique and severe combination of hearing and visual impairments.
- ➔ This day brings much-needed attention to the distinct challenges faced by deafblind individuals and promotes the inclusion, support, and visibility of this often-overlooked community in global policies and development agendas.



MSME Day:

- ➔ Every year on June 27, the world observes MSME Day to recognize the immense contribution of Micro-, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to economic development, job creation, innovation, and sustainability.
- ➔ Declared by the United Nations in 2017, the day is an opportunity to highlight the critical role these enterprises play globally, particularly in developing economies, where they serve as the backbone of local growth and entrepreneurship.



Jagannath Rath Yatra:

- ➔ Jagannath Rath Yatra, also called the Chariot Festival or Shree Gundicha Yatra, is a very important Hindu festival celebrated every year in Odisha. This festival is filled with joy, devotion and tradition.
- ➔ It marks the journey of Lord Jagannath, his brother Balabhadra and sister Subhadra from the Jagannath Temple in Puri to the Gundicha Temple.

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- ➔ In 2025, Jagannath Rath Yatra is celebrated today; Friday, June 27. According to the Hindu calendar, the festival falls on Dwitiya Tithi of the bright fortnight (Shukla Paksha) of the Ashadha month.



Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation:

- ➔ India celebrates 10 years of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), launched on June 25, 2015, as a flagship scheme to improve urban living standards by ensuring water supply, sewerage, green spaces, and urban mobility.
- ➔ With more than 2 crore tap connections, 1.5 crore sewer links, and ₹2.73 lakh crore worth of projects sanctioned, AMRUT has become a cornerstone of India's urban transformation story.

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2029 World Police & Fire Games:

- ➔ India has officially won the bid to host the 2029 World Police & Fire Games (WPGF), with the event scheduled to be held across Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, and Ekta Nagar in Gujarat.
- ➔ The announcement, confirmed by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, marks a significant global sporting victory for India and underlines Gujarat's growing prominence as an international sports destination.



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R. Praggnanandhaa:

- ➔ Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has clinched the UzChess Cup Masters 2025 title in Tashkent, marking his third major classical tournament victory this year.
- ➔ The win propelled the 19-year-old to a live rating of 2778.3, making him World No. 4 and India's top-ranked player, ahead of fellow Grandmasters D. Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi.



Ambubachi Mela:

- ➔ The Ambubachi Mela, an annual spiritual festival held at the Kamakhya Temple in Assam, marks the ritualistic menstrual cycle of Goddess Kamakhya.
- ➔ Observed for four days in June, the temple gates are closed as a sign of the goddess undergoing her period, symbolizing fertility and womanhood.
- ➔ The festival attracts lakhs of devotees and is seen not only as a religious event but also as a significant platform to promote menstrual hygiene and break related taboos in society.



Bonalu festival:

- ➔ The vibrant and historic Bonalu festival commenced in spectacular fashion at the Golconda Fort in Hyderabad, marking the beginning of a month-long celebration steeped in Telangana's folk traditions.
- ➔ Devotees thronged the Sri Jagadamba Mahankali temple, where rituals and offerings, including the first Bonam, were performed with traditional fervour.
- ➔ Women in bright attire, rhythmic dances by Potharajus, and fire performances highlighted the spiritual and cultural grandeur of this annual celebration.

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Salkhan Fossils Park:

- ➔ Salkhan Fossils Park, located in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh, has achieved a significant milestone by being included in UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites.
- ➔ This recognition underscores the park's geological and ecological significance, with its 1.4-billion-year-old fossils, and represents a major boost for eco-tourism and scientific research in the region.
- ➔ The state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, has been actively working towards promoting such natural heritage sites globally.



Kerala:

- ➔ Kerala has been ranked the top-performing state in the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of National Parks and Protected Areas (PAs) for the cycle 2020–2025, conducted by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ➔ With a score of 76.22%, Kerala is the only state to receive a “Very Good” rating. Its Eravikulam National Park, home to the endangered Nilgiri Tahr, scored the highest among individual protected areas, reflecting Kerala’s outstanding conservation practices.



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Bihar government:

- ➔ In a significant step toward promoting religious tourism and preserving cultural heritage, the Bihar government has established a nine-member trust to oversee the construction of a grand temple dedicated to Maa Janaki (Goddess Sita) at Punaura Dham in the Sitamarhi district.
- ➔ This initiative aims to transform the region, traditionally believed to be the birthplace of Sita, into a major spiritual and tourism destination in line with models like the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya.



NITI Aayog:

- ➔ On June 26, 2025, NITI Aayog released the third edition of its Future Front report, focusing on India's pressing data quality challenges.
- ➔ The report comes at a time when digital governance is becoming central to public service and decision-making, making accurate, timely, and standardized data more important than ever.

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Union Cabinet:

- ➔ The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of the International Potato Centre's (CIP) South Asia Regional Centre (CSARC) at Singna, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, aiming to boost potato and sweetpotato research and development in India and the region.
- ➔ The initiative seeks to improve food and nutrition security, increase farmers' incomes, and create employment opportunities, by enhancing productivity, post-harvest management, and value addition in potato and sweetpotato cultivation.

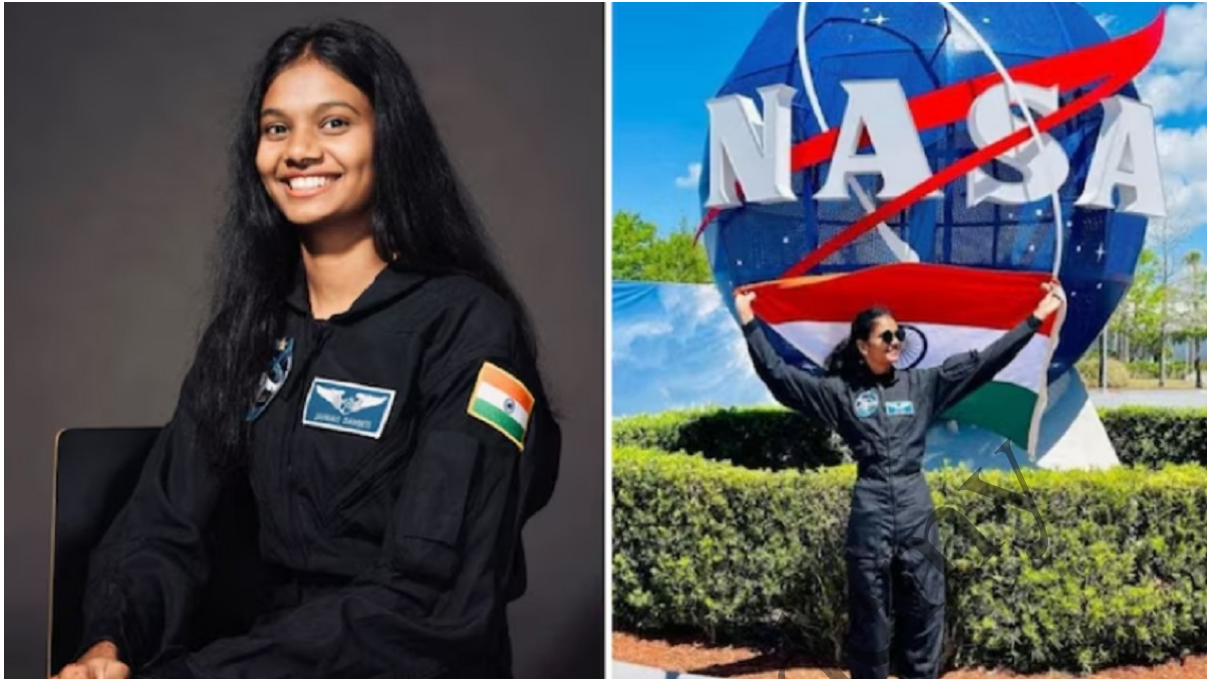


Jahnavi Dangeti:

- ➔ Jahnavi Dangeti is set to become the first Indian astronaut on the Titans Space mission in 2029, marking a historic milestone for India's presence in human space exploration; she is a graduate of NASA's International Air and Space Program and a passionate advocate for STEM education.
- ➔ The US-based Titans Space mission will last around five hours, during which the crew will orbit the planet twice, experiencing two sunrises and two sunsets, and achieving nearly three hours of continuous zero gravity for groundbreaking scientific research.

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Khelo India University Games:

- ➔ The Khelo India University Games 2025 are scheduled for November this year in Jaipur, Rajasthan, bringing together young athletes from across the country to compete at a national level.
- ➔ More than 4,000 athletes from over 200 universities are expected to participate, showcasing their skills across 20 different sporting disciplines, making it one of the largest university-level sports events in India.



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IIT-Delhi:

- ➔ IIT-Delhi has started its first-ever special admission drive for the PhD candidates from Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) categories. This initiative aims to address the ongoing shortfall in seat occupancy for SC/ST students at the doctoral level.
- ➔ According to the government reservation rules, IITs must reserve 15% seats for SC and 7.5% for ST in higher education admissions. However, IIT-Delhi's data shows actual SC/ST intake at the PhD level has been below these targets.



Tamil Nadu government:

- ➔ The Tamil Nadu government will provide 4% reservation in promotion to its employees with benchmark disabilities.
- ➔ The reservation is applicable only to the identified posts notified by the government where the cadre strength of a post is more than five. Such identification shall be made only for posts carrying a pay level up to pay level 25 in each government establishment.
- ➔ One of the instructions allows the government to exempt any of its establishments from the provisions of Section 34 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.



India:

- ➔ India is set to conduct its first-ever comprehensive Household Income Survey in 2026. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has announced the initiative.
- ➔ The survey aims to offer a reliable and detailed view of income distribution across Indian households, addressing gaps in official statistics. It will also examine how technology adoption is affecting wage levels amid India's rapid digital transformation.



Global Peace Index:

- ➔ The Global Peace Index (GPI) is produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP). The GPI covers 99.7% of the world's population and uses 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators from trusted sources.
- ➔ India ranks 115th out of 163 nations with a GPI score of 2.229. Iceland is the safest country globally, ranked highest across all domains. Russia is the least peaceful country in the world for the first time.

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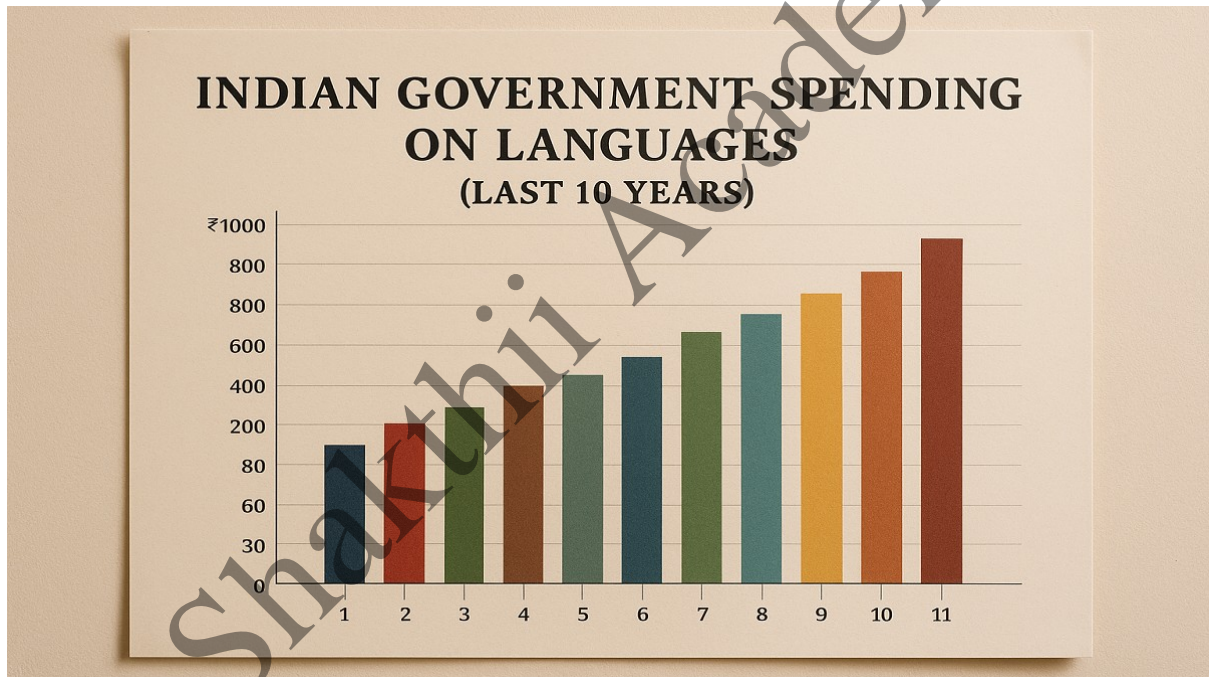
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2025, June 26

Spending Patterns:

- Language is a crucial part of India's cultural and educational identity. With 22 official languages recognized in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, the Government of India allocates funds for their promotion, preservation, and development.
- Over the last 10 years, spending patterns have varied significantly across languages based on cultural priorities, educational initiatives, and institutional support. Sanskrit received the highest funding among all Indian languages.
- This reflects a strong push toward reviving classical studies, supporting Sanskrit universities, and scholarships for Sanskrit learners. Several government schemes have been launched to promote Sanskrit literature, digitization, and research. Urdu – ₹838 Crore, Hindi – ₹426 Crore, Tamil – ₹120 Crore.



Indian Conservation Conference:

- India is set to host its premier conservation science and policy event, the Indian Conservation Conference (ICCON) 2025, from 25th to 27th June at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in Dehradun.
- The three-day event, organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), will bring together over 500 participants from India and the Global South.

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All India Chess Federation;

- ➔ In a landmark move to support the growth of chess at the grassroots level, the All India Chess Federation (AICF) has launched the Top National Players Stipend Scheme (TNPSS). This scheme, unveiled on June 25, 2025, aims to provide direct financial assistance to promising young chess players across India, covering categories from Under-7 to Under-19.
- ➔ By offering quarterly stipends ranging from ₹60,000 to ₹1.5 lakh, the initiative is designed to not only identify talent early but also help them develop into future champions. The move reflects AICF's strategic intent to strengthen the national chess ecosystem.



Kerala:

- ➔ In a significant stride towards biodiversity conservation, Kerala has become home to India's first butterfly sanctuary. The Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary in Kannur district has officially been renamed the Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary, marking a first-of-its-kind move in the country.
- ➔ Spanning 55 sq. km in the lush Western Ghats, the sanctuary now serves as a dedicated refuge for over 266 butterfly species, including several rare and endangered ones.



Central Zonal Council:

- ➔ The 25th Central Zonal Council meeting was held in Uttar Pradesh and was chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah; the council discussed 19 key national and regional issues.
- ➔ The Central Zonal Council comprises Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Uttarakhand, and is notable for being the only regional council with no disputes among member states.
- ➔ The first meeting of the Central Zonal Council was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, on 1 May 1957.

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International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking:

- ➔ The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed every year on June 26, as designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 1987 to strengthen global action against drug abuse and illegal trafficking.
- ➔ The day promotes awareness, prevention, and rehabilitation strategies and calls for international cooperation to address the health, social, and economic impacts.



International Day in Support of Victims of Torture:

- ➔ International Day in Support of Victims of Torture is observed annually on 26 June, marking the day in 1987 when the UN Convention Against Torture came into effect.
- ➔ The day reaffirms that torture is a crime under international law and is absolutely prohibited under all circumstances, including war, threat of terrorism, or political instability.



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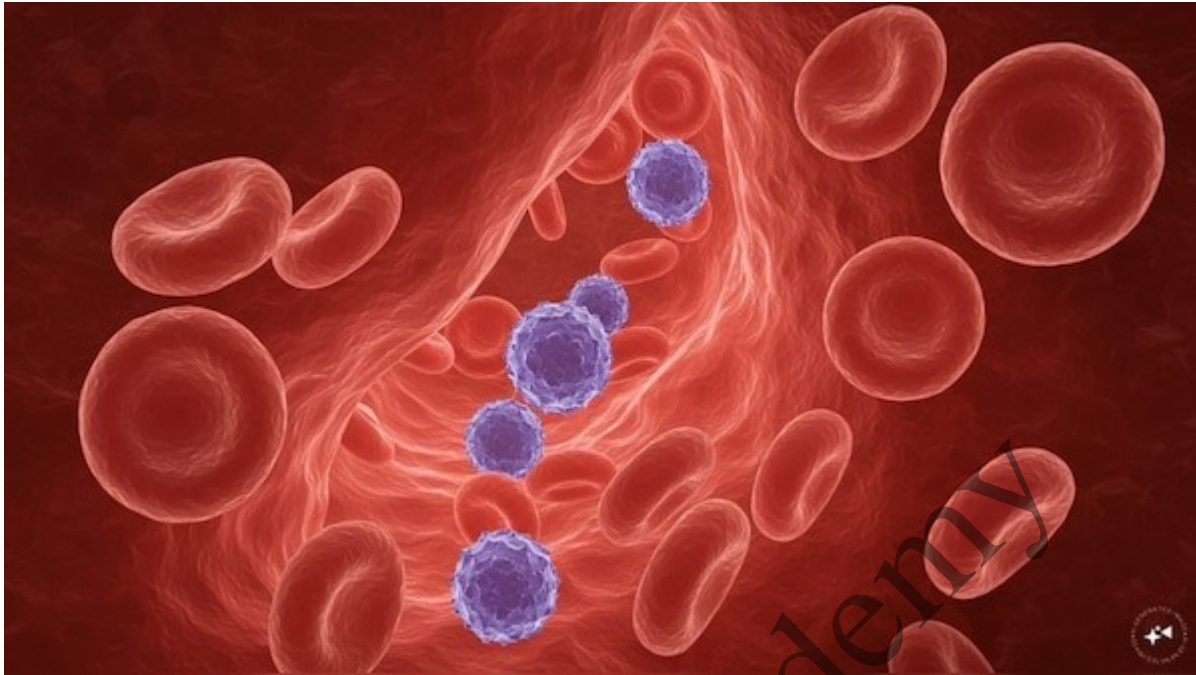
DMK government:

- ➔ The DMK government has allocated funds to the tune of ₹6,626 crore for the MSME sector in the last year. Tamil Nadu is ranked third in India with exports of US\$30.50 billion. In manufacturing sector, Tamil Nadu's contribution to India's total production is 11.90%.
- ➔ Tamil Nadu ranks first in the production of motor vehicles, readymade textiles and leather goods. It ranks second in the production of textile machinery and electronic goods.



France:

- ➔ France has identified a completely new blood group system. It is now officially recognised by the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT). It is named EMM-negative and colloquially dubbed "Gwada negative".
- ➔ The newly classified blood group system, officially registered by ISBT as ISBT042. It is defined by the absence of the EMM antigen. EMM antigen is normally found on the red blood cells and is considered a high incidence antigen.



Prevention of Corruption Act:

- ➔ The Supreme Court recently refused to stay conviction of a public servant convicted under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, noting that courts should refrain from staying conviction of public servants who have been convicted on charges of corruption.
- ➔ The Supreme Court referred to its earlier decisions in *KC Sareen v. CBI, Chandigarh* and *CBI, New Delhi v. MN Sharma*.



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Akhanda Godavari:

- ➔ Union Minister for Tourism and Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, along with Andhra Pradesh Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, laid the foundation stone for the prestigious Akhanda Godavari Tourism Project near Pushkar Ghat in Rajamahendravaram.
- ➔ The project, with an estimated cost of more than 94 crore rupees, is aimed at transforming Rajamahendravaram into a major spiritual and cultural tourism hub.



Quantum Computing Valley of India:

- ➔ The first Quantum Computing Valley of India will be launched in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh by January 2026. The park is designed to employ lakhs of professionals, supporting research, innovation, and industrial growth.
- ➔ It will be accessible to states, government bodies, and institutions across India. The project aligns with the National Quantum Mission (NQM).

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Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla:

- ➔ India created history as the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft, carrying the Axiom-4 crew, including Indian Air Force Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, gently docked with the International Space Station (ISS). With this, India has an astronaut in space after 41 years.
- ➔ Lucknow-born Shukla is also the second Indian in space, following Rakesh Sharma's flight in 1984.



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2025, June 25

Day of the Seafarer:

- ➔ Every year on 25 June, the world observes the Day of the Seafarer, recognizing the critical contributions of seafarers to global trade, economies, and society. This year, the celebration is infused with a bold call to action through the campaign 'My Harassment-Free Ship', aiming to promote zero tolerance for bullying and harassment at sea.
- ➔ This initiative, led by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), highlights the need for a cultural shift in the maritime industry—one that places safety, equality, and dignity at the heart of every vessel.



June 25, 1975:

- ➔ The Emergency was imposed exactly 50 years ago on June 25, 1975, marking the beginning of what historians consider one of the darkest chapters in the history of the Indian republic. This 21-month period witnessed the unprecedented suspension of democratic institutions, fundamental rights, and constitutional governance that had defined India since independence.
- ➔ Indira Gandhi had initially risen to power on an electoral landslide in 1971, but her administration soon faced mounting challenges that would ultimately lead to the constitutional crisis. The convergence of economic hardship, political opposition, and judicial scrutiny created a perfect storm that pushed Gandhi toward authoritarian measures.



Andhra Pradesh:

- ➔ On June 25, 2025, Andhra Pradesh took a progressive step in education with the launch of 'Vidya Shakti', a remedial learning initiative focused on slow learners in government schools. Designed to improve academic performance, reduce dropout rates, and increase enrolment, the program marks a significant shift towards inclusive education.
- ➔ 'Vidya Shakti' is an online remedial education programme that targets academically lagging students in Mathematics, Science, and English. It uses technology-based tools and after-school sessions to bridge learning gaps. The initiative is currently being rolled out in a phased manner across Andhra Pradesh.

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Bihar:

- ➔ In a landmark announcement on June 25, 2025, Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar declared that Bihar will soon have its first nuclear power plant, making it one of the first six Indian states to be included in the rollout of Small Modular Reactor (SMR)-based energy systems.
- ➔ This development follows a formal request by the Bihar government, which the Centre has now approved. Though the exact location and capacity of the project are yet to be finalized, the plan signals a transformative chapter in Bihar's energy and infrastructure landscape.

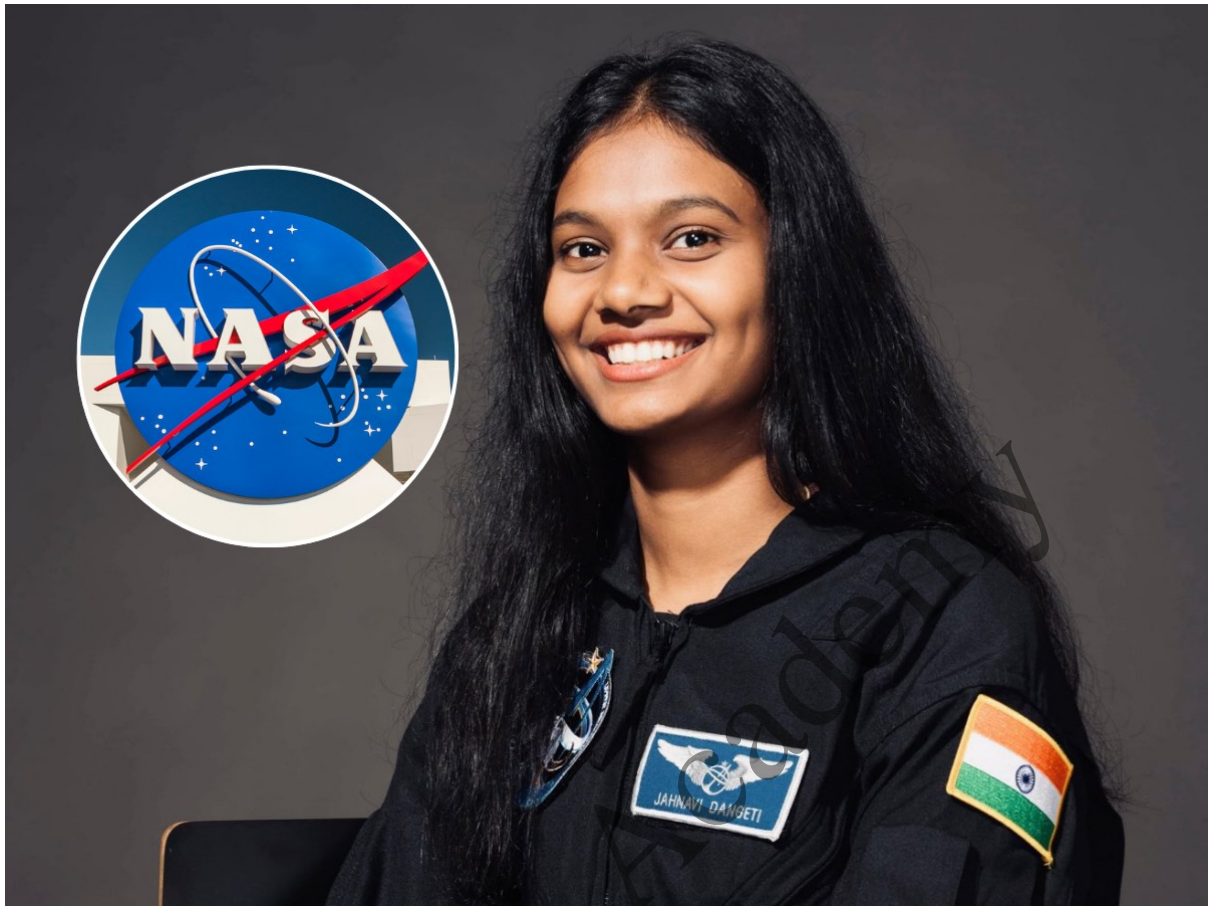
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Dangeti Jahnavi:

- ➔ Dangeti Jahnavi from Palakollu in Andhra Pradesh's West Godavari district has etched her name in the annals of Indian space exploration history by becoming the first Indian to successfully complete NASA's prestigious International Air and Space Program.
- ➔ This remarkable achievement positions her as a trailblazer in India's growing participation in international space missions and demonstrates the country's expanding capabilities in aerospace technology.



Tripura:

- ➔ Tripura has become the third Indian state to achieve full literacy, surpassing the 95% benchmark set by the Ministry of Education, following Mizoram and Goa. The state now has a literacy rate of 95.6%.
- ➔ This achievement was made possible through the successful implementation of the 'ULLAS – New India Literacy Programme', which helped reduce the number of non-literate individuals significantly from earlier surveys.



Israel:

- ➔ Israel's "scenario of last resort" is sometimes referred to as "the Samson Option". This phrase is believed to have been coined by the Israeli leaders during the mid 1960s. The principle is that Israel would use nuclear retaliation if it faced an existential threat.
- ➔ In theory, the Samson Option could apply if Israel faces a military defeat that it considers existential, even from a non-nuclear power.
- ➔ Israel owns the US-produced F-15, F-16 and F-35 aircraft, all of which can be modified to hold nuclear bombs. Israel has between 750 and 1,110kg of plutonium, which would be enough to build 187 to 277 nuclear weapons.



A new species of gecko:

- ➔ A new species of gecko, believed to be present only around Coonoor, has been discovered in the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu.
- ➔ Dravidogecko Coonoor is the formal name of this “distinct population of the Dravidogecko in Coonoor Hills of the Upper Nilgiris, Western Ghats. Following the discovery of the new gecko, total species found across the Western Ghats now stands at nine.



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2025, June 24

International Widows Day:

- ➔ Observed annually on June 23, International Widows Day is a global initiative to spotlight the challenges faced by millions of widows worldwide—many of whom are invisible in discussions on gender equality and human rights.
- ➔ Launched by the Loomba Foundation in 2005 and officially recognised by the United Nations in 2010, this day calls attention to the discrimination, poverty, and social exclusion that widows endure, and promotes initiatives for their empowerment and integration into society.



International Day of Women in Diplomacy:

- ➔ The International Day of Women in Diplomacy (IDWD) is observed annually on June 24 to honour and recognize the essential role that women play in the field of diplomacy—historically male-dominated but now slowly transforming with the rise of capable and dynamic women leaders.
- ➔ Designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) during its 76th session in 2022 (Resolution A/RES/76/269), this day is a call to action for greater gender equality in foreign policy, peace processes, and global governance.



1 crore:

- ➔ In a major welfare step, Indian Railways has rolled out a scheme offering ₹1 crore compensation to the families of its employees in the event of accidental death, with no premium payment required.
- ➔ This move is aimed at enhancing the financial security of railway personnel and their families, given the high-risk nature of their jobs.

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Viksit Bharat:

- ➔ In a landmark initiative aligned with the Viksit Bharat@2047 vision, the Government of India is set to launch NAVYA (Nurturing Aspirations through Vocational Training for Young Adolescent Girls) on 24th June 2025 in Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.
- ➔ The programme, jointly initiated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), aims to empower adolescent girls aged 16–18 years with vocational skills, especially in non-traditional sectors.



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OBC:

- ➔ In a landmark policy push aimed at promoting social inclusion and grassroots empowerment, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on June 23, 2025, announced that the transgender community in Assam will now be granted OBC (Other Backward Class) status.
- ➔ In a parallel move, he also declared 50% reservation in supervisor-level positions under the Women and Child Development Department (WCD) for Anganwadi workers, boosting their career progression within the government framework.



SDG:

- ➔ In a landmark development for India's sustainable development journey, the country has, for the first time, entered the top 100 in the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index, ranking 99th out of 193 nations in the 2025 edition of the UN Sustainable Development Report.
- ➔ It reflects India's progress in basic infrastructure, health, education, and digital access, despite global SDG slowdowns. Finland, Sweden, and Denmark top the SDG Index.

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SDGs SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Google:

- ➔ Google has established its first Asia-Pacific Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) in Hyderabad, Telangana, making it the fourth such centre globally after Munich (Germany), Malaga (Spain), and Dublin (Ireland); it was inaugurated by Telangana CM A. Revanth Reddy.
- ➔ The Hyderabad GSEC will serve as a strategic hub for cybersecurity and end-user safety, focusing on preventing online fraud, securing enterprise and government infrastructure, and promoting responsible AI across the Asia-Pacific region.

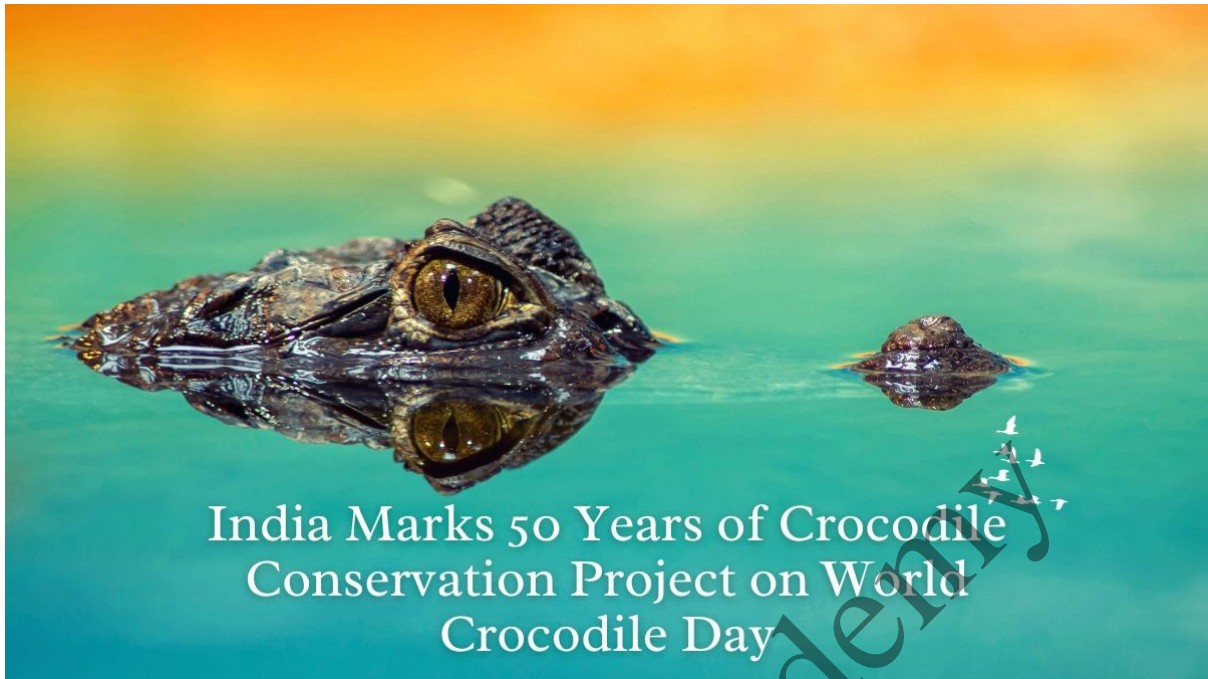
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Crocodile:

- ➔ India began its Crocodile Conservation programme in 1975. India launched this project at Odisha's Bhitarkanika National Park with support from UNDP and the FAO. This year marks 50 years of this initiative.
- ➔ India is home to three main kinds of crocodile species – the gharial, the salt water crocodile or salties, and the muggers. Odisha is the only Indian state to host the wild populations of all three native crocodilian species. India hosts nearly 80% of the global wild gharial population.



Helium in Star:

- ➔ The scientists from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, have identified Extreme Helium in Star - A980.
- ➔ The distant star A980 is located approximately 25,800 light years away in the Ophiuchus Constellation. Initially it was believed to be a hydrogen-deficient carbon (HdC) star.
- ➔ This mysterious celestial body has now been reclassified as an Extreme Helium(EHe) star. Also, they found evidence of singly-ionized germanium (Ge II)—a metallic element that has never before been detected in this type of star. This is the first confirmed observation of germanium in an EHe star.



Solar power:

- ➔ India has the fourth highest potential in the world to generate solar power from abandoned coal mines. 63 disused mine sites could collectively generate around 27.11 gigawatts (GW) of the solar power. It is equivalent to nearly 37 percent of country's current installed solar capacity.
- ➔ Telangana, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh feature among the top 20 global regions with the highest land availability from closed or soon-to-be-closed mines. Other 3 top countries are Australia, Indonesia and the United States.



'Pratibha Setu:

- ➔ The UPSC has launched 'Pratibha Setu', formerly the Public Disclosure Scheme, connecting verified employers with talented, non-recommended candidates who cleared all exam stages.
- ➔ This initiative provides a platform for government and private organizations to access a pool of over 10,000 aspirants from various competitive exams like Civil Services and Engineering Services.

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UPSC PRATIBHA Setu

A second gateway for UPSC aspirants to shine beyond the examination.

UPSC PRATIBHA Setu (PRATIBHA stands for, Professional Resource And Talent Integration – Bridge for Hiring Aspirants), formerly known as Public Disclosure Scheme (PDS), a strategic initiative that allows verified employers—including ministries, PSUs, autonomous bodies, and private organizations—to access details of non-recommended willing candidates who cleared all stages of UPSC exams but didn't make it to the final merit list.

WHAT & WHY

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2025, June 22-23

International Olympic Day:

- ➔ Every year on June 23, the world comes together to observe International Olympic Day—a tribute to the birth of the modern Olympic Games and a powerful reminder of the role of sports in uniting people across borders.
- ➔ This day serves as a platform to promote the Olympic values of excellence, friendship, and respect, and to encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to lead active, healthy lifestyles.



United Nations Public Service Day:

- ➔ Each year on June 23, the world observes United Nations Public Service Day to honor the vital contributions of public servants and the public sector in driving development and improving the quality of life for citizens across the globe.
- ➔ The day acknowledges the value and virtue of public service, celebrates excellence in public administration, and encourages youth participation in governance.



Jasprit Bumrah:

- ➔ India's pace sensation Jasprit Bumrah has etched his name in cricket history by becoming the first Asian bowler to take 150 Test wickets in SENA countries (South Africa, England, New Zealand, and Australia).
- ➔ The milestone came during the ongoing Test against England at Headingley, where Bumrah bagged a five-wicket haul to further cement his stature as one of the finest fast bowlers of the modern era.



Operation Midnight Hammer:

- ➔ In a shocking and bold move, the Pentagon announced the execution of Operation Midnight Hammer, a highly classified military operation launched by the United States against Iran's nuclear infrastructure.
- ➔ The announcement came just days after President Donald Trump scrapped a self-imposed two-week deadline, signaling a dramatic shift in U.S. posture toward Tehran. The Pentagon confirmed that the operation specifically targeted three key Iranian nuclear sites: Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan.
- ➔ The mission was described as deliberate, precision-based, and strategically coordinated, designed to severely degrade Iran's capacity to develop nuclear weapons.

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BSNL:

- ➔ BSNL soft-launched Quantum 5G FWA, in Hyderabad, offering India's first SIM-less, fixed-wireless 5G solution with fibre-like speeds using 5G radio technology.
- ➔ The entire solution is 100% indigenous, developed under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, with all components—core, RAN, and CPE—built by Indian vendors.



World Rainforest Day:

- ➔ World Rainforest Day is observed every year on 22nd June to raise awareness about the vital role rainforests play in maintaining global ecological balance, combating climate change, and supporting biodiversity and indigenous communities.
- ➔ First observed in 2017, the day was launched by the Rainforest Partnership, a U.S.-based non-profit organisation.
- ➔ The goal was to highlight threats to rainforests, such as deforestation, illegal mining, and habitat loss, and to inspire global action to protect them.



Soil Health:

- ➔ Low farmer awareness continues to affect soil health and crop productivity across this crucial agricultural belt. Both the Union government's Soil Health Card (SHC) programme and Tamil Nadu's Tamil Mann Valam portal promotes testing.
- ➔ But, just 7,900 cards were only generated in Nagapattinam and only 7,350 in Mayiladuthurai for 2024-25.
- ➔ The last State-wide mass soil sampling was conducted in 2018–19. While the Tamil Mann Valam portal includes soil data for each village, most of it is not precise. Mayiladuthurai district has no lab of its own and must rely on Nagapattinam.



Voyager 1:

- ➔ NASA's Voyager 1 spacecraft has detected a shell of superheated plasma at the heliopause. This plasma has been heated to an astonishing 30,000 to 50,000 Kelvin. Heliopause, defines the outer edge of the Sun's protective bubble known as the heliosphere.
- ➔ Heliopause is the boundary where the Sun's influence ends nearly 24 billion kilo metres away. Voyager 1 was launched in 1977 and has been travelling through the space and crossed into interstellar space in 2012.



Madura Mills:

- ➔ By 1892, the very famous Madura Mills, a British-owned cotton spinning mill, was established in Madurai. Madurai women staged the first recorded strike in the cotton mills of South India.
- ➔ This strike, from April 14 to June 10, 1920, was the first recorded strike in the cotton mills of South India. The formation of the Communist Party and the All-India Trade Union Congress in 1920 further strengthened the demand for workers' rights.

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Palm trees:

- ➔ The National Green Tribunal has sought a response from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and others in a matter related to the large-scale felling of palm trees in Bihar which is reportedly causing an increase in lightning-related deaths.
- ➔ The green body was hearing a matter where it had taken suo motu cognisance of a newspaper report on alleged widespread cutting of palm trees.



Yoga Policy:

- ➔ The country's first yoga policy was launched in Uttarakhand. This policy has been prepared with the aim of establishing Uttarakhand as a global capital in the field of yoga and wellness.
- ➔ A subsidy of up to 20 lakh rupees is being provided for developing yoga and meditation centres in the state.

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2025, June 21

International Day of Yoga:

- ➔ The International Day of Yoga, celebrated every year on 21st June, is more than just a symbolic observance; it is a global movement that promotes physical health, mental peace, and spiritual awareness.
- ➔ In 2025, this internationally celebrated day enters its 11th edition, bringing with it a renewed sense of commitment to both personal well-being and planetary health.
- ➔ With its origins rooted in ancient Indian philosophy, Yoga has evolved into a universal practice, transcending cultures, borders, and belief systems. The theme for International Yoga Day 2025 beautifully captures this global ethos.



Uttar Pradesh:

- ➔ Uttar Pradesh has emerged as a national leader in digital public procurement, having recorded a staggering ₹65,227.68 crore in orders through the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25.
- ➔ GeM (Government e-Marketplace): A national digital platform launched in 2016 for procurement of goods and services by government organizations to enhance transparency, efficiency, and inclusiveness.



Karnataka Cabinet:

- ➔ In a move that has stirred political debate, the Karnataka Cabinet, led by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, approved an increase in the housing scheme quota for religious minorities from 10% to 15%.
- ➔ The decision, aimed at addressing the housing shortage among minority communities in urban and rural areas, has drawn criticism from the BJP, which termed it an act of appeasement, while the state government defended it on the grounds of social justice and equitable housing access.



Hindustan Aeronautics Limited:

- ➔ In a landmark development for India's space sector, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has secured a ₹511 crore Transfer of Technology (ToT) deal from ISRO to manufacture and commercialise Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs).
- ➔ The announcement was made by IN-SPACe, the national space promotion agency, following a rigorous bidding and evaluation process. This move marks a significant leap in the commercialisation of India's space capabilities.



Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana:

- ➔ The Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) has approved the construction of 2,34,864 houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0).
- ➔ The meeting was chaired by Srinivas Katikithala, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). Under PMAY-U 2.0, eligible urban households—especially EWS, LIG, and MIG segments—can receive central assistance of up to ₹5 lakh per house.
- ➔ Over 93.19 lakh homes have already been completed and handed over, with the new version aiming to support 1 crore more families.



ACC:

- ➔ The U.S. has successfully used a technique called step-and-shoot spot-scanning proton arc therapy (SPArc) to treat a patient's adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC) for the first time.
- ➔ The ACC is a relatively rare form of cancer that most commonly develops in the salivary glands or other regions of the head and neck. But these technologies are very expensive one and are often suitable for a small patient population.



Earthworms:

- ➔ Two new species of an earthworms - *Kanchuria tripuraensis* and *Kanchuria Priya Shankari*, have been officially discovered in Tripura.

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- ➔ The genus *Kanchuria*, which is endemic to Northeast India, now comprises 10 species with these new additions. This also increases the total number of the recorded megadrile worm species in Tripura to 38.



Wildlife Institute of India:

- ➔ The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun in Uttarakhand released a report titled "Status of Ungulates in Tiger Habitats of India". The Kanha Tiger Reserve (KTR) in Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the leading tiger habitat in India in terms of ungulate (hoofed herbivore) population.
- ➔ As per the report, "Kanha Tiger Reserve boasts the highest ungulate population(1,02,485) among India's major tiger reserves." The total available biomass surpasses 12.6 million kilograms, making Kanha the most resource-rich tiger habitat in the country.



Sustainable Gastronomy:

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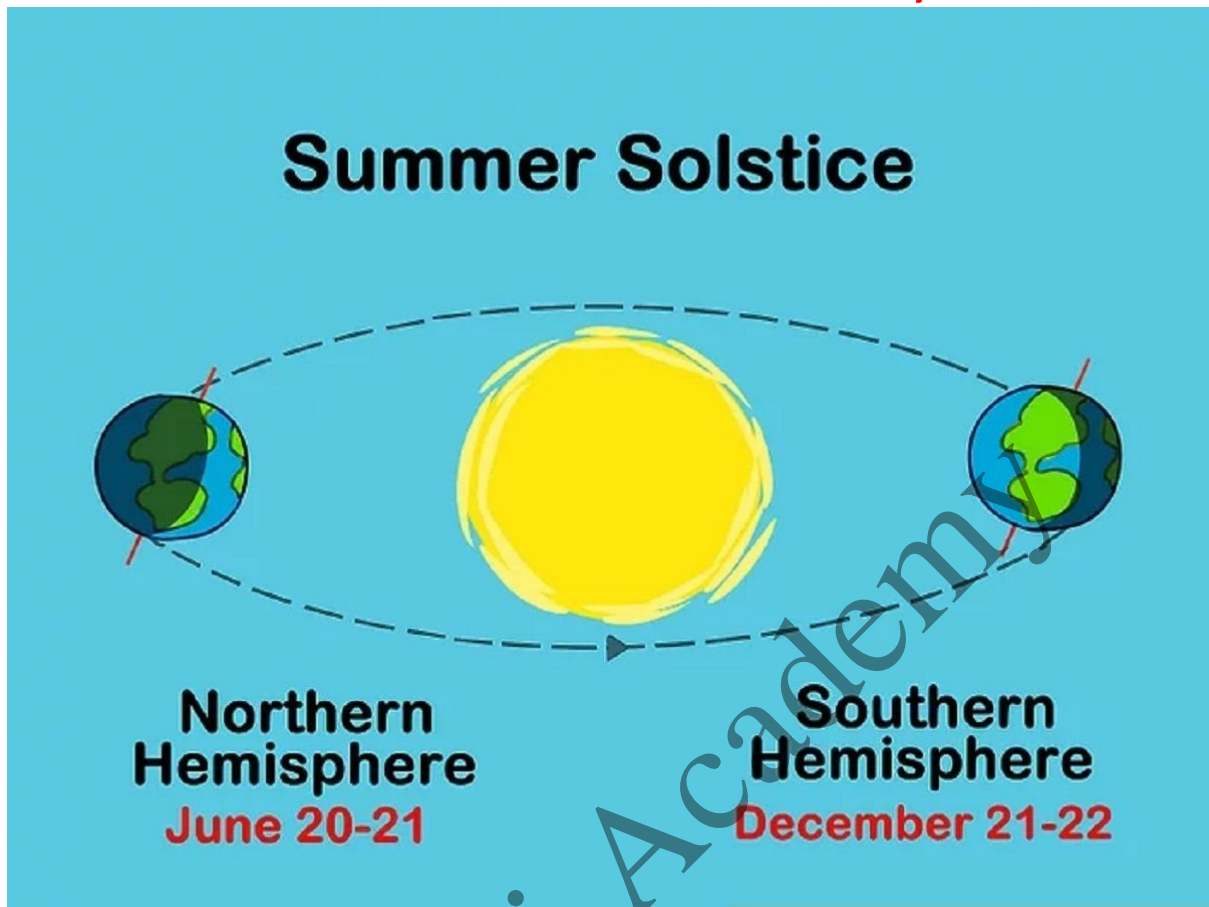
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- ➔ Sustainable Gastronomy Day recognizes gastronomy as an important cultural expression tied to the natural and cultural diversity of our world.
- ➔ As of 2025, 56 cities have been recognized as Creative Cities of Gastronomy, each promoting local food heritage and sustainability. Hyderabad is the lone Creative City of Gastronomy in India.



Summer Solstice:

- ➔ Summer Solstice is observed on June 21. The Summer Solstice is the day with the most daylight in the Northern Hemisphere. It occurs when the Earth's axis is tilted towards the sun at its maximum angle.
- ➔ This means that the sun's rays strike the Earth's surface at a more direct angle, which results in longer days and shorter nights. The word "solstice" comes from the Latin words "sol" (sun) and "stitium" (still or stopped).



"Floating Yoga":

- ➔ Ahead of International Yoga Day, Andhra Pradesh has secured a global recognition for its innovative "Floating Yoga" event conducted on the Krishna River in Vijayawada.
- ➔ Organised as part of the state's YogAndhra 2025 campaign, the event featured over a thousand yoga practitioners performing asanas on 200 water crafts including kayaks, jet skis, punts, sand boats and floating platforms.

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2025, June 19-20

Sahitya Akademi:

- ➔ The Sahitya Akademi, India's premier literary institution and an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has made a significant announcement regarding children's literature in the country.
- ➔ Under the distinguished chairmanship of Sri Madhav Kaushik, the Executive Board convened in its recent meeting to finalize the recipients of the prestigious Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025.
- ➔ The Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025 specifically recognizes literary excellence in works that were first published during a carefully defined five-year period.



**Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025
Winners Announced**

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict:

- ➔ Every year on June 19, the global community observes the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, a solemn reminder of the horrific use of sexual violence as a weapon of war.
- ➔ In 2025, the day marks its 11th anniversary with the theme: "Breaking the Cycle, Healing the Scars: Addressing the Intergenerational Effects of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence."
- ➔ The day urges collective action to acknowledge survivors, promote justice, and stop such atrocities from recurring.



World Refugee Day:

- ➔ Every year on 20 June, the world observes World Refugee Day, an occasion to honour the strength, resilience, and dignity of millions who have been forced to flee their homes due to conflict, persecution, or natural disaster.
- ➔ In 2025, the day is being marked under the theme “Solidarity with Refugees”, highlighting the need for equality, inclusion, and concrete action to ensure refugees are not only protected but empowered.

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JAIHIND:

- ➔ Delhi University has launched the JAIHIND (Janajati Immersive Holistic Intervention for Novel Development) scheme aimed at equipping Scheduled Tribe (ST) students from across India with basic computer skills and guidance for higher education, particularly focusing on preparing them for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET).
- ➔ The initiative is designed to support school students from Classes 9 to 12, especially those from remote tribal regions, by addressing their digital and academic barriers to college access.

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National Payments Corporation of India:

- ➔ In a major boost to India's digital payment diplomacy, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Eurobank of Cyprus to introduce Unified Payments Interface (UPI) services in Cyprus.
- ➔ The agreement, finalized during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Cyprus, aims to streamline cross-border transactions, particularly benefiting tourists, businesses, and investors.



Pinaka multi-barrel rocket:

- ➔ India is on the verge of significantly enhancing its artillery capabilities with the upcoming induction of new long-range variants of the Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher system, capable of hitting targets up to 300 km away.
- ➔ Developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), these new systems will support precision strikes, faster deployment, and greater firepower, marking a major leap in India's self-reliant defence posture.



GSEC:

- ➔ In a significant boost to India's digital and cybersecurity landscape, Google launched its first Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC) in the Asia-Pacific region in Hyderabad on June 18, 2025.
- ➔ The centre, inaugurated by Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, is Google's fourth GSEC globally and aims to drive advancements in cybersecurity, responsible AI, and user safety.
- ➔ The launch follows the company's announcement of its "Safety Charter for India's AI-led Transformation," reinforcing its commitment to protecting digital citizens.



Maharashtra government:

- ➔ The Maharashtra government has issued a revised directive stating that Hindi will be “generally” taught as a third language from Classes 1 to 5 in all Marathi and English medium schools, as part of the implementation of the State Curriculum Framework for School Education 2024, in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- ➔ While the policy allows opting for other Indian languages, this option is conditional, leading to criticism from language activists and opposition leaders who have accused the government of reintroducing Hindi through the backdoor after earlier public resistance.



Delhi government:

- ➔ The Delhi government is poised to conduct its first cloud-seeding trial by the end of June 2025, pending final clearance from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- ➔ With permissions from key agencies in place, the trial aims to explore the feasibility of artificially inducing rainfall during periods of high pollution, using technology developed by IIT Kanpur and logistical support from IMD and the Ministry of Defence.



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WEF:

- ➔ Despite notable progress in energy efficiency and clean energy investment, India has slipped to 71st position in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Energy Transition Index 2025, falling eight places from last year.
- ➔ The index, which ranks 118 countries based on their performance across energy security, sustainability, and equity, places Sweden, Finland, and Denmark at the top.
- ➔ While India's ranking declined, the WEF acknowledged the country's significant improvements in energy access, regulatory frameworks, and transition readiness.



IEA:

- ➔ India has recorded the third-highest growth in power generation capacity globally over the past five years, following only China and the United States, according to the latest International Energy Agency (IEA) report.
- ➔ The country's rapid rise is attributed to increasing energy demand across sectors, a robust push for renewable energy, and significant foreign and domestic investments, particularly in solar photovoltaic (PV) projects.



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman:

- ➔ During her visit to Ladakh, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman laid the foundation stone for a Mini Planetarium and Astro Globe at the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve, Changthang region, on June 15, 2025.
- ➔ This move is part of the government's broader push to promote science-based tourism and inclusive development in remote regions.
- ➔ The foundation of a Mini Planetarium at Hanle — home to one of the world's highest astronomical observatories — is expected to enhance scientific awareness, community participation, and support nomadic populations through linked welfare schemes and CSR efforts.

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Honda:

- ➔ In a landmark achievement for private aerospace innovation, Japanese automobile giant Honda has successfully conducted the launch and landing test of its first experimental reusable rocket.
- ➔ The test, conducted on June 17, 2025, at Honda's facility in Taiki Town, Hokkaido, marks Honda's entry into the elite group of companies developing reusable launch technology—a space sector currently dominated by the likes of SpaceX and Blue Origin.



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Tamil Nadu government:

- ➔ The Tamil Nadu government has provided in-principal approval for establishing a State Institutional Ranking Framework (SIRF). It is a ranking list for higher education institutions in the State.
- ➔ The Tamil Nadu State Council for the Higher Education (TANSCH) under the department of higher education will be the implementing authority of the ranking.



ETLDHCM:

- ➔ India is preparing to test its most advanced indigenously developed hypersonic missile — the Extended Trajectory-Long Duration Hypersonic Cruise Missile (ETLDHCM). The ETLDHCM boasts a top speed of Mach 8 (approximately 11,000 km/h).
- ➔ It can deliver the swift and devastating strikes deep into the enemy territory, including targets in China and Pakistan.
- ➔ With this capability, India joins a group of countries, including the United States, China, and Russia, that have achieved operational success in hypersonic weapons technology.



Harappa:

- ➔ Archaeologists have unearthed a 5,300-year-old settlement near Lakhapar village in western Kachhh, Gujarat. The excavation has revealed an Early Harappan habitation site. It is located near the now-quiet Gandi River, once a perennial water source.
- ➔ The evidence of pottery from both Early and Classical Harappan phases, dating back to around 3300 BC. Among these finds is the very extremely rare Pre-Prabhas Ware, previously known from only three sites across Gujarat. They discovered a human burial in the vicinity of the settlement.



Acs:

- ➔ The Indian government is planning a new rule to control the temperature range at which air conditioners can run in the country.
- ➔ The temperature standardisation for ACs will be set between 20°C to 28°C, which means we will not be able to cool below 20°C or heat above 28°C.
- ➔ Currently, the AC temperature goes up to 18°C (16°C in a few) with a maximum of up to 30°C. Every 1°C increase in AC temperature can cuts energy use by 6%.



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Justice (retd.) G.M. Akbar Ali:

- ➔ The State government has constituted a panel, headed by the Justice (retd.) G.M. Akbar Ali. It will examine the impact of the Supreme Court's verdict on its recruitment process and propose legal options to overcome issues arising out of the ruling.
- ➔ Traditionally, the State government had been preparing rank lists for government appointments, following a 200-point roster system. As part of the system, reservations were provided to candidates belonging to BC, BCM, MBC and DNC, SC, and ST.
- ➔ The system determined seniority and merit within the categories, giving regard for equitable treatment in promotion for all government employees.



Loan amount:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu has the highest average outstanding loan amount per account in the micro finance sector. Among the top 10 states, Tamil Nadu has the highest average loan outstanding per account of ₹31,131 followed by West Bengal at ₹30,488.
- ➔ Bihar continues to be the largest state in terms of portfolio outstanding followed by Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh in the microfinance sector. Tamil Nadu is one of the oldest states with microfinance presence.



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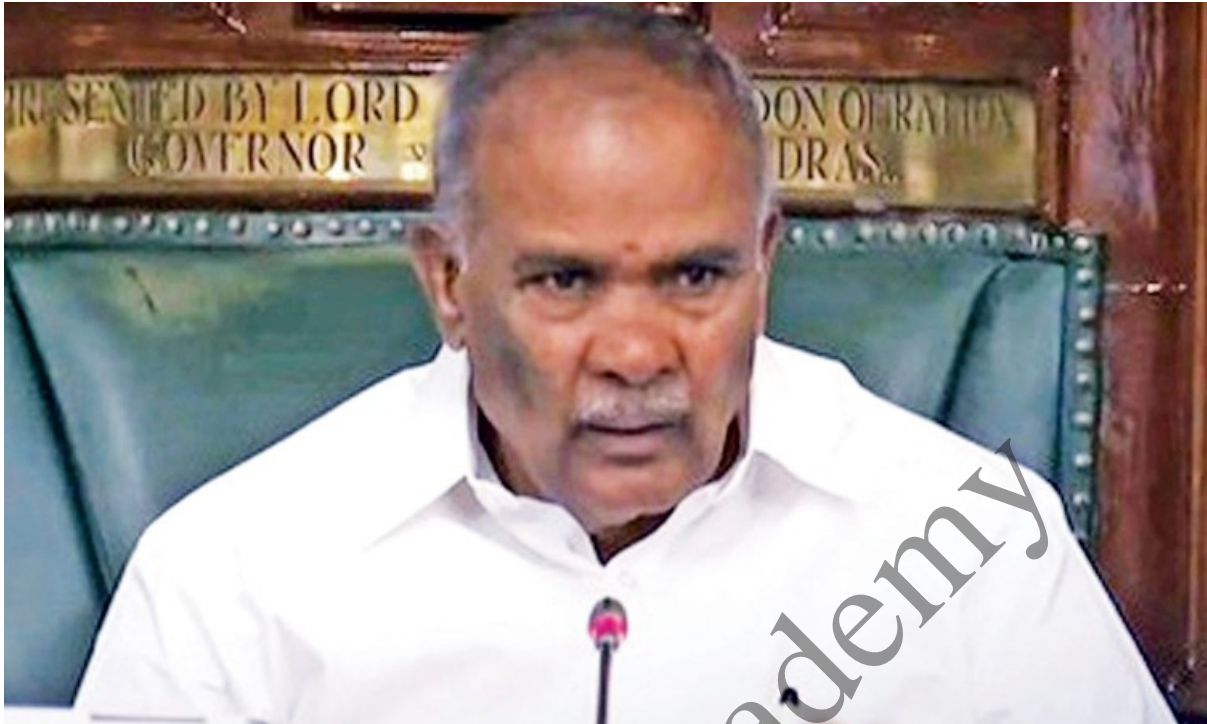
Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan:

- ➔ The Government of India has launched the Dharti Aaba Janbhagidari Abhiyan. This campaign is being rolled out across 549 tribal-dominated districts and 207 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)-dominated districts covering about 100,000+ Villages & Habitations.
- ➔ This Largest-Ever Tribal Empowerment Campaign was initiated under Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh.
- ➔ It will provide access to critical entitlements and government services, including, Adhaar Card Enrolments and Updates, Ayushman Bharat Health Card Issuance, Opening of Jan Dhan Bank Accounts and etc.



Speaker M. Appavu:

- ➔ The Speaker M. Appavu can entertain a petition by an elector of Bodinayakanur against former Chief Minister and MLA of the constituency O. Panneerselvam. It was also by the Supreme Court's verdict in the Speaker of Orissa Legislative Assembly vs Utkal Keshari Parida, 2013 case.
- ➔ However, this position is not in conformity with the 1986 Rules of the Tamil Nadu Assembly regarding disqualifications. It explicitly states that only an MLA can submit any such petition.



National Mission for a Green India:

- ➔ The National Mission for a Green India (GIM) was launched in 2014 as one of the eight core missions under India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).
- ➔ The mission aims to protect, restore, and enhance forest and tree cover in India. The Green India Mission is being implemented over a 10-year period from 2021 to 2030.



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Operation Sindhu:

- ➔ India has launched Operation Sindhu to evacuate Indian nationals from Iran in view of the deteriorating situation due to the ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel.
- ➔ As a first step, the Indian Embassy in Tehran has evacuated 110 Indian students from northern Iran, assisting them in safely crossing over into Armenia.



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2025, June 17-18

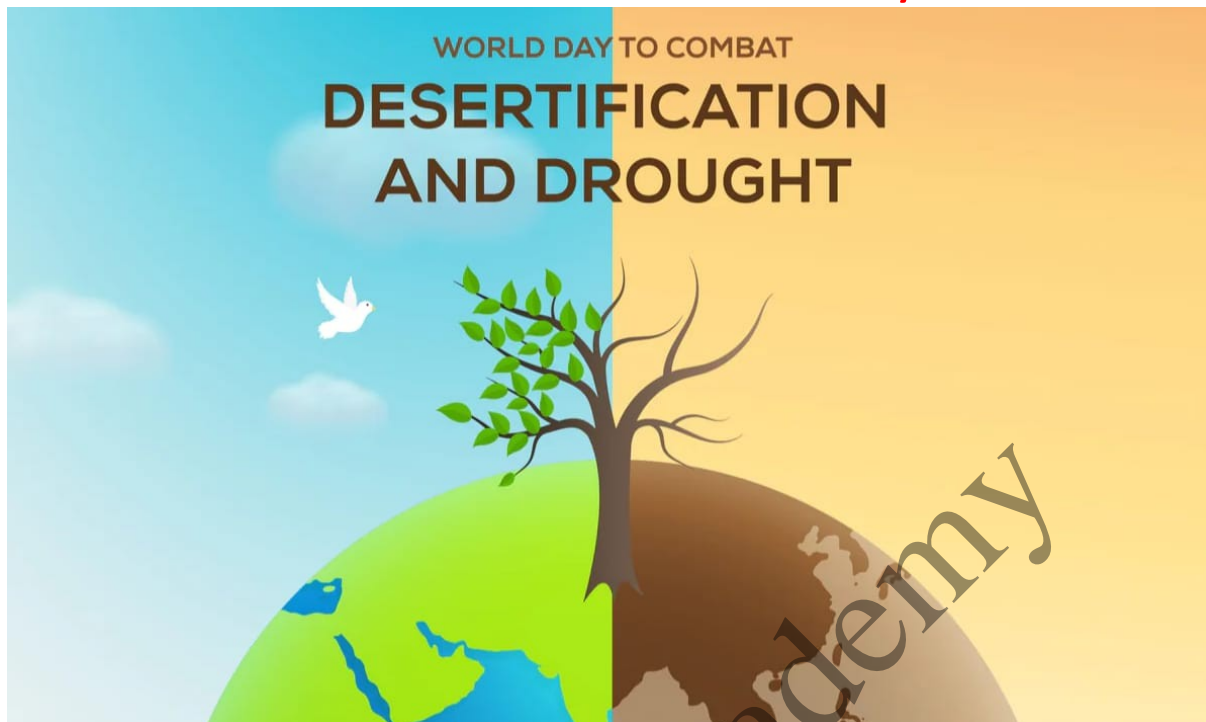
IBCA:

- ➔ India reaffirmed its global leadership in wildlife conservation by hosting the first Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) in New Delhi.
- ➔ The event, chaired by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, gathered ministerial delegations from nine big cat range countries, laying the groundwork for an international alliance dedicated to the protection of seven major big cat species — Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma.
- ➔ The assembly marked a significant step towards collaborative global efforts to safeguard biodiversity.



World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought:

- ➔ Observed annually on 17 June, the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is a global call to action against one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time—land degradation.
- ➔ Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1994 following the adoption of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), this day underscores the need for sustainable land management and awareness about the rising impacts of desertification and drought, particularly in vulnerable regions.



International Day for Countering Hate Speech:

- ➔ As the world marks International Day for Countering Hate Speech on 18 June, global leaders and institutions are renewing their commitment to tackle the rapid proliferation of online hate speech.
- ➔ One of the strongest voices this year comes from Nazia Rehman, Chair of the Congress Social Inclusion Committee (United Kingdom, SOC/G/PD), who urged local and regional authorities to implement practical measures to combat this rising threat.



Gastronomy:

- ➔ Gastronomy, often referred to as the art of food, encompasses more than just cooking. It reflects the cultural identity and culinary traditions of a region. Whether it's a street dish from Bangkok or a heritage stew from Morocco, gastronomy tells the story of a place and its people.

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- ➔ The observance of Sustainable Gastronomy Day on 18 June was officially designated by the United Nations General Assembly through resolution A/RES/71/246, adopted on 21 December 2016.
- ➔ This global day recognizes gastronomy as an important cultural expression tied to the natural and cultural diversity of our world.



United Nations General Assembly:

- ➔ In a significant diplomatic development, the United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 4 December as the International Day Against Unilateral Coercive Measures, starting in 2025.
- ➔ With 116 votes in favour, the resolution seeks to raise global awareness of the humanitarian and developmental consequences of unilateral economic, financial, and trade sanctions that are deemed to violate international law and the UN Charter.



Cyber Suraksha:

- ➔ The Defence Cyber Agency, under the Integrated Defence Staff Headquarters, launched 'Cyber Suraksha', a multi-phase cybersecurity training exercise, on June 16, 2025.
- ➔ The 12-day program aims to simulate real-world cyber threats and train over 100 participants from various national defence and security agencies in cyber defence, resilience, and leadership decision-making in cyber warfare environments.



Israel-Iran:

- ➔ In a significant escalation of the Israel-Iran conflict, Iran has claimed to have used its Fattah-1 hypersonic missile against Israeli targets. The development marks a new phase in the region's military dynamics, with hypersonic technology now entering active combat.
- ➔ Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps stated that the latest wave of attacks—part of Operation Honest Promise 3—was executed using this highly advanced missile. Iran also claimed it has

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achieved “complete control over the skies” of what it referred to as “occupied territories,” indicating a strong political and military message.



Bihar State Election Commission:

- ➔ In a landmark move, the Bihar State Election Commission (SEC) has initiated the rollout of a mobile-based e-voting system, making Bihar the first Indian state to adopt such a modern and inclusive voting process.
- ➔ The new system will be launched during the municipal and urban body polls scheduled for 28th June, as confirmed by State Election Commissioner Deepak Prasad.



Yoga Bandhan:

- ➔ The Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, hosts 'Yoga Bandhan' as a highlight of the International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2025 celebrations.
- ➔ This initiative reflects India's dedication to fostering global cooperation through institution-to-institution connections in Yoga, advancing collective well-being and cultural exchange.

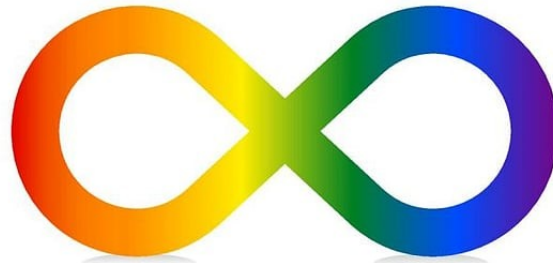


Autistic:

- ➔ Autistic Pride Day is celebrated every year on 18 June to recognise the dignity, rights, and unique identity of people with autism.
- ➔ It emphasizes self-advocacy, acceptance, and the celebration of neurodiversity, shifting the focus from “curing” autism to embracing it as a different way of thinking and experiencing the world.

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AUTISTIC
PRIDE DAY
— JUNE 18 —

NSAP:

- ➔ The Tamil Nadu government contributes more monetarily compared to the Union government for the implementation of at least six Central schemes.
- ➔ These include three schemes under the umbrella of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) — Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), and the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS).
- ➔ Fully funded by the Centre, the NSAP was launched in August 1995.

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Tamil Nadu Chief Minister:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister would soon launch a 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' scheme. Under this, as many as 1,256 special medical camps will be held across the State. It will be facilitating master health check-ups for the needy and diff-abled nearer to their homes.
- ➔ At the camps, the differently-abled people can get the certificates with disability percentages, and the identity cards under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.



Tamil Nadu Money Lending Entities (Prevention of Coercive Actions) Act:

- ➔ The Tamilnadu State government has notified the Tamil Nadu Money Lending Entities (Prevention of Coercive Actions) Act, 2025. It aims to prevent coercive recovery of micro-loans by money-lending entities.
- ➔ The Assembly has passed the legislation in April, and it received the Governor's assent on June 9. The Act is aimed at protecting the weaker and vulnerable groups and individuals - especially farmers, women, and self-help groups. It will be protecting from the coercive recovery of loans by money-lending entities such as the micro-finance institutions and money-lending agencies operating in Tamil Nadu.



IREL:

- ➔ India has asked state-run miner IREL (Indian Rare Earths Limited) to suspend a 13-year-old agreement on rare earth exports to Japan. The Govt asked IREL to stop its exports of rare earths, mainly neodymium, a key material used in magnets for electric vehicle motors.
- ➔ Under a 2012 government agreement, IREL supplies rare earths to Toyotsu Rare Earths India. China has curbed its rare earth materials exports since April, pressuring the automakers and high-tech manufacturers worldwide.
- ➔ India has the world's fifth-largest rare earth reserves, at 6.9 million metric tons. But there is no domestic magnet production. India relies on imported magnets, mainly from China. IREL has a rare earths extraction plant in the eastern Indian state of Odisha and a refining unit in Kerala, in southern India.



Forest Rights Act:

- ➔ The Union government has started funding structural mechanisms to “facilitate” the implementation of the law meant to give forest rights to ST and forest-dwelling communities.
- ➔ The Forest Rights Act (FRA) came into being in 2006. Implementation of the FRA, for the last 19 years, has been the domain of State and union territory governments.



Meghalaya:

- ➔ Meghalaya now allocates eight per cent of its total state budget to the highest in the country. Since 2010, the state's health budget has grown nearly sixfold, from Rs 300 crore to Rs 1,700 crore in 2023.
- ➔ The first Meghalaya Health Summit 2025 organized by the state department of health & family welfare, in collaboration with the National Health Mission.

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Vietnam:

- ➔ Vietnam has officially joined BRICS as a partner country. Vietnam has now become the 10th BRICS partner. The partner country category was created at the 2024 BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia.
- ➔ The current list of partners includes Vietnam, Belarus, Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.



MGNREGA:

- ➔ The Calcutta High Court directed the Centre to implement the MGNREGA scheme prospectively in West Bengal from August 1.
- ➔ The Centre is empowered to impose special conditions, restrictions and regulations, which have not been imposed in other states of the country, so as to ensure that no illegality or irregularity occurs when the scheme is being implemented in the state.

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2025, June 16

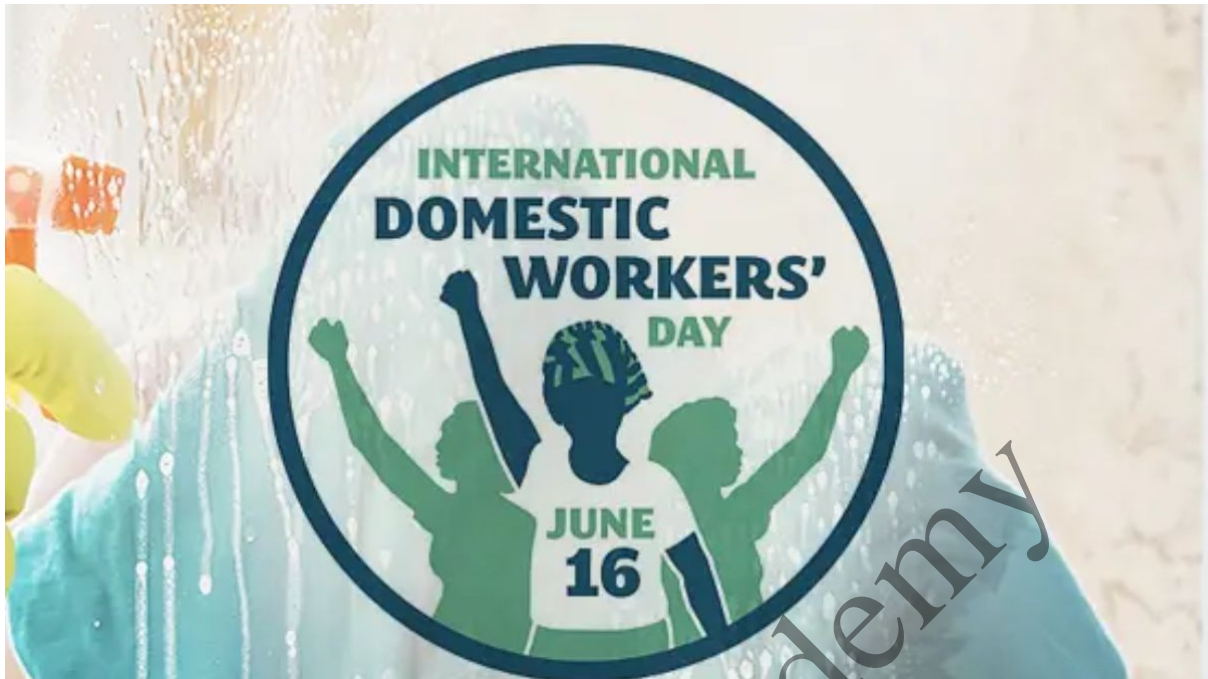
International Day of Family Remittances:

- ➔ Every year on June 16, the world observes the International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) to honour the remarkable contributions made by migrant workers who send money back home to support their families.
- ➔ These remittances are not merely financial transactions — they are lifelines for millions and enablers of development for countless communities.
- ➔ In 2025, the theme of the day—“Remittances financing development”—underscores the integral role that remittance flows play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).



International Domestic Workers' Day:

- ➔ Observed every year on June 16, International Domestic Workers' Day honors the tireless contributions of domestic workers who provide essential care and support in households across the globe.
- ➔ This day marks the adoption of ILO Convention 189 (C189) in 2011, which established for the first time international labor standards for domestic work.
- ➔ In 2025, as the day is commemorated once again, the global community is being urged to translate this commitment into action—ensuring decent work, dignity, and rights for all domestic workers.



Lieutenant Commander Yashasvi Solankee:

- ➔ In a historic milestone for gender representation in the armed forces, Lieutenant Commander Yashasvi Solankee, 27, has been appointed as the first woman Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the President of India, Droupadi Murmu.
- ➔ Selected in April 2025, she officially assumed the prestigious role on May 9, 2025, following a rigorous selection process and month-long orientation.
- ➔ The position, traditionally held by male officers, marks a shift towards inclusivity and empowerment within the military and the office of the President.



MV Wan Hai:

- ➔ In a bold and high-risk mid-sea operation, the Indian Navy successfully conducted an aerial insertion and extraction of a salvage team aboard the fire-engulfed merchant vessel MV Wan Hai 503 on June 13, 2025.
- ➔ The operation, executed under challenging weather and fire conditions, marked a significant milestone in maritime rescue coordination, showcasing India's naval readiness and expertise in handling emergency salvage operations.



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Chennai:

- ➔ Union Minister Kamlesh Paswan Inaugurates India's First Agri-Drone Indigenization Hub in Chennai. India is accelerating its drone manufacturing and skilling capabilities.
- ➔ The launch of Garuda Aerospace's Agri-Drone Indigenization Facility, the largest of its kind, along with 300 new Centres of Excellence and a nationwide Train the Trainer programme, highlights a major advancement in indigenous drone production, innovation, and workforce development.



Karnataka:

- ➔ Karnataka achieved the highest wind power capacity addition in India during FY 2024–25, with 1,331.48 MW added, followed by Tamil Nadu (1,136.37 MW) and Gujarat (954.76 MW); the award was presented during Global Wind Day 2025 celebrations in Bengaluru.
- ➔ India currently ranks 4th in global wind energy generation with 51.5 GW installed capacity and aims to achieve 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030, including 100 GW from wind, as highlighted by Union Minister Pralhad Joshi.



Supreme Court:

- ➔ The Supreme Court held that there is no indefeasible right with the accused to undergo a narcoanalysis test. The court has also held that, “The accused has a right to voluntarily undergo a narcoanalysis test at an appropriate stage”.
- ➔ This judgement overturned the Patna High Court's order that allowed the police to conduct narco-analysis tests on all accused in a dowry harassment case involving a missing woman.



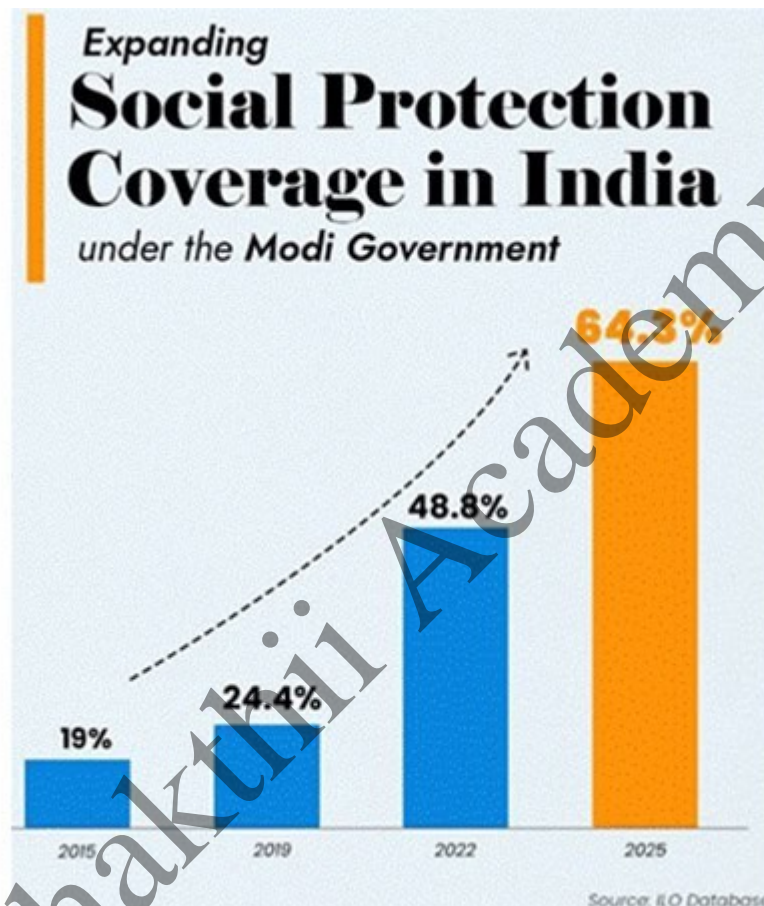
FDI:

- ➔ In 2024-25, India received a total FDI of \$81 billion, which is the highest in the last three years. Maharashtra and Karnataka together attracted 51% of India's total FDI inflows in FY 2024-25.
- ➔ Gujarat's share rose from 6% to 11%, while Tamil Nadu's share declined from 11% to 7%. Singapore emerged as the largest source of FDI with \$14.94 billion inflows.



Social Security:

- ➔ India's social security coverage has increased to 64.3 per cent in 2025 from 19 per cent in 2015. India now ranks second in the world in terms of beneficiary count, providing the social protection to around 94 crore citizens.
- ➔ India is also the first country globally to update its 2025 social protection coverage data in the ILOSTAT database.



Israel-Iran:

- ➔ Renewed Israel-Iran tension is threatening potential disruptions in the tea exports of India.
- ➔ According to the Tea Board, the Tea exports from India increased by 9.92 per cent at 254.67 million kg, from January to December 2024, against 231.69 million kg in the previous calendar year. India has become the second largest tea exporter in the world.



Article 12:

- ➔ The Supreme Court observed that a person who works in a registered society which is a "State" within the meaning of Article 12 cannot be held to be a government servant.
- ➔ The bench of Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Justice Manmohan was hearing a plea challenging the order of the Tripura High Court, which upheld the dismissal of the petitioner from a government post as 'junior weaver'.

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2025, June 14-15

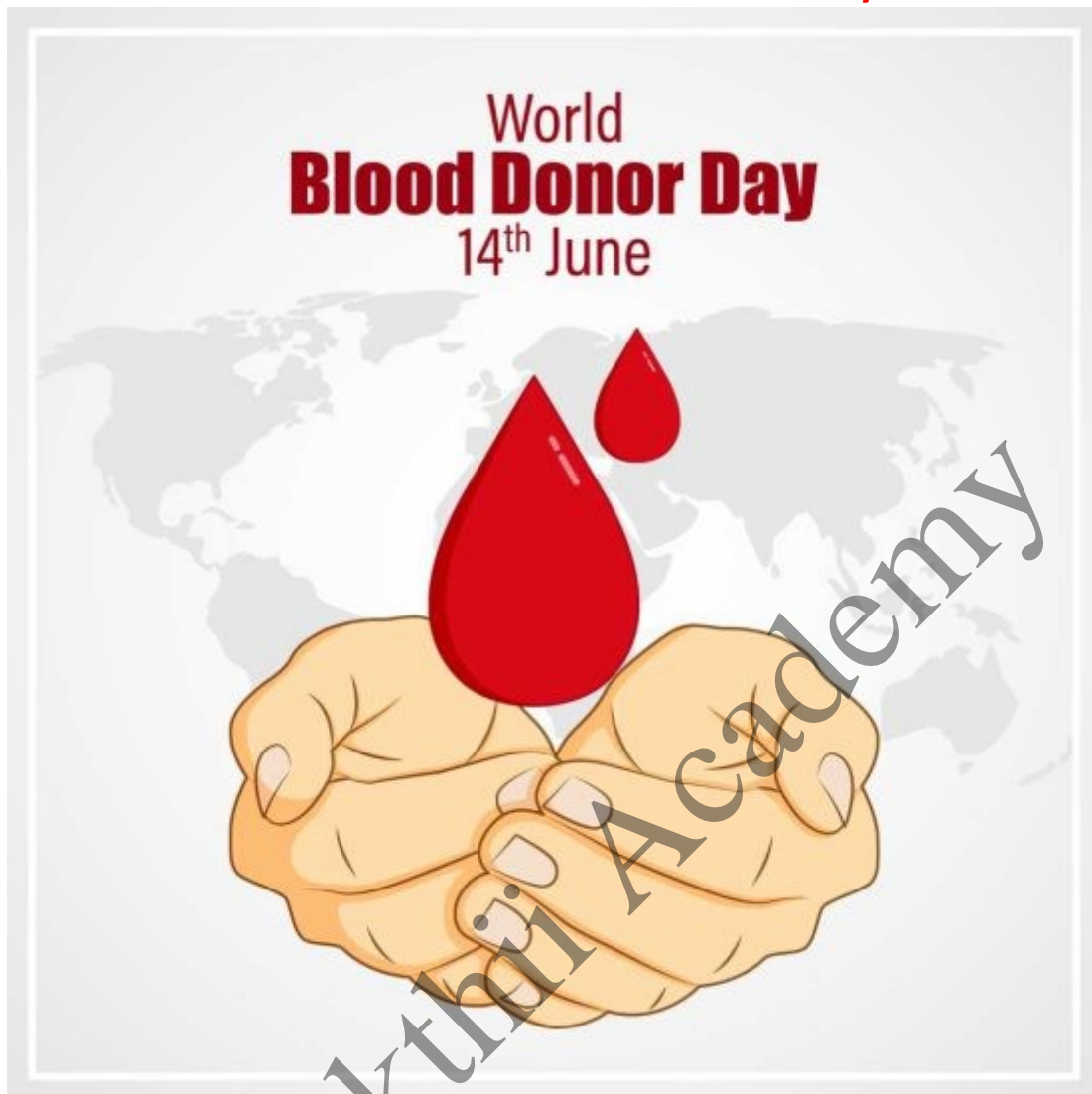
Father's Day:

- ➔ Father's Day is a special occasion dedicated to honouring fathers and father figures for their love, sacrifices, and support. It is celebrated in many countries around the world and provides an opportunity to express gratitude and appreciation for the role fathers play in our lives.
- ➔ Father's Day is observed every year on the third Sunday of June. In 2025, Father's Day will be celebrated on 15th June. Countries such as India, the United States, and the United Kingdom observe it on this day.
- ➔ However, some countries like Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Croatia celebrate Father's Day on 19th March, which is also Saint Joseph's Day.



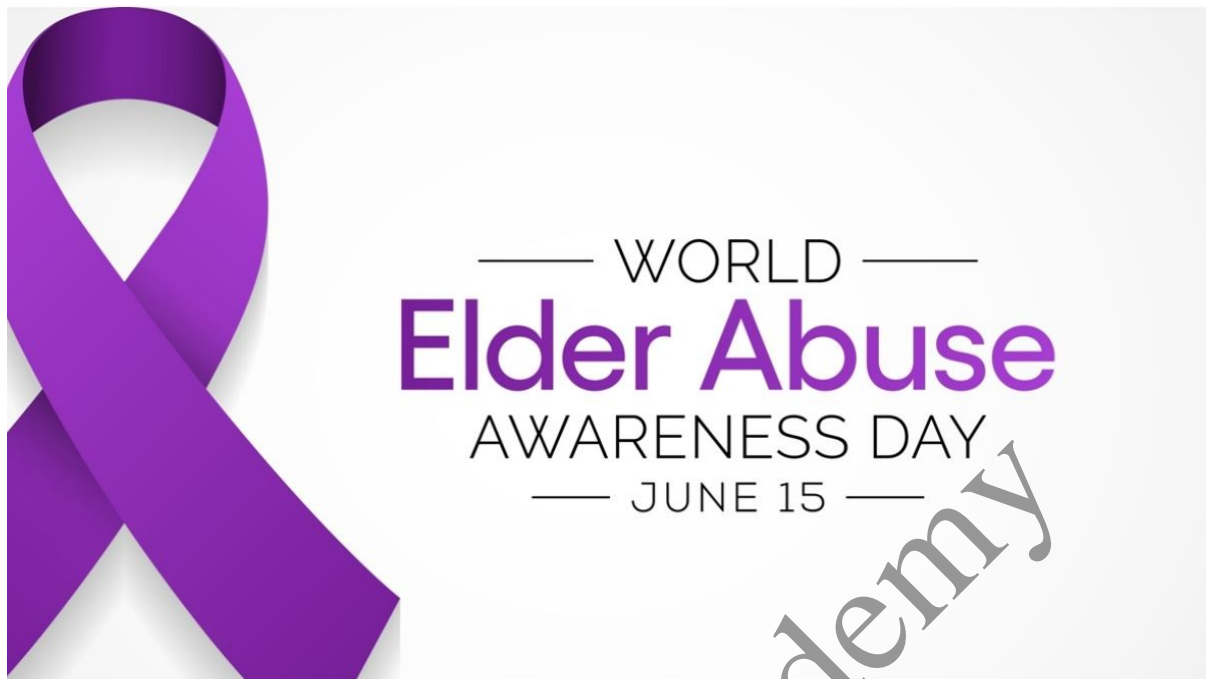
World Blood Donor Day:

- ➔ Every year on June 14, countries around the globe observe World Blood Donor Day to recognise and appreciate the life-saving contributions of voluntary blood donors. This day also aims to raise awareness about the constant need for safe blood and blood products.
- ➔ The 2025 theme, "Give Blood, Give Hope", highlights the emotional and life-sustaining power of blood donations, showing how a single act of generosity can give someone another chance at life and healing.



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day:

- ➔ Every year on June 15, the world comes together to observe World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) — a day dedicated to shedding light on the growing but often hidden issue of elder mistreatment and neglect.
- ➔ Recognised globally, this observance aims to protect the dignity, safety, and human rights of older adults.
- ➔ In 2025, the call to action is louder than ever, as governments, organisations, and communities unite to raise awareness, promote prevention, and ensure justice for vulnerable senior citizens.



World Test Championship:

- ➔ In a monumental moment for South African cricket, the Proteas claimed their first-ever ICC trophy by defeating defending champions Australia by five wickets in the World Test Championship (WTC) Final 2025 at Lord's, London.
- ➔ Chasing a challenging target of 282 runs, South Africa scripted a stunning turnaround, anchored by a resolute century from Aiden Markram and gritty leadership by captain Temba Bavuma.
- ➔ This victory not only ended their long ICC title drought but also marked a cultural and sporting milestone for the nation.

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Shell India:

- ➔ In a major move to align India's youth with the global green economy, Shell India has partnered with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to launch a structured training programme focused on green skills and electric vehicle (EV) technologies.
- ➔ The programme, implemented via the Directorate General of Training (DGT), aims to equip students, faculty, and trainers with cutting-edge knowledge in EV systems, battery technology, diagnostics, and safety.
- ➔ The multi-tiered skilling initiative is being rolled out across five major states, supporting India's transition toward clean energy and net-zero emissions.

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Indian Army:

- ➔ In a significant step towards boosting indigenous defence capabilities, the Indian Army has successfully conducted trials of the Rudrastra, a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) designed for deep-strike missions.
- ➔ Developed by Solar Aerospace and Defence Limited (SDAL), this indigenous drone demonstrated its capacity to carry out cross-border attacks and neutralize high-value targets, reflecting the armed forces' growing reliance on homegrown technology for modern warfare.



Operation Rising Lion:

- ➔ Israel launched “Operation Rising Lion” on 13 June 2025, targeting over 100 Iranian nuclear and military sites, including the Natanz nuclear facility; Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared a national emergency fearing Iranian retaliation.
- ➔ The U.S. denied involvement in the attack and confirmed American and Iranian negotiators will meet in Oman on 15 June 2025 for the sixth round of nuclear programme talks.



RBI:

- ➔ RBI has allowed state government securities to be traded in STRIPS format (Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities), enabling traders to separate and trade principal and interest components of bonds individually.
- ➔ This move comes after consultation with state governments, Union Territories, and market participants, aiming to deepen the bond market and enhance liquidity in state government securities.



Brazil and France:

- ➔ Brazil and France have launched a new initiative to bring oceans to the heart of climate action at the third United Ocean Conference (UNOC3) in Nice, France.
- ➔ The 'Blue NDC Challenge' urges countries to incorporate ocean-focused climate measures into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Six other countries—Australia, Fiji, Kenya, Mexico, Palau, and the Republic of Seychelles—have joined the initiative.

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Ozzo Feni:

- ➔ Goa's Ozzo Feni becomes India's first feni to receive a Geographical Indication tag. Feni made from the fermentation and double distillation of either cashew apples or coconut sap.
- ➔ Feni was introduced to India by the Portuguese missionaries in the 1600s when they came to trade. The people who made feni were called bhatikars. The condensation of feni takes place in earthen mud clays called launi.



QCI:

- ➔ World Accreditation Day highlights the role of the accreditation in strengthening the very quality infrastructure, enabling global trade, and fostering economic development. The Quality Council of India (QCI) is the national custodian of accreditation in India.
- ➔ QCI was established in 1997 as an autonomous body under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The theme for the year 2025 is "Accreditation: Empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)".

World Accreditation Day 2024

Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow
and Shaping the Future



Madras High Court:

- ➔ The Madras High Court has called upon the Tamil Nadu government to issue a Government Order (G.O.) empowering the revenue officials to issue 'no caste, no community' certificates to individuals who prefer not to be identified with any religion or caste.
- ➔ Earlier in February 2024, HC refused to direct the Tirupattur Tahsildar to issue 'no caste, no community' certificate to an applicant since the revenue officials had not been empowered to issue such a certificate.
- ➔ Previously the 'no caste, no community' certificates were issued by the Tirupattur Tahsildar on February 5, 2019; Coimbatore Tahsildar on May 27, 2022; and Ambattur Tahsildar on August 18, 2022.



Delhi, Tripura and Tamil Nadu:

- ➔ Delhi, Tripura and Tamil Nadu are among the top performers in dealing with challenges related to adult literacy and education. Uttarakhand, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh were lagging behind in certification outcomes.
- ➔ This data was released by the Foundational Literacy Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT). Tamil Nadu recorded a 100 per cent success rate, certifying all 5,09,694 learners who appeared for FLNAT. Previously, two FLNATs were conducted in 2023 - in March and September.



CROPIC:

- ➔ The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare plans to launch CROPIC. It is a study to gather crop information using field photographs and AI-based models.
- ➔ CROPIC stands for Collection of Real Time Observations & Photo of Crops. Crops will be photographed four-five times during their cycle, and the pictures will be analysed to assess their health and potential mid-season losses. The ministry also plans to conduct this study for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).



Zimbabwe:

- ➔ Zimbabwe has announced plans to cull at least 50 elephants in the Save Valley Conservancy. The Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZimParks) currently holds around 2,550 elephants.
- ➔ This count is far exceeding its ecological carrying capacity of 800. The meat from the cull will be distributed to local communities. Zimbabwe is home to one of the world's largest elephant populations — second only to Botswana.



Climate Change Performance Index:

- ➔ 64 countries responsible for over 90% of global GHG emissions. Only 22 are making progress in the Climate Change Performance Index 2025, while 42 are falling behind. This year, the top three positions remain vacant.

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- ➔ No single country was ranked at 'very high' on all parameters for climate change mitigation in 2025. Denmark has retained its rank as the top country (#4). It is followed by Netherlands, UK, Philippines, Morocco, Norway and India (10th).
- ➔ Contrastingly, countries like China, the United States of America (USA), Canada, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and more have been ranked very low.



Coral Triangle Day Initiative:

- ➔ Coral Triangle Day Initiative is a multilateral partnership of the six countries namely Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste. The Coral Triangle, often dubbed as the 'Amazon of the Seas,' is a marine bio diversity hotspot.
- ➔ It houses 15 unique species and boasts the highest diversity of reef fish in the world, with 37% of global reef fish species found here. Despite covering only 1.5% of the Earth's surface, the Coral Triangle contains 30% of the planet's coral reefs.



Global Wind Day:

- ➔ Global Wind Day is observed every June 15 to explore wind energy. The theme for 2025, "Day of Community Action". In 2007, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) organized the Wind Day for the first time.
- ➔ In 2009, the European Wind Energy Association collaborated with the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) to make Wind Day a worldwide event.



Maharashtra, Kerala, Bihar and Odisha:

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- ➔ Maharashtra, Kerala, Bihar and Odisha signed agreements to enable seamless digital access to credit services through farmer registry-linked authentication.
- ➔ The Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Maharashtra, Kerala, Bihar, and Odisha, and the PSB Alliance with the National Farmers' Welfare Program Implementation Society was signed at a conference on Agri Stack.



Central Bureau of Investigation:

- ➔ The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has got India's first 'silver notice' issued by Interpol, which will enable the probe agency to trace proceeds of crime related to the French embassy visa 'fraud' case, allegedly parked in different countries.
- ➔ Origin: Formed as the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) at the 2nd International Police Congress, Vienna, 1923.

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2025, June 13

International Albinism Awareness Day:

- ➔ International Albinism Awareness Day is observed annually on June 13 to raise awareness about the rights and challenges faced by people with albinism.
- ➔ Established by the United Nations, the day aims to promote equality, safety, and dignity for individuals affected by this genetic condition, while dispelling widespread myths and misconceptions.



**INTERNATIONAL
ALBINISM
AWARENESS DAY**

Indian Coast Guard:

- ➔ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) chaired the 137th Offshore Security Coordination Committee (OSCC) meeting in New Delhi on June 12, 2025, bringing together key stakeholders from national defence, energy, and intelligence agencies.
- ➔ The meeting aimed to assess and enhance the preparedness of India's offshore security infrastructure, with special emphasis on joint agency coordination to respond to emerging maritime and energy-related threats.

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Tiger Claw:

- ➔ In a landmark step toward bolstering bilateral defence cooperation, the first joint military exercise “Tiger Claw” between the Garud Special Forces of the Indian Air Force and the United States Air Force (USAF) Special Forces concluded on June 10, 2025.
- ➔ Conducted from May 26 to June 10 across North India, this exercise represents a significant evolution in the India–US strategic partnership, especially in the domain of air-based special operations.

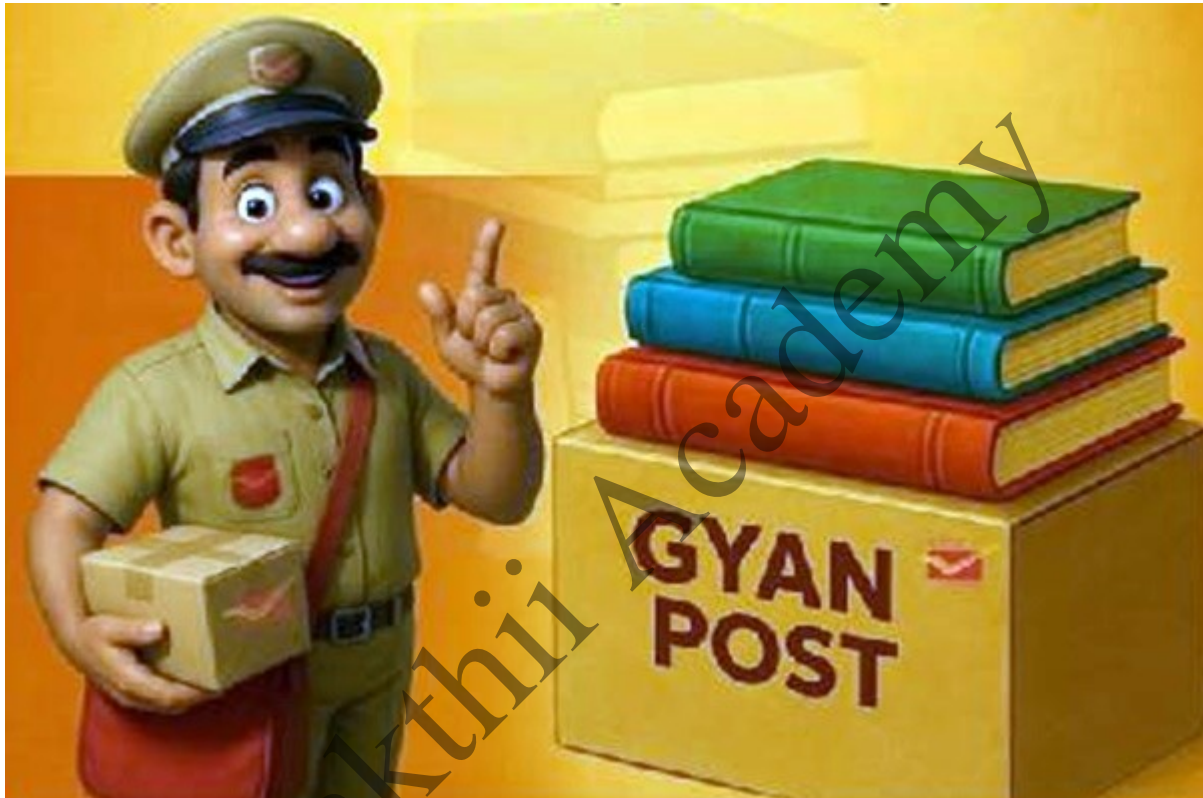


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Gyan Post:

- ➔ The Department of Posts has launched 'Gyan Post', a dedicated postal service aimed at delivering educational, cultural, social, and religious books at affordable rates, supporting the objectives of the New Education Policy (NEP).
- ➔ Gyan Post ensures nationwide accessibility, including rural and remote areas, with charges starting from ₹20 for up to 300 grams and going up to ₹100 for up to 5 kilograms, excluding taxes.



Shakti:

- ➔ France will host the 8th edition of the India-France joint military exercise "Shakti" from 18 June to 1 July 2025 at La Cavalerie.
- ➔ The 7th edition was held in Umroi, Meghalaya (India) in May 2024. Exercise Shakti, launched in 2011, is a biennial exercise alternately hosted by both nations. It aims to enhance interoperability and joint capability in sub-conventional operations like counter-terrorism.

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SDGs:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu has made major progress in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It now performs better than the average of many European countries, according to the NITI Aayog's latest report. In the 2023–24 SDG India Index, Tamil Nadu scored 78 points, up from 66 in 2018.
- ➔ This puts the state in third place across the nationwide, just behind Kerala and Uttarakhand. Tamil Nadu achieved 'front-runner' status in 13 out of 17 SDG goals.



National Family Benefit Scheme:

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- ➔ The Uttar Pradesh government's, National Family Benefit Scheme - designed to provide relief to poor and vulnerable families -- has been made more transparent, efficient and people-friendly.
- ➔ The entire process from application to payment is now digital and accountable at every stage. As per the new framework, beneficiaries receive their financial aid within 75 days of applying.



Lucknow:

- ➔ A proposal for Creative City Lucknow under the category Gastronomy for Awadhi Cuisine has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre recently.
- ➔ The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), 2004 is a global network of cities that recognize culture and creativity as drivers of sustainable urban development.

{ UNESCO'S CREATIVE CITY OF GASTRONOMY }

Non-veg or veg, Lucknow is India's nominee to claim title of foodie haven

Rajeev Mullick

rajeev.mullick@htlive.com

LUCKNOW : If all goes to plan, the world will soon know what Lucknowites have always believed: that the city serves some of the most mouth-watering delicacies from both sides of the veg-non-veg divide.

The proposal for Creative City Lucknow under the category Gastronomy for Awadhi Cuisine has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre.

Just like Lucknow Chikankari and Banarasi sarees have been

awarded a Geographical Indication (GI) tag, efforts along similar lines are on to get a Unesco tag for Lucknow's sumptuous dishes.

"Lucknow has been nominated from India for Unesco Creative City for Gastronomy. We have to provide some more data by June end, following which Unesco authorities may visit to verify our claims.

"The state capital is famous for a wide range of Awadhi delicacies and food buffs both from India and abroad have been talk-

continued on → 11



Imarti & Kachauri being made at a 200-year-old eatery at Shri Ram Road in Aminabad, Lucknow on Friday. SOURCED

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2025, June 11-12

International Day of Play:

- ➔ The International Day of Play is a global celebration that recognizes the vital role of play in the lives of children and people of all ages. Far from being a trivial pastime, play is a fundamental human need, especially critical to childhood development, mental health, and social cohesion.
- ➔ Celebrated on June 11, this day aims to mobilize individuals, communities, and governments to preserve, promote, and prioritize play in every aspect of life.



Kabir Das Jayanti:

- ➔ Kabir Das Jayanti 2025 celebrates the 648th birth anniversary of Sant Kabir Das, a 15th-century saint, poet and social reformer.
- ➔ It is observed on the full moon day of Jyeshtha month, which this year falls on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. Kabir Das is remembered for his spiritual wisdom, simple teachings and inspiring poems known as "Kabir de Dohe."



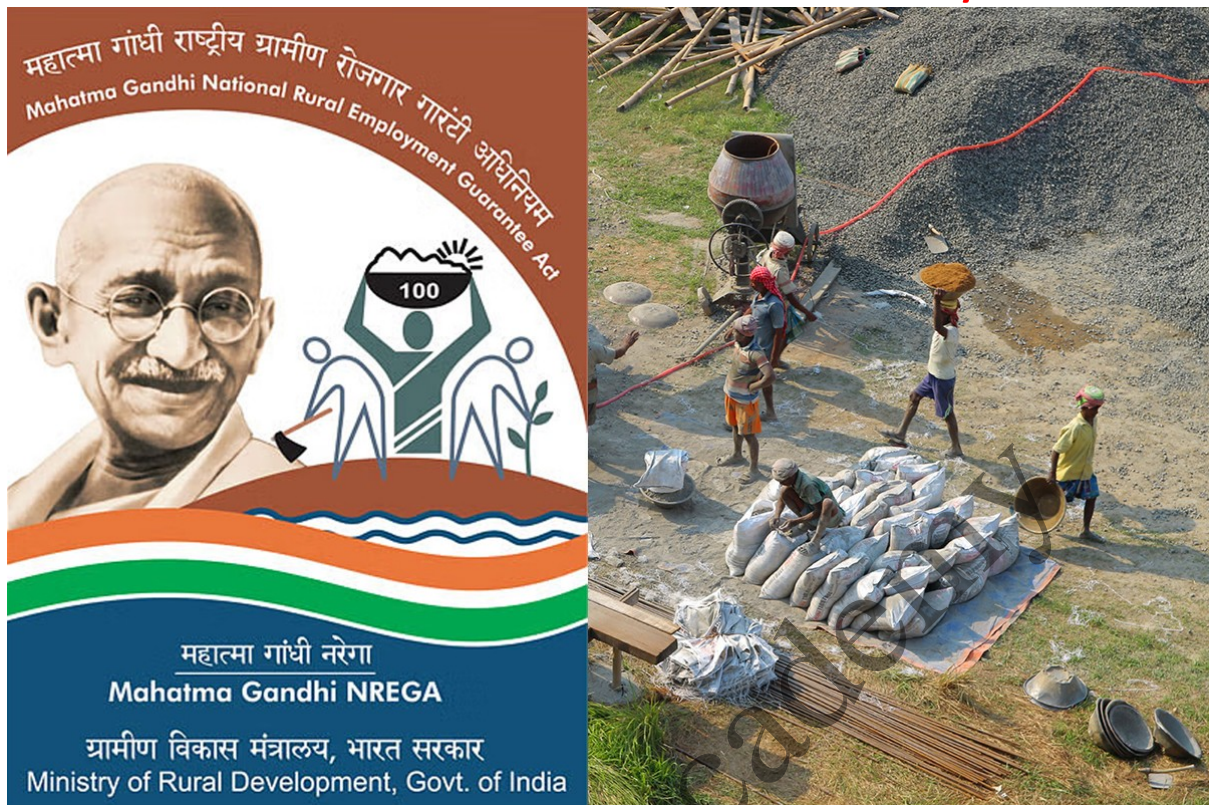
World Day Against Child Labour:

- ➔ Every year on June 12, the world observes World Day Against Child Labour to raise awareness about the persistent exploitation of children through forced and hazardous labour.
- ➔ The 2025 theme, “Progress is clear, but there’s more to do: let’s speed up our efforts!”, highlights both the achievements and the urgency to accelerate efforts to eliminate child labour, as 138 million children were still engaged in such work globally in 2024.



Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee:

- ➔ For the first time since its inception, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been brought under the government’s Monthly/Quarterly Expenditure Plan (MEP/QEP), capping expenditure at 60% of the annual allocation for the first six months of FY 2025–26.
- ➔ The move marks a significant shift from the scheme’s demand-driven nature and could impact employment generation under the scheme, especially with Rs 21,000 crore in pending liabilities carried over from the previous year.



Khaan Quest:

- ➔ A 40-member Indian Army contingent arrived in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on June 11, 2025, to participate in the 22nd edition of Exercise Khaan Quest, a multinational peacekeeping military exercise to be held from June 14 to 28.
- ➔ The exercise aims to boost interoperability and operational readiness among the participating nations' armed forces for peacekeeping missions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

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Calcutta High Court:

- ➔ In a significant judgment, the Calcutta High Court has permitted a 15-year-old boy to adopt his stepfather's surname, acknowledging the evolving structure of modern families.
- ➔ The court allowed the name change despite the Kolkata Municipal Corporation's (KMC) objections, although it declined to permit altering the biological father's name on the birth certificate without a formal adoption order.
- ➔ The decision upholds the rights of custodial parents and reflects judicial flexibility in the face of procedural timelines.



NeVA:

- ➔ In a significant move toward digitising legislative processes, Union Minister Dr. L. Murugan inaugurated the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) for the Puducherry Legislative Assembly on June 9, 2025.
- ➔ Puducherry has become the 19th legislature in India to adopt the NeVA platform, aligning with the Digital India mission to ensure transparent, paperless, and efficient governance. Puducherry officially launched the NeVA digital platform to digitize its legislative functioning.
- ➔ The move aligns with the government's push for 'One Nation, One Application'. It is part of a broader effort to modernize and digitize governance, reduce paper usage, and increase public transparency through livestreamed legislative sessions.

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Mumbai:

- ➔ Mumbai has secured the 6th position globally among 97 cities in terms of under-construction data centre capacity, as per the latest 'Global Data Center Market Comparison 2025' report by Cushman & Wakefield.
- ➔ With 335 MW of capacity currently being built, the city leads the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region and is poised to boost its operational capacity by 62%.
- ➔ The surge is driven by rising demand from hyperscalers, the rapid expansion of cloud computing and AI-based workloads, and the city's robust digital and power infrastructure.

MUMBAI RANKS 6TH
GLOBALLY IN UNDER-
CONSTRUCTION DATA
CENTRE CAPACITY

Global Gender Gap Report:

- ➔ India has ranked 131st out of 148 countries in the 2025 Global Gender Gap Report released by the World Economic Forum (WEF), slipping two positions from its previous rank. Despite slight gains in economic participation and educational attainment, the overall gender parity score remains at 64.1%, reflecting slow progress.
- ➔ Structural barriers, particularly in political empowerment, continue to hold back significant improvements in India's gender landscape.



Axiom Mission 4:

- ➔ The upcoming Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) is more than just another spaceflight—it marks a historic milestone for India and several other nations.
- ➔ With Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla of the Indian Air Force onboard, this mission symbolizes international collaboration, scientific innovation, and commercial advancement in the realm of human spaceflight.
- ➔ Organized by Axiom Space, this mission will launch a diverse crew of four astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) for a mission that blends scientific research, public outreach, and space commerce.



Sheikh Mujibur Rahman:

- ➔ For the first time since 1971, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's image has been removed from Bangladesh's banknotes, with the new designs showcasing Hindu and Buddhist temples, national artwork, and cultural landmarks — reflecting a shift from political iconography to heritage-focused imagery.
- ➔ The redesigned currency (Tk 1000, Tk 50, Tk 20) was introduced by the interim government led by Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus, following the ouster of former PM Sheikh Hasina, and aligns with the administration's aim to depoliticize national symbols.

Old Currency Note



New Currency Note



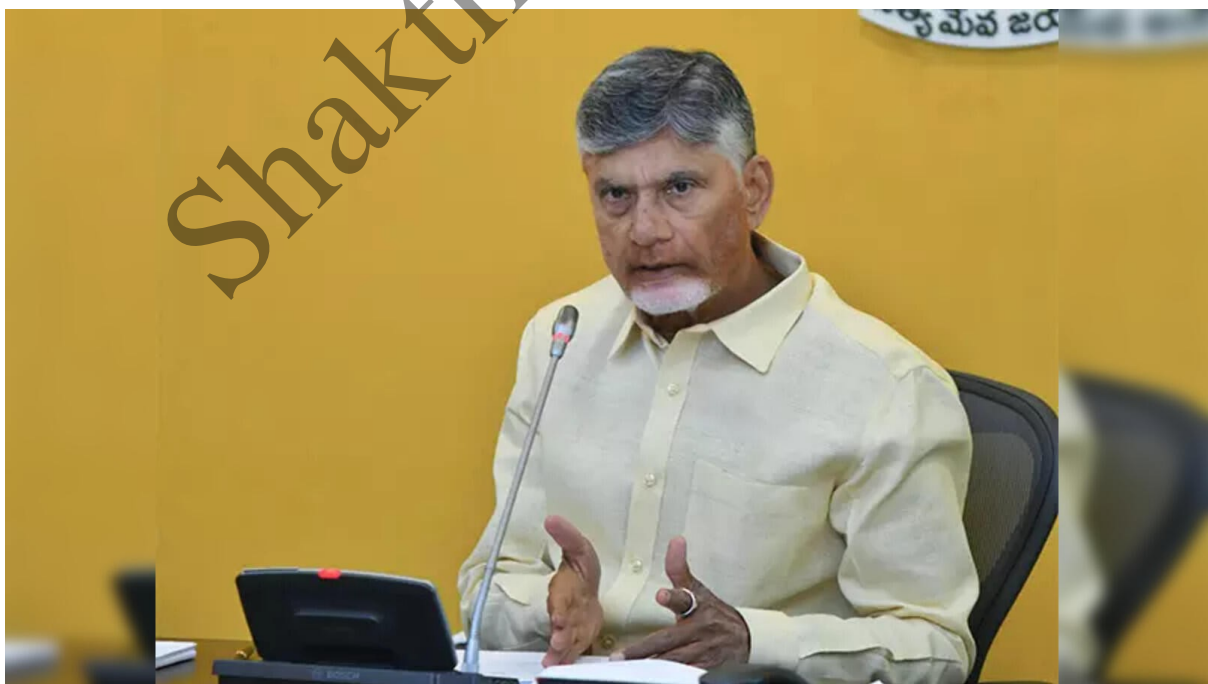
Covrzy:

- ➔ Bengaluru-based insurance-tech startup Covrzy has collaborated with Namma Yatri to provide affordable and accessible health insurance to auto and cab drivers and their families across India.
- ➔ The initiative will initially cover over 3,000 drivers in Bengaluru and is planned to expand to more than 50,000 drivers across multiple cities like Kolkata, Chennai, Kochi, and Bhubaneswar within 12–18 months.



Andhra Pradesh government:

- ➔ The Andhra Pradesh government will disburse ₹8,745 crore under the 'Talliki Vandanam' scheme, providing ₹15,000 annually to mothers of school-going children, benefiting around 67 lakh students.
- ➔ The scheme, approved by CM N. Chandrababu Naidu coincides with the TDP-led coalition government's first anniversary, and is considered a key component of Naidu's "Super Six" welfare agenda.



India's first underwater museum:

- ➔ India's first underwater museum and artificial coral reef will be developed around the decommissioned warship INS Guldar near Nivati Rocks at Vengurla in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra.
- ➔ The initiative, supported by the central government, aims to boost marine conservation and tourism, offering scuba diving and future submarine tours. The Union Tourism Ministry has approved 46.91 crore rupees for the project.



RNFE:

- ➔ A total of four reports by the State Planning Commission were submitted to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister. One of it is named as the report on 'Rural Non-Farm Employment in Tamil Nadu'(RNFE).
- ➔ It was undertaken in 12 villages of six districts with higher and lower RNFE reveals. It highlighted a very significant shift away from agriculture. It was an increasing number of workers engaging in non-farm sectors, such as construction and manufacturing. The report indicated that over 75% of male workers and 50% of female workers are now employed in non-agricultural activities.
- ➔ Construction has emerged as the dominant sector for male workers, particularly among the youth. Manufacturing remains the primary employer for women across all age groups. 20% decline happened in the dependence on agriculture for the employment opportunities since 2012.



Tamil Nadu's public electric vehicle charging stations:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu's public electric vehicle charging stations (EV-PCS) have used 16.17 million units (MU) of electricity in financial year 2024-2025. This is increased about 20.8% from 13.383 MU in 2023-2024.
- ➔ Delhi had the maximum EV-PCS electricity consumption at 328.03 MU. It is followed by Maharashtra (216.82 MU), Karnataka (79.61 MU) and Gujarat(64.11 MU).



Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment:

- ➔ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) launches a Nationwide Digital Application for Profiling Waste Pickers under the NAMASTE Scheme. It aims to enumerate 2.5 lakh individuals, granting them the formal identity and access to social protection.
- ➔ This includes issuing the occupational photo ID cards and providing the health insurance, personal protective equipment, and skill development opportunities.



HawkEye 360:

- ➔ The United States has approved the sale of HawkEye 360 technology to India. HawkEye 360 is a private American company that operates a network of satellites in low Earth orbit.
- ➔ These satellites track the radio frequency (RF) signals coming from ships, aircraft, vehicles, and coastal systems. It will be useful for detecting the vessels that switch off their Automatic Identification System (AIS) to evade detection.



Pakistan:

- ➔ Pakistan will chair the Taliban Sanctions Committee of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in 2025. It will serve as vice-chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the 15-nation U.N. body.
- ➔ It imposes an assets freeze, a travel bans and an arms embargo on individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan.



Madras High Court:

- ➔ The Madras High Court ordered the central government to immediately allocate the funds required to admit the students in private schools under the Right to Compulsory Education Act to the Tamil Nadu Government.
- ➔ The Central Government did not allocate funds from 2021 to 2023. The Central Government stated that the tuition fee has not been allocated since the state government did not sign a MoU with the Central Government regarding the implementation of the new education policy.
- ➔ Under RTE Act, the tuition fee for the 25 percent reservation for the poor students will be paid by Central Government.
- ➔ The court has also stated that, the Samagra Shiksha scheme under the RTE Act is indeed similar to the implementation of the New Education Policy, 2020, but the duties under the RTE are independent.
- ➔ In the financial year 2024-25, an estimated Rs 3,586 crore was to be allocated under the Samagra Shiksha scheme by both the state and central governments. Of this, the central government's share is Rs 2,151 crore.



Shiva temple:

- ➔ An 800-year-old Shiva temple of the later Pandya period has been unearthed at Udampatti, a village in Melur taluk. The two Tamil inscriptions found on the stone base, says they can be dated to 1217-1218 CE, during the reign of Maravarman Sundara Pandya.
- ➔ As per the inscriptions, the name of the village was Attur and the temple was called Thennavanisvaram. The inscriptions are a sale deed of a waterbody by one Alagaperumal, chieftain of Kalavalinadu, to one Nambi Perambala Kuthan alias Kangeyan.



**800-Year-Old
Pandya Era
Shiva Temple
Unearthed in
Tamil Nadu**

Siamese Fireback:

- ➔ The Siamese Fireback, Thailand's national bird, has been spotted for the first time in the forests of Ranikhet, Uttarakhand. Scientific Name: *Lophura diardi*. IUCN Status: Least Concern, though facing moderate decline due to habitat loss and poaching.
- ➔ Geographic Distribution: Native to Southeast Asia, found in: Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam.



Rajya Sabha:

- ➔ Rajya Sabha may form panel to probe hate speech charges against HC judge Shekhar Kumar Yadav.
- ➔ Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution provide that a judge of the Supreme Court/High Court shall be removed by the President, on the grounds of 'proved misbehaviour' or 'incapacity' after a motion is passed in each House of Parliament by a majority of the total membership of that House.

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2025, June 10

International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations:

- ➔ In a landmark step towards promoting mutual respect, global solidarity, and intercultural understanding, the United Nations has declared 10 June as the International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations, starting in 2025.
- ➔ The inaugural celebration is marked by a UNESCO-hosted event in Paris on 5 June 2025, in collaboration with the Permanent Delegation of the People's Republic of China.
- ➔ The symposium titled "Youth Dialogue on the Future along the Silk Roads" aims to revive the spirit of cooperation, cultural exchange, and dialogue among civilizations, particularly through the eyes of the youth.



Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan:

- ➔ Launched in June 2016, the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Designed to provide free, quality, and assured antenatal care (ANC) services, PMSMA focuses on women in their second and third trimesters and is conducted on the 9th of every month across the country.
- ➔ As of June 2025, over 6.19 crore pregnant women have been examined under this programme, reflecting a significant public health milestone.

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Reserve Bank of India:

- ➔ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a special scheme to promote original book writing in Hindi on topics related to economics, banking and finance. This initiative encourages professors and academicians in India to write books in Hindi and share their knowledge with a wider audience.
- ➔ The scheme offers recognition and financial reward for high-quality Hindi publications. The main goal of this scheme is to encourage Hindi-language research and writing in important subjects like economics, banking and finance. RBI wants more academic content to be available in Hindi so that financial knowledge can reach people in their own language.

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Mahendra Singh Dhoni:

- ➔ In a moment that further cements his place among cricket's all-time greats, Mahendra Singh Dhoni, former India captain and one of the most iconic cricketers of his generation, was officially inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame during a prestigious event held in London.
- ➔ With this honour, Dhoni becomes the 11th Indian cricketer, and the ninth Indian male player, to be recognised by the International Cricket Council (ICC) for his extraordinary contributions to the game.



Dhanushkodi:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu has established a 7-hectare sanctuary at Dhanushkodi to protect migratory bird habitats and enhance biodiversity as part of the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve. Dhanushkodi lies along the Central Asian Flyway and supports 128 species of wetland birds, including flamingos, herons, and sandpipers; its mangroves help prevent coastal erosion and serve as breeding grounds.
- ➔ The sanctuary is expected to boost ecotourism and local jobs, with initiatives such as Blue Flag certification for beaches, CNG conversion of buses, and improved forest roads to support sustainable development.



Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) and the Centre for Railway Information Systems:

- ➔ Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) and the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) signed an MoU to integrate AI-driven multilingual technologies—such as ASR, OCR, TTS, and translation—into major railway platforms like NTES and RailMadad, enabling access in 22 Indian languages.
- ➔ The collaboration aims to develop multilingual chatbots, voice assistants, and over-the-counter interfaces, ensuring real-time, speech-based interaction and enhancing accessibility, efficiency, and transparency in public-facing railway services.



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BRICS:

- ➔ The 11th BRICS Parliamentary Forum concluded in Brasilia, Brazil, recently with participating parliaments from all 10 BRICS member countries.
- ➔ The expanded BRICS parliamentary forum now includes India, Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa, Iran, the UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia, and Indonesia.
- ➔ During the forum India assume the chairmanship of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, to be hosted next year.



Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla:

- ➔ The Prime Minister inaugurated the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link in Kashmir. It is a 272-km project connecting the Kashmir valley to the rest of the country.
- ➔ In 1884 Maharaja Pratap Singh of the Jammu and Kashmir state proposed this project to his Prime Minister, Diwan Anant Ram.
- ➔ Former prime minister Indira Gandhi laid the foundation stone for the Jammu Udhampur-Srinagar railway line in 1983. It was declared a national project in 2002. The 119-km Baramulla-Srinagar-Anantnag-Qazigund section was completed and made operational in 2009.



Brahmaputra River:

- ➔ India is closely monitoring Chinese infrastructure projects on the Brahmaputra River, particularly hydropower developments, due to their potential impact on downstream regions such as Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.
- ➔ The Brahmaputra River originates in the Kailash ranges at 5,150 m elevation, flows 2,900 km in total, including 916 km in India. It originates as Yarlung Tsangpo in Tibet.



Maharashtra government:

- ➔ Maharashtra government will start giving unique IDs for each of the infrastructure development projects from October 1, 2025.
- ➔ The unique IDs will now have a geo-tagged 13-digit alphanumeric which will now be used as a primary reference number once the administrative approval is granted to the project.



Poson Poya festival:

- ➔ Sri Lanka is celebrating the sacred Poson Poya festival, marking the historic arrival of Buddhism over 2,000 years ago.
- ➔ Observed on the June full moon, the festival commemorates the first sermon preached by Arahata Mahinda, son of Emperor Ashoka, to King Devanampiyatissa at Mihintale, marking the arrival of Buddhism to Sri Lanka.



Mohammad Eslami:

- ➔ President of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami has announced that Russia will construct eight nuclear power plants in Iran under a previously signed contract between the two countries.
- ➔ Four of the eight planned nuclear reactors would be constructed in the southern province of Bushehr.

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2025, June 9

National e-Governance Awards:

- ➔ In a momentous achievement for rural digital transformation, Rohini Gram Panchayat in Shirpur taluka, Dhule district, Maharashtra, has won the Gold Award in the National e-Governance Awards 2025.
- ➔ Despite being a 100% tribal village, Rohini has emerged as a national model for technology-driven rural governance.
- ➔ The Gram Panchayat was selected from over 1.45 lakh entries across India in the Grassroots Level Initiatives category and will receive the award at the 28th National e-Governance Conference in Visakhapatnam on June 9, 2025.



Birsa Munda:

- ➔ Birsa Munda Punyatithi is observed every year on June 9 to remember and honour Birsa Munda, one of India's greatest tribal freedom fighters and social reformers. In 2025, this day marks the 125th anniversary of his death.
- ➔ Birsa Munda is remembered for fighting against British rule and protecting the rights, culture and lands of tribal people, especially in Jharkhand. Birsa Munda was born on November 15, 1875, in a small village called Ulihatu, in present-day Jharkhand.
- ➔ He belonged to the Munda tribe, one of the many tribal communities in India. Despite having little formal education, Birsa grew up seeing how British rulers, landlords and Christian missionaries treated tribal people unfairly. This made him determined to fight for their rights.



QCI:

- ➔ The Quality Council of India (QCI), India's apex body for establishing and promoting quality standards across sectors, marked World Accreditation Day 2025 with a significant event held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
- ➔ The celebration, themed "Accreditation: Empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)", brought together industry leaders, policymakers, accreditation bodies, and stakeholders to reaffirm India's dedication to quality, innovation, and inclusive growth.
- ➔ This day is observed on June 9th every year.



Chief of Army Staff:

- ➔ In a key strategic visit to India's northern frontier, Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi reviewed the operational readiness of troops deployed in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.

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- ➔ During his visit, he also inaugurated Ibex Tarana 88.4 FM, a unique community radio station based in Jyotirmath, aimed at fostering local communication, cultural revival, and youth engagement.
- ➔ The initiative marks a blend of national security with community empowerment.



UMEED:

- ➔ Union Minister Kiren Rijiju launched the UMEED Central Portal in New Delhi, aimed at transforming the management of Waqf properties in India by introducing digital transparency, real-time monitoring, and public accountability.
- ➔ The portal—named after Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency, and Development (UMEED) Act, 1995—enables geo-tagging, digital inventory, online grievance redressal, and GIS-based mapping to ensure efficient and transparent Waqf governance.

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FLNAT:

- ➔ According to the Foundational Literacy Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) data, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, and Delhi rank among the top performers in adult literacy certification, while Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and Himachal Pradesh lag behind.
- ➔ FLNAT is a nationwide assessment that evaluates foundational literacy and numeracy skills—reading, writing, and numeracy—of registered non-literate adult learners, with each subject scored out of 50 marks (total 150).



Tamil Nadu government:

- ➔ The Tamil Nadu government has reconstituted the State Consumer Protection Council with the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies as its chairperson.
- ➔ There are 22 members in the panel, including elected representatives Vellore MP D.M. Kathir Anand, Thanjavur MP S. Murasoli, Tambaram MLA S.R. Raja and Vikravandi MLA Anniyur Siva.



Election Commission of India:

- ➔ The Election Commission of India had upgraded the mechanism for generating Index Cards, making it more technology-driven. The Index Card is a non-statutory, post-election statistical reporting format.
- ➔ It promotes accessibility of election-related data at the constituency-level for all stakeholders. By leveraging automation and data integration, the new system ensures faster reporting.



Milk Production:

- ➔ India has been the number one milk producer since 1998. It now produces 25 percent of the world's milk. In 2023-24, Uttar Pradesh was the top milk-producing state. It contributed 16.21 percent of India's total milk output.
- ➔ Bengal showed the fastest growth in milk production. India holds the title of the world's largest livestock owner, with a total livestock population of 536.76 million.
- ➔ Currently India's dairy is the single largest agricultural commodity. They contributing 5 percent to the national economy and directly employing more than 8 crore farmers.



ECOWAS:

- ➔ The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) celebrated its 50th anniversary on May 28, 2025. The Lagos Agreement was signed in 1975 by the heads of state and government of 15 West African countries
- ➔ This agreement laid the foundation for ECOWAS with the aim of promoting economic integration across the region.
- ➔ ECOWAS is a regional grouping of 15 West African countries. Recently, Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso officially withdrew from the group. Mauritania withdrew in 2000, but rejoined as an associate member in 2017.

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ESZ:

- ➔ The Centre has officially designated an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around the Tral Wildlife Sanctuary. The Tral Wildlife Sanctuary serves as a vital corridor for the remaining population of Hangul in the country.
- ➔ The Tral Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir. This sanctuary is also well connected to Overa-Aru Wildlife Sanctuary and Khrew Conservation Reserve.



Germany:

- ➔ After 34 Years, Germany has taken the top spot of Japan's and became the world's leading creditor nation with \$3.9 trillion worth assets.
- ➔ Japan (\$3.7 trillion) had held the top position since surpassing Germany in 1991. China maintained its third position with net assets of ¥516.3 trillion.



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2025, June 7-8

Food Safety:

- ➔ Each year on June 7, the world comes together to mark World Food Safety Day, a global awareness initiative that highlights the critical importance of safe food in ensuring good health, promoting food security, and fostering economic prosperity.
- ➔ World Food Safety Day 2025 continues this mission by emphasizing the vital role that science and innovation play in ensuring the safety of the food we consume. Foodborne illnesses affect millions annually, with contaminated food posing significant risks to public health and placing a heavy burden on healthcare systems and economies.
- ➔ This international day is a reminder that food safety is a shared responsibility—from governments and producers to vendors and consumers.



World Brain Tumour Day:

- ➔ World Brain Tumour Day is observed every year on June 8 to raise awareness about brain tumours, one of the most serious and complex medical conditions.
- ➔ This day reminds people to support patients and their families, talk about early diagnosis and promote better treatment and research. In 2025, it will be observed on Sunday, June 8 and it's an important time to learn and spread awareness.



World Oceans Day:

- ➔ Every year on June 8, the world observes World Oceans Day, a United Nations-recognized event dedicated to celebrating and protecting the Earth's oceans. In 2025, the event adopts the evocative theme, "Wonder: Sustaining what sustains us," highlighting the emotional, scientific, and ecological value of the oceans.
- ➔ This year's global observance is especially significant as it precedes the UN Ocean Conference 2025, scheduled to take place from June 9 to 13 in Nice, France.
- ➔ The focus is on promoting curiosity, scientific exploration, and global cooperation to preserve marine ecosystems amid the escalating climate crisis and record sea temperatures.



President of India:

- ➔ In a significant administrative development, the President of India has appointed T Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as a part-time member of the 16th Finance Commission.
- ➔ Finance Commission is formed under Article 280 of the Constitution of India. It mandates to recommend how revenues should be shared between the Centre and States.



Indian Coast Guard:

- ➔ In a significant boost to India's maritime security infrastructure, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) inaugurated a dedicated jetty at Vizhinjam Harbour in Kerala on June 7, 2025. Spanning 76.7 meters, this state-of-the-art facility is designed to improve operational efficiency and enable faster deployment of vessels for coastal surveillance, anti-smuggling operations, fisheries protection, and search & rescue missions.
- ➔ The jetty's strategic location near international shipping lanes underscores its pivotal role in national security.

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Archaeological discovery:

- ➔ An important archaeological discovery has been made in Udampatti village of Melur taluk, Tamil Nadu, where the foundation of an 800-year-old Shiva temple belonging to the later Pandya period has been unearthed.
- ➔ Although only the stone base remains, the site is of major historical interest due to Tamil inscriptions dating back to 1217-1218 CE that reveal the temple's name—Thennavanisvaram—and its financially independent status.
- ➔ This find sheds light on the cultural, architectural, and socio-economic dynamics of the Pandya era.



800-Year-Old Pandya Era Shiva Temple Unearthed in Tamil Nadu

President Droupadi Murmu:

- ➔ In a landmark move for the Union Territory of Ladakh, President Droupadi Murmu has promulgated three key regulations: the Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Regulation, 2025, ensuring 85% job reservation for local residents; the Ladakh Official Languages Regulation, 2025, recognizing five official languages including Bhoti and Purgi; and amendments to the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils Regulation, providing for 33% reservation for women in the Leh and Kargil Hill Councils.
- ➔ These steps aim to empower local communities, preserve cultural heritage, and enhance gender representation.



Tamil Nadu government:

- ➔ On World Environment Day (June 5, 2025), the Tamil Nadu government officially declared a Greater Flamingo Sanctuary at Dhanushkodi in Ramanathapuram district. Spanning over 524.7 hectares, the sanctuary lies within the ecologically rich Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, offering crucial protection to thousands of migratory wetland birds along the Central Asian Flyway.
- ➔ The move, inaugurated by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, marks a milestone in wetland conservation and biodiversity protection in South India.



RGGGH:

- ➔ In 2019, Tamil Nadu became the second State in the country, after Kerala, to set up a clinic exclusively for the transgender people at the RGGGH (Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital), Chennai. Later, at Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai, it offered free gender affirmation surgeries.
- ➔ In addition to the clinics in Chennai and Madurai, 10 other gender clinics have also been established in various districts across the State — including Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchi, Villupuram, Vellore, Dharmapuri, and Thanjavur.



Supreme Court:

- ➔ The Supreme Court in the *Nandini Sundar & Ors. Vs. State of Chhattisgarh*, held that enacting a law by the legislature contradictory to previous Court orders cannot be viewed as Contempt of Court.
- ➔ The Supreme Court has said any law made by Parliament or a State legislature cannot be held to contempt of court. Every State Legislature has plenary powers to pass an enactment and so long as the said enactment has not been declared to be ultra vires the Constitution or, in any way, null and void by a constitutional court.
- ➔ Judiciary is vested under the Constitution with the power to resolve interpretive doubts and disputes about the validity or otherwise of an enacted law.
- ➔ However, the interpretative power of a court does not contemplate a situation of declaring exercise of legislative functions and passing of an enactment as an instance of a contempt of a court.



Assam and Meghalaya:

- ➔ The Assam and Meghalaya governments have decided to set up a hydropower and irrigation project jointly. The two governments will take up the 55 MW Kulsi hydropower-cum-irrigation project after consultations with the local people.
- ➔ The Kulsi river, a tributary of the Brahmaputra to the west of Guwahati, flows down from the West Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya. The river is a major nesting site for the Gangetic River dolphin.



Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary:

- ➔ The Department of Posts released a special cover on invasive-free Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary situated in Tiruvarur district.
- ➔ The Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary was identified as an area of national importance and declared as a Ramsar site in 2022. The sanctuary provides habitat for around 118 bird species.



‘Malai koothu’:

- ➔ ‘Malai koothu’, a form of ‘therukoothu’, is culturally moored in the lives of the Malaiyali tribes of Dharmapuri and the Javadhu and Yelagiri Hills in Tirupathur. The ‘koothu’ centres around The Mahabharata and the Puranas.
- ➔ The story-telling revolves around Draupathi. The Puritan style of performance has been seen in Krishnagiri, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, and Cuddalore districts.
- ➔ The Therkathiya Bani (the southern style) is different from the Vadakathiya Bani (the northern style) seen in Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu districts. The Vanniya Puranam can be performed by anyone here; but in Tiruvannamalai, troupes comprising only Vanniyars perform it.



Central government:

- ➔ The Centre has asked all the states and the Union Territories (UTs) to give the financial assistance from a Central fund to poor prisoners. This fund can be used to, who are unable to secure bail or release from jails on account of their inability to pay the fine awarded to them due to their financial situation.
- ➔ The MHA provides funds to the states and the UTs through the Central Nodal Agency (CNA). It is administered by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The Home Ministry had introduced the 'Support to Poor Prisoners Scheme' in May, 2023.
- ➔ As per the India Justice Report-2025, the national average occupancy rate in jails is more than 131 percent. The number of undertrial prisoners is estimated to be 76 percent of the entire prison population.



China:

- ➔ China is building the world's first supercomputer network in space, for which it launched 12 AI-powered satellites recently. Each of the 12 satellites can process up to 744 trillion operations per second, having transfer rates up to 100 gigabits per second.
- ➔ The space computing satellite constellation is the first constellation of the 'Star Computing' program. The "Three-Body Computing Constellation" will function as a space-based data processing network.



Science and Environment:

- ➔ The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has released the annual State of India's Environment in Figures 2025 report. Using 48 indicators across four thematic areas, environment, agriculture, public health and human development, the report ranked all 36 states and Union Territories. Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Goa top the charts in individual categories.
- ➔ No state emerges as a consistent performer across all domains. Andhra Pradesh led in environmental management, Goa is the best in public health and infrastructure. Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal are ranked poorly across all categories. India's greenhouse gas emissions reached their highest global share - 7.8 percent, since 1970.



Samruddhi Mahamarg:

- ➔ Maharashtra's most ambitious road infrastructure project, the 701-km-long Samruddhi Mahamarg, became fully operational.
- ➔ It will reduce travel time between Mumbai and Nagpur to just seven hours. It is popularly known as the Mumbai-Nagpur Expressway though the Samruddhi Mahamarg doesn't actually begin in Mumbai.



Russia:

- ➔ Russia has patented a technology for launching automatic spacecraft from an orbital station, which will become the world's first drone platform equipped with robots for its maintenance.

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- ➔ This technology is planned to be tested at the Russian Orbital Station (ROS) and later applied in the exploration of the Moon.



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2025, June 6

EAC:

- ➔ Eminent economist S Mahendra Dev has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). Known for his extensive expertise in agriculture, rural economy, and development economics, Dev brings with him decades of experience in public policy and academia.
- ➔ The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister is a non-constitutional, non-permanent body set up to advise the PM.
- ➔ It operates under the NITI Aayog framework, with inputs often shaping major economic decisions. Recent heads included Suman Bery, Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog.



2027:

- ➔ The Government of India will conduct the Population Census 2027 in two phases, which will also include caste enumeration for the first time.
- ➔ Phase I will begin on 1st October 2026 in hilly and snow-bound regions like Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Ladakh, while Phase II will start on 1st March 2027 in the rest of the country.
- ➔ Census 2021 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, despite full preparations, making Census 2011 the last completed one; the Indian Census remains one of the largest administrative and statistical exercises in the world.

Population *Census*



Ramsar Wetlands:

- ➔ India's list of wetlands of international importance has increased to 91 sites with the addition of Khichan in Phalodi and Menar in Udaipur, both located in Rajasthan.
- ➔ The Ramsar Convention, signed in 1971 in Ramsar, Iran, is an international treaty dedicated to the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands to protect global biodiversity and support human life.
- ➔ India ratified the Ramsar Convention on February 1, 1982, and continues to actively participate in expanding and maintaining the global network of protected wetlands.



Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation:

- ➔ The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (Amul), marketer of products under the brand name, has partnered with Spanish dairy cooperative COVAP to launch its milk products in Spain, marking its entry into the European market.
- ➔ The collaboration aims to leverage COVAP's local expertise and distribution network to establish Amul's presence in Spain effectively.
- ➔ This partnership is part of Amul's broader strategy to expand its footprint across Europe by introducing Indian dairy products to new international consumers.



ECOSOC:

- ➔ India has been elected as a member of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for the two-year term from 2026 to 2028, reflecting its growing role in global sustainable development.
- ➔ ECOSOC is a key UN organ that advances the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental, serving as the central platform for debate, consensus-building, and coordination of international efforts.
- ➔ Established by the UN Charter in 1945, ECOSOC also oversees the follow-up of major UN conferences and summits, with India's recent election underscoring the continuing global relevance of Dr. Ambedkar's vision within the UN and beyond.



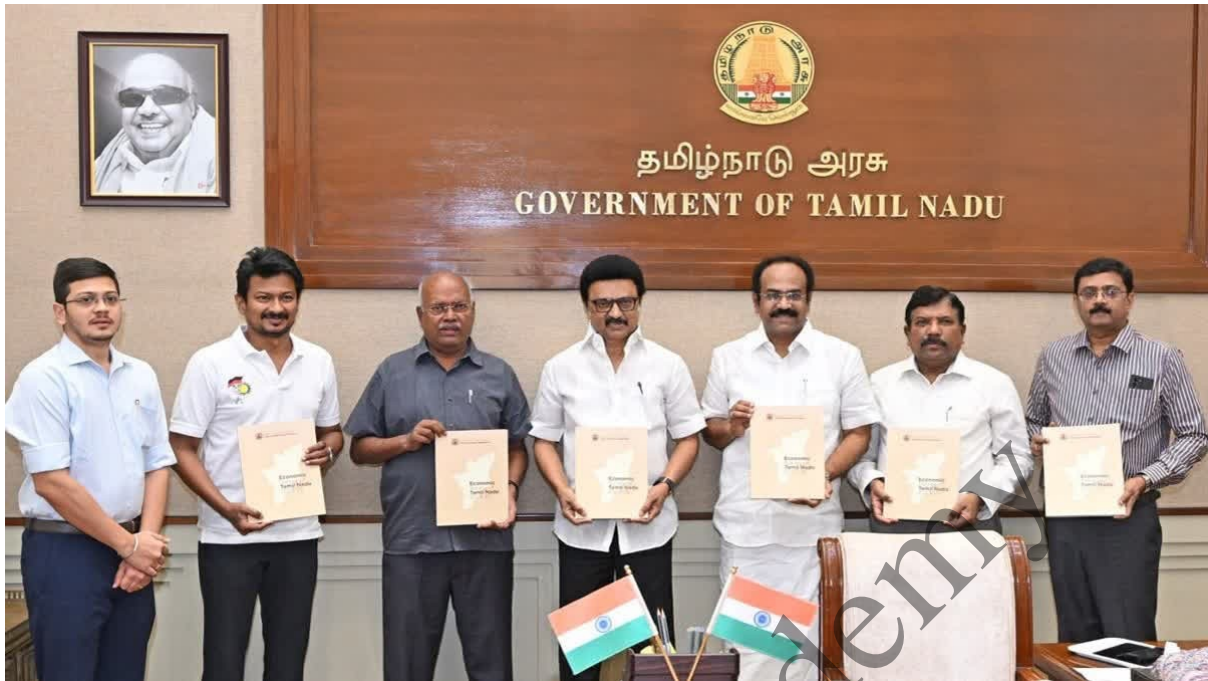
National Donut Day:

- ➔ National Donut Day is celebrated annually on the first Friday of June, honoring the beloved donut and its unique history. In 2025, National Donut Day falls on Friday, June 6. Established in 1938 by The Salvation Army, the day pays tribute to the “Donut Lassies” — women volunteers who served donuts to soldiers during World War I to boost morale.
- ➔ National Donut Day has grown into a popular event across the United States and beyond, with many donut shops offering special deals and free donuts. It is both a celebration of this sweet treat and a reminder of its historic significance.



\$1 trillion:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu aims to become a \$1 trillion economy by 2030. The 'Make in India' initiative was launched in 2014. The goal was to raise the share of the manufacturing sector as a share of GDP to 25% by 2025.
- ➔ While the national average has reached only 16%, Tamil Nadu has already achieved 25% in its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). Tamilnadu has over 31,000 active factories—India's highest—and leads in nonoil exports.
- ➔ The state contributes 15% of India's total exports despite having under 6% of the population. Tamil Nadu accounts for 41% of India's electronic exports, 38% of footwear, and 45% of automobile components exports. Tamil Nadu has set targets to boost electronics exports from \$14 billion to \$ 100 billion.



Thrombectomy device:

- ➔ India is set to begin manufacturing its first indigenously developed mechanical thrombectomy device. This is followed by financial support approved by the Technology Development Board (TDB).
- ➔ The initiative is led by Mysuru-based S3V Vascular Technologies. It will establish an integrated production facility near Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, to manufacture critical stroke care tools.
- ➔ A thrombectomy device is a specialised medical tool used to remove blood clots from blood vessels, particularly in the brain, to treat ischaemic strokes. India registered over 1.25 million new stroke cases in 2021, a 51 per cent increase compared to 650,000 cases in 1990.

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IOMed:

- ➔ The Chinese government and other 32 countries have signed a convention for establishing an international mediation organisation (IOMed) in Hong Kong. It was described as the “world’s first intergovernmental international legal organisation dedicated to resolving international disputes through mediation”.
- ➔ Its status would be on par with the UN bodies the ICJ and the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. Article 33 of the UN Charter provides for the peaceful settlement of international disputes through negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement or other peaceful means.



Defence Ministry:

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- ➔ The Defence Ministry has approved the grant of 'Miniratna' status Category-I for The Munitions India Limited (MIL), The Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL), and India Optel Limited (IOL).
- ➔ The Miniratna scheme was initiated in the year 1997. The qualification for the designation of Miniratna status.
- ➔ Must have achieved profitability in the last three consecutive years. Need to demonstrate a pre-tax profit of Rs.30 crores or more in at least one of the three years. Must maintain a positive net worth.



Miniratna Status



Operation Shiva:

- ➔ In Jammu and Kashmir, the Army has launched Operation Shiva, a comprehensive security initiative to provide foolproof security to the 38-day-long Amarnath Yatra, slated to commence on July 3.
- ➔ This annual pilgrimage draws thousands of devotees to the sacred Amarnath Cave shrine in J&K, located at an altitude of 3,888 meters.



Chenab:

- ➔ PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Chenab railway bridge, the world's highest rail bridge. Soaring 359 metres above the Chenab River, the 1,315-metre-long steel arch bridge is built to withstand high seismic and wind loads.
- ➔ PM Modi also inaugurated the Anji Bridge, India's first cable-stayed railway bridge, constructed in one of the most challenging terrains in the region.



PSP:

- ➔ THDC India Ltd. (under the Ministry of Power) announced the Commercial Operation Declaration (COD) of the first 250 MW unit of India's first Variable Speed Pumped Storage Plant (PSP) at Tehri, Uttarakhand.
- ➔ A PSP is a type of hydropower storage system where water is pumped from a lower reservoir to an upper reservoir during low demand (off-peak hours) using surplus power.



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2025, June 1

Opal Suchata Chuangsri:

- ➔ Thailand's Opal Suchata Chuangsri was crowned Miss World 2025. The grand finale took place on Saturday, May 31, in Hyderabad, Telangana, marking a significant moment in pageant history.
- ➔ Opal Suchata Chuangsri's win is a milestone achievement for Thailand, as she becomes the first Thai contestant ever to win the Miss World title.
- ➔ Competing against 107 national representatives from across the globe, Chuangsri's grace, intelligence, and charm earned her the coveted crown.



Global Day of Parents:

- ➔ Every year on June 1, the world observes Global Day of Parents, a United Nations-designated day that honors the invaluable role of parents in shaping societies. Introduced in 2012, this day serves to recognize the lifelong commitment, sacrifices, and love of parents, while encouraging support for parental roles in family and child development.
- ➔ As the world recovers from a decade of social disruption caused by pandemics and conflict, 2025's observance is especially significant in reaffirming the family unit as a cornerstone of sustainable development.



Ayush Suraksha:

- ➔ AYUSH Minister Prataprao Jadhav launched the Ayush Suraksha Portal to address issues related to misleading advertisements and adverse drug reactions.
- ➔ The portal aims to strengthen consumer protection and regulatory oversight in the field of traditional medicine.
- ➔ The Minister emphasized that the platform will act as a vigilant watchtower to ensure only safe and credible Ayush products reach the public.



Odisha:

- ➔ Odisha government launched ANKUR (Atal Network for Knowledge, Urbanisation and Reforms), a strategic initiative to drive smart, efficient, and citizen-centric urban growth across the state, marked by MoUs signed with six leading urban development organizations.
- ➔ ANKUR was developed through extensive consultations and collaborations, aiming to address the accelerating urbanization in Odisha by fostering new partnerships, innovation, and co-creation of sustainable solutions for resilient and future-ready cities.



World Emergency Day:

- ➔ On World Emergency Day, AIIMS Bhopal launched the mobile app 'Code Emergency', a life-saving tool aligned with the 'One State One Health One Emergency' policy inaugurated in 2024 by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav. Designed for both healthcare professionals and the general public, the app functions in both Hindi and English and supports offline usage once downloaded.
- ➔ It features audio-visual CPR instructions tailored to all age groups, making emergency response more accessible.

EMERGENCY MEDICINE DAY

27
MAY

Alaigal:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu CM launched the 'Alaigal' project at a capital outlay of Rs.25 crore. It aims to provide the micro-Loans to the fisherwomen groups for their economic upliftment. The new Tuna Fishing Harbour was also inaugurated at Thiruvottiur.
- ➔ This Fishing Harbour is the first of its kind in India exclusively for Tuna fishing.



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has launched two schemes – 'Uzhavarai Thedi and Eliya Aalumai (SimpleGov). The Uzhavarai Thedi Velanmai Thittam will be implemented in all 17,116 revenue villages of Tamil Nadu within a year.

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- ➔ The team will include Block Level Officers of all departments, animal husbandry, co-operation and Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The team will meet the farmers and explain the field protection, area, cultivation and yield.
- ➔ It is planned to conduct this camp twice a month in selected villages. Similarly, through the Eliya Aalumai scheme, the government will also be able to effectively improve the functioning of the government and provide the required services to the citizens online.

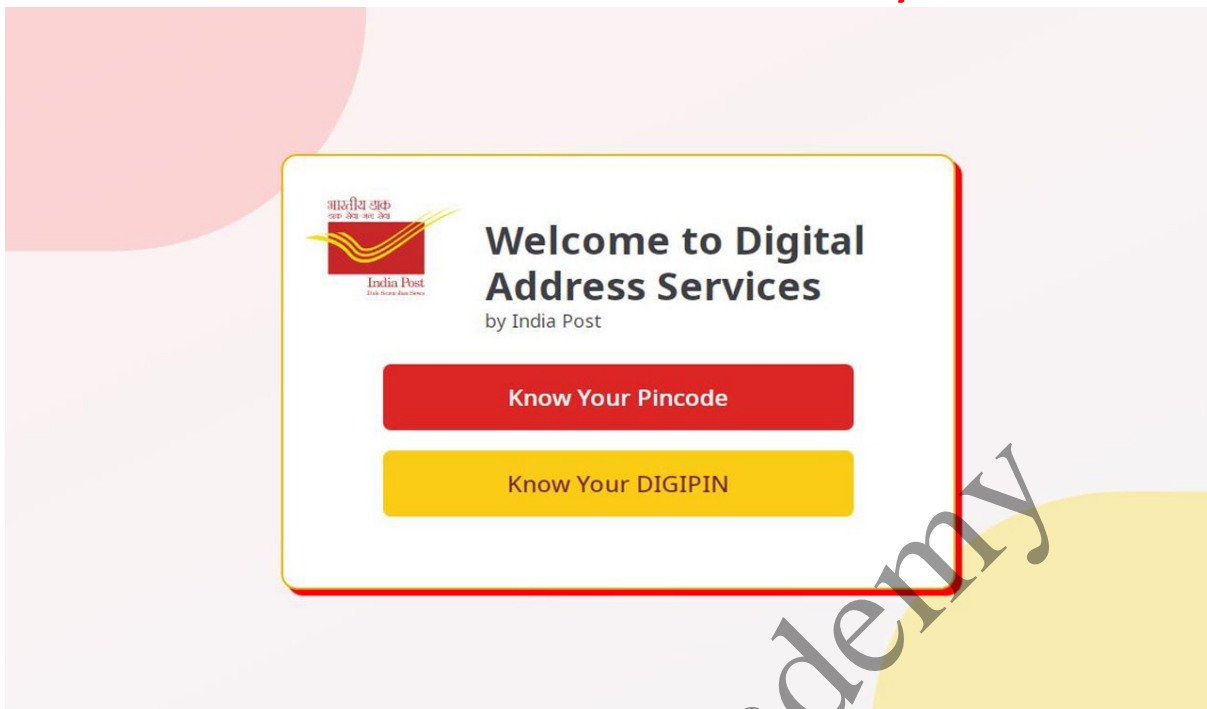


Department of Posts:

- ➔ The Department of Posts launched two transformative digital platforms: 'Know Your DIGIPIN' and 'Know Your PIN Code'. The DIGIPIN (Digital Postal Index Number) is an open-source, interoperable, geocoded, grid-based digital address system.
- ➔ It is developed by the Department of Posts in collaboration with IIT Hyderabad and NRSC, ISRO.
- ➔ The six-digit PIN Code system, introduced in 1972, has served as the backbone of India's postal delivery. By using this platform, the users can Identify the correct PIN Code based on their location.

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WHO:

- ➔ An agreement has been signed between the Ministry of Ayush and the World Health Organization (WHO). The agreement marks the beginning of work on a dedicated Traditional Medicine module under the International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI).
- ➔ This initiative will help in making the Ayush reach a maximum number of people across the world in a scientific manner.

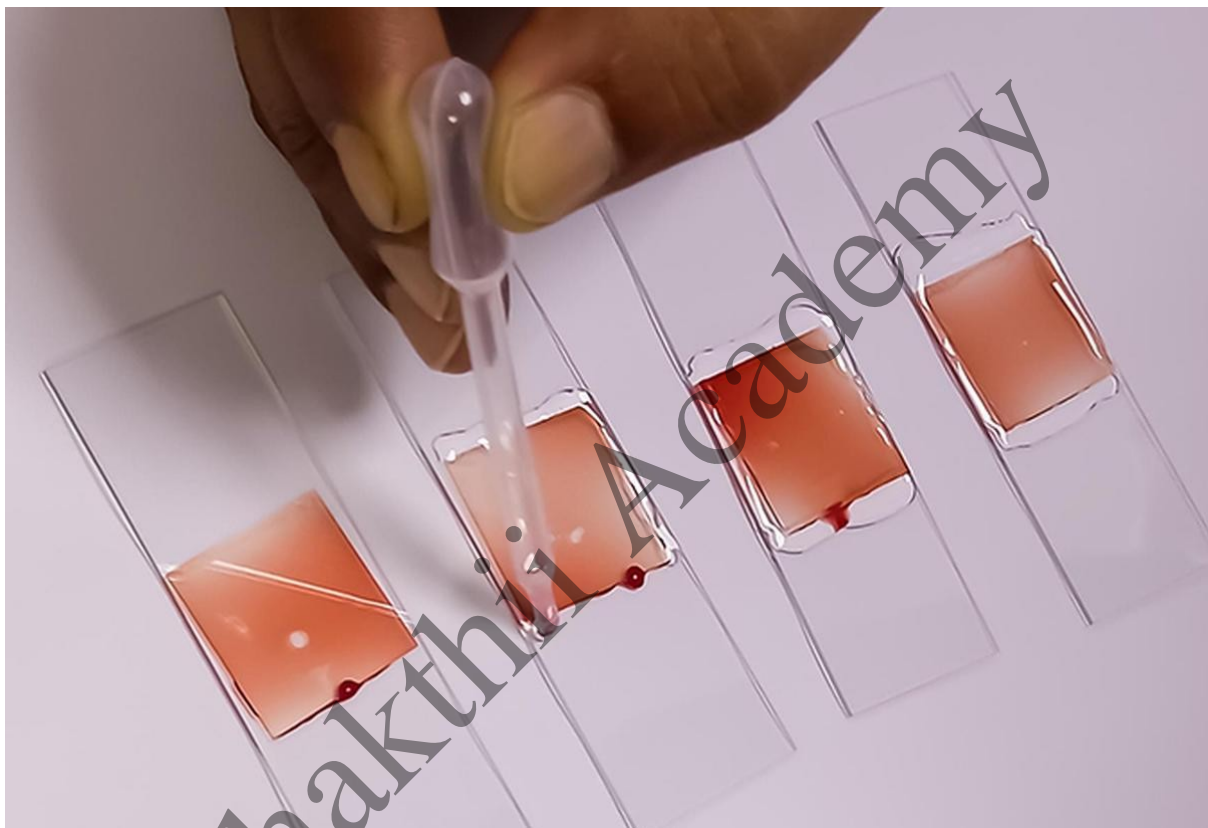


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ICMR:

- ➔ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) recently developed India's first ICMR-SCD Stigma Scale for India (ISSSI). The three scales available globally were unsuitable due to India's diversity. ISSSI is the first in India and the fourth globally, available in clinical and research settings.
- ➔ Sickle cell disease is caused by the inheritance of two mutated β -globin genes, one from each parent. India accounts for the second-highest prevalence of the sickle cell disease (SCD) globally, following sub-Saharan Africa.



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2025, June 2-3

Bicycle:

- ➔ Every year on June 3, the world celebrates World Bicycle Day to recognize the bicycle's role as a simple, affordable, and eco-friendly mode of transport.
- ➔ Observed globally since its official declaration by the United Nations in 2018, the day is an opportunity to highlight the health benefits, economic accessibility, and environmental sustainability of cycling.
- ➔ World Bicycle Day 2025, falling on a Friday, marks the fourth consecutive global celebration of this unique initiative, championed originally by Professor Leszek Sibilski.



Karnataka government:

- ➔ In a decisive move to safeguard public health, the Karnataka government has amended the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003, introducing significant legal reforms.
- ➔ The COTPA (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 2024—which received Presidential assent on May 23, 2025—raises the legal age for tobacco purchase, bans hookah bars, and increases penalties for smoking in public.



Government of Telangana:

- ➔ In a major step towards wildlife conservation and habitat connectivity, the Government of Telangana has officially notified the Kawal-Tadoba tiger corridor as the Kumram Bheem Conservation Reserve.
- ➔ Spanning nearly 1,493 sq. km, this newly declared reserve strengthens efforts to protect India's big cat population and other critical biodiversity in the central Indian landscape.



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Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti:

- ➔ Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti from Hyderabad became the youngest Indian and second youngest in the world to complete the 7 Summits challenge by climbing the highest peak on each of the seven continents at just 16 years old.
- ➔ He completed his final and most difficult climb by summiting Mount Everest (8,848 metres), fulfilling a long-held dream.



World Milk Day:

- ➔ World Milk Day is observed every year on 1st June to recognize the importance of milk as a global food and to celebrate the dairy sector's contributions to nutrition, livelihoods, and economic development.
- ➔ Theme 2025 – Let's Celebrate The Power of Dairy. World Milk Day was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and was first marked in 2001.



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NAKSHA:

- ➔ The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) has launched the second phase of capacity-building under the NAKSHA programme across five Centres of Excellence (CoEs) to enhance urban land survey capabilities using geospatial technologies.
- ➔ The NAKSHA programme is a technology-driven initiative launched by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) to modernize, verify, and digitize land records in response to India's rapidly growing urban population, projected to exceed 600 million by 2031.



Operation Sindoor:

- ➔ For the first time, Operation Sindoor employed the concept of “red teaming” as part of its operational planning. The Red teaming involves embedding a small group of experts familiar with the adversary's mindset, tactics and response patterns into the planning process. This is the first time the Indian military has tested this concept in an actual operation.
- ➔ This concept has long been a formalised component of military operations abroad - particularly during the Cold War.



Kozhikode:

- ➔ Athiranni (*Melastoma malabathricum*) was declared as the district flower and Menipponman (*Ceyx erithaca*) as the district bird of Kozhikode district.
- ➔ The Malabar Rose (*Pachliopta pandiyana*) is the district's butterfly. Eeyakam (*Hopea erosa*) was declared as the district tree.
- ➔ The Smooth-coated Otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*) is the district's aquatic animal. This is the first people's biodiversity declaration in the state of Kerala.



Official flower), Menipponman (bird), Malabar rose (butterfly), Theyyakam (tree), Eenthu (heritage tree), Otter (aquatic animal), Ontharakan (fish), and Indian Pangolin (animal)

20-MW battery energy:

- ➔ A 20-MW battery energy storage system (BESS), the “largest” one in South Asia was inaugurated at Kilokari, New Delhi. The system is also India’s “the first commercially approved” utility-scale energy storage system.
- ➔ It uses an advanced Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) technology known for superior safety, thermal stability and durability. In Lithium–iron phosphate (LiFePO_4) batteries, lithium metal phosphate is used as a cathode instead of lithium metal oxide.



FCRA:

- ➔ The Union Home Ministry has granted the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act(FCRA), 2010 registration to the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund of Maharashtra. This enables it to receive foreign donations for “social” programmes.
- ➔ This is the first time that the Union Home Ministry has granted FCRA nod to a state government relief body. It aims to supplement financial assistance to those affected by natural calamities, major accidents, communal riots, terrorist attacks or those in need of medical and educational help.



RIC:

- ➔ Russia is actively pushing for the revival of the Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral format, a strategic dialogue that has been largely dormant for nearly five years.
- ➔ Initiated in the late 1990s by former Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, the RIC format was conceived as a strategic counterweight to Western dominance. The format lost momentum following the 2020 Galwan Valley incident.

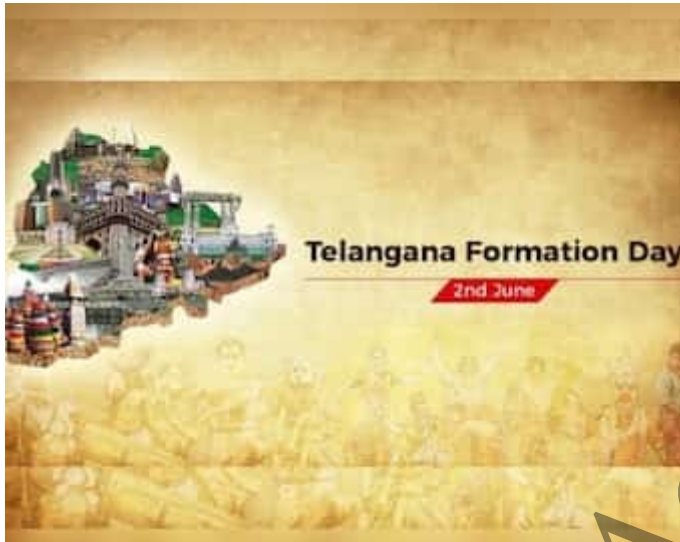


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Telangana:

- ➔ Telangana, India's 28th state, was founded on June 2, 2014. Telangana celebrates its Formation Day to mark the people's contribution to form a separate state outside of Andhra Pradesh.
- ➔ Telangana merged with Andhra Pradesh on 1 November 1956, forming a unified Telugu-speaking state.



Gukesh:

- ➔ Gukesh defeated World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen in classical format for the first time. A miscalculated knight move by Carlsen on move 52 shifted the endgame momentum.
- ➔ Gukesh's queen sacrifice and composed play sealed the victory in 62 moves.



Uttar Pradesh government:

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- ➔ The Uttar Pradesh government approved 20% reservation for Agniveers in State Police and Provincial Armed Constabulary posts. Age relaxation of 3 years also granted for Agniveers under the Agnipath scheme.
- ➔ The move ensures post-service employment as UP prepares to fill 28,000 police vacancies. The Agnipath scheme, launched in June 2022, allows youth to serve in the armed forces for 4 years.



PRV:

- ➔ India signed an MoU with Norway's Kongsberg Oslo to build its first indigenous Polar Research Vessel (PRV).
- ➔ The vessel, built by GRSE Kolkata, will support polar research and boost the 'Make in India' initiative. Sonowal reaffirmed India's maritime vision 'MAHASAGAR' for sustainable ocean growth at the global meet.

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2025, June 4-5

G7:

- ➔ The 51st G7 Summit will be held from June 15 to 17, 2025, in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada, marking the summit's 50th anniversary.
- ➔ As the host nation, Canada aims to foster collaborative dialogue on key global concerns like climate change, economic stability, digital transformation, and geopolitical peace.
- ➔ However, this year's summit sees a notable development — India will not participate for the first time in six years, reportedly due to strained diplomatic ties with Canada.



International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression:

- ➔ On 4 June 2025, the world observes the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression, reaffirming its commitment to end the suffering endured by children impacted by armed conflict, violence, and exploitation.
- ➔ Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1982, the day was initially a response to the tragic deaths of Palestinian and Lebanese children during Israeli military actions.
- ➔ It now serves as a global reminder of the urgent need to protect children from physical, emotional, and psychological harm.



World Environment Day:

- ➔ World Environment Day is observed every year on June 5. It is the United Nations' flagship initiative to raise global awareness and drive action on the most pressing environmental issues. Since its inception in 1972, it has evolved into a powerful global platform, engaging more than 150 countries annually.
- ➔ Launched during the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the first World Environment Day was celebrated in 1973. Each year, a different country hosts the celebrations and a specific theme is chosen to highlight a global environmental priority.



International Day for the Fight against Illegal:

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- ➔ June 5 marks the International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, a global initiative spearheaded by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.
- ➔ The observance highlights the urgent need to protect the world's fisheries, marine biodiversity, and the livelihoods of millions dependent on ocean resources by eliminating illegal and unsustainable fishing practices.



Rajiv Gandhi Van Samvardhan Yojana:

- ➔ In a major push for environmental conservation and community empowerment, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched the Rajiv Gandhi Van Samvardhan Yojana from Hamirpur on June 2, 2025.
- ➔ The scheme aims to increase the state's green cover by planting fruit-bearing trees on degraded forest lands while promoting employment generation and community involvement through Mahila Mandals, Yuvak Mandals, and self-help groups (SHGs).

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IICA:

- ➔ In a major step towards inclusive growth and regional empowerment, the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, is establishing its first regional campus in New Shillong Township, Meghalaya.
- ➔ Backed by ₹100.95 crore under the PM-DevINE (Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East) scheme, the new campus is envisioned as a hub for specialized training, research, and policy advisory in critical areas such as corporate governance, ESG, CSR, and insolvency.



Climate Change Performance Index:

- ➔ Climate change is no longer a future concern, it's a present global emergency. The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2025 underscores this reality with sobering clarity.
- ➔ Designed to monitor the climate protection performance of 64 countries and the EU, responsible for over 90% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the CCPI aims to shine a spotlight on both progress and failure in international climate mitigation efforts. India ranks 10th in the Climate Change Performance Index 2025, slipping two positions from its 2024 ranking, yet still remaining within the top 10 performing countries globally. India's ranking is shaped by a complex energy mix: while it has made remarkable strides in solar energy development, especially through initiatives like the Rooftop Solar Scheme, its continued dependency on coal for electricity generation undermines its full potential.



SPMEPCI:

- ➔ The Centre has released detailed guidelines for the Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Electric Passenger Cars in India (SPMEPCI) to attract global EV investments and boost India's status as a green mobility and automotive manufacturing hub; companies must invest at least ₹4,150 crore within 3 years and meet domestic value addition (DVA) targets of 25% in 3 years and 50% in 5 years.
- ➔ The scheme allows import of up to 8,000 electric four-wheelers per year at a reduced 15% customs duty for 5 years, provided each vehicle has a minimum CIF value of \$35,000; the total duty foregone is capped at ₹6,484 crore or the actual investment, whichever is lower.



Andhra Pradesh:

- ➔ Andhra Pradesh government has signed a 5-year MoU with ISRO's Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SHAR) to enhance its Real-Time Governance System (RTGS) by integrating satellite imagery and scientific data for citizen-centric services.
- ➔ Under this partnership, satellite inputs will be used across 42 applications within the AWARE platform, covering sectors like agriculture, weather forecasting, disaster management, and urban planning.



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Mount Etna:

- ➔ Mount Etna, Europe's most active volcano, erupted in Italy, sending ash and smoke into the Sicilian sky and causing panic among tourists.
- ➔ The eruption involved strombolian explosions, a type of volcanic activity characterized by frequent, moderate bursts of lava, as per Italy's National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology.



National Defence Academy:

- ➔ The first ever 17 women cadets of the National Defence Academy (NDA) graduated from the tri-services institute in Khadakwasla, Pune.
- ➔ In 2021, Supreme Court (SC) directed to admit women into the NDA. Pune's National Defence Academy is the first tri-service academy in the world.
- ➔ Shriti Daksh became the first female cadet to receive the Silver Medal and Chief of Air Staff Trophy for securing first rank in the B.A. stream.



GDP:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu's GDP for 2025, estimated at around \$341 billion, has reportedly surpassed that of Pakistan's GDP. In 2004-05, Pakistan's economy was around USD 132 billion. It currently hovers around USD 338 billion to USD 373.08 billion.
- ➔ Tamil Nadu's economy has gone up to USD 329 billion in the same period from USD 48 billion. Maharashtra's economy has also grown from USD 92 billion in 2004-05 to USD 490 billion in 2023-24.



India and Germany:

- ➔ In May 2025, India and Germany marked the Silver Jubilee (25 years) of their Strategic Partnership.
- ➔ The strategic partnership began in 2000. It was evolving to tackle contemporary global challenges like climate change and security. India was among the first to establish relations with post-WWI Germany. Also, Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe



Birch Glacier:

- ➔ A massive section of the Birch Glacier broke off, crashing down into the valley and partially destroying the village of Blatten.
- ➔ Birch Glacier is a mountain glacier situated in the Lötschental Valley, in the canton of Valais, northern Switzerland. It lies near the alpine village of Blatten, a region known for its scenic beauty and glacial landscapes.

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