

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 17 December, 2025



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RAJASTHAN



Rajasthan's Share in the Country's Total Solar Energy Capacity



Why in News?

- As of December 2025, Rajasthan's share in the country's total solar energy capacity is 27.2 percent, and its total share in renewable energy is 16.43 percent. (Source - DIPR)



Key Points:

- The state's current installed renewable energy capacity is 41,189 megawatts (MW), and its solar energy capacity is 35,337 megawatts (MW).
- Rajasthan ranks first nationwide in the national FLS ranking for the PM-KUSUM scheme (Component - A). It ranks third in the PM-KUSUM scheme (Components - B & C).

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- Under Component – B: 51,927 (out of a total of 1.15 lakh) off-grid solar pumps have been installed (as of December 2025).
- Under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, 1,09,209 rooftop solar plants have been installed in the state.
- In the last two years, Rajasthan's renewable energy capacity has increased by 17,820 megawatts (MW), with solar energy contributing 17,326 megawatts.
- **Recognition for Rajasthan in Renewable Energy:** Excellence in Wind and Hybrid Policy Award at WindEnergy India-2025, held in Chennai in November 2025.

Facts for Prelims:

Rajasthan's Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2024:

- **Main Objective:** To contribute to achieving the national target of 500 gigawatts of renewable energy by 2030.
- Under this policy, the target is to establish 115 gigawatts of renewable energy generation and 10 gigawatts of energy storage capacity by 2029-30. This will promote solar energy, wind energy, biomass, and green hydrogen.
- Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Limited (RRECL) has been established for the management and development of renewable energy/solar park infrastructure.

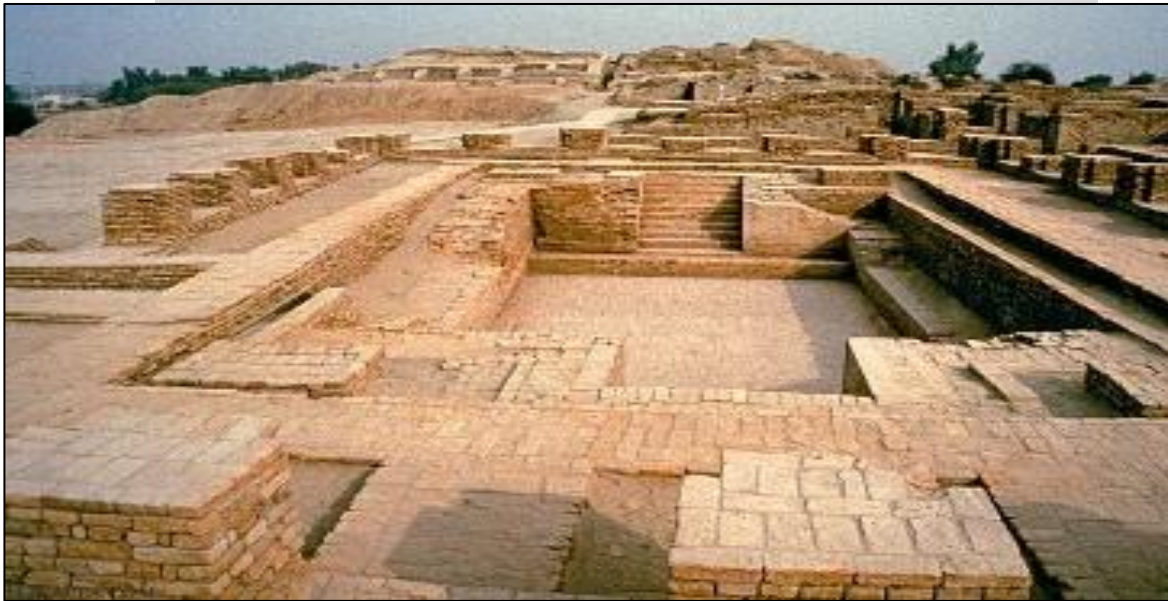
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Recently Discovered Archaeological Sites in Rajasthan



Why in News?

- Recently, during excavations conducted by archaeologists at Sadhewala in Jaisalmer, red-colored, handmade Harappan pottery was discovered.



Key Points:

- The recovered artifacts include earthen pots, bowls, bangles, and perforated vessels, which are likely related to the Indus Valley Civilization.
- Chert stone knives and remnants of walls made of ancient bricks were also found at the same site, indicating a well-organized urban settlement.

Other Important Points:

- **Ratadiya Ri Deri (Jaisalmer):** A research team from the University of Rajasthan found remnants of an approximately 4500-year-old settlement belonging to the Harappan civilization at a place called 'Ratadiya Ri Deri' in Ramgarh tehsil.
- **Artifacts found:** Glazed pottery, bowls, pots, bangles made of clay and conch shells, triangular, circular, and idli-shaped terracotta cakes.

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- **Megha village (Jaisalmer):** Fossils older than the Jurassic period were found. The species to which these fossils belong became extinct 200 million years ago.
- This fossil was discovered by a team led by Professor V.S. Parihar of Jai Narain Vyas University. The discovered fossil is a 200-million-year-old Phytosaur, which resembled a crocodile in size and structure.
- **Bahaj village (Deeg):** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) unearthed remnants of an approximately 4500-year-old civilization during excavations.
- **Artifacts found:** Remains from the Mahabharata and Mauryan periods, a sacrificial fire pit, a statue of Ashwini Kumar, silver and copper coins, Brahmi script seals, conch shell bangles, bone tools, pottery, terracotta idols of Shiva-Parvati, layered walls, kilns, and an ancient river system.

UTKARSH

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SERVICES

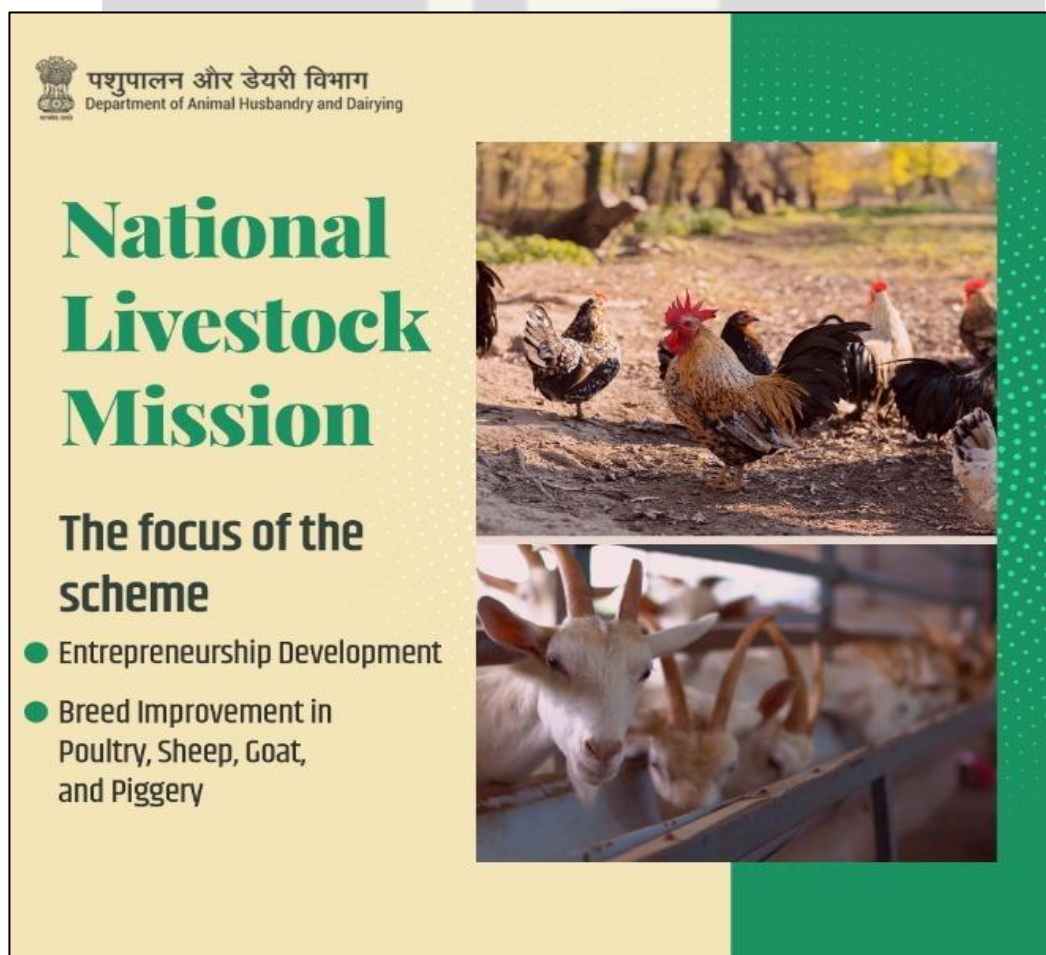
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National Livestock Mission Master Trainer Training Workshop



Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan Animal Husbandry Department organized a state-level Master Trainer Training Workshop under the National Livestock Mission.



Key Points:

- Venue:** Rajasthan State Livestock Management and Training Institute, Jaipur.
- The National Livestock Mission (NLM) is a flagship scheme implemented by the Central Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

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- **Launched:** It was launched in the financial year 2014-15, but has been implemented in a new form since 2021-22.
- **Main Objective:** To generate employment through entrepreneurship development in the livestock sector, increase per-animal productivity, and promote the production of meat, eggs, wool, and fodder.
- **Scope:** The mission primarily focuses on ruminant animals such as sheep, goats, poultry, piggery, and fodder development.
- **Sub-Missions:** Three main sub-missions under the revised NLM:
- **Livestock and Poultry Breed Development:** This emphasizes breed improvement and entrepreneurship in poultry, sheep, goats, and pigs.
- **Fodder and Feed Development:** Encouraging the establishment of fodder blocks and silage units to address the shortage of animal feed resources.
- **Innovation and Extension:** Providing support for research, livestock insurance, and the dissemination of new technologies to farmers.

Subsidies (Grants):

- The government provides a back-ended subsidy of up to 50 percent on the capital cost of the project to eligible entities.
- **Poultry Farms:** Grant up to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs.
- **Sheep and Goat Breeding:** Grant up to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs.
- **Fodder Units:** Subsidy up to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs.

Manak Award and Other Awards – 2025



Why in News?

- Recently, the selection committee in Jodhpur announced the ‘Manak Award and other special awards’.



Key Points:

- Brijmohan Acharya, a correspondent of Rajasthan Patrika Bikaner, has been selected for the ‘Manak Award’ for the year 2025.

Other awards for the year 2025:

S. No.	Personality	Category
1.	Chandrashekhar Hada	Cartoonist
2.	Alok Anand	Public Relations
3.	Ankit Tiwari	Electronic Media
4.	Dr. Suman Bissa	Rajasthani Women’s Literature
5.	Sachin Sharma	Jalte Deep Group

✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Manasvi Agarwal</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Recently, Manasvi Agarwal, a resident of Udaipur, conquered Mount Vinson Massif (4892 meters), the highest peak on the Antarctic continent.■ Manasvi Agarwal is the first mountaineer from Rajasthan to climb Mount Vinson Massif.■ Location: This peak is located in the Sentinel Range of the Ellsworth Mountains in Antarctica.
2.	<p>Geetali Gupta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Geetali Gupta from Sri Ganganagar recently secured the All India First Rank in the general category of the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT).■ Geetali scored 112.75 out of 119 marks. 

3.

Dr. Vinay Bhanawat: Nelson Mandela Global Brilliance Award – 2025



- Recently, Dr. Vinay Bhanawat, a resident of Udaipur, was honored with the 'Nelson Mandela Global Brilliance Award – 2025' by the NAHF Organization India.
- Dr. Vinay Bhanawat, also known as the 'Currencyman', received this award from author-lyricist Manoj Muntashir.

4.

Govind Guru Bridge: Dungarpur



- Rajasthan's first extra-dosed cable bridge has been constructed at the confluence of the Mahi and Anas rivers in the Sangameshwar area of Dungarpur district.
- **Name:** Govind Guru Bridge.
- **Inauguration:** By the Prime Minister on September 25, 2025.
- **Cost and Features:** Built at a cost of ₹135 crore, this 906-meter-long bridge has a total width of 12 meters, including a two-lane carriageway, footpaths, and crash barriers.

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5.

Medal Winner Grant Portal

- The Rajasthan State Sports Council has launched the 'Medal Winner Grant Portal' to provide information to athletes regarding grants.

6.

State Human Rights Commission Winter Internship Program



- The Rajasthan State Human Rights Commission organized a winter internship program from December 1 to 19, 2025.
- A total of 48 students from 15 universities and colleges across various states, including Rajasthan, were selected for this program.

7.

High-Tech Cyber Fusion Center

- Recently, the Union Home Ministry decided to establish 20 'High-Tech Cyber Fusion Centers' across the country.
- Five locations in Rajasthan have been selected for this project, which are known as major hotspots for cybercrime.
- **Five locations:** Bhiwadi, Alwar, Khairthal-Tijara, Deeg, and Sawai Madhopur.
- It is noteworthy that these locations have witnessed a rapid increase in cases of online investment fraud, fake call centers, banking fraud, money mule accounts, and social media blackmailing in recent years.

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8.

814th Urs of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti



- The 814th Urs of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti began on December 17, 2025, with the flag-hoisting ceremony.
- The Gauri family of Bhilwara hoists the Urs flag at the dargah of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti in Ajmer.

9.

Bharat Renewable Expo – 2026

- **Event:** January 16-18, 2026, in Jaipur.
- Bharat Renewable Expo 2026, is India's largest platform dedicated to promoting clean and sustainable energy solutions.
- **Organizer:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India.



10.

Rajasthan Players in the Indian Premier League

- **Kartik Sharma (Bharatpur):** Bought by Chennai Super Kings for ₹14.20 crore.
- **Ravi Bishnoi (Jodhpur):** Bought by Rajasthan Royals for ₹7.20 crore.
- **Mukul Chaudhary (Jhunjhunu):** Bought by Lucknow Super Giants for ₹2.60 crore.
- **Ashok Sharma (Jaipur):** Bought by Gujarat Titans for ₹90 lakh.



Ekam AI and SAMBHAV



Why in News?

- The Indian Army showcased Ekam AI and SAMBHAV as part of Vijay Diwas celebrations.



Key Points:

Ekam AI:

- This is a completely indigenous and secure artificial intelligence platform. It is designed for sensitive operational environments.
- This platform provides users with effective assistance in information analysis, document management, and decision-making without relying on foreign software or external cloud systems.

SAMBHAV:

- This is a portable communication system. It provides mobile connectivity using satellites.
- This system can be rapidly deployed in remote or disaster-affected areas, improving communication for both soldiers and civilians.

Cho La and Dok La Passes



Why in News?

- The Cho La and Dok La passes in Sikkim have been opened for battlefield tourism under the India Battlefield Tourism initiative.



Key Points:

- The India Battlefield Tourism initiative is a joint effort of the Indian Army and the Ministry of Tourism to allow citizens to visit historical battlefields and sites of military significance.

Cho La Pass:

- **Location:** It is located in the Chola Range of the Eastern Himalayas. It is situated at an altitude of 17,782 feet above sea level.
- Nathu La and Jelep La passes are also located in the Chola Range.
- This pass connects Sikkim and the Chumbi Valley.
- A violent conflict between India and China took place here in 1967.

Dok La (Doklam) Pass:

- **Location:** It is located near the tri-junction of India, Bhutan, and China, on the edge of the Doklam plateau in East Sikkim.
- It was the site of a border standoff between India and China in 2017.



INTERNATIONAL



United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)



Why in News?

- The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations has completed two decades of efforts aimed at bridging divides, reducing polarization, and promoting intercultural dialogue.



Key Points:

UNAOC:

- **Secretariat:** New York
- **Launched:** 2005
- It was initiated by the Republic of Turkey and Spain under the auspices of the United Nations.

Relevance for India

- It aligns with India's pluralism and the civilizational ethos of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family).
- It supports India's participation in interfaith harmony, South-South cooperation, and multilateral peace initiatives.

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Petra and Ellora Caves



Why in News?

- India and Jordan have signed a twinning agreement between the Ellora and Petra caves, respectively. These caves are UNESCO World Heritage Sites and are famous for their rock-cut architecture.



Key Points:

Ellora Caves:

- **Location:** Charanandri hills near the Elaganga River (Maharashtra).
- **Origin:** Primarily carved between 600-1000 AD by the Rashtrakuta and Yadava dynasties.
- **Architecture:** These caves are carved out of basalt rocks from top to bottom.
- **Religion:** Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain monuments are carved, reflecting religious tolerance.
- They also contain murals related to these three religions.

Petra Caves:

- Petra is also known as the Rose City because of its pink sandstone cliffs. It was the capital of the Nabataean or Nabati kingdom, which was established around the 4th century BC.

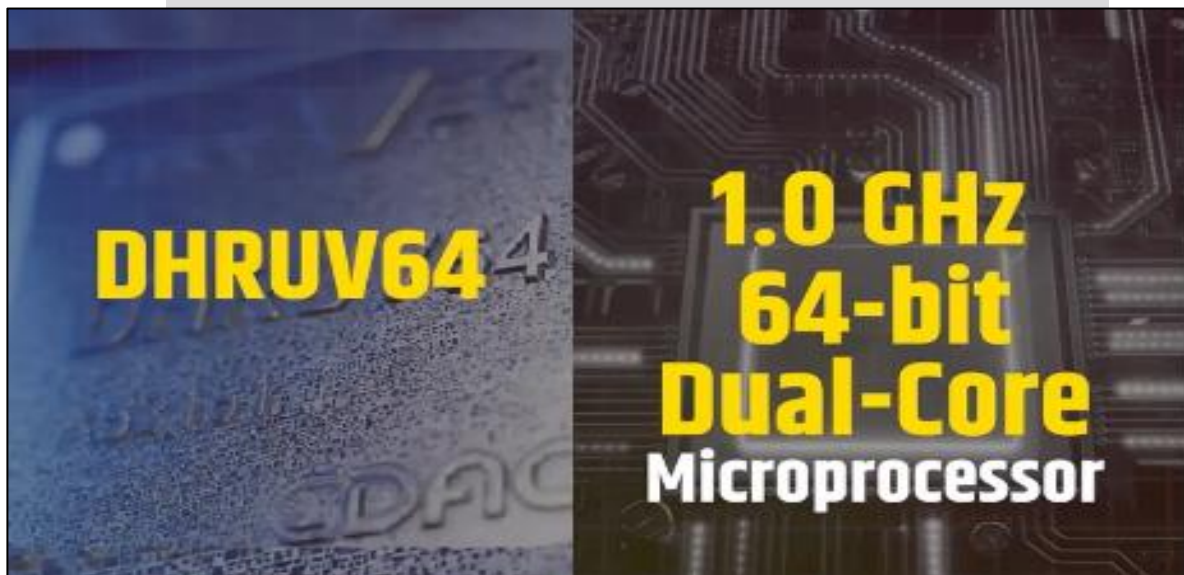
⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ⌚

Dhruv64



Why in News?

- India launched the Dhruv64/DHRUV64 microprocessor.



Key Points:

DHRUV64:

- This is India's first fully indigenous 1.0 gigahertz (GHz), 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.
- Microprocessors are the brains of modern electronic devices such as mobile phones, computers, etc.
- **Development:** Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the Microprocessor Development Program (MDP).
- **Other Indian microprocessors:** Shakti (2018, IIT Madras), Ajit (2018, IIT Bombay), Vikram (2025, ISRO–SCL).
- The next-generation Dhanush and Dhanush + processors are under development.

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🎓 POLITY 🎓

Appointment of Chief Information Commissioner



Why in News?

- The President of India administered the oath of office to Raj Kumar Goyal as the Chief Information Commissioner.



Key Points:

Central Information Commission:

- **Origin:** A statutory body under the Right to Information Act, 2005.
- **Structure:** Headed by a Chief Information Commissioner (CIC). It can have a maximum of 10 Information Commissioners (ICs).
- **Functions:** To receive and inquire into complaints from any citizen regarding the Right to Information Act, etc.
- **Appointment:** The CIC and ICs are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee. This committee comprises: the Prime Minister (Chairperson), the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.
- **Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019:** The term of office, salary, allowances, and other terms and conditions of service of the CIC and ICs shall be determined by the Central Government.



INDEXES AND REPORTS



Global Value Chain (GVC) Development Report, 2025



Why in News?

- This report, titled “Rewiring GVCs in a Changing Global Economy,” was released and prepared through a joint effort by the Asian Development Bank, the World Trade Organization, the World Economic Forum, and others.

Geneva Launch of the Global Value Chain Development Report 2025



Key Points:

- **Global Value Chain:** The series of activities involved in the production of a finished consumer good, where value is added at each stage. These activities take place in at least two stages and in different countries.
- **India's Position:** India is among the world's top 10 value-adding economies.
- India's share of domestic value added in global exports was 2.8% in 2024.

MILITARY EXERCISES

Exercise Ekta 2025



Why in News?

- The Deputy Chief of the Indian Navy is on an official visit to the Maldives.



Key Points:

- **Objective:** To participate in the closing ceremony of 'Ekta 2025', a joint bilateral maritime exercise conducted between India and the Maldives.
- **Started:** 2017
- This is an annual bilateral maritime exercise conducted between the Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force.
- The 8th edition of this exercise witnessed extensive professional interactions aimed at enhancing interoperability and operational coordination.

🏆 AWARDS 🏆

National Energy Conservation Award



Why in News?

- Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited has won the National Energy Conservation Award 2025, under the State Energy Efficiency Performance Award (SDA Group-1) category.



Key Points:

- Under the SDA Group-1 category, awards are given to states with high energy consumption and advanced energy ecosystems.

National Energy Conservation Award (NECA)

- **Founder:** Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Power
- **Objective:** To recognize outstanding performance in energy efficiency and conservation and to encourage states, industries, and institutions to reduce energy intensity.