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RAJASTHAN



Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference – 2026

Why in News?

- The ‘Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference – 2026’ was organized in Jaipur on January 6, 2026.



Key Points:

- Tagline:** AI - Accessible to All, For Everyone (Democratizing AI For Public Good)
- Venue:** Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC), Sitapura.

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- **Organizers:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Department of Information Technology and Communication, Rajasthan.
- **Note:** During the conference, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma launched the 'National AI Literacy Program', 'Rajasthan AI-ML Policy-2026', 'iStart Learning Management System', 'Rajasthan AVG-C-XR Portal', and 'Rajasthan AI Portal'.
- These initiatives will promote Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based education, startups, research, skill development, and digital governance in the state. They will also foster innovation and entrepreneurship in emerging areas of information technology in the state.

MoUs with Google, IIT Delhi, and NLU Jodhpur:

- On January 6, 2026, the Government of Rajasthan signed important Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Google, IIT Delhi, and NLU Jodhpur.
- With the support of Google, governance will be made more effective through AI-ML-based pilot projects in sectors such as health, agriculture, transport, and citizen services.
- In collaboration with National Law University, Jodhpur, capacity building will be undertaken for government officials, startups, and professionals, promoting trustworthy, responsible, and ethical AI in the state.
- The partnership with IIT Delhi will strengthen the AI Center of Excellence, research, skilling, hackathons, startup mentoring, and industry-academia-government collaboration.
- **Note:** The Government of Rajasthan also signed an MoU with the Skill Development Network (Wadhwani Foundation).

Rajasthan AI-ML Policy – 2026 Launched

Why in News?

- Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma launched the 'Rajasthan AI-ML Policy – 2026' on January 6, 2026, during the 'Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference – 2026' in Jaipur.



Key Points:

- Full Name:** Rajasthan Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI-ML) Policy - 2026

Daily Current Affairs



Date : 07 January, 2026



- **Announcement:** This policy was announced in the Rajasthan Budget 2025-26.
- **Approval:** Approved by the Rajasthan Cabinet on December 30, 2025.
- **Objective:** To make public service delivery faster, more transparent, and citizen-centric through the responsible, ethical, and secure use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, to increase administrative efficiency, and to encourage innovation-based economic development.
- Developing Rajasthan as a hub for Information Technology (IT) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) is also among the primary objectives of this policy.
- This policy will ensure the expansion of e-governance, keeping in mind the increasing importance of information technology in service delivery.
- **Provisions:** Under this policy, special emphasis has been placed on making AI systems transparent, accountable, fair, and privacy-protected, as well as on reducing bias in AI systems, ensuring data security, and clarity in the decision-making process.
- The policy also provides for clear procedures for reporting and resolving cybercrimes related to AI.
- This policy includes provisions for promoting AI education in schools, ITIs, polytechnic institutions, and colleges.
- **Note:** The policy includes a provision for the establishment of an 'Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence'.
- Under the policy, each department will identify the possibilities of using AI in its respective field, and an AI nodal officer will be appointed.

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Sikar District Ranks First in the First Phase of the 'Mukhyamantri Jal Swavalamban Abhiyan 2.0'

Why in News?

- In the first phase of the 'Mukhyamantri Jal Swavalamban Abhiyan 2.0', launched in February 2024, Sikar district secured the first position across the state.



Key Points:

- First phase target:** To construct 1,10,000 water harvesting structures in more than 5,000 villages of the state.



- In Sikar, 136 villages across 65 Gram Panchayats in 12 blocks have been included under this scheme. According to the progress report as of December 31, 2025, Sikar completed 4820 works against the target of 4513, achieving 107 percent progress, which is the highest in Rajasthan.

Mukhyamantri Jal Swavalamban Abhiyan 2.0 (MJSA 2.0)

- **Announcement:** In the Rajasthan Budget 2024-25.
- **Launch:** By the state government in February 2024.
- **Objective:** To ensure maximum rainwater harvesting, water conservation, and judicious use of available water resources in Rajasthan.
- Under this campaign, the construction of new check dams, farm ponds, mini percolation tanks (MPT), sub-surface barriers (SSB), and the repair of old water harvesting structures are undertaken.
- During the period 2024 to 2028, it is proposed to construct 5,00,000 water harvesting and water conservation structures in 20,000 villages of the state under MJSA 2.0.

Other Important Points:

Mukhyamantri Jal Swavalamban Abhiyan (MJSA)

- **Launch:** This campaign was launched on January 27, 2016, from Gardan Khedi village in Jhalawar district.
- **Objective:** To meet the minimum water requirements in rural areas, ensure water availability during droughts, and address problems arising from water scarcity. The year 2016 was marked as the 'Water Revolution Year'.
- **Note:** According to a report by the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Water Resources), 29 districts of Rajasthan are among the total of 193 districts across the country facing severe water depletion. Rajasthan ranks second in this report, after Uttar Pradesh (38 districts).

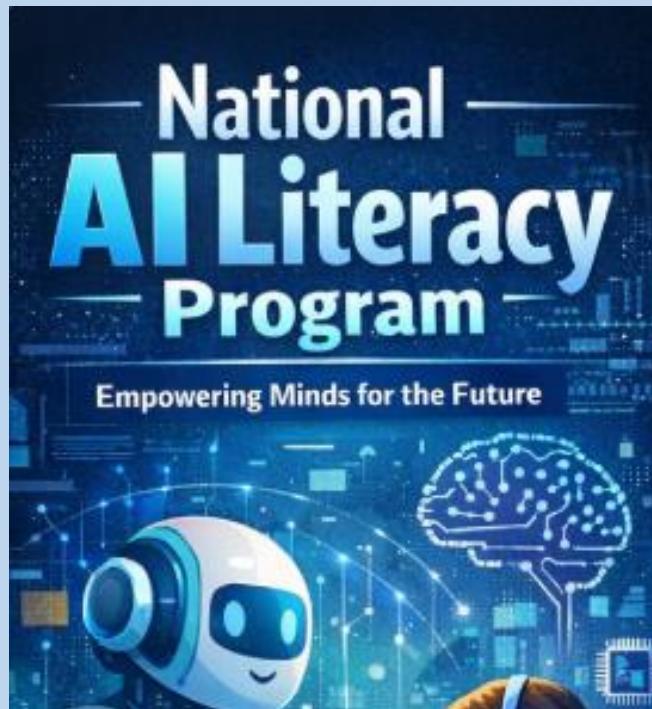
NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.

News

1.

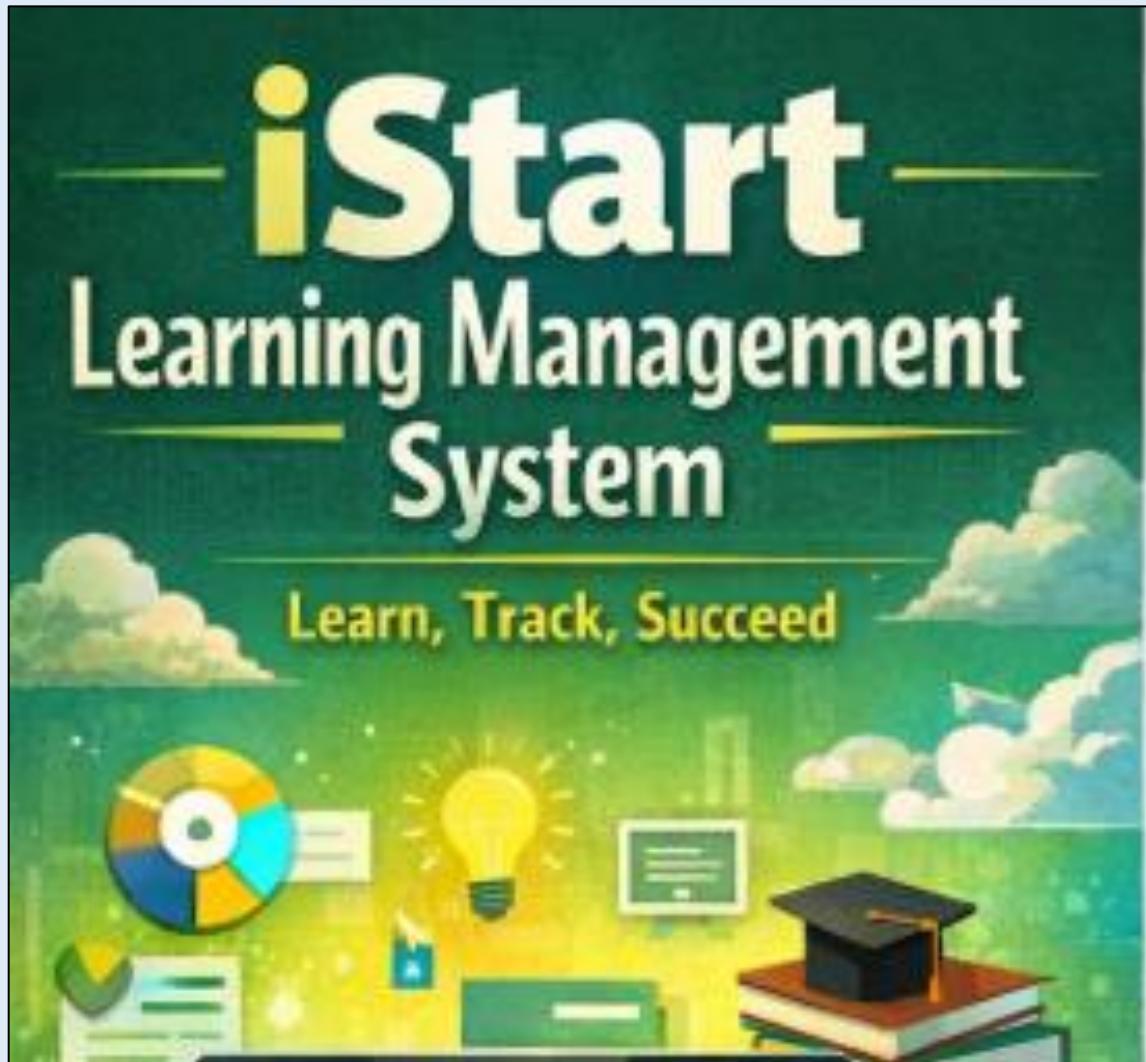
National AI Literacy Program



- **Launch:** On January 6, 2026, during the 'Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference – 2026' in Jaipur.
- **Objective:** To make the general public AI literate and equip them with technical skills.
- **Operation:** The National AI Literacy Program is a flagship initiative of the Government of India, led by the INDIAai mission under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- 'Yuva AI for All' is the first phase of this program, which will explain AI in a simple and practical way through a four-hour course and provide information on its responsible use in various fields, including creativity and planning.

2.

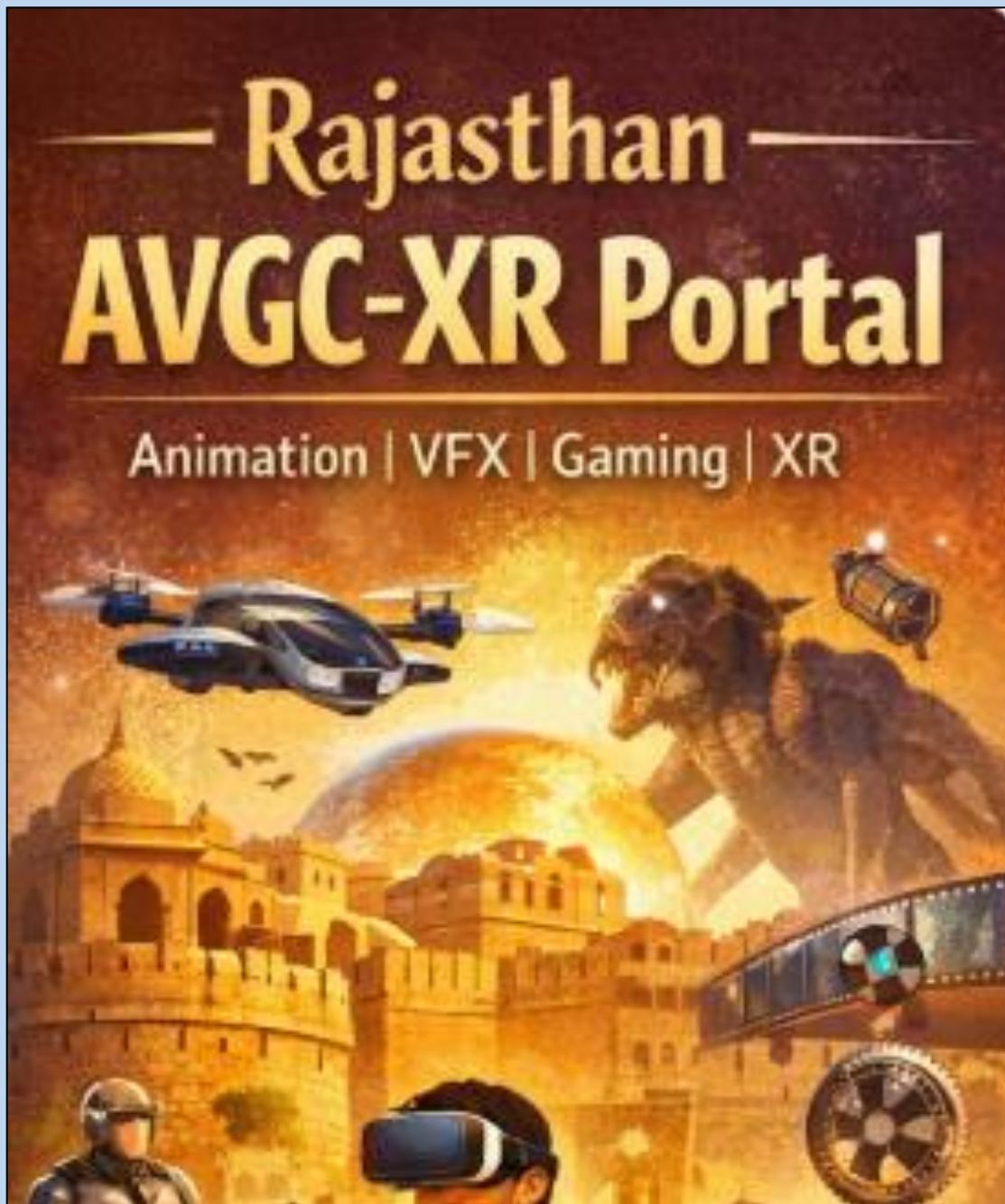
iStart Learning Management System



- **Launch:** On January 6, 2026, during the 'Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference – 2026' in Jaipur.
- The 'iStart Learning Management System,' launched with the objective of promoting digital learning and capacity building, will boost skill development, entrepreneurship, and innovation in the state.
- iStart is a flagship initiative of the Department of Information Technology and Communication (DoIT&C) of the Government of Rajasthan, aimed at promoting startups, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the state.

3.

Rajasthan AVGC-XR Portal



- **Launch:** On January 6, 2026, during the 'Rajasthan Regional AI Impact Conference – 2026' in Jaipur.
- To encourage talent working in the field of 'Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality' for the effective implementation of the AI-ML policy, the 'Rajasthan AVGC-XR' portal and the 'Rajasthan AI Portal' have been launched.

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4.

Rajasthan Helpline – 181



- The Rajasthan Helpline 181, is a powerful medium for communication and problem-solving between the general public and the government.
- It functions as an integrated grievance redressal system, and complaints and queries are directly forwarded to the relevant departments through online channels.

5.

Ideathon State-Level Championship

- **Event:** Held at the Rajasthan Digifest TiE Global Summit.
- **Participants:** 24 teams selected from all divisions of Rajasthan participated.
- **First Place:** Team 'Adhikrit'. (Prize: ₹50,000)

6.

MoU between RSLDC and CIPP

- Recently, the Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC) signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Center for Innovation in Public Policy (CIPP).
- Under this MoU, 3.50 lakh youth in the state will be provided with employment opportunities.

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7.

Game Development Challenge at Rajasthan Digifest TiE Global Summit

- **Participants:** 240 game developers from 76 teams participated in the competition.
- **Organizers:** The Outlook survey was conducted by Outlook and the Department of Information Technology and Communications in collaboration with Nodwin Gaming.
- **First Place:** MIT ADT University, Pune. (Prize: ₹1,00,000)
- **Second Place:** Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Technology, New Delhi. (Prize: ₹50,000)
- **Third Place:** VIT Bhopal University. (Prize: ₹25,000)

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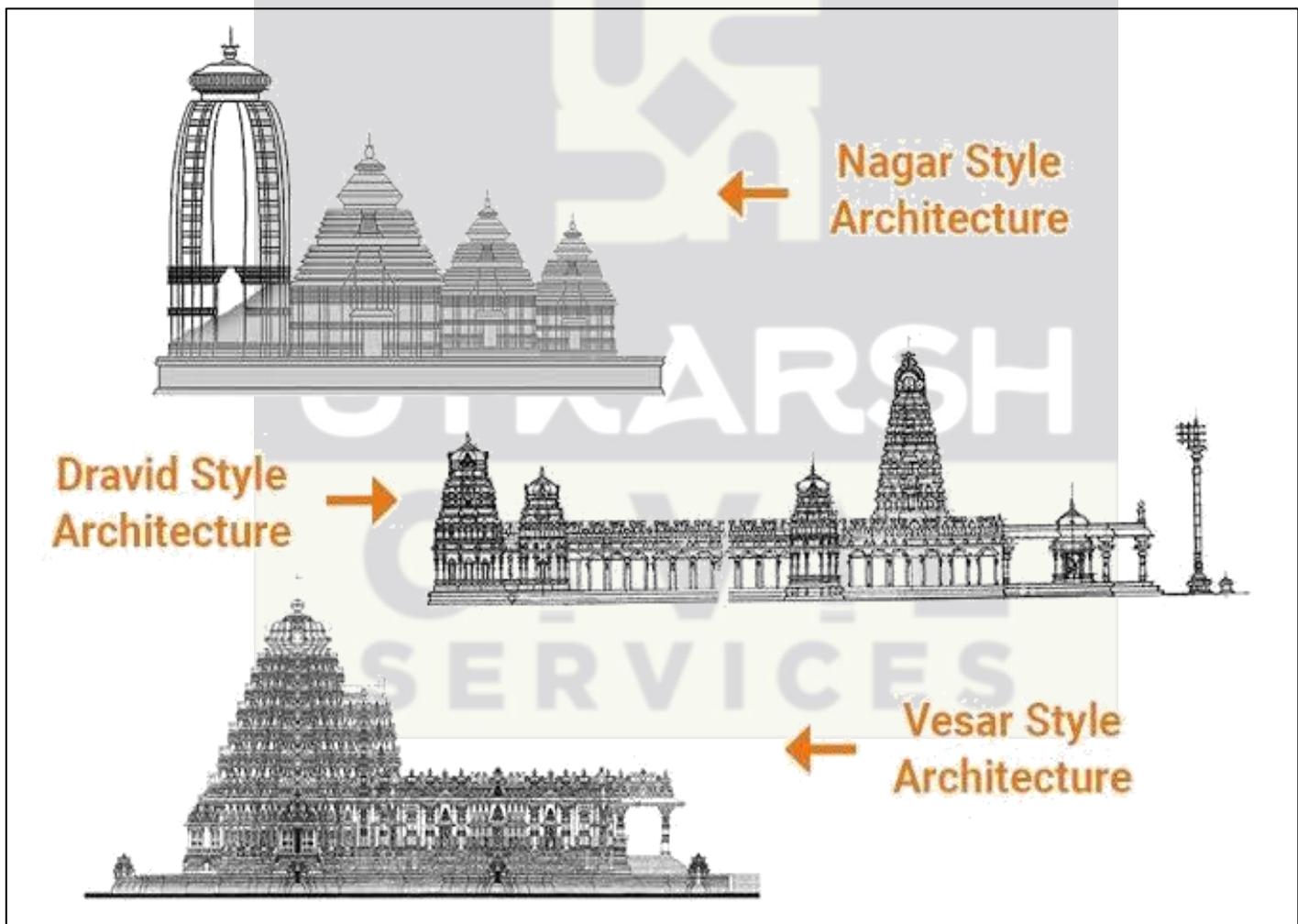
NATIONAL



Somnath Temple

Why in News?

- The Prime Minister paid tribute on the completion of 1000 years since the first attack on the Somnath Temple in 1026 AD.



Key Points:

Somnath Temple Additional Information-

- **Location:** Situated on the seashore at Prabhas Patan near Veraval in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat.

Daily Current Affairs



Date : 07 January, 2026



- **Significance:** One of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva is located in Somnath.
- **History:** It was first attacked by Mahmud of Ghazni in the 11th century. This is also mentioned by Al-Biruni.
- **Reconstruction:** The then Deputy Prime Minister Vallabhbhai Patel ordered the reconstruction of the Somnath Temple on November 12, 1947.
- **On May 11, 1951,** the then President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, performed the consecration ceremony (Pran Pratishtha) at the temple.

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Kushan Dynasty

Why in News?

- Archaeologists have discovered rare Kushan-era coins and decorative jewels from a UNESCO World Heritage site near Taxila in present-day Pakistan.
- These discoveries include precious jewels such as lapis lazuli.





Key Points:

Additional Information – Kushan Dynasty

- **Reign:** From the 1st century BCE to the 3rd century CE.
- **Origin:** Believed to have originated from the Yuezhi tribe of Central Asia. Kanishka I was the greatest Kushan ruler, who patronized Buddhism and organized the Fourth Buddhist Council.
- **Administration:** The Kushan Empire was divided into satrapies (provinces). This indicates a decentralized system of governance.
- **Empire Expansion:** Extended across northwestern India (Gandhara, Kashmir), the Mathura region, and through the Ganga-Yamuna Doab to parts of eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- **Economy:** The Kushans issued a large number of gold coins. This indicates a strong currency-based economy and extensive trade relations.



United Nations Security Council – UNSC

Why in News?

- Five countries – Bahrain, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Latvia, and Liberia – have been elected as non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council for a two-year term.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (UNSC)

स्थायी सदस्य, वीटो अधिकार (5)

- चीन, फ्रांस, रूस, यूनाइटेड किंगडम और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका
- अस्थायी सदस्य (10), दो वर्षों का कार्यकाल
- अफ्रीका (3)
- एथिया (2)
- लैटिन अमेरिका (2)
- पश्चिमी यूरोप व अन्य देश (2)
- पूर्वी यूरोप (1)

प्रत्येक सदस्य के पास एक वोट होता है।

यह संयुक्त राष्ट्र की एकमात्र संस्था है, जो ऐसे निर्णय ले सकती है, जिसे सभी सदस्य देशों को मानना अनिवार्य होता है।

Key Points:

UNSC – Additional Information:

- **Established:** Founded in 1945 through the United Nations Charter as one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- **Members:** (P5) 5 permanent members and 10 non-permanent members.
- P5 includes China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- **Objective:** To maintain international peace and security.

⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🌡

Wolf Supermoon

➡ Why in News?

- Recently, the Wolf Supermoon phenomenon occurred.

Full Moons of 2026



January 3
Wolf Moon



February 1
Snow Moon



March 3
Worm Moon



April 2
Pink Moon



May 1
Flower Moon



May 31
Blue Moon



June 30
Strawberry Moon



July 29
Buck Moon



August 28
Sturgeon Moon



October 26
Hunter's Moon



November 24
Beaver Moon



December 24
Cold Moon



Key Points:

Wolf Supermoon: Additional Information -

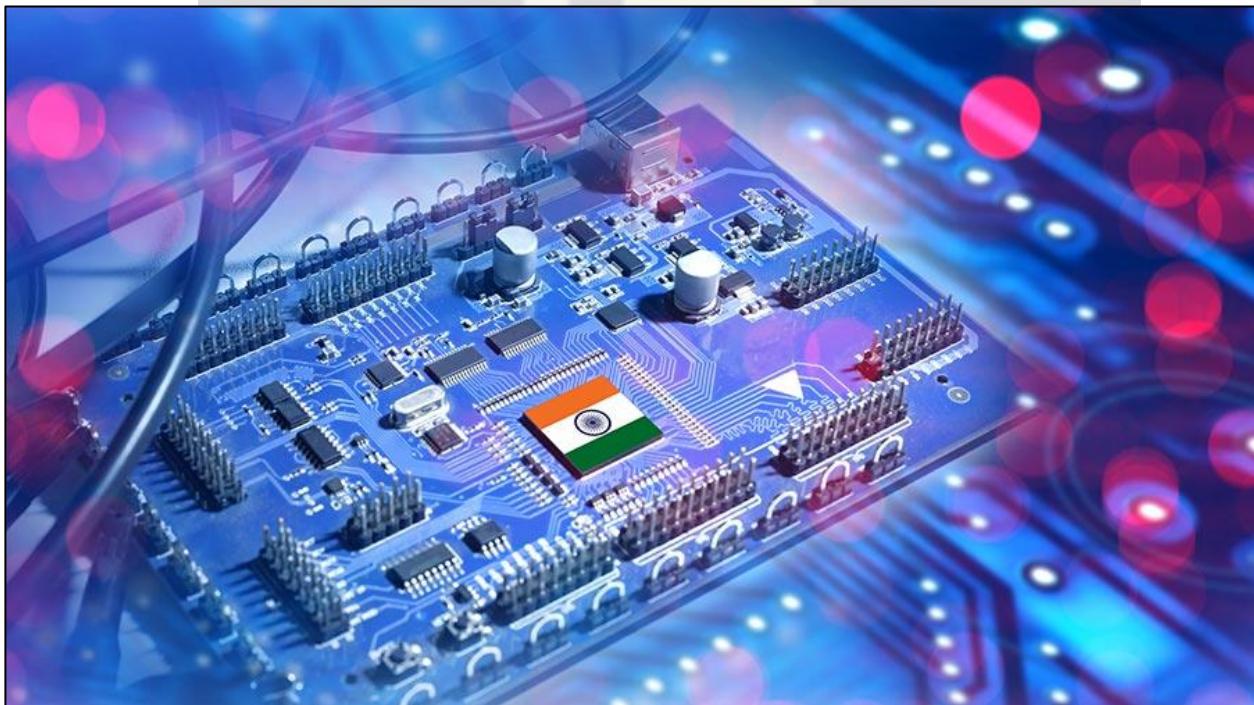
- **Wolf Supermoon:** This is the traditional name for the first full moon of the month.
- **Supermoon:** A supermoon occurs when the moon is at its closest point to Earth (perigee) and is also a full moon. In this position, it appears slightly larger and brighter than usual.
- Therefore, the Wolf Supermoon is a combination of the Wolf Moon and a Supermoon. In this phenomenon, the first full moon of January is at its closest point to Earth.

SCHEMES

Design Linked Incentive Scheme – DLI

Why in News?

- The Central Government has approved 24 chip design projects under the Design Linked Incentive Scheme.



Key Points:

DLI Scheme:

- Launch:** Launched in 2021, under the Semicon India Program.
- Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- Implementing Agency:** C-DAC – Centre for Development of Advanced Computing.
- Objective:** To create a robust and self-reliant chip design ecosystem by providing financial incentives and advanced design infrastructure to domestic startups and MSMEs.

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IMPORTANT DAYS

National Bird Day – 2026

Why in News?

- National Bird Day was celebrated on January 5, 2026, drawing attention to the important role of birds in maintaining ecological balance.



Key Points:

- Established:** In 2002 by the Avian Welfare Coalition.
- India's National Bird:** Peacock (declared the national bird in 1963)
- Scientific name –** **Pavo cristatus**
- The peacock is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act – 1972.
- Salim Ali is known as the Birdman of India.

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News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>E-Production Investment Business (e-B-4) Visa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ India has launched the e-Production Investment Business (e-B-4) visa for Chinese businesspersons. This visa will be issued in approximately 45-50 days.■ This visa will allow a maximum stay of 6 months in India.

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