

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 18 November, 2025



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RAJASTHAN



32nd Meeting of the Northern Zonal Council



Why in News?

- The 32nd meeting of the Northern Zonal Council was held in Faridabad under the chairmanship of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah.



Key Points:

- Rajasthan ranks first in the country in installed solar power generation capacity. The state has installed 2,215 MW of decentralized solar power plants under Component A and Component C of the PM KUSUM scheme, and will achieve 29.5 GW of solar power capacity by 2024-25.
- Under the RDSS, construction of 151 33 kV substations has been completed, and 1.1 million smart meters have been installed.
- The pledge to provide daytime electricity for agriculture is being successfully implemented across 22 districts.
- Concerted efforts have reduced AT&C losses from 21.81 percent in 2023-24 to 15.27 percent in 2024-25.

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- By increasing the number of police mobile units in the state, the average response time has decreased from 21 minutes to approximately 13 minutes.
- The state ranks first in the country by completing the construction of 70 warehouses with a capacity of 500 metric tons in the first phase of the world's largest food storage scheme.
- Rajasthan ranks first in the country in obtaining membership of the Indian Seed Cooperative Society.
- Under the Give Up Campaign, approximately 4.5 million capable people have given up their benefits under the National Food Security Act. Additionally, the names of 2.7 million individuals have been removed from the National Food Security Act list for not completing e-KYC for a long time. Through these efforts, eligible underprivileged individuals have been identified and approximately 7 million needy beneficiaries have been provided the benefits of the scheme.
- 88% of the state's population has been covered under health insurance, the highest in the country.
- Rajasthan has benefited from increasing the number of full-time members on the Bhakra Beas Management Board from two to four. He requested the central government to take necessary action to prepare a digital elevation model of the downstream water flow of the Sutlej and Beas to fill the Pong Dam to 1,400 feet.
- The additional water received from the barrage being constructed below Makora Pattan should be shared with Rajasthan as per the 1981 agreement. He also requested that Punjab share the power generated from small hydroelectric projects on the Bhakra Main Line with Rajasthan and provide financial assistance to the work of water brought from the Hathinikund Barrage by considering it a part of the Renukaji, Lakhwar, and Kishau National Projects.

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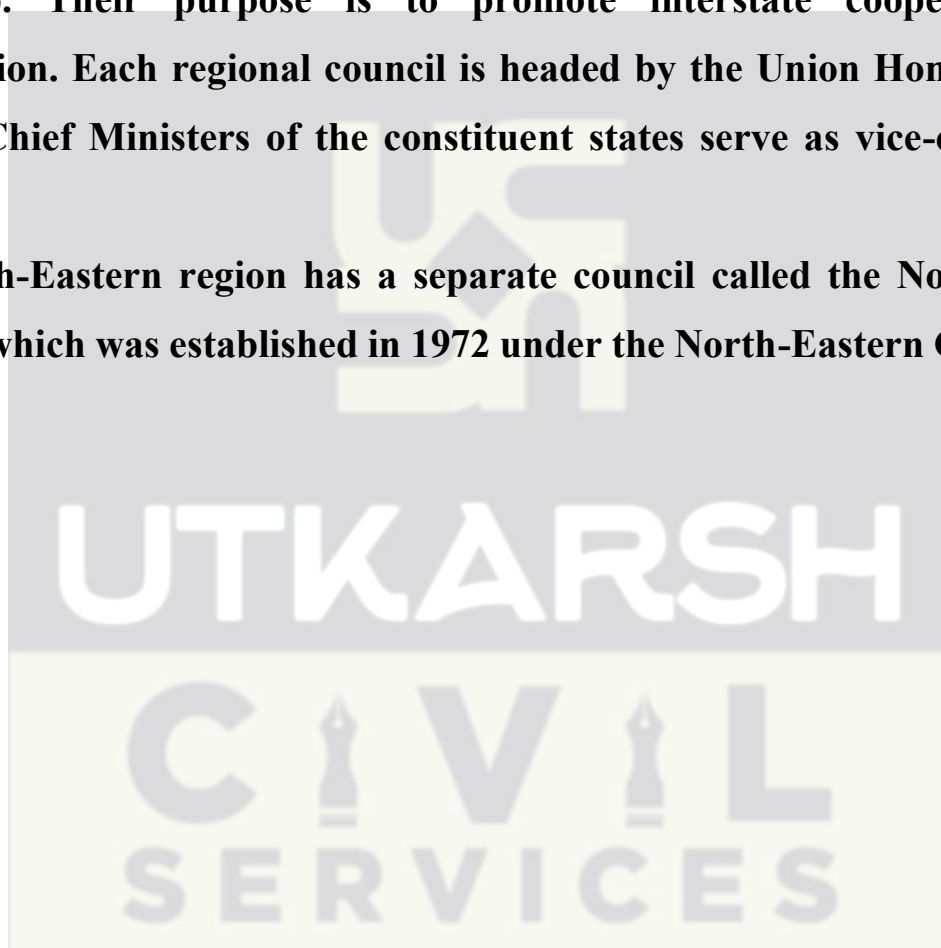
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Other Important Points:

- **Regional Councils:** These are statutory bodies established under the States Reorganization Act, 1956.
- There are five regional councils (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western, and Southern). Their purpose is to promote interstate cooperation and coordination. Each regional council is headed by the Union Home Minister, and the Chief Ministers of the constituent states serve as vice-chairmen in turn.
- The North-Eastern region has a separate council called the North-Eastern Council, which was established in 1972 under the North-Eastern Council Act, 1972.



New outdoor facility for yellow fever and adult vaccination opens



Why in News?

- A new outdoor facility for yellow fever and adult vaccination has been opened at SMS Hospital.



Key Points:

- This facility will operate on the first floor of Dhanvantari Block, in rooms 130 to 133. Registration is required for vaccination and a fee will be charged.
- This vaccine is mandatory for travel to African and South American countries. An internationally recognized certificate will be provided after vaccination.

Other Important Points:

- Yellow fever is a viral infectious disease spread by the bite of the Aedes mosquito. Its symptoms include fever, headache, muscle pain, vomiting, and in severe cases, liver and kidney damage.
- This disease is found primarily in tropical regions, and vaccination is the most effective method for prevention.
- The vaccine is given in a single dose, providing almost lifelong protection.

Vishwa Guru Deep Ashram Research Institute



Why in News?

- Vishwa Guru Deep Ashram Research Institute, Jaipur, has been authorized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, as a cluster center under the Gyan Bharat Mission.



Key Points:

- The Institute has received formal permission to conduct work related to the preservation, promotion, research, and digitization of manuscripts.
- Mahamandaleshwar Swami Gyaneshwarpuri, a disciple of Swami Maheshwarananda Maharaj, President of the Institute, and Vice President, signed the MoU at the Gyan Bharat Mission headquarters in Delhi.
- The Institute will conduct extensive manuscript research, cataloging, preservation, research studies, and training programs in various districts of Rajasthan. The Institute's objective is to preserve Indian culture and heritage and enrich the knowledge of ancient texts in a modern context.
- This research institute is affiliated with the National Manuscript Mission and recognized by the Rajasthan Sanskrit Academy.

For the first time in the state, ten wildlife species, including tigers and panthers, were adopted.



Why in News?

- A major wildlife conservation initiative was launched at the Kota Biological Park, in which NTPC adopted ten wildlife species from five species.



Key Points:

- These wildlife species include tigers, panthers, hyenas, and other species. NTPC has assumed responsibility for their health, food, medicine, and habitat care for one year.
- This is the first such large wildlife adoption initiative in Rajasthan.
- NTPC has also contributed ₹10.50 lakh for planting 1,500 trees, which will contribute to environmental conservation.
- This wildlife conservation scheme is called Captive Animal Sponsorship, which is run by the Forest Department.

TIE Rajasthan Partners with Madhya Pradesh Government for Global TIE Summit



Why in News?

- TIE Rajasthan has partnered with the Madhya Pradesh Government to increase entrepreneur participation in the Global TIE Summit (TGS) 2026.



Key Points:

- The Global TIE Summit (TGS) 2026 is a major annual event that will be held in Jaipur, Rajasthan, from January 4-6, 2026. It aims to promote global thinking and innovation in the fields of technology, investment, and entrepreneurship. Over 10,000 entrepreneurs, over 500 investors, and over 100 global speakers from around the world will participate in the summit.
- The event will feature several keynote sessions, networking opportunities, startup showcases, pitch sessions, a gaming hackathon, women entrepreneurship semi-finals, and a film festival.

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- The summit aims to provide an international platform and investment opportunities to all entrepreneurs, including startups from Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. This event is a major step towards establishing Rajasthan as a new hub of technology and innovation.
- The partnership with the Madhya Pradesh government will enable Madhya Pradesh's startup ecosystem to directly connect with the summit, further boosting regional innovation and entrepreneurship.

Other key points:

- The Global TIE Summit (TGS) 2026 is organized by TIE Rajasthan, a non-profit organization that connects entrepreneurs, investors, and businesses. The organization organizes summits, networking events, and incubation programs across various states to promote technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- This event is a joint initiative of TIE Rajasthan, the Government of Rajasthan, and the Government of Madhya Pradesh, with the aim of promoting entrepreneurship and empowering regional economic development.

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Nearly 2 million people downloaded the RajCop Citizen App.

Why in News?

- The RajCop Citizen App is a free mobile application developed by the Rajasthan Police, providing citizens of Rajasthan with easy access to various police and government services. Nearly 2 million people have downloaded the RajCop Citizen App and it is available for both Android and iOS. The app is designed to bridge the gap between citizens and authorities, enhancing public safety and convenience.

NEED HELP?
हमें बताइये

संकट के समय महिलाओं को

RajCop Citizen App

से मिलेगी तत्काल पुलिस सहायता

1. RajCop Citizen App में 'महिला सहायता' सेक्शन में मौजूद 'मदद चाहिए' टैब पर क्लिक करें।

2. सहायता के लिए स्लाइड करें।

3. जरूरत के मुताबिक आपातकालीन या गैर आपातकालीन स्थिति चुनें।

4. पुलिस का कॉल चाहती हैं तो कॉल बैक पर क्लिक करें या मैसेज टाइप करें। आवश्यकतानुसार अन्य विकल्प भी चुनें।

5. 'जमा करें' पर क्लिक करें।

6. होम पेज पर मौजूद 'मेरे सहायता अनुरोध' पर जाकर मदद के लिए आ रहे पुलिस वाहन को ट्रैक करें।

संकट के समय तत्काल पुलिस सहायता व अन्य पुलिस सेवाओं के लिए अभी डाउनलोड करें **RajCopCitizen ऐप**

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Key Points:

- **Emergency Assistance (SOS):** The "Need Help" or RajCop SOS feature provides immediate police assistance in critical situations, allowing the user's location to be tracked for a quick response.
- **Complaint Registration and Status:** Allows users to register new complaints and track their current status within the app.
- **Access to FIRs:** Citizens can view, access, and download copies of their registered First Information Reports (FIRs), except in cases where this is prohibited by law (such as those related to the identification of victims in sexual offenses).
- **Verifications:** Simplifies the process of tenant/servant verification and character verification.
- **Helplines:** Provides access to important helpline numbers for specific issues such as child, women, cybercrime, and telecom.
- **Find Nearest Police Station:** Helps users locate the nearest police station from their current location.

✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	Tisha, the little chess prodigy, won gold and bronze at the Commonwealth Games.  ■ Tisha Byadwal performed brilliantly in the Under-8 category at the Commonwealth Chess Championship 2025 held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She won the gold medal in the blitz round and the bronze medal in the classical round. Tisha is a resident of Pratap Nagar, Jaipur.



Ambaji Marble Receives GI Tag



Why in News?

- Ambaji Marble has been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Central Government. This certification is granted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) of the Central Government.



Key Points:

- **Produced in:** Banaskantha district, Gujarat.
- **Key features:** Milky white color, natural beauty, and durability. It is used extensively in temples, monuments, and grand buildings.

Geographical Indication (GI Tag)

- **Meaning:** It is a certification. This tag is given to products that have a specific geographical origin. This origin gives these products unique qualities.
- **Act:** It is granted under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- **Validity:** 10 years

Importance of Obtaining a GI Tag

- A GI tag not only protects the identity and authenticity of the product, but also enhances its market value and export potential.
- The GI tag will help Ambaji marble establish a distinct brand identity in the global markets, thereby increasing demand in India and abroad and boosting local industries and artisans.

5th Audit Day



Why in News?

- Recently, the Vice President of India commemorated the establishment and legacy of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), praising him as the "Guardian of the Public Treasury" during the 5th Audit Day celebrations.



Key Points:

The origins of the Audit Institution of India:

- It began in 1858, when a dedicated department headed by the Accountant General was created.
- **The Government of India Act, 1858:** This introduced a new system of presenting the annual budget of royal income and expenditure (1860), which laid the foundation for the Royal Audit.
- **First Auditor General:** Sir Edward Drummond became the first Auditor General of India on November 16, 1860, marking the formal beginning of institutional auditing in India.
- Since then, November 16 has been celebrated as Audit Day.
- **Developments after Independence:** The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) was recognized as a constitutional authority with the adoption of the Constitution of India in 1950.

Highlights of the 5th Audit Day (2025)

- **Theme:** 'Guardian of the Public Treasury', marking the 166th year of the CAG's establishment.
- Audit processes aim to support good governance and strengthen executive accountability, and to be a forward-looking instrument of reform, foresight, and innovation.



INTERNATIONAL



Strait of Hormuz



Why in News?

- Iranian forces recently seized an oil tanker flying the flag of the Marshall Islands while it was transiting through the Strait of Hormuz.



Key Points:

- It is a narrow strait (33 km wide) that connects the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.
- Iran lies to the north, and Oman (Musandam Peninsula) to the south.
- Strategic importance:** It is a key chokepoint in global oil transit, with approximately one-fifth of the world's petroleum passing through it every day.

Operation Southern Spear



Why in News?

- The United States is conducting Operation Southern Spear in the Caribbean Sea against narco-terrorism. As part of this operation, fighter jets and guided-missile destroyers have passed through the Anegada Passage.



Key Points:

Anegada Passage



- **Location:** It is a channel in the West Indies, connecting the Atlantic Ocean to the Caribbean Sea.
- It is 65 kilometers wide and separates the British Virgin Islands (west) from the Leeward Islands (southeast).

Colombo Security Conference



Why in News?

- The Colombo Security Conference (CSC) officially welcomed Bangladesh as its fifth member state during the 8th Deputy National Security Advisor (DNSA) level meeting.



Key Points:

- The Colombo Security Conference was established in 2020 when India, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives agreed to expand the scope of their trilateral meeting on maritime cooperation.
- **Objective:** To promote regional security by jointly addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern.
- **Members:** India, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Mauritius, and Bangladesh. Seychelles is an observer nation.
- **Pillars of cooperation:** Maritime security, counter-terrorism, combating transnational organized crime, cybersecurity, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

Foreign Minister's Visit to Qatar



Why in News?

- The Foreign Minister met with the top leadership of Qatar and discussed key aspects of bilateral relations, including energy and trade, as well as regional and global issues.



Key Points:

India-Qatar Relations

- **Strategic Partnership:** India and Qatar have signed an agreement to elevate their relations to a strategic partnership in 2025.
- India currently has strategic partnerships with four other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council – the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait.
- **Economic and Trade Relations:** Qatar is the largest provider of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to India. Current annual trade is \$14.08 billion.

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ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY



Lake Turkana



Why in News?

- Researchers believe that a long-term climate-induced decline in Lake Turkana's water level has led to increased seismic and volcanic activity in the East African Rift System.



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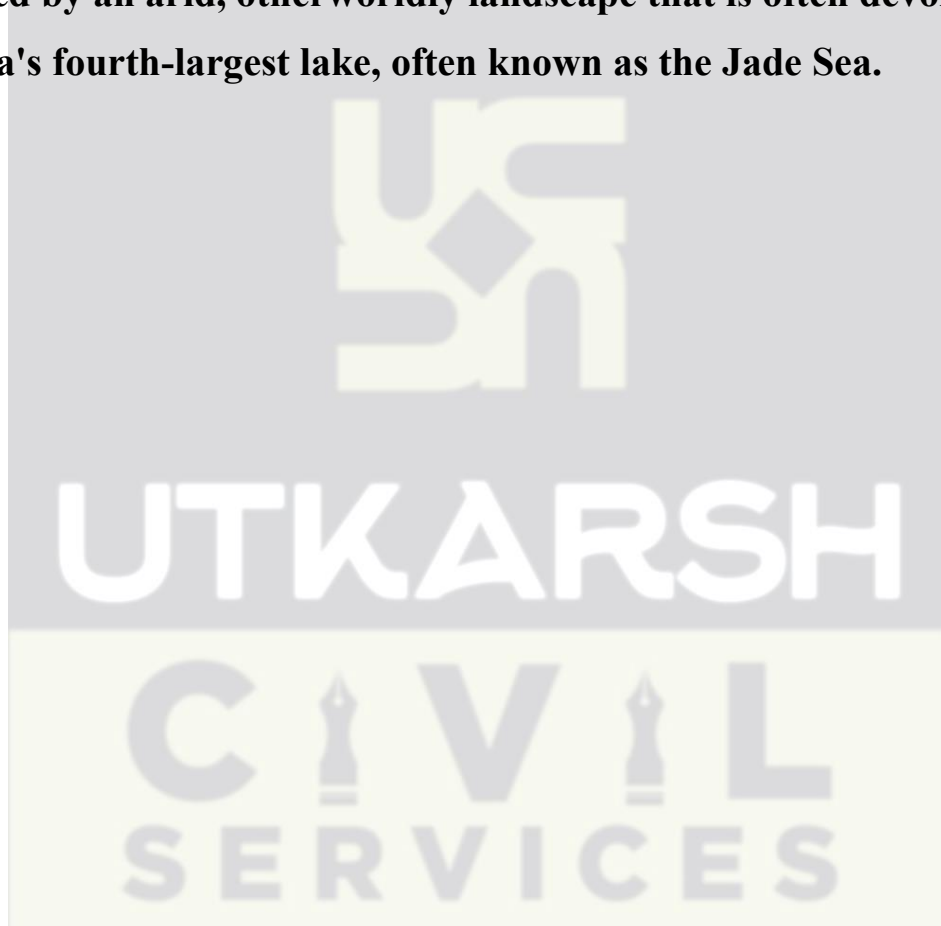
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Key Points:

Lake Turkana

- Located primarily in northern Kenya, its northern edge extends into Ethiopia.
- It is East Africa's most saline lake and the world's largest desert lake, surrounded by an arid, otherworldly landscape that is often devoid of life.
- It is Africa's fourth-largest lake, often known as the Jade Sea.



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Climate and Nature Finance Platform



Why in News?

- At COP30 in Belém, Brazil, India, along with 13 countries and the African Island States Climate Commission (AISCC), announced the national "Climate and Nature Finance Platform." This platform will be coordinated through the Green Climate Fund (GCF).



Key Points:

Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest dedicated multilateral climate fund, established in 2010 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- It was established to support developing countries in their adaptation and mitigation activities to climate change.
- The GCF is central to the implementation of the Paris Agreement in accordance with Article 9, supporting developing countries in achieving their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and climate resilience targets.
- It is financed primarily by voluntary contributions from developed countries, with additional support from the private sector and other sources.



PERSONALITY



150th Birth Anniversary of Birsa Munda



Why in News?

- November 15 is celebrated as Tribal Pride Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Lord Birsa Munda. The government has designated this day as Tribal Pride Day in 2021.



Key Points:

Birsa Munda

- Born in 1874 in Ulihatu village, Jharkhand, he was a spiritual reformer and freedom fighter. He is known as Dharti Aba (Father of the Earth).
- He led the Ulgulan or Great Upheaval (1899–1900) (Munda Rebellion), a militant movement for tribal self-governance and the restoration of Khuntakatti (community land rights).
- He united the Munda tribes against British land laws and feudal exploitation.
- The rebellion is seen as a landmark event in tribal resistance and ultimately inspired legislative changes such as the Chotanagpur Tenancy Act (CNT Act) of 1908 to protect tribal land rights.

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NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	Salumarada Thimmakka ■ Padma Shri awardee Salumarada Thimmakka, one of India's most respected environmentalists, has passed away. ■ She influenced Karnataka's afforestation policies and inspired many tree-planting movements in India.



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