

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



Index

Sr. No.	Topic
1.	Model Village – Pipalantri (Rajsamand)
2.	Anganwadi Bahan Samman Samaroha
3.	State Level Organ Donation Awareness Program
4.	State Level Sanskrit Scholar Honor Ceremony
5.	Dr. Krishna Poonia
6.	News in Shorts 1. Bhartriharinagar to be the new name of Khairthal-Tijara 2. August 6: 'Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) Day' 3. Isarda-Dausa Drinking Water Project Foundation Stone 4. Fusasar Electricity Substation (Jaisalmer) 5. R-CAT's Inter College Quiz Competition 6. 'Hindu Resurgence in Indonesia' Book 7. Sahakar Rakhi Utsav-2025 8. 'Knowledge Enhancement Program' for Farmers
7.	‘Unlocking a \$200 Billion Opportunity: Electric Vehicles in India’ Report 2025
8.	Youth Leaders Roundtable 2025
9.	Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025

--:1:--

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



10.	Manipur GST Amendment Bill 2025
11.	Philippines and India: First ever joint navigation in South China Sea
12.	107th member of International Solar Alliance: Moldova
13.	Cyberspace and Amphibious Operations
14.	Annu Rani
15.	News in Shorts <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Blue Bird Satellite2. Dhurva Space Company: Will send Australian payload3. NCERT's new syllabus4. First Solar-Powered Assembly: Delhi

--2--

Rajasthan

Model Village – Pipalantri (Rajsamand)

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde attended the Environment Festival-2025 organized at Model Village Pipalantri in Rajsamand.



➔ Main Point

- Pipalantri is one such model village in the country, where there is a unique tradition of planting 111 saplings on the birth of every daughter.
- This tradition was started in the year 2005 by the former Sarpanch of the village Shyam Sundar Paliwal, who has also been honored with Padma Shri by the Government of India.
- Under this model, about 15 lakh saplings have been planted in Pipalantri so far, including 1 lakh sandalwood trees.
- As a part of the Pipalantri model, 'Kiran Nidhi Yojana' has also been started, under which the Panchayat opens a bank account in the name of the girl child and deposits an initial amount of ₹ 21,000 in it.
- Like Pipalantri, Dharhara village in Bihar also has a tradition of planting fruit trees on the birth of a daughter.

Anganwadi Bahan Samman Samaroha

➔ Why in News?

- On August 05, 2025, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma participated in the 'Rakshabandhan-Anganwadi Bahan Samman Samaroha with Chief Minister' at Birla Auditorium in Jaipur.

➔ Main Point

- The Chief Minister launched 'Balahar Premix Packet' containing milk, increasing the amount of skimmed milk from 15 grams to 25 grams for malnourished children.
- The Chief Minister transferred an amount of Rs 501-501 to 1 lakh 21 thousand female Anganwadi workers of the state through DBT.
- At present, the state government is running 'Mukhyamantri Amrit Aahar Yojana' to provide milk 5 days a week to children between 3 to 6 years of age visiting Anganwadi centers.

Facts for Prelims (Economic Review – 2024-25):

Kishori Balika Yojana:

- **Scheme launched:** From April 1, 2022 in 5 aspirational districts of the state (Baran, Karauli, Jaisalmer, Dholpur and Sirohi).

--:4:--

- **Objective of the scheme:** To educate and empower adolescent girls aged 14-18 years so that they can become self-reliant and aware.
- About 42,000 adolescent girls from these districts have been surveyed and identified to provide benefits through Anganwadi centers.

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE):

- Currently 16.18 lakh children in the age group of 3-6 years are getting the benefit of pre-school education in 62,020 Anganwadi centers under Anganwadi services in the state.
- Out of about 62,020 Anganwadi centres operating in the state under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), 42,052 Anganwadi centres have been integrated by the Education Department, either physically or administratively, with primary, upper primary, secondary/higher secondary government schools for the purpose of providing quality education along with nutrition.

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS):

- This programme was started on 2 October, 1975 with the following objectives in mind -
- To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0-6 years.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



- To lay the foundation for the psychological, physical and social development of children.
- To reduce the rate of mortality, diseases, malnutrition and school dropout.
- To ensure proper coordination of policies and implementation between various departments to promote child development.
- To strengthen the mother through proper nutrition and health education to take care of the general health and nutritional needs of the child.
- At present 363 child development projects are being operated in the state under this programme. Out of these, 22 projects are being run in urban areas, 42 in tribal areas and the remaining 299 in rural areas.
- A total of 62,020 Anganwadi centres have been sanctioned in the state under these projects.

--:6::--

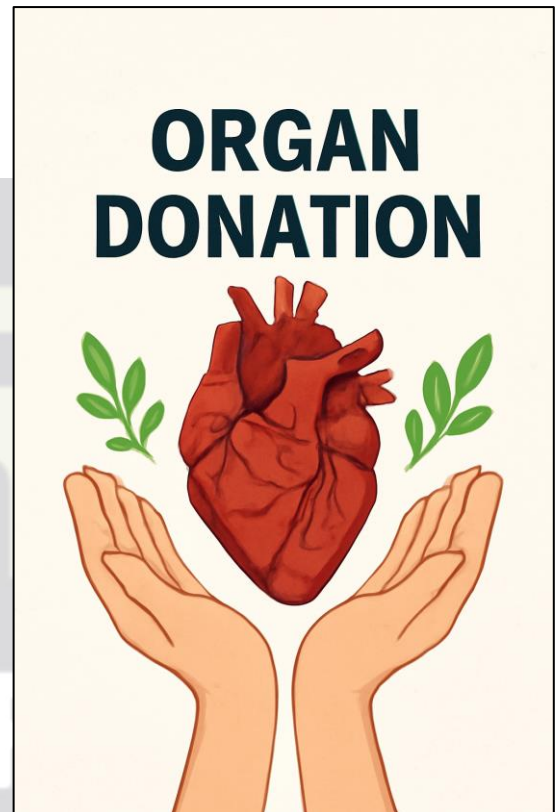
State Level Organ Donation Awareness Program

➡ Why in News?

- Recently, the State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) organized a 'State Level Organ Donation Awareness Program'.

➡ Main Point

- **Venue:** Sawai Mansingh Medical College, Jaipur.
- Since the establishment of SOTTO in the year 2018, there has been continuous progress in the field of organ donation and transplantation in the state.
- Among the districts with the highest participation in the recent pledge of organ donation by SOTTO, Hanumangarh ranked first, Churu second and Jhunjhunu third.
- The skin bank of Sawai Mansingh Hospital is the largest skin bank in North India.
- The facility of organ transplantation is available free of cost under the Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana. Also, a transparent and smooth process has been developed to promote organ donation.



Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



- **Note:** On the occasion of Indian Organ Donation Day-2025, Rajasthan has been awarded two national awards for remarkable work in the field of organ donation; Awarded with 'Emerging State in Organ Donation and Transplantation' and 'Excellence in Promotion of Organ Donation'.

Other important points:

- **Indian Organ Donation Day:** Indian Organ Donation Day is celebrated every year on 3 August by the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- **Organ Donation Month** was celebrated from 1 to 31 July 2025 under the national campaign 'Angdan-Jeevan Sanjivani Abhiyan'.
- **World Organ Donation Day:** Celebrated every year on 13 August.

--8--

State Level Sanskrit Scholar Honor Ceremony

➔ Why in News?

- On August 07, 2025, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani participated as the Chief Guest in the 'State Level Sanskrit Scholar Honor Ceremony' organized by the Sanskrit Education Department at the Sukhadia Rangmanch Auditorium of Udaipur Municipal Corporation.



➔ Main Point

- 56 honors and awards were given in a total of four categories in the honor ceremony.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



- **Sanskrit Sadhana Shikhar Samman of the year 2025:** Kailash Chandra Mundada (Chittorgarh)
 - An honorarium of one lakh rupees was awarded in the Sanskrit Sadhana Shikhar Samman.
 - **Other Awards:** Sanskrit Sadhana Samman to two scholars, seven Sanskrit Vidvat Samman, 11 Sanskrit Yuva Pratibha Awards including Ministerial Service Honors.
- Other Important Points:**
- Sanskrit Day Celebration was organized for the first time in the history of Rajasthan University.
 - A special lecture was organized on the topic 'Role of Sanskrit Scholars in the Indian Freedom Movement' on the occasion of Sanskrit Day organized by the Sanskrit Department.
 - **Key Speaker:** Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi (Former Vice Chancellor of Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi and Dr. Harisingh Gour Sagar University, Sagar and recipient of Sahitya Akademi and Presidential Awards)

-:10:-



उत्कर्ष® Jodhpur : JALORI GATE CIRCLE, JODHPUR | Support@utkarsh.com | Call us at : 9829 213 213
Jaipur : NEAR MAHESH NAGAR THANA, GOPALPURA BYPASS ROAD, JAIPUR

Dr. Krishna Poonia

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Dr. Krishna Poonia, Olympian and former President of Rajasthan State Sports Council, was appointed as a member of the Indian Athletics Senior Selection Committee by the Athletics Federation of India.



➔ Main Point

- Her appointment as a member of the Selection Committee has been made for the year 2025-26.
- Also, Dr. Krishna Poonia has been invited by the Athletics Federation of India for the 'World Athletics Bronze Level Continental Tour' to be held on August 10, 2025 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- 60 athletes from 10 countries will participate in this competition.

Achievements of Krishna Poonia:

- **Year 2010:** Gold medal in Delhi Commonwealth Games.
- First Indian female athlete to win a gold medal in track and field events at the Commonwealth Games.
- **Year 2012:** National record with a throw of 64.76 meters in Hawaii, USA.
- **Year 2010:** Arjun Award.
- **Year 2011:** Honoured with Padma Shri Award.

News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Bhartriharinagar to be the new name of Khairthal-Tijara</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recently, the state government has directed to prepare a proposal to rename Khairthal-Tijara district as Bhartriharinagar and has agreed to make it the district headquarters of Bhiwadi.This decision has been taken on the recommendation of the State Administrative Unit Restructuring Advisory Committee constituted under the chairmanship of former Indian Administrative Service officer Lalit K Panwar.
2.	<p>August 6: 'Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) Day'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">New York City Mayor Eric Adams has declared August 6, 2025 as 'Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) Day'.This announcement has been made in honor of RANA's contribution to the social and cultural life of New York City and the Indian-American community.
3.	<p>Isarda-Dausa Drinking Water Project Foundation Stone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recently, the foundation stone of 'Isarda-Dausa Drinking Water Project' was laid by the Chief Minister from Dungarpur village located in Lalsot Assembly constituency of Dausa district.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Under the Isarda-Dausa drinking water project, 8 clean water reservoirs, 5 pump houses and 47 high reservoirs will be constructed in Lalsot at a cost of about ₹350 crore. In this, 280 km of rising main pipeline, more than 200 km of main pipeline and 1,360 km of VDS pipeline will be laid.
4.	<p>Fusasar Electricity Substation (Jaisalmer)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recently, the Chief Minister approved the allotment of land for the establishment of 765 kV power substation at Fusasar in Bhaniyana tehsil of Jaisalmer district.This power substation will be set up on 80 hectares of land by Rajasthan State Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited.
5.	<p>R-CAT's Inter College Quiz Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recently, Rajasthan Center of Advanced Technology (R-CAT), run by the Department of Information Technology and Communication, organized a two-day inter college quiz competition in Jaipur.Winning Team: Rajasthan University (₹21,000),Second Place: Suresh Gyan Vihar University (₹15,000),Third Place: SKIT College (₹11,000)
6.	<p>'Hindu Resurgence in Indonesia' Book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani released the book 'Hindu Resurgence in Indonesia' at a function organized at the Constitution Club of Rajasthan, Jaipur.Book Author: Ravikumar Iyer.

7.

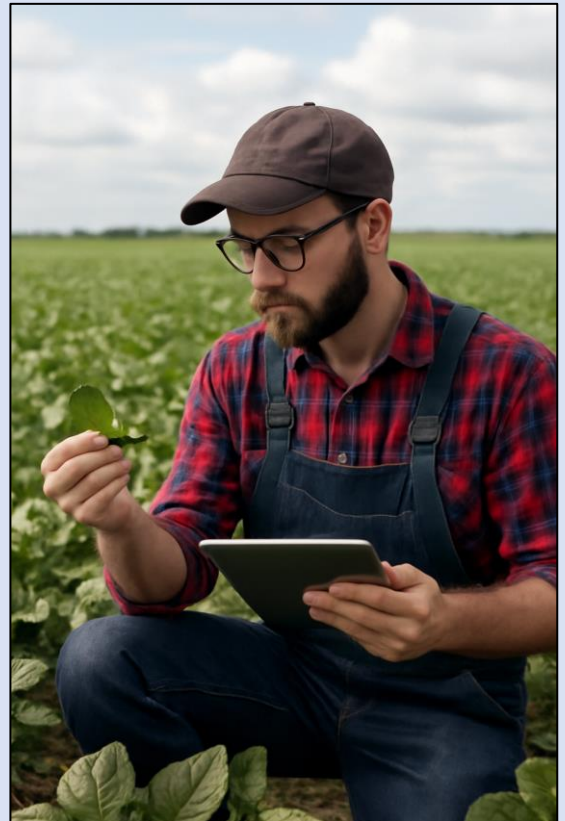
Sahakar Rakhi Utsav-2025

- ♦ Rajasthan State Cooperative Consumers Federation (CONFED) organized Sahakar Rakhi Utsav-2025 from 4 to 8 August 2025.
- **Venue:** Nehru Sahakar Bhawan (Jaipur)

8.

'Knowledge Enhancement Program' for Farmers

- ♦ Under the 'Knowledge Enhancement Program', 100 farmers of Rajasthan will be taken on a tour of four countries; Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand and Brazil by the state government.
- ♦ In this exposure visit, farmers will get information about the latest technologies and innovations. Selected farmers will be taken on a 7-day tour in different batches between November 2025 and March 2026.



National

‘Unlocking a \$200 Billion Opportunity: Electric Vehicles in India’ Report 2025

➔ Why in News?

- On August 4, 2025, NITI Aayog released a report titled ‘Unlocking a \$200 Billion Opportunity: Electric Vehicles in India’, which presents a timely and comprehensive assessment of current challenges and highlights the key measures required to rapidly transform India’s electric mobility sector.



➔ Main Point

- It presents several approaches to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles in India.
- India aims to achieve a 30 per cent share of electric vehicles in total vehicles sold by 2030.

-:15:-

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



- EV sales in India are projected to grow to 2.08 million in 2024, slower than global EV sales.
- EV penetration in India in 2024 is 2/5th of the total global penetration.

Other Important Points:

NITI Aayog:

- **Full Form:** National Institute for Transforming India (NITI)
- **Formation:** Through a resolution of the Union Cabinet on January 1, 2015 (replaced the erstwhile Planning Commission).
- **Objective:** To emphasise on a 'bottom-up' approach to envisage a vision of 'Minimum Government Maximum Governance' realising the spirit of cooperative federalism.

Composition:

- **Chairman:** Prime Minister.
- **Vice Chairman:** Appointed by the Prime Minister.
- **Governing Council:** Chief Ministers of all states and Lieutenant Governors of Union Territories.
- **Regional Council:** To address specific regional issues, consisting of Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors, chaired by the Prime Minister or a person nominated by him.
- **Ex-officio Members:** Up to four ministers from the Union Council of Ministers are nominated by the Prime Minister.
- **Chief Executive Officer:** Appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.

-:16:-

Youth Leaders Roundtable 2025

➡ Why in News?

- The visit of a delegation of 10-12 members of Nepalese Young Leaders representing various political parties of Nepal is being organized by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) from 3rd to 12th August, 2025.
- As part of this visit, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India in joint partnership with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Government of India and Observer Research Foundation (ORF) organized a Young Leaders Roundtable Conference on 5th August, 2025 at Bhaskar Conference Hall, Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi.



➡ Main Point

- **Theme of the Roundtable:** 'Role of Youth Exchange and Sports in India-Nepal Bilateral Relations'.
- **Chaired by:** Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- **Objective:** To strengthen participation at the political and youth level.
- The conference provided a platform for dialogue between the emerging political leaders of the two countries.

Other key points:

- Such collaborative initiatives were initiated through the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Nepal and the Government of India on Cooperation in Youth Affairs at Kathmandu on 25 November, 2014.
- Under the provisions of this MoU, various international youth exchange programmes have been successfully organized between India and Nepal.

Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025

➔ Why in News?

- On August 7, 2025, Parliament passed the Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025 to boost the country's coastal economy.



➔ Main Point

- **Passed by Lok Sabha:** April 3, 2025
- **Passed by Rajya Sabha:** August 7, 2025
- **Motion introduced:** By Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal.
- **Objective:** Simplifies and modernises the legal framework governing coastal shipping and replaces Part XIV of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 with new-age progressive legislation in line with global cabotage norms.

-:19:-

- This landmark Act will unleash the immense and vast potential of India's 11,098 km long strategic coastline spread across nine coastal states and four Union Territories.
 - **Target:** The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025 aims to increase coastal cargo to 230 million metric tonnes by the year 2030.
 - **Key Provisions:** The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025 consists of six chapters and 42 sections.
 - It introduces a simplified licensing system for coastal shipping and lays down a framework for regulation of foreign vessels engaged in coastal trade.
 - The Bill provides for the preparation of a National Coastal and Inland Shipping Strategic Plan to guide future infrastructure development and policy direction.
 - The Bill also provides for the creation of a national database for coastal shipping.
- Other important points:**
- With the passage of the Coastal Shipping Act, 2025, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has obtained parliamentary approval for all three important maritime laws - Merchant Shipping Bill, 2025, Maritime Carriage Bill, 2025 and Coastal Shipping Act-2025.

Manipur GST Amendment Bill 2025

➔ Why in News?

- On August 7, 2025, the Lok Sabha passed the Manipur GST Amendment Bill 2025 to enable the state government to collect GST.



➔ Main Point

- It amends the Manipur Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.
- The Bill replaces an ordinance that was promulgated due to the imposition of President's rule in the state.
- The lower house also approved the Manipur Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2025. It authorises the payment and appropriation of certain sums from the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur for services for the financial year 2025-26.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



- The Government of India will provide an additional budgetary outlay of Rs 2,898 crore, out of which Rs 1,667 crore will be capital expenditure.

Other important points:

President's rule in Manipur:

- On February 13, 2025, the President of India declared President's rule in Manipur under Article 356.
- According to the Constitution, after the declaration of President's rule, this President's rule is valid for 6 months. Its term is ending on August 13, 2025.
- Therefore, Parliament has approved the proposal presented in the Rajya Sabha on August 4, 2025 to extend it for the next 6 months.

-::22::-

International

Philippines and India: First ever joint navigation in South China Sea

➔ Why in News?

- The Philippines and India navies have started their first ever joint navigation and naval exercises in the disputed South China Sea as part of the Philippines' "Maritime Cooperative Activities" with foreign navies from the end of 2023.



➔ Main Point

- This is a response to China's expansionist policy in the waterway. China claims almost the entire South China Sea, which is bordered by the maritime areas of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam.

--:23:-

- The waterway is a strategic shipping route where \$3 trillion worth of shipping trade takes place annually.
- Indian Navy's participating ships: Guided missile destroyer INS Delhi, tankers INS Shakti and INS Kiltan etc.
- The Philippines, along with its treaty ally, the United States, and other strategic partners including Japan, Australia, New Zealand and France, have conducted naval patrols in the disputed waters to promote freedom of navigation and overflight and strengthen deterrence against China.

Other Important Points:

- India handed over the first batch of BrahMos missile system to the Philippines on April 19, 2024, making it the first foreign nation to acquire this missile weapon system.

South China Sea:

- **Location:** An arm of the Western Pacific Ocean surrounding Southeast Asia.
- It lies south of China, southeast of Vietnam, west of the Philippines and north of Borneo.



- The region is vital to global maritime trade, with nearly a third of global shipping, including 40% of the world's petroleum products, passing through the waters each year.
- About a third of global maritime trade passes through the 3.5 million square kilometer sea route each year.

107th member of International Solar Alliance: Moldova

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Moldova has become the 107th member of the International Solar Alliance.



➔ Main Point

International Solar Alliance (ISA) –

- It is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization. This alliance promotes solar energy as a sustainable solution to increase energy supply and tackle climate change.
- **Beginning:** India and France jointly announced the establishment of ISA at the COP21 conference on climate change held in Paris in 2015.
- **Headquarters:** National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Gurugram, Haryana.

- **Countries signing and ratifying the agreement:** 123 India (co-founder), France (co-founder), other 120 member countries and signatory countries (by May, 2025).
- India provides financial assistance of Rs 100 crore per year to ISA.
- **Mission of ISA:** ISA is guided by the 'Towards 1000' strategy. This strategy has the following objectives:
 - To attract \$1,000 billion of investment in solar energy solutions by the year 2030.
 - To provide energy to 1,000 million people through clean energy solutions.
 - To install 1,000 gigawatt (GW) of solar energy capacity.

Major Initiatives –

1. **SolarX Start-up Challenge** (Provides grants and business support to start-ups and entrepreneurs).
2. **Solar Technology and Application Resource Center (STAR-C) Initiative** – It aims to build a strong network of institutional capabilities within ISA member countries to enhance quality infrastructure for solar energy products and services.
3. **Global Solar Facility-** Payment guarantee fund to encourage investment in solar energy projects.
4. **Green Hydrogen Innovation Centre-** Explores the possibilities of interlinking of solar energy and hydrogen energy.
5. **One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG) Initiative-** It aims to use solar energy generated in a specific region to meet the electricity requirement of another region.

Science & Technology

Cyberspace and Amphibious Operations

➔ Why in News?

- On August 7, 2025, during the meeting of the Chiefs of Staff Committee comprising Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan and Secretaries of the Department of Military Affairs in New Delhi, the public versions of the Joint Doctrines for Cyberspace Operations and Amphibious Operations were formally released.



➔ Main Point

- The publicisation of these doctrines underlines India's commitment to enhance the visibility, reach and wider dissemination of joint war-fighting concepts.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 08 August, 2025



- The Joint Doctrine for Cyberspace Operations outlines an integrated approach to safeguard national cyberspace interests, integrate offensive and defensive cyber capabilities and enable coordinated operations across the three services. It emphasises threat-informed planning, building resilience, real-time intelligence integration and development of joint cyber capabilities.
- CDS has initiated development of new doctrines/priorities incorporating contemporary and specific areas of warfare such as military space operations, special forces operations, airborne/heliborne operations, integrated logistics, multi-domain operations.



Sports

Annu Rani

➔ Why in News?

- India's Annu Rani won the gold medal in the women's javelin throw event with a season's best effort of 62.59 meters at the International Wislaw Maniak Memorial 2025 held in Poland.



➔ Main Point

Player	Affiliation	Medal	Javelin Throw
Annu Rani	India	Gold Medal	60.07 meters
Eda Tugsuz	Turkey	Silver Medal	58.36 meters
Liana Davidson	Australia	Bronze Medal	58.24 meters

--:30:--

- Annu's performance has put her among the top 15 female javelin throwers in the world this season.
- **Pooja:** India's Pooja finished third in the women's 800m race with a time of 2:02.95.

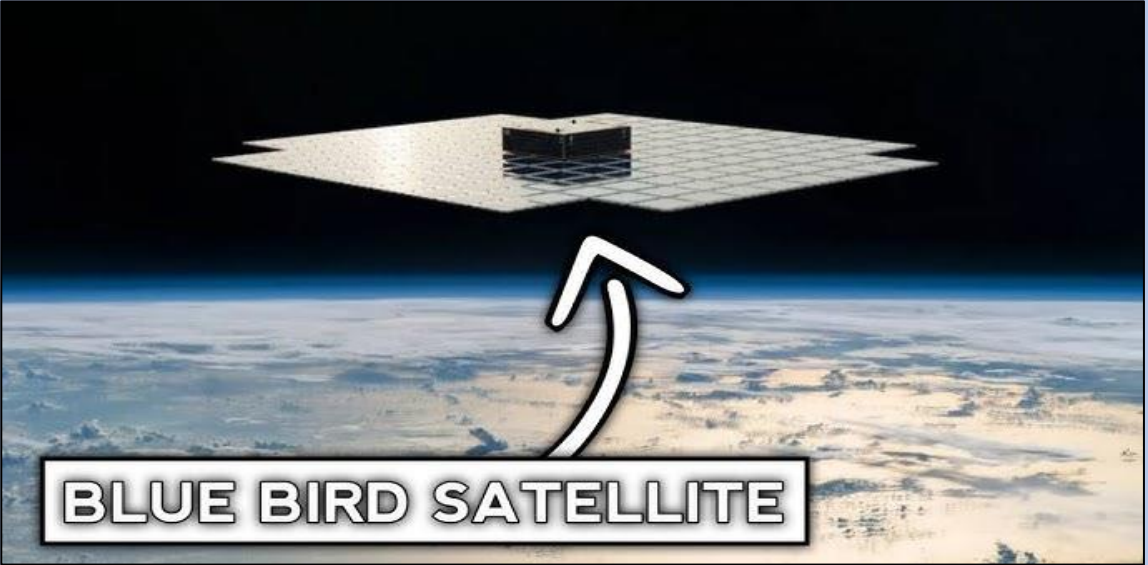
- **Jisna Mathew:** Jisna Mathew finished sixth in the women's 400m race with a time of 54.12 seconds.

Other important points:

Annu Rani's sports achievements:

- **Year 2023** - Won gold medal in Asian Games by covering a distance of 62.92 meters.
- **Year 2022** - Won bronze medal in Birmingham Commonwealth Games.
- **Year 2019** - Record of first Indian woman to make it to the finals of World Championship.
- **Year 2019** - Won silver medal in Asian Championship.
- **Year 2017** - Won bronze medal in Asian Championship.
- **Year 2016** - Won silver medal in South Asian Games.
- **Year 2014** - Won bronze medal in Asian Games.
- **Year 2025** - Won gold medal in Taiwan Athletics Open Championship.
- **Year 2025** Won gold medal in Indian Open Athletics Competition.

News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Blue Bird Satellite</p>  <p>BLUE BIRD SATELLITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ ISRO, along with America's AST Spacemobile, will launch the Blue Bird satellite from Sriharikota by LVM3 rocket in late 2025.♦ This mission will happen after the successful NISAR.
2.	<p>Dhurva Space Company: Will send Australian payload</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Hyderabad-based company Dhruva Space will send small equipment or payloads of two Australian companies into space.♦ This is the company's first commercial mission.♦ This equipment will be mounted on the Indian-made satellite P-30.♦ It will be launched by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket by the end of 2025.

3.

NCERT's new syllabus



- ◆ Chapters on life and sacrifice of Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, Brigadier Mohammad Usman and Major Somnath Sharma in NCERT's new syllabus have been included in the NCERT syllabus for Class 8 (Urdu), Class 7 (Urdu) and Class 8 (English) this academic year.
- ◆ Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, India's first Field Marshal officer, was conferred the rank of Field Marshal.
- ◆ Brig. Mohammad Usman and Major Somnath Sharma, awarded the Mahavir Chakra and Param Vir Chakra (posthumously), sacrificed their lives in the service of the nation.
- ◆ The newly introduced chapters aim to provide inspirational stories of courage and duty to students.
- ◆ As part of efforts to establish the National War Memorial (NEM) as a premier national landmark, the Ministry of Defence in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has included NWM and related references in the school syllabus.

- ◆ On 25 February 2019, the Prime Minister dedicated the National War Memorial located in the iconic Central Vista 'C' Hexagon at India Gate, New Delhi, to the nation.

4.

First Solar-Powered Assembly: Delhi



- ◆ Recently, the Delhi Assembly has become the first assembly in the country to be fully powered by solar energy with a 500 kW solar power project.
- ◆ Along with switching to solar power, the Delhi Assembly has also launched the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) under the “One Nation, One Application” initiative. Through this application, the proceedings of the Assembly will be paperless, which will promote efficiency, transparency and environmental protection.

Other important points:

- ◆ Delhi has the status of a Union Territory under Schedule 1 of the Constitution but is designated as 'National Capital Territory (NCT)' under Article 239AA.
- ◆ Article 239AA was inserted in the Constitution by the 69th Amendment Act, 1991 to grant special status to Delhi, following the recommendations of the S Balakrishnan Committee on the demands for statehood for Delhi.