

# Daily Current Affairs

Date : 01 August, 2025



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## Rajasthan

### Gavari Festival

#### ➔ Why in News?

- For the first time in the year 2025, the famous Gavari Festival of Rajasthan was showcased through a photo exhibition at the Art Gallery of India International Centre, New Delhi.



#### ➔ Main Point

- Gavari is a 40-day festival of dance and drama, celebrated by the Bhil community of Rajasthan.
- It is the main festival of Mewar region which is celebrated in the month of Bhadrapada.
- It has been in existence since the time of Siddharaj Jai Singh, the ruler of Gujarat i.e. from the third or fourth century.
- The war between Goddess Amba and the demon Bhimwal and the victory of good over evil is depicted through this festival.
- The artists perform plays in the villages where their married sisters and daughters live.
- In this festival, energetic artists showcase their art with background music and colorful costumes.
- Various scenes are depicted in the festival, which is called 'Khel'.
- All the characters of this festival are played by men only.

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## Facts for Prelims:

### Dances of Bhil Tribe:

#### Haathimana Dance –

- This is a dance performed by men sitting on their knees on the occasion of marriage.

#### Ghoomar Dance –

- This is a dance performed by Bhil women of Simalwara, Sagwara, Aspur (Dungarpur), Pipalkhunt (Pratapgarh), Kotra (Udaipur), Kushalgarh, Ghatol (Banswara) region by forming a semicircle.
- Main musical instruments – Thali, Dhol etc.
- There are two groups. The work of one group is to sing and the work of the other is to dance.

#### Gavari/Rai Dance –

- This is the oldest folk dance of Rajasthan.
- This is a religious dance of the Bhils of Udaipur division.
- It is performed from Bhadrapada to Ashwin Shukla Ekadashi. (It lasts for one and a quarter months.)
- It is related to the story of Shiva and Bhasmasur.

#### Neja Nritya –

- It is related to both Bhil and Meena tribes.
- It is performed by both men and women.
- A coconut is tied on a wooden stick. Women protect it and men try to take it down. (Khel Nritya)

## Dwichakri Nritya –

- It is a dance performed on the occasion of marriage by men and women forming two circles.

## Yudh Nritya –

- It is a dance performed by Bhils in the hilly region with spears, lances, swords and bows and arrows.
- Madal musical instrument is played.

## Gair Nritya –

- Udaipur, Barmer.
- It is a dance performed by men in Mewar and Kanana (Barmer) region in a circular circle with wooden sticks.
- **Other names** – Gair Ramna, Gair Nachana, Gair Khelna, Gair Ghalna etc.
- It starts from the second day of Holi and continues for fifteen days.
- The dancers are called ‘Gairiya’.
- The clothes worn in the dance are called Ongi.
- Dhol, Thali, Bankia are the main musical instruments.
- Women also participate in Gair of Vagad region.
- **There are four types of Gair dance –**

(i) Dandia

(ii) Angiya/Aangi-Bangi (Lakheta village)

(iii) Chang

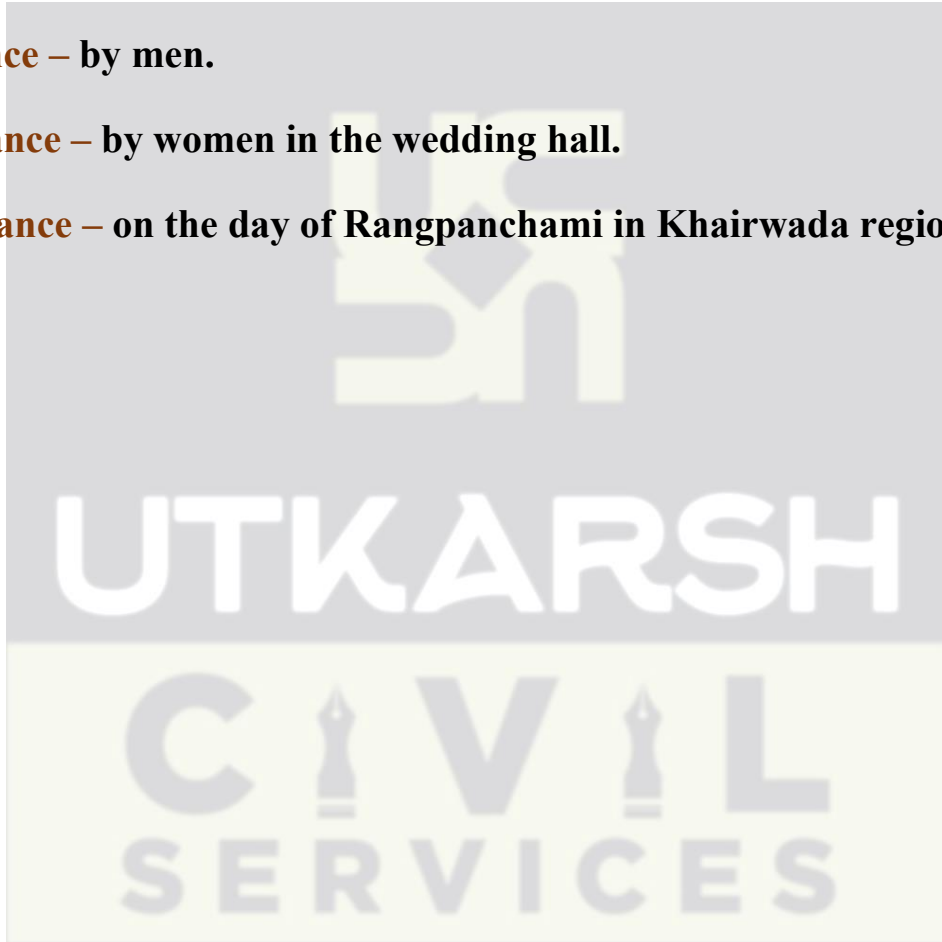
(iv) Talwar

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- **Lal- Angi Bangi Gair-** Lakheta village Balotara.
- **Bhata Gair** – Ahor, Sachour.
- **Gair of swords** – Menar, Udaipur.
- **Ghoomar Gair Dance** – Bhilwara (Nihal Ajmera)
- **Lathi Dance** – by men.
- **Ramni Dance** – by women in the wedding hall.
- **Berihal Dance** – on the day of Rangpanchami in Khairwada region.



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## Ratadia Ri Deri – Harappan settlement in Rajasthan

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, a research team of Rajasthan University found the remains of a 4500-year-old settlement related to the Harappan civilization at a place called 'Ratadia Ri Deri' in Ramgarh tehsil of Jaisalmer.



### ➔ Main Point

- During the excavation done by the research team, coated pottery, bowls, pitchers, bangles made of clay and shells, triangular, circular and idli-shaped terracotta cakes were found from this site.
- A furnace has also been found from this site with a column built in the middle.
- Other materials found include perforated jars, blades (8-10 cm) made of chert and tools for grinding and grinding stones.

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- This site bears similarities with ancient Harappan sites like Lothal, Kutch and Mohenjodaro and indicates the southern expansion of the Harappan civilization.
- Time Period: 2600 to 1900 BC (This period is considered as the mature period of Indus Valley Civilization)

## Facts for Prelims:

### Harappan Civilization:

- Harappan Civilization, also known as Indus Valley Civilization or Indus-Saraswati Civilization, was an ancient civilization of the Indian subcontinent that existed from about 3300 to 1700 BC. This civilization belongs to the Bronze Age.
- This civilization is known for its well-organized cities, advanced drainage system and distinctive art and culture.
- **Geographical Extent:** From Sutkagendor in the west to Alamgirpur in the east and from Manda in the north to Daimabad in the south.
- **Major Sites:** Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Kalibangan, Lothal, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi.

### Features:

- **Urban Planning:** Well-organized roads, houses made of baked bricks and advanced drainage system.
- **Agriculture:** Wheat, barley, cotton, fruits and vegetables.
- **Trade:** With Mesopotamia and other regions.

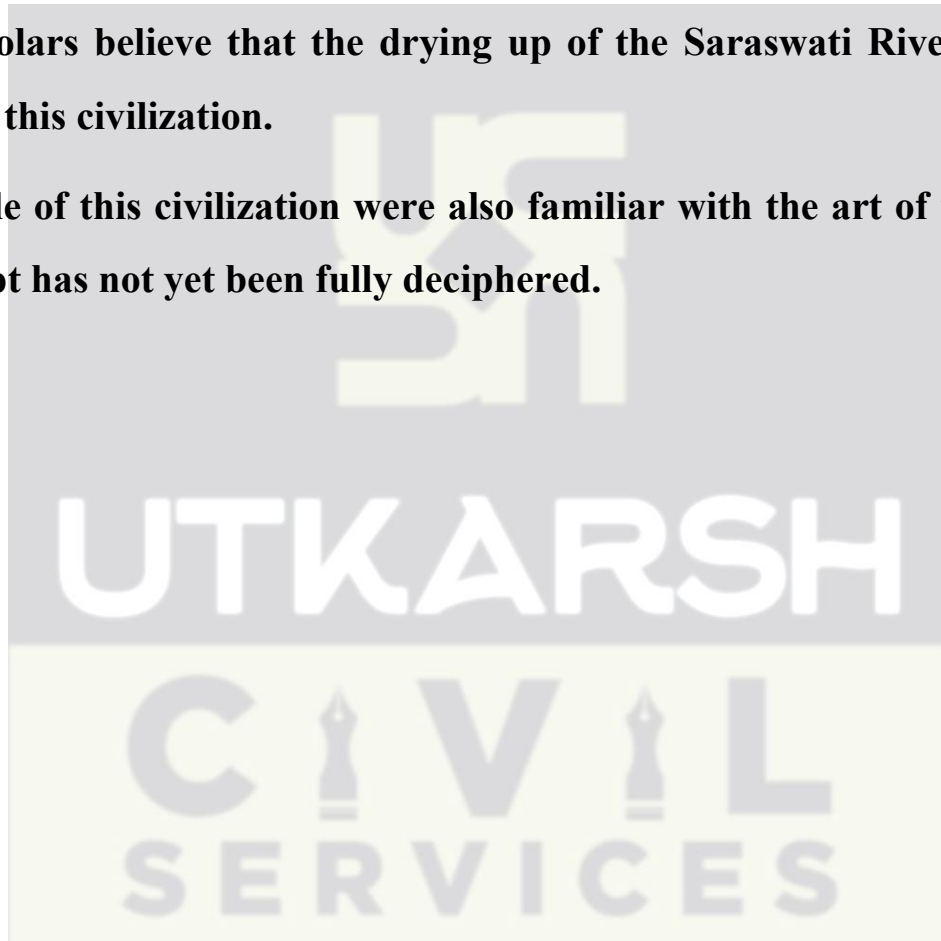


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- **Religion:** Worship of the Mother Goddess and Pashupati.
- Harappan Civilization, a part of the Indus Valley Civilization, flourished from 2600 BC to 1900 BC. The civilization is named after its first discovered city, Harappa.
- Some scholars believe that the drying up of the Saraswati River led to the decline of this civilization.
- The people of this civilization were also familiar with the art of writing, but their script has not yet been fully deciphered.



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## Rajasthan International Folk Festival - 2025

### ➔ Why in News?

- The Rajasthan International Folk Festival - 2025, also known as Jodhpur RIFF, will be held from October 2 to 6, 2025.



### ➔ Main Point

- **Venue:** The festival is held annually during Sharad Purnima at Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur.
- **Concept and Inception:** Jodhpur RIFF was started in the year 2007 by Gaj Singh II, a member of the ex-royal family of Jodhpur.
- **Objective:** To provide a cultural platform to the talented artists of Rajasthan.
- **Historical Significance of the Festival:** The festival is held annually at Mehrangarh Fort, which has been awarded the title of 'Asia's Best Fort' by Time magazine.

### Facts for Prelims:

- **Folk Art:** Folk art refers to art forms that arise among the masses and are a reflection of the traditional life, cultural heritage and customs of the society.
- These art forms are commonly practised by all sections of society and are meant for entertainment, religious rituals, social occasions and cultural expression.
- The major forms of folk art include dance, music, painting, crafts, handicrafts, colourful costumes, folklore and puppets etc.

## Para shuttler Krishna Nagar

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, para shuttler Krishna Nagar won two bronze medals at the British-Irish Para Badminton International Tournament.



### ➔ Main Point

- **Headquarters:** Cardiff, England.
- Krishna Nagar won bronze medals in singles and mixed doubles with Nitya Sri Sivan.

### Achievements of Krishna Nagar:

- Krishna Nagar is a para-badminton player who hails from Jaipur.
- He won the gold medal at the 2020 Summer Paralympics.
- Krishna Nagar won the bronze medal in the singles event at the 2018 Asian Para Games in Indonesia.
- At the 2019 BWF Para-Badminton World Championships in Basel, Switzerland, Krishna Nagar won the silver medal in the men's doubles event with India's Raja Magotra. He also won bronze in the singles event.
- At the 2020 Summer Paralympics (Tokyo, Japan), Krishna Nagar won the gold medal in men's singles SH6.

## Miss Ocean India 2025

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Parul Singh from Jaipur won the title of Miss Ocean India - 2025.




### ➔ Main Point

- This is the first time that the title of Miss Ocean India has been won by a contestant from Rajasthan.
- As the winner of this title, Parul will represent India in the Miss Ocean World competition in August, 2025.
- **Event:** The grand finale of the beauty pageant was held at BM Birla Auditorium, Jaipur.



## News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p><b>State's first mineral garden - Jobner</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ On the occasion of Hariyali Teej, under the Hariyalo Rajasthan campaign, Rajasthan Stone Crusher Association planted saplings on 11 hectares of pasture land in Bamniyawas (Jobner).</li><li>◆ This land will be developed as a garden and will be maintained for 7 years.</li><li>◆ This will be the first mineral garden in the state to be initiated by any such organization.</li></ul>



2.

## Inter State Portability in Health



- ◆ Recently, the 'Inter State Portability in Health' scheme was launched for patients from outside states coming for treatment at Sawai Mansingh Hospital, Rajasthan's largest hospital in Jaipur.
- ◆ Under this facility, patients coming from other states will also be able to get free treatment in Rajasthan.
- ◆ To avail the benefits of this scheme, it is necessary for the patient to be associated with the Ayushman Bharat scheme of the Central Government.

3.

## Country's first Climate Tech Oxygen Zone



- ◆ Recently, 5 ocean trees producing oxygen through artificial photosynthesis process were installed at Terminal 1 and 2 of Jaipur Airport.
- ◆ With the installation of these 5 trees, Jaipur Airport has become the country's first Climate Tech Oxygen Zone.
- ◆ Such machines have also been installed at Pittsburgh International Airport in the US.

4.

## Name of Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) Academy changed

- ◆ Recently, Rajasthan State Sports Council announced the renaming of Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) Academy to 'Major Dhyanchand Khel Bhawan'.
- ◆ Rajasthan State Sports Council (RSSC) is the apex body at the state level for the development of sports in Rajasthan and providing training to the players.
- ◆ **Established:** In the year 1957.

## National

### Central Grant Assistance Scheme

#### ➔ Why in News?

- On July 31, 2025, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister approved the Central Grant Assistance Scheme of Rs 2000 crore to the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for a period of four years from 2025-26 to 2028-29.

#### ➔ Main Point

- This scheme will be executed by the National Cooperative Development Corporation.
- The National Cooperative Development Corporation will receive this amount (Rs 500 crore each year from financial year 2025-26 to 2028-29) as grant from the budgetary support of the Government of India.
- The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) will be able to raise Rs 20,000 crore from the open market over a period of four years.
- The NCDC will use this amount to provide loans to cooperatives for setting up new projects/expansion of plants and to meet working capital requirements.



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- **Benefits:** This will benefit about 2 crore 90 lakh members of cooperative societies in various sectors such as dairy, livestock, fisheries, sugar, textiles, food processing, storage and cold storage and worker and women-led cooperative societies in the country.

## Other important points:

- Cooperative societies in India are engaged in diverse activities in credit and banking, fertilizers, sugar, dairy, marketing, consumer goods, handloom, handicrafts, fisheries, housing etc.
- There are more than 8 lakh 25 thousand cooperative societies in the country, which have more than 29 crore members. 94 percent of the farmers in the country are associated with cooperative societies in some form or the other.

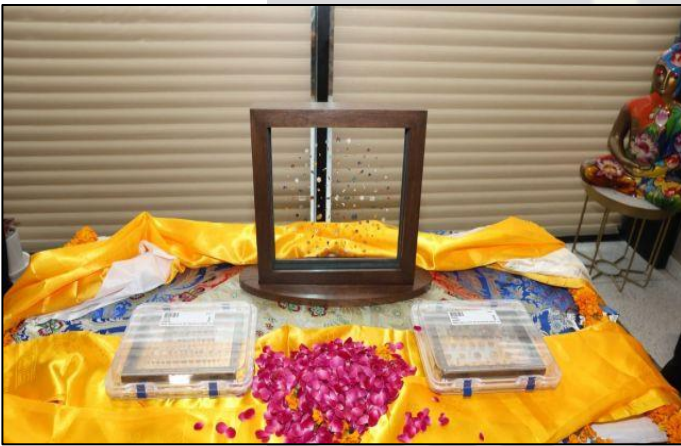


## International

### Sacred Buddhist Piprahwa Relics

#### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Piprahwa relics of Lord Buddha were brought to India from Hong Kong after 127 years.



#### ➔ Main Point

- The central government has launched a strong diplomatic and legal campaign to prevent Hong Kong from auctioning the sacred Piprahwa relics. Under which these relics were regained by India.

#### Piprahwa Relics:

- These relics were discovered during excavation at Piprahwa Stupa (Uttar Pradesh) in the year 1898.
- The remains discovered include bone fragments, crystal coffins, gold ornaments and ritual offerings.
- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) re-excavated the stupa from the year 1971 to 1977.



- Two additional steatite chests were found in this excavation, which contained 22 sacred bone relics.
- All these relics are now kept safe in the National Museum in New Delhi.
- Later more than 40 terracotta seals were discovered in the eastern monastery of Piprahwa.
- These discoveries proved that Piprahwa was the ancient Kapilavastu.
- An inscription in Brahmi script was found on a casket which directly connects the relics to Lord Buddha.
- The inscription mentions that these relics were established by the Shakya clan.

## Legal protection of the relics:

- India has declared these relics as 'AA' category antiquities.
- This category provides them with the highest legal protection under national law.
- As per Indian law, their sale or export is completely prohibited.
- Any attempt to auction them or take them out of India is considered illegal.

## Sawalkot Hydroelectric Project

### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) initiated the tender process for the construction of Sawalkot Hydroelectric Project.



### ➔ Main Point

- This move has been taken after the suspension of Indus Water Treaty (IWT).
- It is a run-of-river type hydroelectric project.
- **Location:** Sidhu village in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- It is situated on the Chenab River.
- Chenab (Chandrabhaga) river is the largest tributary of the Indus.
- It is formed by the confluence of Chandra and Bhaga rivers at Tandi in Himachal Pradesh.

## Sawalkot Hydroelectric Project:

- The project will be constructed in two phases.
- The total estimated investment will be ₹22,704.8 crore.
- The Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) has given in-principle approval for the use of 847 hectares of forest land for the project.

## Indus Water Treaty:

- The Indus Water Treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1960.
- According to the treaty, India has unrestricted rights over the three eastern rivers – Beas, Ravi and Sutlej.
- Pakistan has primary rights over the three western rivers – Chenab, Indus and Jhelum.

## Klyuchevskoye volcano eruption in Russia

### ➔ Why in News?

- On July 30, 2025, a powerful earthquake of 8.8 magnitude struck the Kamchatka Peninsula in the Far Eastern region of Russia, after which the 'Klyuchevskoye volcano' erupted a few hours later.



### ➔ Main Point

- It is the highest active volcano in Europe and Asia.
- According to the Smithsonian Global Volcanology Program, its height is 4,700 meters.
- This volcano has erupted 18 times since the year 2000.
- This time the eruption was very powerful.

### **Kamchatka region:**

- The Kamchatka Peninsula is part of the 'Ring of Fire' of the Pacific Ocean.
- This region is the center of collision of tectonic plates, so earthquakes and volcanic activities occur frequently here.
- There are more than 300 volcanoes in the entire Kamchatka region.
- About 29 of these volcanoes are active.



## Environment and Ecology

### Anamudi Shola National Park: A problem for the tribes

#### ➔ Why in News?

- Recently, a road project proposed in Idukki district of Kerala has been put on hold, affecting access to tribal settlements.
- The road was to pass through Anamudi Shola National Park.



#### ➔ Main Point

#### Anamudi Shola National Park:

- The park is located in the south of the Western Ghats.
- It was declared a national park in 2003.
- It is part of the Anamalai sub-group, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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- It is surrounded by major protected areas such as:
  - o Eravikulam National Park.
  - o Mathikettan Shola.
  - o Pampadum Shola.
  - o Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary.
  - o Kurinjimala Sanctuary.
- The highest mountain in South India, Anamudi Peak (2,695 m) is located in this region.
- It forms the catchment area of the Pambar and Chinnar rivers.
- The region is rich in biodiversity with high endemism.
- The forests here include:
  - o Southern subtropical hill forests.
  - o Southern montane moist temperate forests.
  - o Moist deciduous forests.
- Dense shola forests are a distinctive feature of this region, with dwarf trees, mosses, algae and vines found in abundance.

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## Major Wildlife Species:

- Leopard,
- Tiger,
- Indian Gaur (Wild Buffalo),
- Nilgiri Tahr,
- Lion-tailed Macaque,
- Nilgiri Marten,
- Bear,
- Giant Grizzled Squirrel,
- Hanuman Langur etc.

## Other National Parks in Kerala:

- Eravikulam National Park.
- Mathikettan Shola National Park.
- Pambadum Shola National Park.
- Periyar National Park.
- Silent Valley National Park.

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## Science and Technology

### Himgiri Warship

#### ➔ Why in News?

- On July 31, 2025, Himgiri (Yard 3022), the third ship of the Nilgiri class under Project 17A and the first warship of this class built at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSI), was handed over to the Indian Navy in Kolkata under the Self-reliant India campaign.



#### ➔ Main Point

- Himgiri is the first warship of the three advanced guided missile warships being built for the Navy under Project 17A.
- The Himgiri warship is a new version of the erstwhile INS Himgiri (decommissioned on 06 May 2005).
- 75 percent indigenous material has been used in it.

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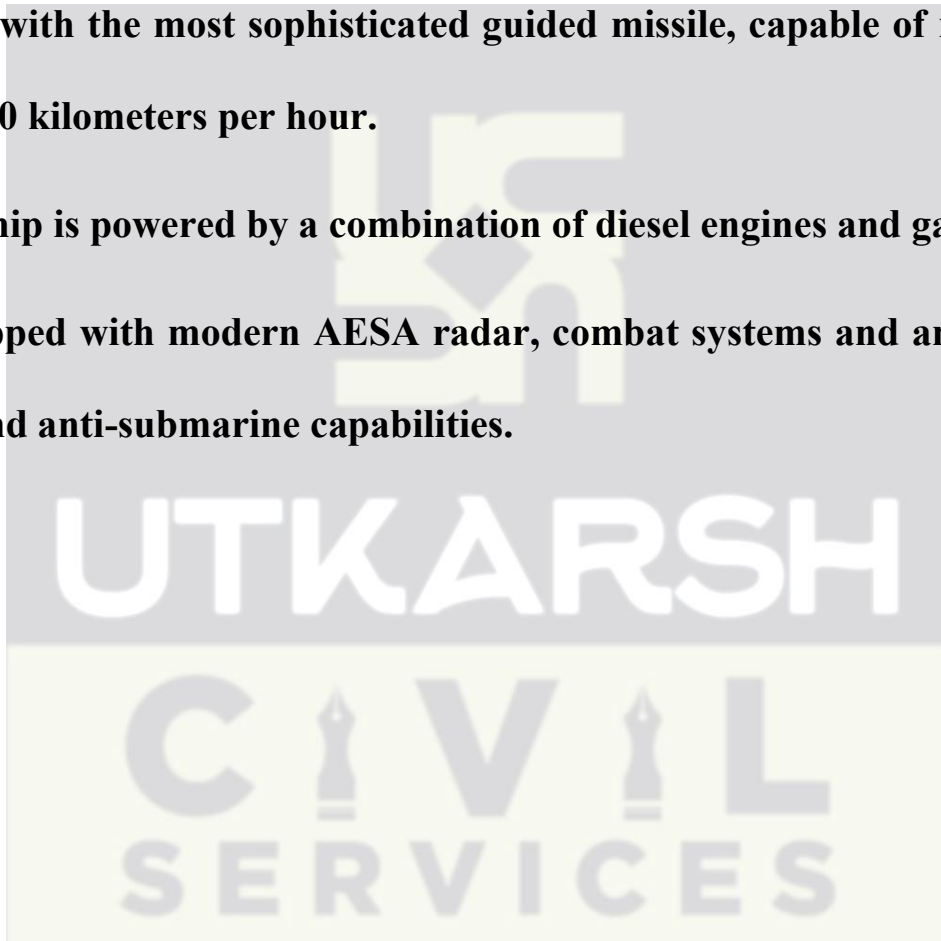
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- **Development:** By Kolkata-based Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers.

## Features:

- The warship Himgiri is 149 meters long and weighs 6670 tonnes and is equipped with the most sophisticated guided missile, capable of moving at a speed of 30 kilometers per hour.
- The warship is powered by a combination of diesel engines and gas turbines.
- It is equipped with modern AESA radar, combat systems and anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine capabilities.



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## Discovery of new blood group CRIB

### ➔ Why in News?

- The world's newest blood group was identified in a 38-year-old woman from Kolar district of Karnataka, which was named 'CRIB'.

### ➔ Main Point

- In the name CRIB, "CR" stands for Cromer (an existing blood group system) and "IB" stands for India - Bangalore. This new antigen is part of the Cromer blood group system.
- The full form of CRIB is Chromosome Region Identified as Blood Group. It is related to the INRA (Indian Rare Antigen) blood group system, which was recognized by the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) in the year 2022.
- This woman is the first person in the world in whom this new CRIB antigen has been found. Following this discovery, Rotary Bangalore TTK Blood Centre has launched a "Rare Donor Registry" in collaboration with Karnataka State Blood Transfusion Council and ICMR's Indian Institute of Immunohaematology (IIH), Mumbai.
- The woman's normal blood group was O Rh+, but when she needed a blood transfusion before surgery, none of the O-positive units available matched her.
- Upon testing, the woman's blood was found to be "panreactive", meaning it did not match any normal blood sample.
- The discovery was officially announced at the 35th Regional Congress of the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT) held in Milan, Italy in June 2025.





## Other Important Points :

### Blood Group

- It is based on the presence or absence of genetically derived antigenic substances on the surface of red blood cells (RBC).
- These antigenic substances are classified as carbohydrates, glycolipids, proteins or glycoproteins depending on the blood type system.
- In 1900, Austrian scientist Karl Landsteiner discovered the ABO blood group system, for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize.
- There are four main human blood groups: O, A, B and AB, also known as ABO blood types.

Blood Group	Antigen	Antibody
A	a	B
B	b	A
AB	Presence of both antigens (a and b)	Lack of antibodies
O	Lack of antigen	Presence of both antibodies (anti-A and anti-B)

### Blood Group :

Blood Type	Can donate blood	Can receive blood
A <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>+</sup> , AB <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>+</sup> , A <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>+</sup> , O <sup>-</sup>
O <sup>+</sup>	O <sup>+</sup> , A <sup>+</sup> , B <sup>+</sup> , AB <sup>+</sup>	O <sup>+</sup> , O <sup>-</sup>
B <sup>+</sup>	B <sup>+</sup> , AB <sup>+</sup>	B <sup>+</sup> , B <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>+</sup> , O <sup>-</sup>
AB <sup>+</sup>	AB <sup>+</sup>	Everyone
A <sup>-</sup>	A <sup>+</sup> , A <sup>-</sup> , AB <sup>+</sup> , AB <sup>-</sup>	A <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>-</sup>
O <sup>-</sup>	Everyone	O <sup>-</sup>
B <sup>-</sup>	B <sup>+</sup> , B <sup>-</sup> , AB <sup>+</sup> , AB <sup>-</sup>	B <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>-</sup>
AB <sup>-</sup>	AB <sup>+</sup> , AB <sup>-</sup>	AB <sup>-</sup> , A <sup>-</sup> , B <sup>-</sup> , O <sup>-</sup>

## Important days

### National Mountaineering Day

#### ➔ Why in News?

- National Mountaineering Day is celebrated every year on 1 August.

#### ➔ Main Point

- It is dedicated to honoring the adventurous and exciting sport of mountaineering.
- This day is celebrated to recognize the courage, patience and dedication of mountaineers.



#### Famous mountaineers:

- **Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay** – Became the first people to conquer Mount Everest in the year 1953.
- **Bachendri Pal** – Became the first Indian woman to climb Mount Everest in the year 1984.
- **Arunima Sinha** – Became the first woman in the world to conquer Mount Everest with a prosthetic limb.

#### Major mountaineering institutes:

- **Nehru Institute of Mountaineering (NIM)** – Uttarkashi.
- **Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI)** – Darjeeling.
- **Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering (JIM)** – Pahalgam.
- **Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (ABVIMAS)** – Manali.

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## Sports

### Under-17 World Wrestling Championship - 2025

#### ➡ Why in News?

- Indian wrestlers won a total of 5 medals including 2 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze at the Under-17 World Wrestling Championship 2025 held in Athens (Greece) on July 31, 2025.



#### ➡ Main Point

##### Gold Medal:

- **Rachna:** Won the first gold medal for India by defeating China's Xin Huang in the women's 43 kg freestyle category.
- **Ashwini Bishnoi:** Ashwini Bishnoi won the gold medal by defeating Uzbekistan's Mukhyiyo Rakhimjonova in the 65 kg category.

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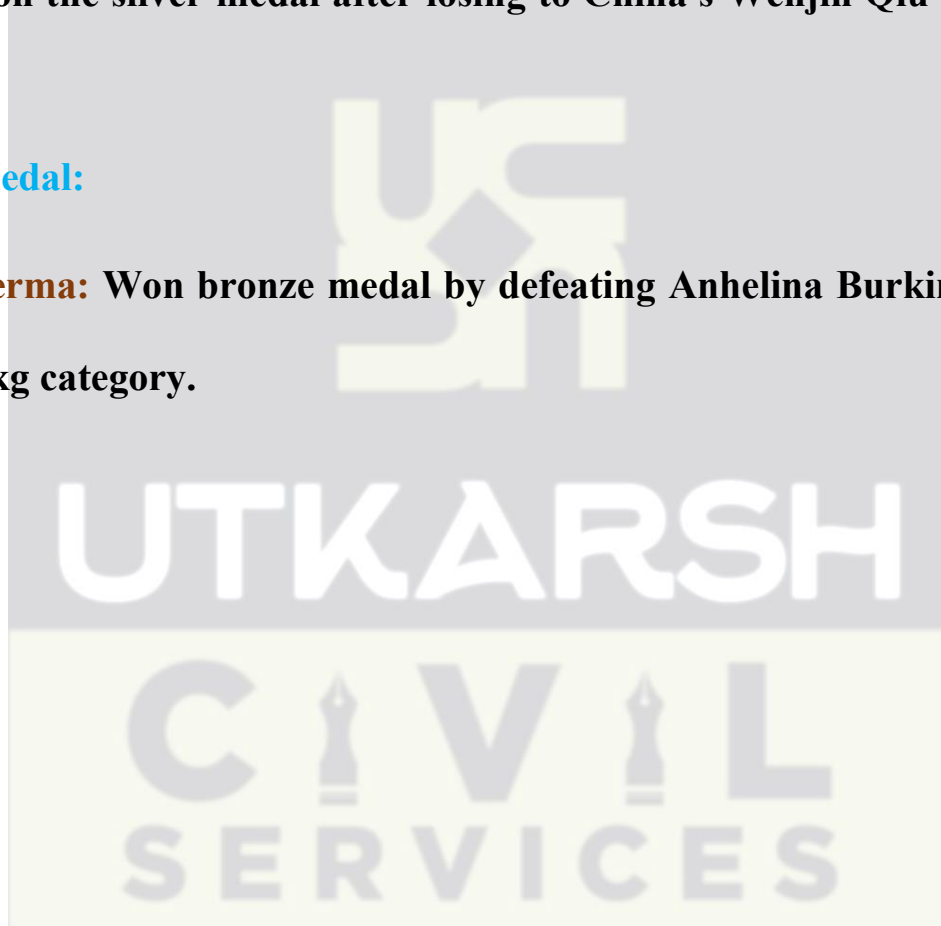


## Silver Medal:

- **Moni:** Won the silver medal after losing to Madakhia Usmanov of Kazakhstan in the 57 kg category.
- **Kajal:** Won the silver medal after losing to China's Wenjin Qiu in the 73 kg category.

## Bronze Medal:


- **Komal Verma:** Won bronze medal by defeating Anhelina Burkina of UWW in the 49 kg category.



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## News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p><b>Apna Ghar Initiative</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Recently, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched the 'Apna Ghar' initiative for the safety and convenience of truck drivers.</li><li>◆ Its purpose is to provide resting places for truck drivers during long distance travel.</li><li>◆ Public sector oil marketing companies have so far established 368 'Apna Ghar' centers.</li><li>◆ A total of 4611 beds and other facilities have been provided in these centers.</li></ul>

2.

## Lieutenant General Pushendra Singh

- ◆ Recently, Lieutenant General Pushendra Singh was appointed as the Vice Chief of the Army.
- ◆ Lieutenant General Pushendra Singh belongs to the Parachute Regiment.
- ◆ He will replace Lieutenant General NS Raja Subramani.
- ◆ He has participated in Pawan, Meghdoot, Rakshak and Orchid expeditions.



3.

## Nine new Indian Consulate Application Centers



- ◆ Recently, Indian Ambassador to the US Vinay Kwatra has announced the expansion of consulate services in the United States.
- ◆ Under this, nine new Indian Consulate Application Centers will be opened in the cities of Boston, Columbus, Dallas, Detroit, Edison, Orlando, Raleigh, San Jose and Los Angeles from August 1, 2025.

4.

## IT 2.0 Application



- ◆ On July 31, 2025, the Department of Posts launched the next generation IT 2.0 application of Advanced Postal Technology (APT).
- ◆ This initiative will be implemented in 353 post offices and 61 branch post offices from Delhi on August 4, 2025.
- ◆ The advanced postal technology application is designed to provide enhanced user experience, faster service delivery and more customer-friendly interface, which will provide smart, efficient and future-ready postal operations.



5.

## Commission formed for elections in Myanmar



- ◆ On July 31, 2025, the National Defense and Security Council (NDSC) of Myanmar formed a new Union Government and State Security and Peace Commission.
- ◆ This federal government is headed by Prime Minister U Nyo Saw and the State Security and Peace Commission is headed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.
- ◆ In February 2021, the then acting President of Myanmar U Myint Swe declared a state of emergency for one year and transferred sovereign power to the Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Services.



6.

## Professor Michelle Doherty



- ◆ Recently, Professor Michelle Doherty was appointed Britain's first female astronomer (Royal Astronomer).
- ◆ She has become the first woman to receive this prestigious title in the 350-year history of the United Kingdom.
- ◆ **Royal Astronomer:** An honorary position that began in the year 1675.
- ◆ **Objective:** To advise the British monarchy on astronomical matters and promote public interest in space and science.
- ◆ NASA's Cassini mission, led by Professor Doherty, discovered jets of water vapour emanating from Saturn's moon Enceladus, which suggests the moon could potentially support life.

7.

## Green Hydrogen Plant: Kandla Port

- ◆ On July 31, 2025, the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways inaugurated a 1 MW Green Hydrogen Power Plant at Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), Kandla.
- ◆ The plant is capable of producing around 140 metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually and is important for reducing maritime carbon emissions and sustainable port operations.



8.

## Nyaya Bandhu Legal Aid Programme

- ◆ On July 31, 2025, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Law and Justice shared information regarding the 'Nyaya Bandhu Legal Aid Programme' in the Rajya Sabha.
- ◆ Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Service) is one of the programmes under the "Creating Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice" (DISHA) scheme.
- ◆ It is being implemented by the Department of Justice.

