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RAJASTHAN (A)



National Nutrition Month 2025: Rajasthan Ranks Second



Rajasthan secured second place nationally in the 'National Nutrition Month 2025', which is being conducted from September 17 to October 16, 2025.











महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग



राष्ट्राय ाषण माह





- आंगनवाडी केंद्रों पर स्वस्थ जीवन के लिए संतुलित आहार, बचपन की देखभाल-शिक्षा और स्थानीय पौष्टिक खाद्य संसाधनों को बढावा।
- प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदना योजना विशेष पंजीकरण मुहिम
- ७५,००० हेल्थ कैंप महिलाओं और बच्चों की स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं पर विशेष फोकस

"वर्ष २०४७ तक सुपोषित भारत के निर्माण हेतु भारत सरकार पोषण, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, स्वच्छता, सुपरफूड और जागरुकता को सशक्त बनाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। आइए, इस मुहिम का हिस्सा बनें।"

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Key Points:

- Rajasthan secured fourth place in National Nutrition Month 2024.
- Organized in Rajasthan by: Women and Child Development Department.
- **Version:** Eighth.

Key Themes of Nutrition Month 2025:

- Addressing the problem of obesity.
- Reducing sugar and oil intake.
- **■** Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)
- Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Practices

Top 3 States at National Level:

Position	State
First	Gujarat
Second	Rajasthan
Third	Chhattisgarh

Top 5 Districts at State Level:

Position	District
First	Jodhpur
Second	Kota
Third	Bikaner
Fourth	Churu
Fifth	Hanumangarh

■ It is worth noting that Rajasthan also ranks first nationally in the Poshan Pakhwada Fortnight 2025 (April 8 to 22, 2025) and the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana.

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Facts for Prelims:

Poshan Abhivaan:

- The 'Poshan Abhiyaan' was launched by the Government of India on March 8, 2018, across the country to address the problem of malnutrition.
- It is a flagship program to raise awareness about the problem of malnutrition and promote community participation.
- Objective: To improve nutritional deficiencies for women and children through a holistic approach.

Poshan Tracker App:

- 'Poshan Tracker' is a mobile-based application launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development through the National e-Governance Division (NEGD) on March 1, 2021.
- This app enables robust identification of the prevalence of stunting, wasting, and underweight in children and tracking of nutrition service delivery.
- It also provides support and guidance to Anganwadi workers in the efficient delivery of services.

Other Key Points:

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS):

Launched on: October 2, 1975

Objective:

- To improve the nutritional and health status of children aged 0 to 6 years.
- To lay the foundation for the psychological, physical, and social development of children.
- Reducing mortality, disease, malnutrition, and school dropout rates.
- Currently, 363 child development projects are being implemented in Rajasthan under this program.

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Guru Golwalkar Aspirational Block Development Scheme

Why in News?

■ In compliance with the Rajasthan State Budget 2025-26, the state government recently launched the 'Guru Golwalkar Aspirational Block Development Scheme' in one block in each of the 41 districts.

Key Points:

Selected Blocks from 41 Districts:

Block	District	Block	District
Bhinay	Ajmer	Ramgarh	Alwar
Garhi	Banswara	Sindhari	Balotra
Chauhatan	Barmer	Bhusawar	Bharatpur
Kareda	Bhilwara	Shahbad	Baran
Bikaner	Bikaner	Sikandra	Dausa
Saipau	Dholpur	Galiyakot	Dungarpur
Nawa	Didwana-Kuchaman	Dhamotar	Pratapgarh
Jalore	Jalore	Chaksu	Jaipur
Sam	Jaisalmer	Jhalrapatan	Jhalawar
Jhunjhunu	Jhunjhunu	Bhadra	Hanumangarh
Masuda	Beawar	Ladpura	Kota
Bansur	Kotputli-Behror	Karauli	Karauli
Merta	Nagaur	Bali	Pali
Khandar	Sawai Madhopur	Khandela	Sikar
Pindwara	Sirohi	Sadulshahar	Sriganganagar
Uniara	Tonk	Sarada	Salumbar

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Kotda	Udaipur	Kumbhalgarh	Rajsamand
Sekhala	Jodhpur	Aau	Phalodi
Pahadi	Deeg	Tijara	Khairthal-Tijara
Gangrar	Chittorgarh	Churu	Churu
Talera	Bundi	Churu	

Other important points:

- Through this scheme, the goal is to implement targeted development programs in a total of 41 blocks in Rajasthan and include them in the category of developed blocks.
- Through this scheme, innovation-based programs will be promoted in all identified blocks in key areas such as health and nutrition, education, agriculture and allied services, infrastructure, skill development, and social development.
- 39 key performance indicators have been used as the basis for monitoring. To monitor the scheme at various levels, a state-level committee chaired by the Chief Secretary and district-level and block-level committees chaired by the District Collector have been formed.
- Budget provision: A total of ₹75 crore has been allocated under the Aspirational Block Development Scheme in the Rajasthan Budget 2025–26.
- Each block will receive ₹1.5 crore (untied funds).
- The best-performing blocks under the scheme will receive annual prize money.

Position	Prize Amount
First Place	₹50 Lakh
Second Place	₹35 Lakh
Third Place	₹25 Lakh





Facts for Prelims:

- The Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) was launched by the Central Government in January 2018 in 112 districts to uplift underdeveloped districts.
- Five districts of Rajasthan Baran, Dholpur, Jaisalmer, Karauli, and Sirohi - are included in this program, that are run by the Central Government and NITI Aayog.
- The Aspirational Blocks Programme was launched by the Central Government in January 2023 to bring the positive changes, successes, and development achieved in the districts through the Aspirational Districts Programme to the block level. This program covers 27 blocks in Rajasthan.



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S. No.	News
1.	Rajasthan's First e-Bus Manufacturing Plant: Ghiloth Recently, the state government allotted 65.56 acres of land in the Ghiloth Industrial Area of Kotputli-Behror for Rajasthan's first e-bus manufacturing plant. ■ The land was allotted to PMI Electro Mobility Solutions Private Limited, a private sector company, through RIICO, under a
	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed at the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit.
2.	 Rajasthan Petro Zone (RPZ): Pachpadra ■ Recently, RIICO initiated the process of allotting plots in the RPZ area. ■ Located 12 km from the Pachpadra Refinery, the Rajasthan Petro Zone is connected to the Amritsar-Jamnagar Expressway and National Highway 25. ■ The Rajasthan Petro Zone (RPZ) will attract investment in the state through industries such as plastics and polymer processing,
	rubber and PU manufacturing, technical textiles, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals.
3.	New Industrial Zone: Dhuwala (Bhilwara) ■ Recently, the state government approved the allotment of 82.60 hectares of land to the Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited (RIICO) for setting up a new industrial zone in Dhuwala, Bhilwara.

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4.

'New Legislation - Identity of Justice' Exhibition

- The 'New Legislation Identity of Justice' exhibition held in Sitapura (Jaipur) attempted to provide the public with an understanding of the three new criminal laws implemented in the country through modern police innovations.
- This exhibition was inaugurated by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on October 13, 2025.
- Participation: A record 16.7 million people visited the exhibition, which ran from October 13 to 21, 2025, both physically and online.

5.

Rajasthan in NCISM Ranking

- The National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur, ranked first in the country. It has been included in the Grade-A category.
- Rajasthan's institutions in the Grade-B category included Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Ayurveda College, Chomu (ranked 88th) and Rajkiya Ayurveda College, Udaipur (ranked 93rd).
- Issued by: National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine (NCISM), New Delhi.

6.

'Miss Teen Universe 2025': Jaipur

- The grand finale of 'Miss Teen Universe 2025' was held in Jaipur.
- Models from 22 countries, including India, participated in the event. Amira Moreno of Venezuela won the title of 'Miss Teen Universe 2025'. Meanwhile, Chiara Gottschalk of the Philippines was the first runner-up, and Sabrina Fructus of the United States was the second runner-up.

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7. Rajasthan at the Asian Youth Games 2025 (Bahrain)

- **Event Duration:** From October 22 to 31, 2025.
- Edition: Third.
- **Organizing body: Olympic Council of Asia.**
- Muay Thai competition: Of the total 9 Indian players, 4 are from Rajasthan - Vidhi Sharma, Mohini Samaria, Mudit Gupta (Jaipur), and Harshita (Jalore).
- Girls' handball: Mamta, a resident of Sikar, was selected.
- Road cycling event: Road cycling has been included in the Youth Games for the first time.
- Total cyclists: 8 (4 women + 4 men), including 5 selected from Rajasthan: Alok Bishnoi, Lokesh Chaudhary, Aditya Jakhar, Anjali Jakhar, and Rukmini.

8. Rajasthan's First Senior Citizens Club: Atal Club Jaipur

- Recently, Jaipur Greater Municipal Corporation Mayor Dr. Soumya Gurjar inaugurated the Atal Club/Atal Udyan for the city's senior citizens.
- This is the first club in Rajasthan which is dedicated to senior citizens.

Bhairay Battalion Exercises in Jaisalmer 9.

- Recently, the Bhairay Battalion and Ashni Platoon of the Indian Army conducted a war exercise in the Longewala battlefield in Jaisalmer.
- The Bhairav Battalion is a newly formed elite unit of the Indian Army, designed for swift and precise military operations.
- These battalions will be the link between the regular infantry and the Special Forces. These battalions will comprise soldiers from different regiments like Infantry, Artillery, Signals and Air Defence.
- Note: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched Naman Centre, Sainik Yatri Mitra App and Equipment Helpline at the recently concluded Army Commanders Conference at Jaisalmer Army Station.







INTERNATIONAL (#)



India-Canada Relations

₩ Why in News?

■ Following talks between the Foreign Ministers of India and Canada, the two countries agreed to develop a new roadmap to strengthen relations.

Key Points:

Key Points of the New Roadmap

- It was agreed to resume the Canada-India Ministerial-Level Energy Dialogue.
- Bilateral trade in LNG and LPG will be promoted and investment in oil and gas exploration and production will be encouraged. The Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee will be relaunched.
- It was agreed to cooperate on sustainable and low-carbon fuel technologies such as green hydrogen, biofuels, carbon capture, utilization and storage, and electric mobility.
- Special emphasis was placed on partnerships for research in new technologies such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and fintech.

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United Nations Human Rights Council

Why in News?

■ India has been elected unopposed to the United Nations Human Rights

Council for the seventh time. India has been elected for a three-year term from 2026 to 2028.

Key Points:

United Nations Human Rights Council

- Introduction: It is an intergovernmental body within the United Nations system. Its mission is to promote and protect human rights globally.
- **Established:** Established in 2006 by the United Nations General Assembly.
- Membership: It has a total of 47 member states, elected annually by the United Nations General Assembly. Each member serves a three-year term. A country can serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.



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Building an Inclusive and Equitable International Order

Why in News?

■ The global order established after World War II is known as Pax Americana.

This order is now undergoing significant changes.

Key Points:

Historically, the United States has championed liberal democracy, open markets, and multilateral cooperation. However, recent developments indicate a shift away from this model. This is creating a leadership vacuum in global affairs.

Factors Responding to the Collapse of the Pax Americana Order

- Contradictory Actions: The Vietnam War, US intervention in the Middle East, and the 2008 financial crisis have weakened US credibility.
- Policy Shifts: Aggressive trade policies under US President Trump's "America First" policy have adversely impacted US influence.
- Weakening of Multilateral Institutions: The US's withdrawal from international agreements has weakened its soft power image.

China's Growing Influence

- Taking advantage of the weakening of America's global leadership role, China is presenting itself as a defender of multilateralism and expanding its influence through initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative.
- China has now become the largest trading partner of over 100 countries, strengthening its regional and global influence.
- However, China's aggressive foreign policy in the South China Sea, human rights issues, and debt-trap diplomacy limit China's soft power image and its global acceptance.



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The decline of Pax Americana could lead to a more fragmented global system (Pax Multipolaris). This will provide an opportunity for nations like India to emerge as responsible global leaders, building a more inclusive and equitable international order.

Opportunities for India

- India is striving for strategic autonomy, aiming to fill the leadership vacuum through platforms like BRICS.
- India can balance its relations with major powers by diversifying its economic partnerships, attracting investment and supporting necessary reforms in the global order.



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REDD+ Program

- Why in News?
- Carbon offset projects for tropical forests implemented under the REDD+ program have achieved significant success in reducing deforestation.
- **Key Points:**

REDD+

- This initiative was developed by countries party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- REDD stands for "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest **Degradation**" in developing countries.
- Plus (+) refers to additional forest-related activities that protect the climate, such as sustainable forest management, conservation, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.
- Under this program, if a developing country succeeds in reducing deforestation, it can receive emission-reduction-based payments. This program is also part of the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

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WMO-Greenhouse Gas Bulletin

Why in News?

■ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has released its 21st Greenhouse Gas Bulletin on the state of greenhouse gases.

Key Points:

- CO₂ at record levels: Atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels reached 423.95 ppm in 2024. This is 3.55 ppm higher than in 2023.
- This is the largest annual increase since calculations began in 1957.
- Hottest year: 2024 was the hottest year on record, with global temperatures 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels. Global temperatures exceeded the 1.5°C limit of the Paris Agreement.
- Climate forcing: Long-lived greenhouse gases in the atmosphere have increased by 54%.
- Levels of methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O) have also increased above pre-industrial levels.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY !

Prussian Blue Capsules

Why in News?

■ India has sent Prussian Blue capsules to Indonesia, useful in mitigating the adverse effects of Cesium-137 (Cs-137) contamination.

Key Points:

■ Cs-137 is a radioactive isotope produced during nuclear fission. It is used in medical equipment and industrial gauges. Exposure to it can cause burns, radiation-induced illness, and even death.

Prussian Blue Capsules

- Prussian Blue traps radioactive Cesium and Thallium in the intestines, preventing their absorption into the body.
- It helps flush these harmful elements out of the body, reducing the effects of radiation exposure. This reduces the potential for health damage.



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ECONOMIC SCENARIO



Unbalanced Fertilizer Subsidies



The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices highlighted fertilizerrelated issues in its recent report, Price Policy for Rabi Crops, Marketing Season 2024-25.

Key Points:

Key Issues of the Report

- Declining Fertilizer Benefits: The NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) input per kilogram of food grain production has declined from 12 kilograms (1960-69) to 3 kilograms in 2020.
- Subsidy Structure: Fertilizer subsidies are leading to excessive urea use, leading to imbalances in nutrients and soil fertility.
- Uneven Use: Some states and districts have higher per hectare fertilizer, while others have significantly lower fertilizer.
- Import Dependence: 30% of the country's fertilizer demand is met through imports, including both raw materials and finished fertilizers.

CACP Recommendations

- Phased increase in urea prices: The subsidy on urea should be used for phosphorus and potassium fertilizers.
- **Integrated Nutrient Management:** This should integrate chemical fertilizers, organic manures, and bio-fertilizers.
- Soil testing: This includes upgrading laboratories, installing modern equipment, and training staff for real-time soil analysis and advisory services. Resolving fertilizer-related issues by:-
- **Nutrient-based subsidy scheme**
- Prime Minister's Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, **Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PM - PRANAM)**
- Others: Soil health cards, neem-coated urea, and promotion of nanofertilizers.

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Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and Stablecoins

- Why in News?
- The RBI Governor suggested other central banks to promote CBDCs over stablecoins.
- **Key Points:**

Central Bank Digital Currency and Stablecoins:

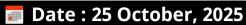
- CBDCs are a new type of currency that exists only in digital form.
- Instead of printing currency, central banks issue readily available digital currencies (digital coins). This makes digital transactions and money transfers easier and faster.
- Stablecoins are a type of programmable cryptocurrency whose value is pegged to another asset, usually the US dollar or another currency.

Why is CBDC preferred over stablecoins?

- Sovereign backing: CBDCs are considered legal tender. This means that the government accepts and recognizes them in all types of transactions.
- CBDC operates under a regulatory framework that ensures consumer protection.
- Cross-border payments: CBDC can simplify and expedite international trade payments. This can reduce dependence on intermediaries like SWIFT.
- It is better integrated with monetary policy. It promotes an inclusive and low-cost public payment system.

Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in India

- India's CBDC is called the Digital Rupee.
- It is issued digitally by the RBI. It has the same features as physical cash, such as ease of use, RBI guarantee, and finality of settlement.





- It is stored in the user's digital wallet and can be used to receive/send money or pay for transactions, just like any physical note.
- RBI currently operates two types of CBDCs:
 - o Retail CBDC: Available to the general public through digital wallets, smartphone apps, etc.
 - o Wholesale CBDC: Used for inter-bank payments and securities transactions between banks and other licensed financial institutions.



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S. No.	News
1.	IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)
	■ Vivek Menon of India has been elected as the new Chair of the
	IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) for the term 2025-
	2029.
	IUCN Species Survival Commission
	■ Established: In 1949
	■ It is a science-based network of more than 10,500 volunteer
	experts from almost every country in the world.
	■ It provides IUCN with information related to biodiversity
	conservation, the natural significance of species, and their role in
	ecosystem health and functioning.

