

Daily Current Affairs

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UTKARSH

CIVIL
SERVICES

Rajasthan

Bhandevra Temple (Baran)

➔ Why in News?

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) will renovate the 10th century Bhanddevra temple located in Baran district, famous as 'Mini Khajuraho' of Rajasthan.



➔ Main Point

- Bhanddevra temple is located on the banks of Ramgarh river in Baran district of Rajasthan.
- **Construction:** This temple was originally built as a victory monument by the Nagavanshi ruler Raja Malay Verma. In the year 1162 AD, King Trishna Verma of the Meda dynasty renovated it and gave it a new look.
- This temple is built in the Nagar architectural style and in architecture, this temple has similarities with the temples of Khajuraho.
- **Note:** Ramgarh Crater is located near this temple, which was formed about 16.5 crore years ago due to a meteorite hit the earth. It is included in the selected rare geo-heritage sites of India.

❖ Facts for Prelims:

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

- ◆ **Established:** As The Asiatic Society of India in the year 1861 by Sir Alexander Cunningham with the assistance of the then Viceroy Canning.
- ◆ ASI functions under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
- ◆ Its main objective is to protect and care for the physical and tangible heritage such as ancient monuments and archaeological sites located in the country.
- ◆ **Headquarters:** New Delhi.



New Chairman of RERA Appellate Tribunal: Madan Gopal Vyas

➔ Why in News?



- Recently, former judge Madan Gopal Vyas was appointed as the chairman of the 'Rajasthan Real Estate Appellate Tribunal'.



➔ Main Point

- This appointment has been made under the provisions of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.
- Justice Vyas has previously served as a judge in the Rajasthan High Court.
- RERA Appellate Tribunal is a quasi-judicial body established under the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA).
- This tribunal hears appeals against the orders of the RERA authority or the adjudicating officer.
- RERA Tribunal hears appeals against the decisions passed by the RERA authority or the adjudicating officer.
- The Appellate Tribunal consists of a chairman and at least two members, one of whom is a judicial member and the other a technical or administrative member.

News in Shorts (Rajasthan)

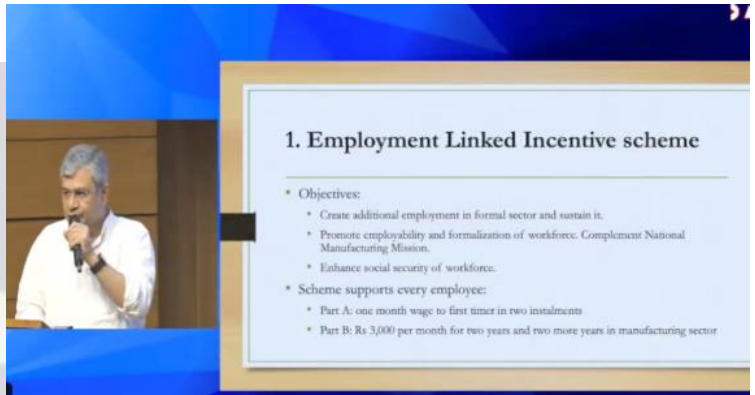
S. No.	News
1.	<p>The country's first 'Children's Corporation Assembly'</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ After setting the record of the country's first Bal Vidhan Sabha, Bal Nigam Sabha will be organized for the first time in Rajasthan.◆ This assembly will be organized on August 15, 2025 under the joint aegis of Municipal Corporation Heritage, Future Society and Digital Bal Mela.
2.	<p>Three players from Rajasthan in Indian Wushu team</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Recently, the Indian team was announced for the Asia Cup Wushu competition to be held from July 2 to 7, 2025 in Jilin, China.◆ Three players from Rajasthan - Jahnvi Mehra, Nitika Bansal and Mehak Sharma have been included in this team.

National

Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the "Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme".



➔ Main Point

- The scheme aims to promote employment opportunities in the country and encourage industries to create more number of jobs.
- Under this, incentives will be given to those enterprises which recruit new employees and promote formal employment.
- This scheme is considered to be an important step towards accelerating economic activities in various sectors and providing employment to the youth.
- Under this scheme, first-time job seekers will get one month's salary (up to Rs 15,000), while employers will be given incentives for a period of two years for additional employment generation. At the same time, the benefit for the manufacturing sector will be extended for two years.
- The ELI scheme aims to encourage the creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs in the country in a period of 2 years.

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ELI Scheme:

- This scheme has been launched under the Union Budget 2024-25, which aims to encourage employment generation in the country and bring the workforce into the formal sector.

Key objectives of the scheme:

- Creation of new employment opportunities
- Integrating workers into the formal economy
- Strengthening the social security system

Key sub-schemes under the ELI scheme:

Major Sub-Schemes	Dimensions
Scheme A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Target: Employees who are joining the EPFO-registered formal sector for the first time.■ Benefits: Eligible employees will be paid one month's salary in three instalments, subject to a maximum of ₹15,000 per month.
Scheme B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Focus: Creation of new employment in the manufacturing sector.■ Incentive: Incentive based on EPFO contribution of first-time employees, applicable for the first four years.■ Eligibility: Employees with salary up to ₹1 lakh.

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Scheme C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Objective: To provide financial support to employers.■ Benefits: For every new employee whose salary is up to ₹1 lakh, employers will get EPFO contribution reimbursement of ₹3,000 per month for the next two years.
Importance of the Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Diversification Opportunities: The scheme provides a significant opportunity for formalisation of the workforce in various industrial and service sectors.■ Social Security: Employees are assured of the benefit of social security services like Provident Fund.



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Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme

➔ Why in News?

- The Cabinet approved the Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) scheme with an outlay of Rs 1 lakh crore to promote research, development and innovation in strategic and emerging areas.

India's ₹ 1 Lakh Crore RDI fund gets Cabinet nod

- **Goal:** Scale up Research, Development & Innovation (RDI) in **Strategic & Sunrise Sectors**
- Provides Long-term, Low/Nil Interest Financing for **Private Sector**
- RDI fund will boost **Private Sector** investment in R&D

Empowering **India's** Future Through Research, Development & Innovation

Research, Development & Innovation
Empowering **India's** Future Through

Investment in R&D

RDI fund will boost **Private Sector**

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➡ Main Point

- **Approval:** July 1, 2025
- **Nodal Department:** The Department of Science and Technology (DST) will act as the nodal department for the implementation of the RDI scheme.
- **Objective:** To provide long-term financing or refinancing with long tenure at low or zero interest rates to promote private sector investment in RDI.
- The RDI scheme will have a two-tier financing mechanism.
- Under this, the establishment of Deep-Tech Fund of Funds will be facilitated.
- The Governing Board of Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) chaired by the Prime Minister will provide broad strategic direction to the RDI scheme.

Digital India Mission completes 10 years

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Digital India Mission has completed 10 years of its successful journey.



➔ Main Point

- Digital India is a major transformational initiative of the Government of India, which was launched on 1 July 2015 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- The aim of this initiative is to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

Vision:

- To make digital infrastructure available as a user's right.
- To make governance and services available on demand.
- To digitally empower every citizen.

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Key Objectives:

- To provide fast and reliable digital services to all citizens.
- To empower citizens using digital technology.
- To make services like e-governance, e-learning, e-health, e-payment accessible.
- Developing cyber security, digital literacy, and digital infrastructure.

Key Components:

- **BharatNet Project** – Broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats.
- **Digital Locker** – Digital repository of government documents.
- **Aadhaar** – Single digital identity.
- **UMANG App** – Integrated government services on mobile.
- **E-Hospital, E-Education, E-Scholarship** – Digitization of public services.
- **Digital Literacy Mission (PMGDISHA)** – Educating citizens digitally.

Impact and Achievements (by 2024-25):

- Broadband facility in more than 6 lakh villages
- More than 100 crore Aadhaar registrations
- Direct access to digital services to crores of citizens
- Transparency, efficiency and time saving in government processes

International

United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

➔ Why in News?

- Pakistan will chair the United Nations Security Council from one month (July, 2025)

➔ Main Point

- It is known that Pakistan is also a temporary member of the Security Council for 2 years from January 2025.



United Nations Security Council (UNSC):

- The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is one of the six bodies of the United Nations, which is the agency responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security.
- The United Nations Security Council is a body composed of 15 members, including five permanent members; namely - China, France, Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom and 10 temporary member countries, who are elected by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- 10 temporary members are elected to the UNSC for a term of every two years.
- The 10 temporary seats are distributed among different regions of the world; Such as - five seats for African and Asian countries (three for Africa and two for Asia), one for Eastern European countries, two for Latin American and Caribbean countries and the remaining two for Western European and other countries.
- The Africa and Asia Pacific Group also makes an Arab candidate a participant in the election every two years.

❖ Facts for Prelims:

United Nations (UN):

- ◆ **Establishment** – in the year 1945.
- ◆ The ‘United Nations Charter’ is the founding document of the United Nations. It was signed on June 26, 1945 in San Francisco, USA.
- ◆ **Members** – 193 countries.
- ◆ **Secretary General** – Antonio Guterres (Portugal)
- ◆ **Secretariat** – New York, United States.

Objectives of the United Nations: (According to the charter, the United Nations has four objectives)

- ◆ Ensuring international peace and security.
- ◆ Developing friendly relations among member countries.
- ◆ To solve international challenges through mutual cooperation.
- ◆ To become a centre for harmonising the actions of nations.

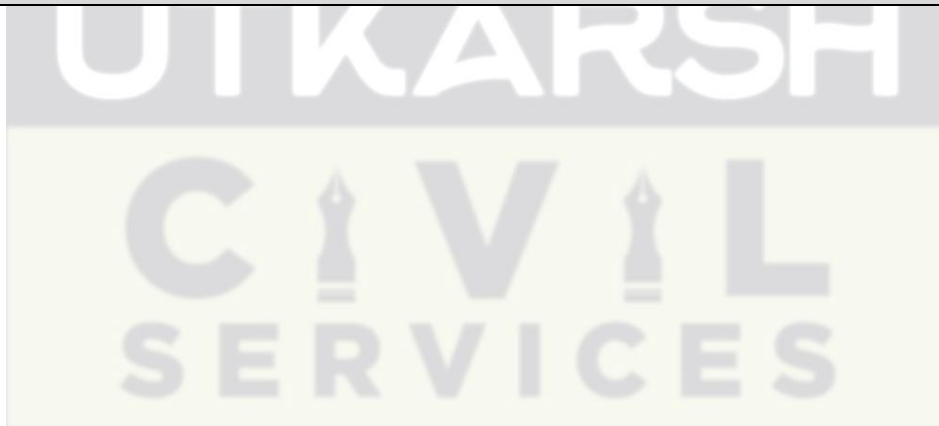
Main bodies:

- ◆ General Assembly;
- ◆ Security Council;
- ◆ Economic and Social Council;
- ◆ Trusteeship Council;
- ◆ International Court of Justice;
- ◆ Secretariat.

Other important points:

79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA):

- ◆ **Event:** New York, United States from 10 to 30 September 2024.
- ◆ **President of the 79th session:** Philemon Yang (Cameroon)
- ◆ The theme of the general debate of the 79th session of the General Assembly - "Leave no one behind: working collectively for peace, sustainable development and advancement of human dignity for present and future generations".
- ◆ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar presented the address on behalf of India in this session.



First ASEAN-India Cruise Dialogue

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, a two-day 'First ASEAN-India Cruise Dialogue' was held in Chennai.



➔ Main Point

- **Inaugurated by:** Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal.
- Held on MV Empress at Chennai Port, the dialogue was attended by over 30 delegates from all ten ASEAN countries, including Timor Leste.
- **Objective:** To enhance cruise connectivity, promote sustainable tourism and strengthen cultural and economic ties in the Indo-Pacific region.

❖ Facts for Prelims:

ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)

- ◆ ASEAN is an association of Southeast Asian nations that promotes intergovernmental cooperation.
- ◆ **Founded:** Founded in August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration) by the founding countries – Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- ◆ **Motto:** 'One Vision, One Identity, One Community'.
- ◆ **Headquarters:** Jakarta, capital of Indonesia.
- ◆ **Member countries (10)** - Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.



Science and Technology

INS Tamal

➔ Why in News?

- INS Tamal was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 01, 2025 at Kaliningrad, Russia.

➔ Main Point

- This is the last warship to be inducted from foreign source in the backdrop of India's efforts to achieve self-reliance in the defence sector.
- **Class :** INS Tamal is a stealth multi-role frigate, part of the series of Krivak class frigates.
- **Naming :** Inspired by the mythical sword called Tamal which was used by Indra, the king of gods, in battle.
- It is the second ship of the Tushil class, an improved version of its predecessor Talwar and Teg class (three ships each).
- **Speed :** Over 30 knots.
- **Built by:** Yantar Shipyard, Kaliningrad (Russia)

Key Features:

- It is fitted with 26 per cent indigenous equipment, including the BrahMos long range cruise missile capable of striking both sea and land targets.
- Its force multipliers include air early warning and multi-role helicopters that can operate from the deck of the Tamal.



Environment and Ecology

Sterilization of Bonnet Macaque Monkeys

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Kerala government is seeking permission from the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to sterilize bonnet macaque monkeys.



➔ Main Point

- This will be done to control the increasing population of bonnet macaque monkeys and minimize human-wildlife conflict.

Bonnet Macaque Monkey:

- Bonnet macaque is a species of Old-World Monkey, which is mainly found in South India. The hair on top of its head is in such a way that it looks like a cap (bonnet), due to which it got its name.

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Habitat:

- This species inhabits the evergreen and dry deciduous forests of the Western Ghats.
- Apart from this, it is also seen in urban, suburban and agricultural areas.

Reproduction and Life Cycle:

- They live in multi-male, multi-female groups.
- Females become sexually mature at around 3 years of age and give birth to their first litter at 4 years of age.
- Gestation is around 24 weeks.
- Infants are weaned for 6–7 months and stay with their mother for about 1 year.

Behaviour:

- They spend most of their time in trees (arboreal) and are also terrestrial quadrupeds (walk on four legs).
- They are active during the day.
- They usually live in social groups of up to 30 members.

Communication:

- These monkeys communicate with each other through visual, tactile, and sound means.
- They use alarm calls to warn of predators.
- They can also recognize the warning sounds of other primates such as Hanuman langur and lion-tailed macaque.

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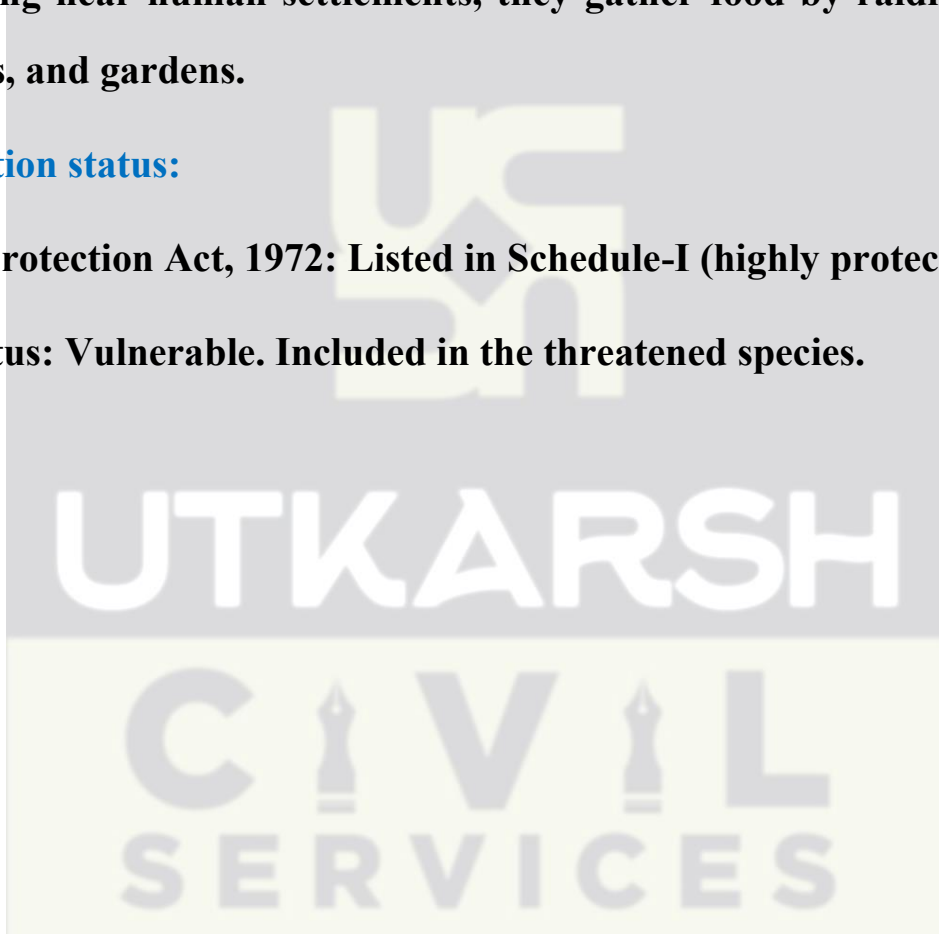


Diet:

- They are omnivorous.
- **Their diet includes:** fruits, leaves, insects, bird eggs, and lizards.
- When living near human settlements, they gather food by raiding garbage, food items, and gardens.

Conservation status:

- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Listed in Schedule-I (highly protected).
- IUCN status: Vulnerable. Included in the threatened species.



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Places in News

The country in discussion is Suriname

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Suriname was awarded a certificate by the World Health Organization (WHO) for being declared malaria-free.

➔ Main Point

- Suriname is the first country in the Amazon region to receive this certificate.
- Earlier, Georgia was declared malaria-free by WHO on January 23, 2025.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has so far declared more than 45 countries malaria-free.

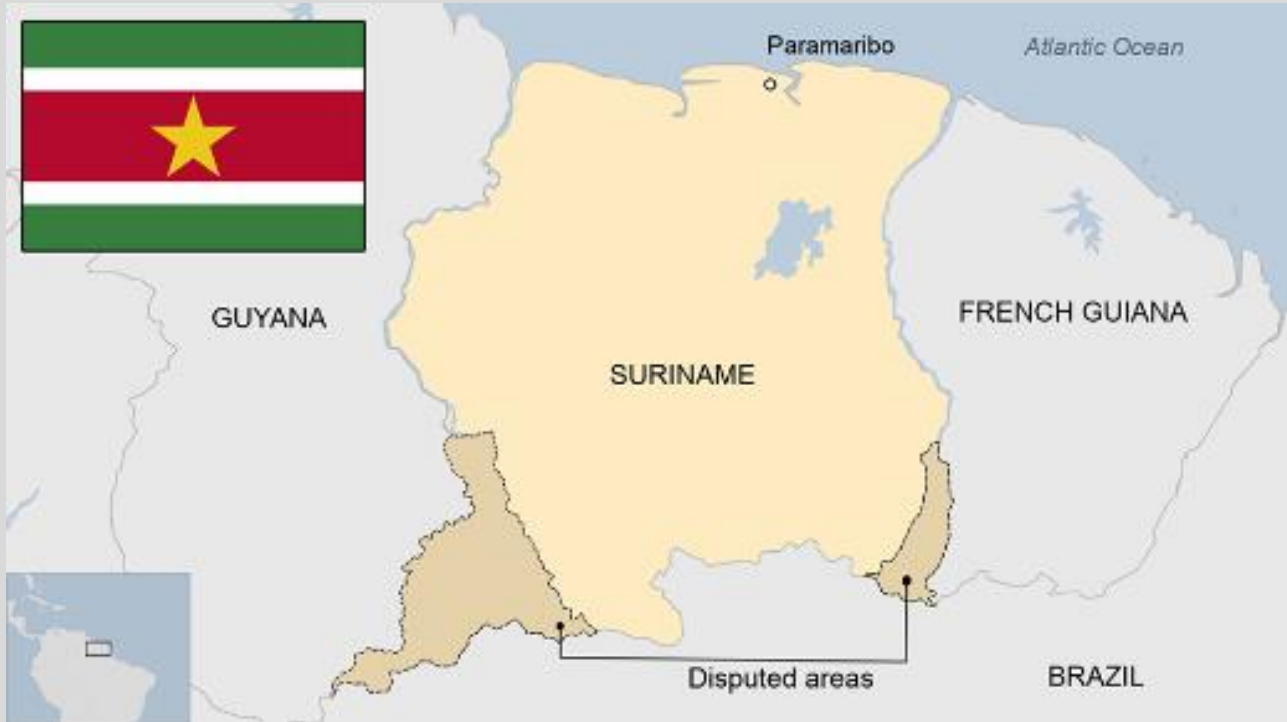


Malaria disease:

- **Type:** Mosquito-borne blood disease caused by the Plasmodium parasite.
- **Carrier:** Infected female Anopheles mosquito.
- **Parasite:** 5 parasite species cause malaria, of which Plasmodium falciparum (PF) and Plasmodium vivax (PV) are the most deadly.
- **Affected areas:** This disease spreads mainly in tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, South America and Asia.
- **Vaccines for malaria prevention:** 'Mosquirix' developed by GlaxoSmithKline and R21/Matrix developed by Oxford University.
- World Malaria Day is celebrated every year on 25 April.
- **Theme for the year 2025:** 'Malaria ends with us: Reinvest, Reimagine, Reignite'

❖ Facts for Prelims:

Geographical location of Suriname:



- ◆ It is a country located in the northeastern part of South America.
- ◆ It shares borders with the Atlantic Ocean to the north, Guyana to the west, Brazil to the south, and French Guiana to the east.
- ◆ **Capital:** Paramaribo.

Personalities

Keshavan Ramachandran

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, RBI has appointed Keshavan Ramachandran as the new Executive Director.



➔ Main Point

- Before being promoted as the new Executive Director of RBI, Keshavan Ramachandran was working as the Principal Chief General Manager in the Risk Monitoring Department.
- Keshavan Ramachandran also served as the Principal of the Reserve Bank Staff College during his career.
- He served as the Reserve Bank of India nominee on the board of Canara Bank for over five years and on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board of ICAI for two years.

Sports

National Sports Policy 2025

➔ Why in News?

- On July 1, 2025, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister approved the National Sports Policy (NSP) 2025.



**खेलों को
नया आकार,
दे रही मोदी
सरकार**

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने राष्ट्रीय खेल नीति (NSP) 2025 को दी मंजूरी

यह नई नीति वर्ष 2001 की मौजूदा राष्ट्रीय खेल नीति का स्थान लेगी

मुख्य उद्देश्य:

- एक दूरदर्शी और कार्यनीतिक रोडमैप प्रस्तुत करना
- भारत को वैश्विक खेल महाशक्ति के रूप में स्थापित करना
- वर्ष 2036 ओलंपिक खेलों सहित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय खेल आयोजनों में उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन के लिए एक मजबूत दावेदारी स्थापित करना

➡ Main Point

- The new Sports Policy, 2025 replaced the existing National Sports Policy, 2001.
- This policy has been formulated to establish the country as a global sports superpower and excel in international sporting events including the Olympic Games in the year 2036.
- This sports policy is based on five major pillars -

Pillars	Objective
Excellence on the global stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Development of sports infrastructure in rural and urban areas.■ Enhancing the capacity and management of national sports federations.■ Promoting the establishment of competitive leagues and competitions.■ Encouraging the adoption of sports science, medicine and technology to enhance sports performance.
Games for economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Promote sports tourism and bring major international sporting events to India.■ Strengthen the sports manufacturing ecosystem, and promote startups and entrepreneurship in sports.■ Encourage private sector participation through public-private partnerships (PPP), corporate social responsibility (CSR) and innovative financing initiatives.

Games for social development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Promote participation among women, economically weaker sections, tribal communities and persons with disabilities through focused programmes.■ Revive and promote indigenous and traditional sports.■ Engage Indian diaspora through sports.
Sport as a mass movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Promote mass participation in sports and a culture of fitness through nationwide campaigns and community-based programmes.■ Introduce fitness indices for schools, colleges and workplaces, etc.■ Enhance access to sports facilities to all.
Integration with Education (NEP 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Incorporating sports into the school curriculum.■ Providing special training to teachers and physical education educators to promote sports education and awareness.

Strategic Framework:

- **Private Sector Financing and Collaboration:** Develop innovative financing mechanisms and involve private sector participation through PPP and CSR.
- **Technology and Innovation:** Leverage emerging technologies including AI and data analytics for performance tracking, research and programme implementation.
- **National Monitoring Framework:** Create a national framework with well-defined criteria, key performance indicators (KPIs) and time-bound targets.

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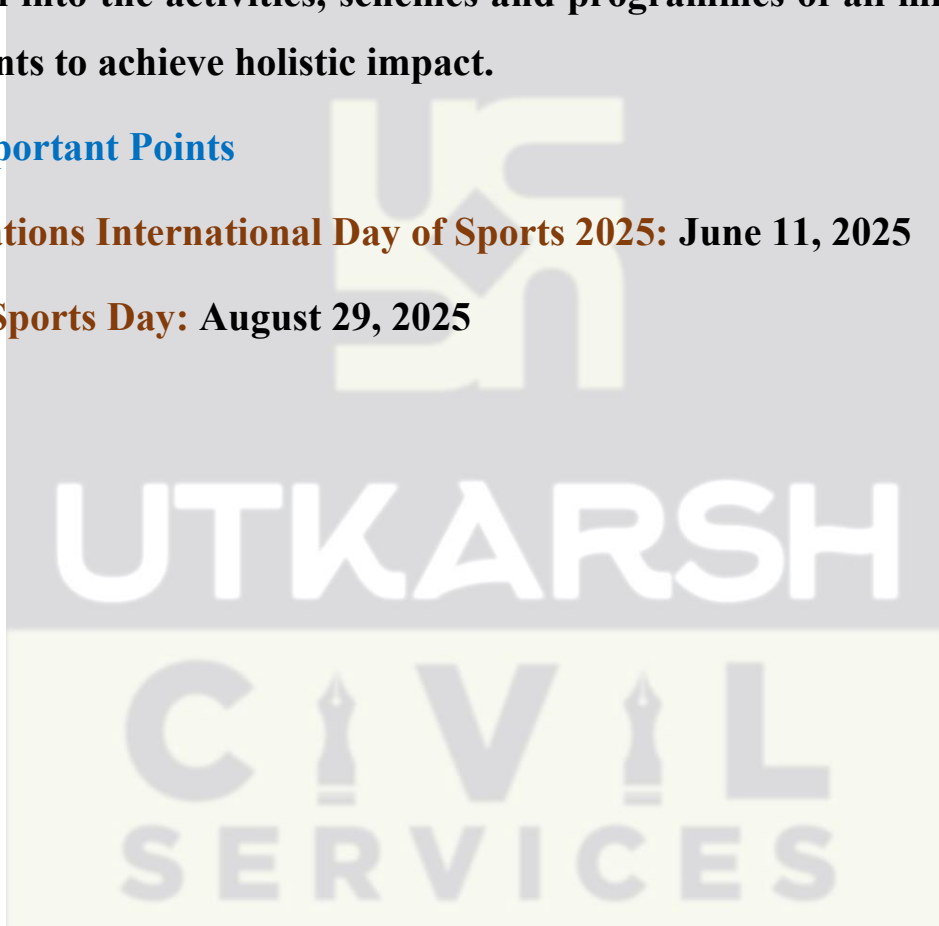
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- **Model Policy for States:** NSP 2025 will serve as a model for States and Union Territories, encouraging them to revise or formulate their policies in line with national objectives.
- **Whole of Government Approach:** The policy calls for integrating sports promotion into the activities, schemes and programmes of all ministries and departments to achieve holistic impact.



Other Important Points

- **United Nations International Day of Sports 2025:** June 11, 2025
- **National Sports Day:** August 29, 2025



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News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>State Bank of India's Solar Power Scheme</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The country's largest public sector bank, State Bank of India (SBI), has set an ambitious target of providing solar power to 40 lakh homes by FY 2027.◆ This initiative reflects the bank's active participation towards promoting renewable energy and realising India's resolve of net zero emissions by the year 2070.
2.	<p>23rd World Police and Fire Games 2029</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The 23rd World Police and Fire Games 2029 will be held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Some of the events of the games will be held in Gandhinagar and Ekta Nagar.◆ India is the second Asian country after China to host the World Police and Fire Games. Chengdu, China hosted the 18th World Police and Fire Games in the year 2019.

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3.

Top National Players Stipend Scheme (TNPSS)



- ◆ The All India Chess Federation (AICF) recently announced the launch of the Top National Players Stipend Scheme (TNPSS).
- ◆ Its main objective is to provide financial support to talented chess players across the country and develop their talent.
- ◆ Under the scheme, players from U-7 to U-19 age group will be given a fixed amount (from ₹60,000 to ₹1.5 lakh) every quarter directly into their bank accounts.

4.

Independent Drive Test (IDT) Report



- ◆ The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on July 1, 2025 released the results of the Independent Drive Test (IDT) conducted in May, 2025.
- ◆ Which includes 13 cities, highways, railways and coastal corridors in 8 licensed service areas (LSAs).

5.

MPEDA's first National Skill Olympiad



- ◆ On July 1, 2025, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) organised the opening ceremony of the National Skill Olympiad on Seafood Value Addition at Seafood Expo India, Chennai.
- ◆ MPEDA is a statutory organisation under the administrative domain of the Department of Commerce.
- ◆ Thanseer K.R. of Abad Foods, Malipuram, Kerala was declared the winner.

6.

Inauguration of Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath Ayush University



- ◆ On July 1, 2025, President Smt. Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath Ayush University in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

7.

RailOne App



- ◆ Recently, the Union Railway Minister launched a new app called 'RailOne' on the occasion of the 40th Foundation Day celebrations of Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
- ◆ RailOne focuses on improving passenger interaction with Railways.
- ◆ It is a comprehensive, all-in-one application with a user-friendly interface.

SERVICES