

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 11 August, 2025



Index

Sr. No.	Topic
1.	'Indira Priyadarshini Award' now 'Padmakshi Award Scheme'
2.	The country's first high-speed trial test track
3.	Dr. Sunila Khandelwal
4.	News in Shorts 1. Vivek Jain 2. Meera Mahotsav – Merta 3. Ringas - Khatu Shyam Railway Project 4. Copernicus Mathematics Olympiad – 2025 5. Renu Singhi
5.	Largest single-piece 3D printed rocket engine
6.	AI model chat GPT-5: Open AI
7.	World Lion Day: 10 August
8.	World Sanskrit Day: Shravan Purnima
9.	World Athletics Continental Tour (Bronze Level) 2025
10.	Canada Tennis Open 2025
11.	News in Shorts 1. IIT Kharagpur: Dean for Mental Health for the first time

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Rajasthan

'Indira Priyadarshini Award' now 'Padmakshi Award Scheme'

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan government announced to change the name of the erstwhile 'Indira Priyadarshini Award' to 'Padmakshi Award Scheme'.

➔ Main Point

- The amount provided under this scheme has also been reduced.



Sl.No.	Class	Indira Priyadarshini Award Amount	Padmakshi Award Scheme Amount
1.	8th / Sanskrit Education	₹40,000	₹25,000
2.	10th and Praveshika	₹75,000	₹50,000
3.	12th and Varishtha Upadhyay	₹1,00,000 and Scooty	₹75,000

Eligibility for the scheme:

- This award is given to the girl students securing first position at district level in the board examination of class 8, 10 and 12 (separately in all three faculties of Arts, Science and Commerce) and to the girl students of 08 categories securing first position at state level in class 8, Praveshika and Senior Upadhyay examination of Sanskrit education.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 11 August, 2025



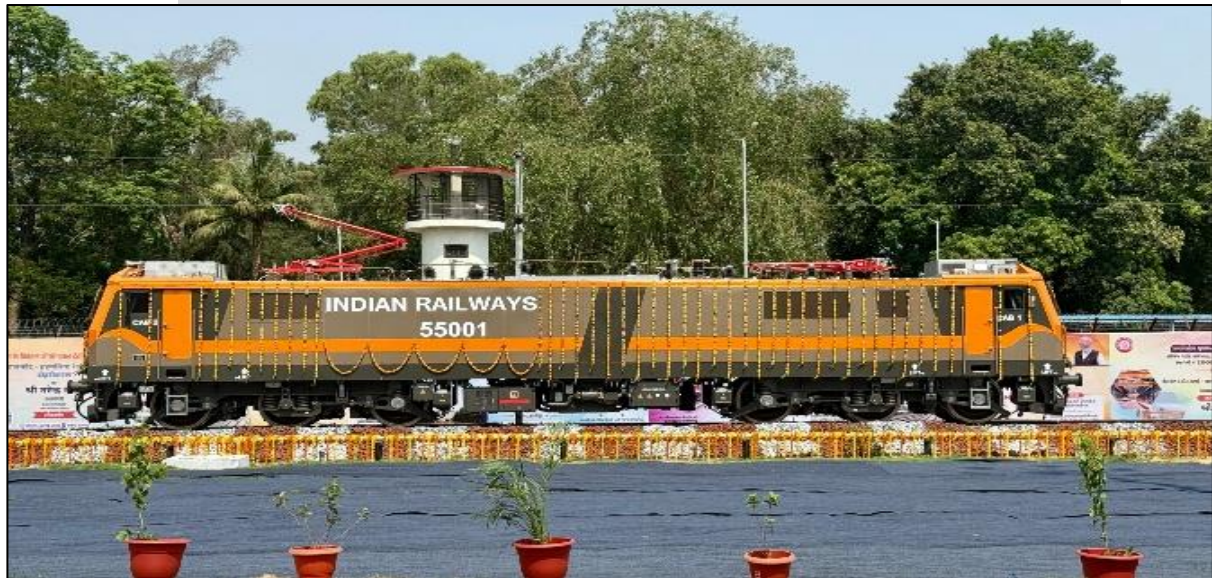
- Apart from this, girls securing first position at state level in 8 categories of class 10 and 12 (vocational education) in Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education Examination and girls passing class 12 (science faculty) of Swami Vivekanand Government Model School with more than 09 CGPA can also get benefits under this scheme.
- **08 Categories:** General, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Other Backward Class, Minority Class, Extremely Backward Class, BPL and Disabled Class (Divyang)
- It is mandatory for the girl student to get minimum 60 percent marks in the examinations.
- The caste/category filled by the girl student in the application form submitted for the board examination will be considered final.
- The girl student should be studying regularly in the next class.
- **Other important points:**
 - **Related Department:** Secondary Education Department.
 - **Scheme Start:** Year 2010-11 (Revised 05.03.2019)
 - **Funded:** 100% by the State Government.
 - **Type of Scheme:** Individual.
- In 2017-18, the Vasundhara Raje government changed the name of the 'Indira Priyadarshini Award' scheme to 'Padmakshi Award Scheme', but the Ashok Gehlot government restored its old name in the year 2019.
- Under this scheme, the entire expenditure of the prize money is borne by the Balika Shiksha Foundation.

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The country's first high-speed trial test track

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, for the first time in the history of Indian Railways, the most powerful electric engine of 9000 horsepower was tested on a high-speed trial test track.



➔ Main Point

- This trial was conducted on the newly built country's first high-speed trial test track on the Jaipur-Jodhpur railway line.
- The 9000 horsepower engine manufactured at the locomotive factory in Dahod, Gujarat was recently flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The country's first high-speed trial test track:

- This 64 km long track from Gudha to Mithdi on the Jaipur-Jodhpur rail section is the country's first high-speed test track.
- It comes under Jodhpur Railway Division, where there are four railway stations; Gudha, Jabdinagar, Nava and Mithdi.
- Trains can run at a speed of more than 220 km per hour on this track.

Dr. Sunila Khandelwal

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Dr. Sunila Khandelwal from Jaipur represented India at the Asia Pacific Menopause Federation Conference.




➔ Main Point

- **Venue:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Asia Pacific Menopause Federation (APMF) is a regional organization that focuses on menopause and women's health.
- **Member countries:** 14 countries including Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.
- The main objective of APMF is to study the epidemiology, clinical features and sequelae of menopause and aging and establish consensus for its related management.
- Dr. Khandelwal delivered a lecture on the topic 'Menopause Care in India' and discussed its challenges, innovations, and future directions.
- Dr. Khandelwal was honored by being made a permanent council member of the Federation.

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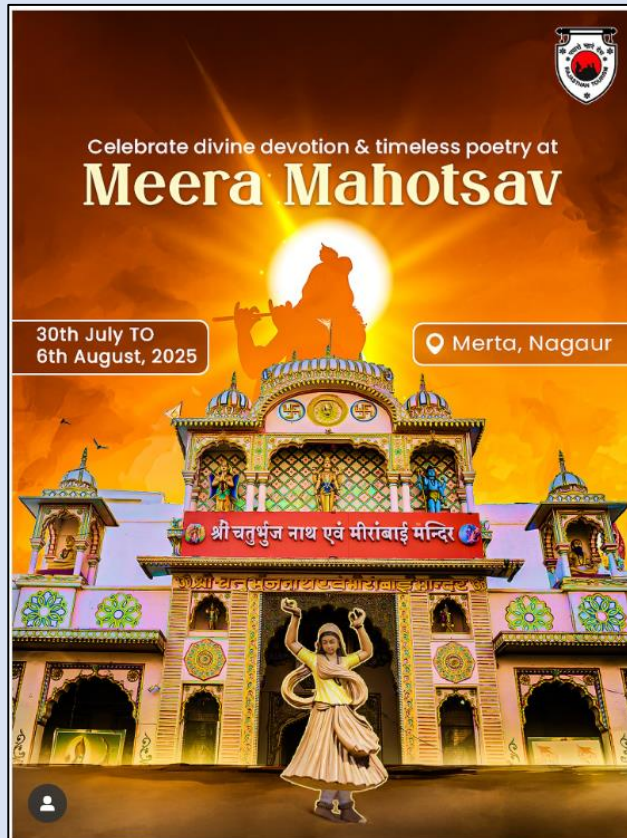
News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Vivek Jain</p>  <p>◆ On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas (26 July, 2025), Vivek Jain of Jaipur hoisted the Indian tricolor on Europe's highest peak Mount Elbrus with the help of the State Sports Council.</p> <p>◆ Mount Elbrus is the highest mountain in Europe, with an altitude of about 5,642 meters (18,510 feet) above sea level and is located in the Caucasus mountain range of Russia.</p>

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2.

Meera Mahotsav – Merta



- ◆ 'Meera Mahotsav' was organized by the Rajasthan Tourism Department from July 30 to August 6, 2025 at Merta in Nagaur district.
- ◆ Many festivals and fairs are organized by the Rajasthan Tourism Department, including Camel Festival (Bikaner), Kite Festival (Jaipur), Desert Festival (Jaisalmer) and Pushkar Mela (Pushkar).
- ◆ Other major festivals include Nagaur Fair, Gangaur Festival, Mewar Festival, Teej Festival and Marwar Festival.

3.

Ringas - Khatu Shyam Railway Project



- ◆ Recently, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav told the Lok Sabha that a 17 km long new rail line project has been approved to provide direct railway connectivity from Ringas to Khatu Shyam Temple in Rajasthan.
- ◆ **Project cost:** ₹254 crore.
- ◆ A budget of Rs 43 crore has been allocated for the project in the financial year 2025-26.
- ◆ Apart from this, the Ministry of Tourism has also released ₹40 crore for the Khatu Dham Development Project.

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4.

Copernicus Mathematics Olympiad - 2025



- ◆ **Prakhar Singhvi of Udaipur secured first place in the Mathematics category in the Copernicus Mathematics Olympiad-2025.**
- ◆ **The 6th Copernicus Mathematics Olympiad was held at Columbia University in New York, USA.**
- ◆ **25 thousand students from 54 countries participated in the competition.**

5.

Renu Singhi



- ◆ Recently, Renu Singhi from Jaipur completed a bicycle ride of more than 600 kilometers in Malaysia and Singapore.
- ◆ Renu Singhi successfully completed this ride by participating in Malaysia Audax and Singapore Audax Randonneurs.

Science & Technology

Largest single-piece 3D printed rocket engine

➔ Why in News?

- Indian space-tech startup 'Agnikul Cosmos' has built the world's largest single-piece 3D printed rocket engine.



➔ Main Point

- The company has prepared it from 'Inconel Superalloy', which is capable of withstanding high heat, corrosion and pressure.
- **Inconel Superalloy:** Inconel is a nickel-chromium-based superalloy often utilized in extreme environments where components are subjected to high temperature, pressure or mechanical loads.
- Traditional rocket engines have hundreds of parts. Failure of any one of these can cause the entire engine to fail. Agnikul's new engine solves this problem.
- From the entry of fuel to the exit of the plume, it is completely printed as an integrated component without any welds, joints or fasteners.
- Liquid oxygen and refined kerosene are the propellants of the engine, which uses electric motors in place of traditional gas generators and turbopumps for precise thrust control, making it a cleaner and more controllable option.

AI model chat GPT-5: Open AI

➡ Why in News?

- Recently, American company OpenAI launched its most advanced AI model chat GPT 5.



➡ Main Point

- **Full form of GPT 5:** Generative Pre-trained Transformer-5

7 new features in chat GPT 5:

1. **Nano-Mini version:** Now GPT-5 will itself decide which model will be best for your prompt.
2. **Private coder:** In the live demo, the company showed that with just a simple prompt, it can create an interactive web app in a few minutes.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 11 August, 2025



3. **Deep research and reasoning:** GPT 5 will now give access to advanced reasoning model to free users as well. This model will be able to collect data and analyze it up to PHD level.
4. **New personality option:** It has four preset personalities: Cynic, Robot, Listener and Nerd. You can communicate according to your personality.
5. **Improved voice mode:** It will change the way of speaking according to the tone and instruction.
6. **Connect with Gmail-Google Calendar:**
7. **Chat customization feature:**

Other important points:

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- AI or artificial intelligence is the science of getting machines to do tasks that require human intelligence.
- AI includes activities such as learning, reasoning and self-improvement.
- This allows machines to learn from experience, adjust to new inputs and perform human-like tasks.

OpenAI:

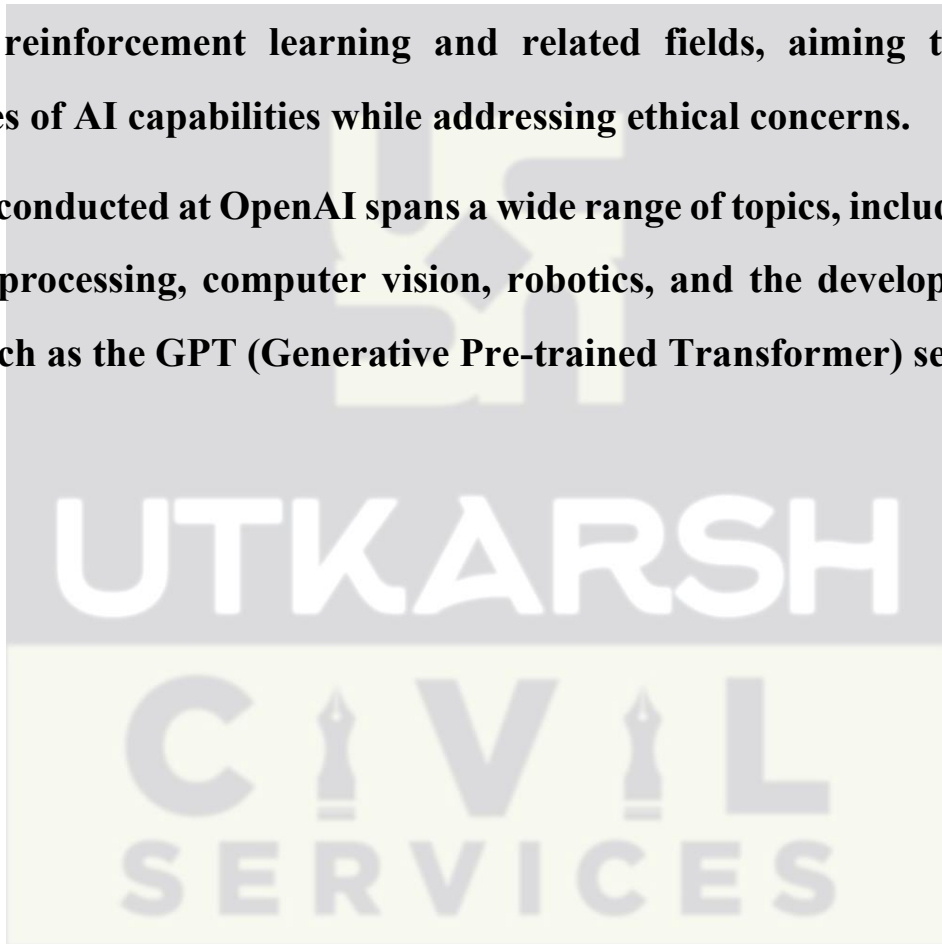
- An artificial intelligence research laboratory dedicated to advancing artificial general intelligence (AGI) in a safe and profitable manner.
- **Founded:** December, 2015

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 11 August, 2025



- **Founders:** Sam Altman, Greg Brockman, Ilya Sutskever, John Shulman and Wojciech Zaremba etc.
- **Headquarters:** San Francisco, California, USA.
- The organization conducts cutting-edge research in machine learning, deep learning, reinforcement learning and related fields, aiming to push the boundaries of AI capabilities while addressing ethical concerns.
- Research conducted at OpenAI spans a wide range of topics, including natural language processing, computer vision, robotics, and the development of AI models such as the GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) series.



Important Days

World Lion Day: 10 August

➔ Why in News?

- On August 10, 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with the Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Gujarat organized a national celebration of World Lion Day at Barda Wildlife Sanctuary, Gujarat.



➔ Main Point

- The number of lions in Gujarat has increased by 32 percent since 2020, from 674 in 2020 to 891 in 2025, as per the May 2025 lion population projections.
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched a ₹180 crore wildlife conservation initiative.

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- This year marks the 10th World Lion Day, founded in 2013 by Derek and Beverly Joubert with the aim of raising awareness about the challenges faced by lions in the wild.

Other Important Points:

Lion:

Scientific Name:

- **African Lion** – *Panthera leo leo*
- **Asiatic Lion** – *Panthera leo persica*
- **Habitat:** Lions are found in savannas, grasslands, open forests and scrublands in sub-Saharan Africa and Gir National Park in India.
- The Government of India is running “Project Lion @2047” which aims to protect and manage the growing lion population in the Saurashtra region in the long term.

Status of Asiatic Lion:

- Endangered in the IUCN Red List.
- Listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
- In Appendix I of CITES.

World Sanskrit Day: Shravan Purnima

➔ Why in News?

- World Sanskrit Day is celebrated every year on the full moon day of Shravan month.

➔ Main Point

- **Organization of the year 2025:** August 9, 2025 (Shravan Purnima).
- It is celebrated as a tribute to the birth anniversary of Panini, an eminent Sanskrit scholar and grammarian.
- **History:** The first World Sanskrit Day was celebrated in the year 1969.
- **Sanskrit Language:**
 - **Origin:** About 3500 years ago in India.
 - **Oldest language in the world:** Sanskrit is considered to be one of the oldest languages in the world.
 - It is an Indo-Aryan language and is also known as the mother of most of the languages of India.
 - **Constitutional language:** Sanskrit language is one of the 22 official languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
 - **Classical language:** It is included in 11 classical languages.
 - In the year 2010, Sanskrit was declared as the second official language of Uttarakhand.
 - **UNESCO Recognition:** UNESCO has recognized Sanskrit as the purest, richest and scientific language of the world.



Sports

World Athletics Continental Tour (Bronze Level) 2025

➔ Why in News?

- India hosted the Indian Open 2025 World Athletics Bronze Level Continental Tour 2025 (Bronze Level) for the first time at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.



➔ Main Point

- The event provided valuable ranking points to athletes aspiring to qualify for the upcoming World Athletics Championships in Tokyo.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 11 August, 2025



Performance of Indian players:

Player's Name	Event	Medal/Position
Animesh Kujur	Men's 200m Race	Gold Medal
Raghul Kumar	Men's 200m Race	Bronze Medal
Murli Sreeshankar	Men's Long Jump	Gold Medal
Shahnawaz Khan	Men's Long Jump	Second Place
Lokesh Sathyanaathan	Men's Long Jump	Third Place
Shaili Singh	Women's Long Jump	Gold Medal
Annu Rani	Women's Javelin Throw	Gold Medal
Shivam Lokhande	Men's Javelin Throw	Silver Medal
Abinaya Rajarajan	Women's 100m Race	Gold Medal

- **Indian Men's 4x400m Relay Team:** The Indian Men's 4x400m Relay Team finished the race in 3:08.37 minutes and won the silver medal behind Sri Lanka (3:08.22).

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Canada Tennis Open 2025

➔ Why in News?

- Canadian teenager Victoria Mboko (18 years old) defeated four Grand Slam winner Naomi Osaka (Japan) in Montreal to win the women's singles tennis title at the Canadian Open.



➔ Main Point

Women's Title: Victoria Mboko

- This is Victoria's first WTA Tour title.
- Earlier, Victoria defeated Coco Gauff, Sofia Kenin and Elina Rybakina, who have been Grand Slam winners, in the same tournament.

- Victoria has become the first Canadian in the Open Era to defeat four former Grand Slam winners at the same WTA event.
- Victoria is the third player to win a domestic tournament in the Open Era. Earlier, Faye Urban (year 1969) and Biryaka Andreescu (year 2019) won.
- She became the second lowest ranked player to win a Tier I 'WTA 1000' title since the format was introduced in 1990.
- Victoria was ranked 333rd in the world rankings at the start of the year. Now she will come down to 34th.

Men's title: Ben Shelton

- In the men's category, American Ben Shelton won his first ATP Masters 1000 title by defeating Russia's Karen Khachanov in the final.
- 22-year-old Shelton became the youngest American after Andy Roddick to achieve this feat.

Other important points:

Grand Slam tournaments:

1. Australian Open:

- Held in January, played on hard courts.
- Held annually in Melbourne, this tournament is the first Grand Slam tennis tournament of the year.

2. French Open:

- Held in May-June, it is the world's most prestigious clay-court event held at Roland Garros Stadium in Paris.

French Open 2025 :

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Men's Singles	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)	Jannik Sinner (Italy)
Women's Singles	Coco Gauff (USA)	Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)

3. Wimbledon Open :

- Held in June-July, the oldest Grand Slam tennis tournament is played on grass courts at Wimbledon, London, England.


Wimbledon Open 2025 :

Winner		Runner-up	
Men's Singles	Women's Singles	Men's Singles	Women's Singles
Jannik Sinner (Italy)	Iga Swiatek (Poland)	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)	Amanda Anisimova (USA)

4. US Open :

- Held in August-September, the final Grand Slam of the calendar year played on hard courts.

News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>IIT Kharagpur: Dean for Mental Health for the first time</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ For the first time, 'Dean of Students Wellbeing' has been appointed for the mental health of IIT Kharagpur students.◆ This is the first such institute in the country, where a separate Dean has been appointed for the mental health of students.