

Daily Current Affairs

 Date : 19 November, 2025



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RAJASTHAN



Hindustan Zinc wins LACP Spotlight Awards – 2025



Why in News?

- Hindustan Zinc, the world's leading zinc producer, has been recently honored with the League of American Communications Professionals (LACP) Spotlight Awards 2025.



HINDUSTAN ZINC



Key Points:

- Hindustan Zinc has been selected as the winner in the Platinum category.
- The company ranked first in India and sixth globally.
- It became the only Indian company to be included in the Global Top 10 this year.

Facts for Prelims:

- Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL), a Vedanta Group company, is the world's largest integrated zinc producer and one of the top 5 silver producers globally.
- **Founded in:** 1966.
- **Headquarters:** Udaipur (Rajasthan)
- The company launched EcoZen in 2024, Asia's first 'low carbon green zinc' brand.
- Hindustan Zinc Limited is the first Indian company to join the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) in 2025.

Chief of Air Staff Commandation



Why in News?

- Two Indian Administrative Service officers who led the charge in Operation Sindoor have been awarded the Chief of Air Staff Commandation.



Key Points:

- During this operation, the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers, such as Jodhpur Divisional Commissioner Pratibha Singh and Jodhpur Collector Gaurav Agarwal, displayed excellent leadership and coordination. Both officers have been awarded the Chief of Air Staff Commandation, which is awarded for indomitable courage and outstanding service.
- These officers maintained constant vigilance and coordination in all districts of Jodhpur Division during the operation, informed the public of the Army's instructions, and strengthened security arrangements.
- Operation Sindoor is a coordinated military operation launched by the Government of India in response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack in April 2025, in which the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force targeted terrorist bases in Pakistan.

An inland port will be built in Jalore, connecting it to Kandla Port.



Why in News?

- Rajasthan will now connect directly to the Arabian Sea via the Gulf of Kutch through the upcoming inland port (waterway) in Jalore, ushering in a new era of maritime trade and logistics in the state.



Key Points:

- The Jawai-Luni-Run of Kutch river system is being developed under National Waterway 48, and the central and state governments have signed an MoU for this. This project will theoretically connect the state to Kandla Port (Gujarat), constructing approximately 262 kilometers of waterways, including the Bhavatra-Navlakhi route, and will cost approximately ₹10,000 crore for dredging.

This project:

- It will open new doors for international trade, industry, MSMEs, logistics, warehousing, and agri-mineral processing in the state.
- It will provide direct employment to an estimated 50,000 people.
- Transportation costs will be reduced by 30-40%.
- National and international institutions, including IIT Madras, are involved in the DPR, water availability, cost, and land studies.
- Maritime connectivity will enable revolutionary development in Rajasthan's economy, industry, and exports.

RCDF to receive Three National Gopal Ratna Awards



Why in News?

- The Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF) will be honored with three National Gopal Ratna Awards for milk production and technological innovation.
- The awards will be presented by the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, at a ceremony in Delhi on the occasion of National Milk Day (November 26, 2025).



Key Points:

The awards include:

- **Best Dairy Cooperative Society:** Ghinoli Milk Producer Cooperative Society of Jaipur District Milk Union, will receive ₹3 lakh in cash, a merit certificate, and a memento.
- **Best Dairy Farmer Category:** Harshit Jhuriya, a milk producer from Sikar District Milk Union, will receive ₹2 lakh in cash, a merit certificate, and a memento.

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- **Best AI Technician Category:** Vikas Kumar, a milk producer from Hanumangarh Milk Producer Cooperative Union, will receive a merit certificate and a memento.

Other important points:

- The National Gopal Ratna Award is a prestigious national honour instituted by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India.
- The award was first launched in 2021 under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- Its primary objective is to conserve and promote indigenous cow and buffalo breeds and encourage innovation in the dairy sector.
- The award is given in various categories, including: Best Dairy Farmer, Best Dairy Cooperative Society/Milk Producer Company, and Best Artificial Insemination Technician.
- Traditionally, the award is presented every year on National Milk Day (November 26), which is also the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien.
- Awardees are honored with a cash prize, a certificate of merit, and a memento. Cash prizes include ₹5 lakh (first), ₹3 lakh (second), and ₹2 lakh (third).
- Special categories and awards are also earmarked for the North-Eastern and Himalayan States to encourage dairy development in that region.

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Rajasthan's para-swimmers won a total of 47 medals, including 18 gold, at the Nationals.



Why in News?

- The Rajasthan team performed brilliantly at the 25th National Para-Swimming Championships in Hyderabad, winning a total of 47 medals (18 gold, 19 silver, and 10 bronze) and finishing third. (1st behind Tamil Nadu and 2nd behind Telangana.)



Key Points:

- **Gold medalists:** Suraj Bhan Meena, Vedant Singh, Shivdev Singh, Lakhan Singh, Nirmala Devi, Jiya, Sadhna Malik, Dimple Vaishnav, Ajay Devenda, Anmol, Kiran Tank, Bhaira Ram, Sanjay Sankhla.
- **Silver medalists:** Dimple Vaishnav, Ram Niwas, Shivdev Singh, Lakhan Singh, Vikram Singh Gurjar, Yeshu Swami, Pappu Devi, Bhagirath Ram, Anmol, Nirmala, Jiya, Vedant, Yudhishthir, Om Prakash, Vishnu Kumar, Sanjay Sankhla.
- **Bronze Medalists:** Vikram Singh Gurjar, Sita Devi, Mohan Singh, Gurjant Singh, Jamnalal, Manoj Kumar, Omprakash, Sahiram, Dr. Jagveer Singh, Yudhishthir.

Joint Military Exercise "Ajeya Warrior 2025"



Why in News?

- The India-UK joint military exercise "Ajeya Warrior-25" commenced on November 17, 2025, at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner, Rajasthan, and will continue until November 30.



Key Points:

- The Indian side comprises soldiers from the Sikh Regiment, and the British side comprises soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, Royal Gurkha Rifles (2 RGR), 4th Light Brigade, 1st Division.
- The exercise's primary focus is counter-terrorism operations in semi-urban areas, conducted under a United Nations mandate.
- The exercise has been conducted biennially since 2011, and this is its 8th edition.

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards 2025



Why in News?

- These awards are given under the flagship community-driven program Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain.



Key Points:

- The awards ceremony was hosted by President Smt. Draupadi Murmu at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on November 18, 2025.
- This initiative is inspired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's 'Jal Shakti ke liye Jan Shakti' vision, which promotes water security through the lens of community, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and cost-effectiveness (the 3C mantra).

Main Award Winners:

- The top three states include Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan.
- The districts categorized include Mirzapur, Varanasi, Jalaun in Uttar Pradesh; Balod, Rajnandgaon, Raipur in Chhattisgarh; Adilabad, Nalgonda, and Mancherial in Telangana.
- Rajasthan's Bhilwara, Barmer, Alwar, and Udaipur districts performed exceptionally well.
- Chhattisgarh's Raipur Municipal Corporation, Telangana's Hyderabad Metro Region, and Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur Municipal Corporation ranked among the top 10.
- Prize money includes ₹2 crore for Category 1 districts, ₹1 crore for Category 2 districts, and ₹25 lakh for Category 3 districts.

✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	Asiatic Caracal  ■ The rare Asiatic Caracal cat has been spotted in the Ramgarh area of Pokhran (Jaisalmer), a border district along the India-Pakistan border. The population of this desert species has been steadily declining over the past few years. This decline has led to the Asiatic Caracal being classified as a critically endangered species.
2.	'My Day, My Right' ■ A program titled 'The Wall of Hope - Listen to the Future' was organized at Amer Palace during World Children's Day week. ■ Children and youth aged 8 to 18 participated in the program, expressing their hopes, concerns, and dreams through paintings, slogans, street plays, and other activities. ■ The event was organized under the joint auspices of UNICEF, Future Society, Digital Children's Fair, and the Department of Archaeology and Museums.

3.

Aditya Poonia becomes Rajasthan's youngest international referee



- Aditya Poonia, a member of the Rambagh Golf Club, has become Rajasthan's youngest international golf referee. He passed the three-stage exam held at the Jaypee Greens Golf Resort in Greater Noida on his first attempt.
- Rajasthan has had international referees before, but Aditya is the youngest.

4.

Rajasthan's Anuya Prasad sets world record in shooting

- Rajasthan's Anuya Prasad set a world record in shooting at the 25th Summer Deaf Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.
- She won the gold medal in the 10-meter air pistol event with a score of 241.1.
- Fellow shooter Pranjali Dhumal won the silver medal with a score of 236.80.
- Iran's Mahla Sami won the bronze medal with a score of 215.5.





Adi Kumbeswarar Temple



Why in News?

- The Kumbhabhishekam (consecration) of the Adi Kumbeswarar Temple in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, has drawn renewed attention to the temple's unique stone nagaswaram, a rare wind instrument preserved here.



Key Points:

About the Temple

- The Adi Kumbeswarar Temple in Kumbakonam, Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu, is dedicated to Lord Shiva, worshipped as Adi Kumbeswarar in the form of a lingam.
- The temple is an architectural landmark that displays key features of Dravidian architecture and is believed to be over 1,300 years old.
- The temple dates back to the Chola period (9th century AD) and was later renovated by the Nayaka rulers.
- It is one of the 12 Shiva temples associated with the Mahamaham festival held every 12 years in Kumbakonam.

Siliguri Corridor



Why in News?

- The Indian Army established three new military bases near the strategic Siliguri Corridor.



Key Points:

- There are serious security concerns due to the change of power in Bangladesh and concerns about China's increasing presence near the sensitive Siliguri Corridor.
- Also known as the Chicken's Neck, it is a narrow strip of land in West Bengal that connects the northeastern states with the rest of the country.
- It is a very important strategic region in eastern India, located between the Mahananda and Teesta rivers.

White-Collar Terrorism



Why in News?

- The recent terrorist incident in Delhi has highlighted a new threat in the form of 'white-collar' terrorism.



Key Points:

- In 'white-collar' terrorism, professionals and educated individuals, such as doctors and engineers, use their professional credentials, academic networks, and readily available financial and institutional resources for violent purposes.
- This contradicts the long-held belief that terrorist organizations radicalize unemployed and misguided individuals.

Other New Forms of Terrorism

- **Lone-wolf terrorism:** In this, like-minded individuals act alone to commit violent crimes. Example: the Christchurch terrorist attack in New Zealand.
- **Suicide bombings:** In this, terrorists are used as human bombs, ensuring the attacker's death. Example: the 2019 Pulwama terrorist attack.
- **Sleeper cells:** These cells operate secretly in a country while posing as ordinary citizens and become active upon orders.
- **Overground Workers:** People who provide logistics, resources and support to terrorists.



INTERNATIONAL



Senkaku Islands



Why in News?

- A Chinese coast guard ship conducted rights enforcement patrols near the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands, raising tensions with Japan.



Key Points:

About the Islands

- The Senkaku Islands is a collective term that refers to a group of islands including Uotsuri, Kitakojima, Minamikojima, Kuba, Taisho, Okinokitaia, Okinominamiwa, and Tobiase.
- They are located in the East China Sea and are approximately 170 km from Taiwan and 330 km from China.
- **Dispute:** The Senkaku Islands have been a long contentious issue in Japan-China relations, with both countries claiming this uninhabited rocky chain. Japan currently controls it.

Food Waste Breakthrough Initiative



Why in News?

- The Food Waste Breakthrough (FWB) initiative was launched at COP-30, Belém, as a 2030 climate solution. This initiative is under the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action.



Key Points:

- **Introduction:** This initiative will unite governments, cities, and civil society to take action on global hunger and climate change.

Goals:

- To reduce global food waste by halve and reduce methane emissions by 7% by 2030.
- **Partners:** Brazil, Japan, and the United Kingdom. Several global cities and private sector partners are also involved.



ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY



Integrated Forum on Climate Change and Trade



Why in News?

- The Integrated Forum on Climate Change and Trade (IFCCT) was launched at COP-30.



Key Points:

About the IFCCT

- **Goal:** To create a permanent and politically supported forum where countries can address the growing conflict between trade-related policies and climate action.
- The Forum will be institutionally independent of both the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the UNFCCC.
- The Forum will be co-chaired by Brazil and a partner developed country, and will be open to all Parties to the UNFCCC.

🎓 POLITY 🎓

Centre notifies Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Rules, 2025



Why in News?

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has notified the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025. This will bring the DPDP Act, 2023 into full force.



Key Points:

- These rules are an important step in compliance with the 2017 Supreme Court decision in K.S. Puttaswamy vs. Union of India, in which the Supreme Court recognized the right to privacy as a fundamental right.
- The Data Protection Board will have the powers of a civil court to investigate complaints of personal data breaches.

Government Shutdown



Why in News?

- The US President signed a stopgap bill to end the longest US government shutdown in history.



Key Points:

- **Meaning:** It occurs when the legislative branch of government cannot pass the budgetary bills necessary to fund and authorize the operations of the executive branch.
- **Effects of a shutdown:** As a result of shut down some or all of the government's functions cease.
- It is generally a feature of presidential systems of government. In this system, there is a strict separation of powers between the executive and the legislature. The presidential system of government is adopted in the United States.
- Shutdowns do not occur in parliamentary systems like India, where the executive is composed of the legislature and depends on its confidence.



INDEXES AND REPORTS



Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security, 2025 Report



Why in News?

- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has released the Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security, 2025 Report. This FAO report highlights disaster-induced disruptions to food production and identifies digital transformation as a "game-changer" in reducing disaster-related risks in the agricultural sector.



Key Points:

Technology in Agriculture in India -

- **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT):**
- **Kisan e-Mitra - AI Chatbot**
- **National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS):** This technology uses AI to detect pest attacks, etc.
- **Use of Space Technology:** Launch of the FASAL project.
- **FASAL stands for:** Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agro-meteorology and Land based observations.
- **Drone Technology:** Namo Drone Didi Yojana, SVAMITVA Yojana, etc.



NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	Roulen Festival ■ The Roulen Festival recently attracted attention in Himachal Pradesh. ■ The Roulen Festival is an ancient, 5,000-year-old traditional festival celebrated in the Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh, honoring mysterious celestial fairies known as the Saunis.
2.	ESCAPADE Mission ■ NASA's ESCAPADE spacecraft has launched aboard Blue Origin's New Glenn rocket. ■ Objective: To investigate how the solar wind interacts with Mars' magnetic environment.

