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## RAJASTHAN



### State-Level Sanitation Ranking by the Department of Local Self-Government

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan Department of Local Self-Government released the state-level sanitation ranking (for November 2025).



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## Key Points:

- The main objective of the Department of Local Self-Government in initiating this ranking is to provide rankings to the urban local bodies of the state in accordance with the central government's parameters, in order to promote sanitation activities.
- The ranking divides the cities of Rajasthan into 4 different categories.

### Ranking of cities with a population of 50,000 to 300,000:

- **First:** Bharatpur.
- **Second:** Jaisalmer.
- **Third:** Sikar.

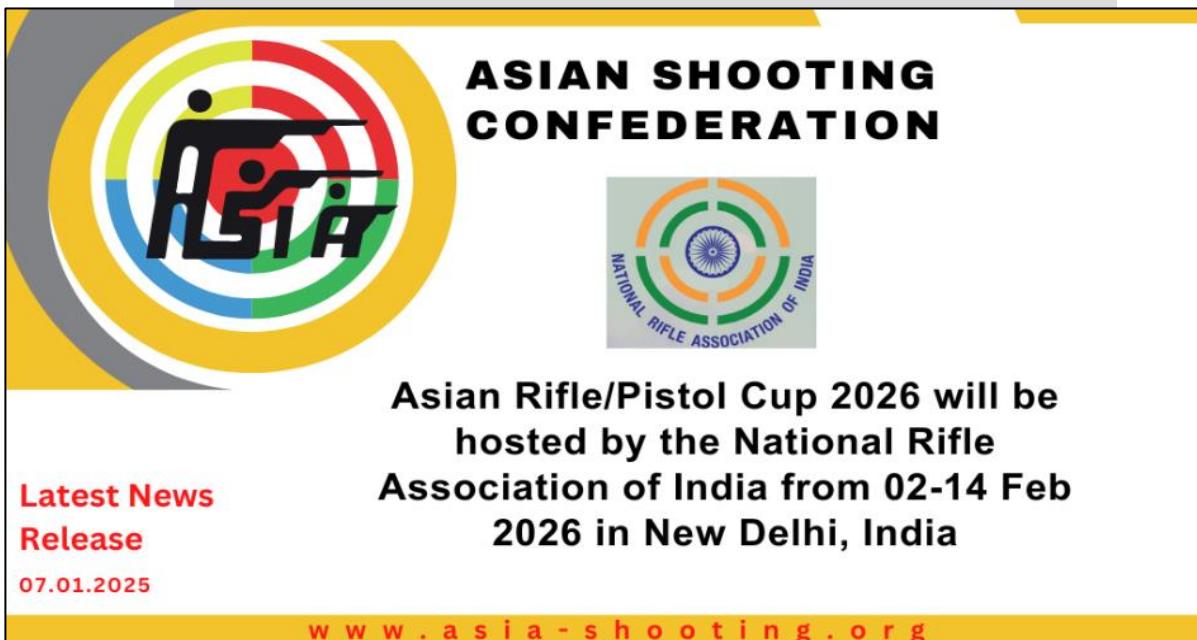
### Ranking of cities with a population of 300,000 to 1 million:

- **First:** Bhilwara.
- **Second:** Alwar.
- **Third:** Udaipur.
- **Note:** Jaipur has been kept separate in the city sanitation ranking due to its population exceeding one million. Jaipur Greater Municipal Corporation received approximately 35 percent marks, and Jaipur Heritage received 21 percent.

## Four Shooters from Rajasthan to Represent India at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship

### Why in News?

- Four shooters from Rajasthan will represent India at the 'Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship – 2026'.



### Key Points:

- **Manini Kaushik:** 50m Rifle Prone event. (Manini won a bronze medal in the individual event and a silver medal in the team event at the Asian Championship held in Shymkent, Kazakhstan in 2025.)
- **Bhavesh Shekhawat:** 25m Rapid Fire Pistol.
- **Manvendra Singh Chauhan:** 50m Rifle 3 Positions Junior.
- **Bhanupratap Singh Chaudhary:** Air Rifle Youth.

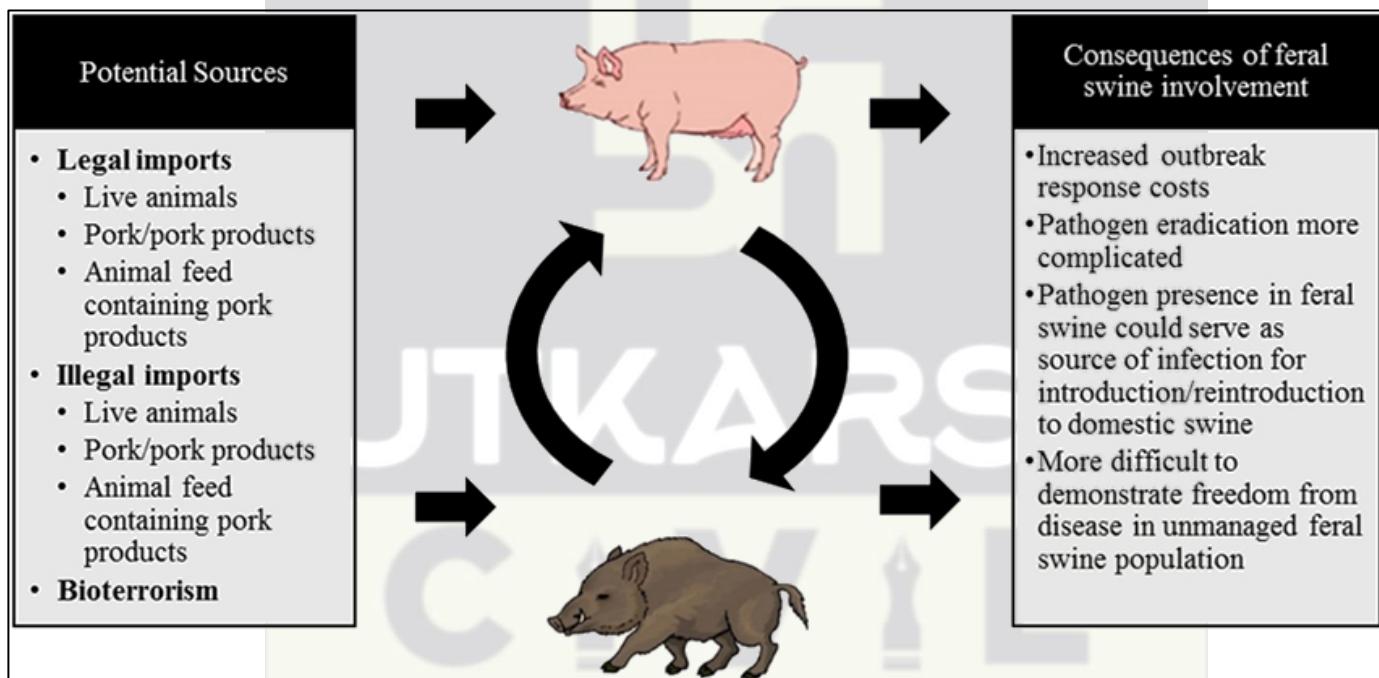
### Other Important Points:

- The Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship-2026 will be held from February 2 to 14, 2026, at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.

## Statewide Vaccination Campaign for the Prevention of Classical Swine Fever

### Why in News?

- A statewide vaccination campaign to prevent and control Classical Swine Fever, an infectious disease affecting pigs, was launched by the Rajasthan Animal Husbandry Department on January 1, 2026.



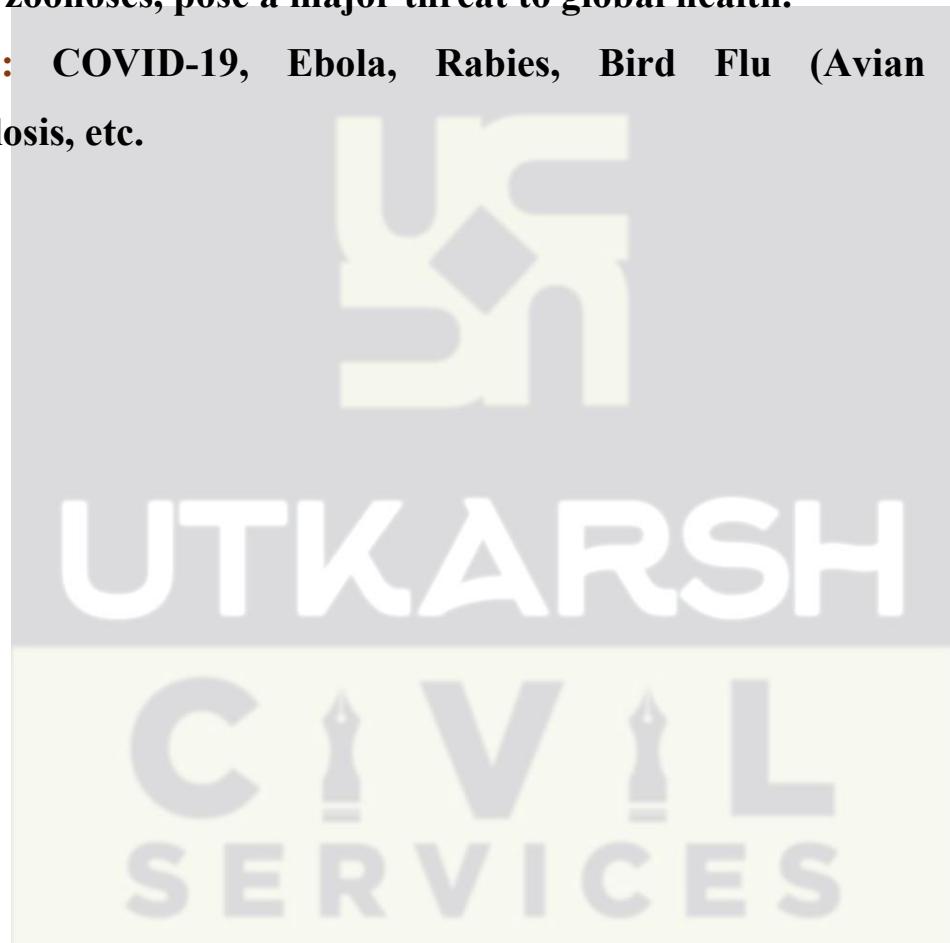
### Key Points:

- Campaign Duration:** January 1 to February 1, 2026.
- Under this campaign, pigs in all districts of the state will be vaccinated free of charge. The main objective of the campaign is to protect the livestock of pig farmers, prevent the spread of the disease, and minimize economic losses.
- Classical Swine Fever is a disease caused by a virus, a highly contagious RNA virus belonging to the Pestivirus genus (Flaviviridae family), which spreads easily through infected pigs, contaminated feed, or pork products, causing severe illness in domestic and wild pigs.



## Facts for Prelims:

- **Zoonotic Diseases:** A zoonotic disease is an infectious disease that is transmitted naturally between animals and humans and is caused by pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, parasites, or fungi. These diseases, also known as zoonoses, pose a major threat to global health.
- **Examples:** COVID-19, Ebola, Rabies, Bird Flu (Avian Influenza), Salmonellosis, etc.



## NEWS IN SHORTS

### S. No.

### News

1.

#### Divyanshi Jain (Squash)



- Jaipur's squash player Divyanshi Jain won the Under-13 Girls category title at the Scottish Open Squash in Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland.
- In the final, Divyanshi defeated fellow Indian Shanaya Parasrampuria 11-5, 11-9, 11-5.
- Earlier, Divyanshi Jain had also won the Kuala Lumpur Open title.

2.

#### MoU between NHM Rajasthan and IIHMR

- Recently, a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between IIHMR Startups and the National Health Mission, Rajasthan, with the aim of strengthening the state's public health system.
- Under this MoU, healthcare startups will be supported to improve health services in the state through innovation.

3.

### Rajasthan's First Government Genetic Testing Lab

- Rajasthan's first government genetic testing lab is being established at Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Hospital in Jaipur, where gene-related diseases will be detected from blood samples.
- After Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru, a genetic testing lab is being established at SMS Medical College, Jaipur.
- Genetic testing, also known as DNA testing or genetic screening, is a medical analysis of genes, chromosomes, or proteins to detect changes (mutations) that can cause genetic diseases.
- It helps in the diagnosis, treatment, and understanding of diseases such as cancer, heart disease, or cystic fibrosis.

4.

### MoU between Bikaner Technical University and IITM, Pune

- Under an agreement between Bikaner Technical University (BTU) and the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, a 'Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reference Station' will be established at the BTU campus in Bikaner.
- This station will compile high-quality scientific data related to long-term climate, weather, and greenhouse gases in the arid and desert region.

5.

### First Defective Meter-Free Distribution Company in the Non-Agricultural Category in the State: Jaipur

- Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam has become the first defective meter-free distribution company in the non-agricultural category in the state.
- In all 18 circles of Jaipur, all defective meters of single-phase urban and rural and three-phase electricity consumers (non-agricultural) have been replaced with working meters.

6.

## IPRs Filed by IIT Jodhpur in 2025

- Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur filed a total of 86 Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) during the calendar year 2025.
- This figure for IPR filings is approximately 150 percent higher than the previous year, reflecting the increasing pace of research and innovation at the institute.
- The IPRs filed in 2025 include 77 patent applications, 5 design registrations, and 4 copyrights.

7.

## Prahlad Rai Tak Awarded 'Asia Continent Award-2025'

- Prahlad Rai Tak, Chairman of the Rajasthan Yade Mati Kala Board, was recently honored with the 'Asia Continent Award-2025' in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal.
- He was given this award for his outstanding contribution in the field of pottery art at the Global Peace Harmony Conference organized by Samrasata Manch.

8.

## Dr. Suman Kalra – Bronze Medal at the International Kettlebell World Championship

- Dr. Suman Kalra, a resident of Sri Ganganagar, won a bronze medal at the International Kettlebell World Championship (IKMF) 2025 held in Cegléd, Hungary.
- More than 200 athletes from 22 countries participated in this global competition. The 15-member Indian contingent won a total of 25 medals.

9.

## Groundwater Strategy Summit 2025

- **Venue:** Rajasthan International Center, Jaipur.
- **Organizer:** Institute of Water Conservation (IWC)
- **Objective:** To strengthen groundwater management, empower the rural economy, and create a sustainable national policy framework using digital technologies and community participation for water security.



## NATIONAL



### Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation: Logo and Mascot

#### Why in News?

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation unveiled its new logo and mascot on January 1, 2026.

#### Key Points:

##### Logo:



- It signifies the importance of data in the nation's development and reflects the Ministry's commitment to facilitating data-driven governance, transparency, and progress in India.

- The logo incorporates the Ashoka Chakra, symbolizing truth, transparency, and good governance. The rupee symbol in the center highlights the crucial role of data in economic planning, policy-making, and national development.
- The upward-trending growth line represents progress.
- The colors saffron, white, green, and dark blue represent India's national values of development, truth, stability, and knowledge.

## ■ **Mascot: "Statistics"**

- It is a friendly and people-centric character designed to make statistics simple, understandable, and engaging for people across the country.
- The mascot embodies the core values of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation – accuracy, transparency, and data-driven governance.



## **Other Important Points:**

- **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI):** Came into existence as an independent ministry on October 15, 1999, after the merger of the Department of Statistics and the Department of Programme Implementation.
- **Functions:** It is the nodal agency for the planned and organized development of the statistical system in the country and for coordinating statistical activities among various stakeholders of the Government of India, State Governments, and Union Territories, as well as meeting the requirements of international agencies.



### Euro Currency: Bulgaria

#### Why in News?

- On January 1, 2026, Bulgaria became the 21st member of the Eurozone to adopt the euro as its official currency.



#### Key Points:

- The Bulgarian currency, the lev, will remain in circulation alongside the euro until January, and from February 2026, the euro will become the country's sole legal tender.
- Bulgaria joined the European Union in 2007.

#### Eurozone:

- The Eurozone was officially established on January 1, 1999, initially comprising 11 countries.
- Currently, the zone has 27 members. Of these, 6 members – Sweden, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Denmark – have not yet adopted the euro.



## ⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🌡

### Pralay Missile

#### ➡ Why in News?

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully launched two indigenously developed Pralay missiles from a single launcher off the coast of Odisha.

#### ➡ Key Points:

- This test is part of a rapid series of missile tests, including the Pinaka long-range guided rocket and the K-4 submarine-launched ballistic missile.

#### Pralay Missile:

- **Introduction:** It is a solid-propellant, surface-to-surface, short-range ballistic missile.
- **Warhead Capability:** Capable of carrying various types of warheads against the target.
- It can be launched from a mobile launcher.
- **Range:** 150 to 500 km.
- **Development:** Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- **Payload Capacity:** 500-1000 kg
- **Navigation:** Equipped with Inertial Navigation System (INS) and Radio Frequency (RF) system.

## SCHEMES

### Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana: 9 Years Completed

#### Why in News?

- The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, a scheme for pregnant women and lactating mothers, completed 9 years on January 1, 2026.

#### Key Points:

- Type:** Centrally sponsored direct benefit scheme.
- Ministry:** Ministry of Women and Child Development
- Implemented:** In all districts of the country since January 1, 2017.
- Basis:** In line with the National Food Security Act, 2013.
- Integration:** Included in Mission Shakti in 2022.

#### Objectives:

- Wage Loss Compensation:** Financial assistance to enable women to rest before and after childbirth.
- To improve health and promote gender equality.**
- Financial Benefit:** Total financial assistance of ₹6000 (₹5000 from the beginning of pregnancy to delivery + ₹1000 additional benefit under Janani Suraksha Yojana after institutional delivery).
- Coverage:** Socially and economically disadvantaged women, applicable for the first two live births, and the second child must be a girl.
- Installments:** 3

Installment	Amount	Description
First installment	₹1000	Pregnancy registration in MoP card
Second installment	₹2000	After one antenatal check-up
Third installment	₹2000	On registration of the child's birth
Total	₹5000	₹1000 under Janani Suraksha Yojana



- **Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals:** This scheme is aligned with SDG-3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG-5 (Gender Equality).

## Other Important Points:

### Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan:

- **Launched:** In 2016 by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- **Objective:** To provide free, universal, assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care (ANC) facilities to all pregnant women.
- **Benefits:** Under the scheme, women are guaranteed a minimum antenatal care package during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy.
- **Campaign expansion:** Year 2022



## ECONOMIC SCENARIO



### India: The Fourth Largest Economy

#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Indian government announced that India has surpassed Japan to become the world's fourth largest economy.

#### Key Points:

#### Global economies

Rank	Country	Economy (GDP)
1st	United States	30.6 trillion \$
2nd	China	19.4 trillion \$
3rd	Germany	5 trillion \$
4th	India	4.18 trillion \$

- India has devised a strategy to displace Germany from the third position in the next 2.5 to 3 years, with an estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$7.3 trillion by 2030.
- Purchasing Power Parity (PPP):**

Rank	Country	Economy (GDP)
1st	China	33 trillion \$
2nd	United States	25 trillion \$
3rd	India	14 trillion \$

- According to the IMF, India's GDP (PPP) will reach \$20.7 trillion by 2030 and will potentially become the world's largest PPP economy by 2038 with a GDP (PPP) of \$34.2 trillion.

- GDP Growth:** India's real GDP grew by 8.2 percent in the second quarter (July-August-September) of 2025-26.

### Estimates from various global institutions:

Organization	Estimate
World Bank	6.5 percent growth rate in the year 2026
IMF	6.6 percent growth rate in the year 2025
Asian Development Bank	7.2 percent growth rate in the year 2025
Moody's	Fastest growing economy among G-20 economies

- Developed India @ 2047 Vision:** India's long-term goal is to achieve the status of a high-middle-income country by 2047, based on structural reforms, economic resilience, and social progress.

### Other important points:

- Contribution of MSMEs to the Indian economy in 2025:** The second largest employer after agriculture.

Economy	MSME Contribution
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	30 percent
Manufacturing Output	36 percent
Employment in non-agricultural sector	120 million
Total Exports	45 percent

- New definition of MSMEs:** In the Union Budget 2025-26, the investment and turnover limits for classification have been increased by 2.5 times and 2 times, respectively.
- New definition effective from:** April 1, 2025.

Enterprise	Investment (Old)	Investment (Revised)	Turnover (Old)	Turnover (Revised)
Micro	1	2.5	5	10
Small	10	25	50	100
Medium	50	125	250	500

■ **Agreements signed in the MSME sector in the year 2025:**

Agreement	Date of Signing
Ministry of MSMEs, Mauritius and Ministry of MSMEs & Cooperatives, India	10 March 2025
Office of Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion, Thailand and National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., India	3 April 2025
Slovak Business Agency, Slovakia and National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., India	9 April 2025
SME Corporation, Malaysia and National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., India	16 October 2025



## PERSONALITY



### Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor: Vice Chief of Air Staff

#### Why in News?

- Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor assumed the charge of Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force on January 1, 2026.



#### Key Points:

- Kapoor graduated from the National Defence Academy in December 1985 and was commissioned into the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force in December 1986.
- Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor has been appointed as the Vice Chief of Air Staff, succeeding Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari.



- During his tenure at the Air Force Academy, Kapoor played a significant role in the induction and operationalization of the PC-7 MK-II aircraft in the Indian Air Force.
- **Awards:** Awarded the Vayu Sena Medal in 2008, the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2022, and the Param Vishisht Seva Medal and Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal in 2025.

## Other personalities appointed on January 1, 2026:

1. **Air Marshal Tejinder Singh:** Assumed the charge of Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command of the Air Force.
2. **Air Marshal Seethapalli Srinivas:** Assumed the charge of Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Training Command of the Air Force.

UTKARSH  
CIVIL  
SERVICES

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## 🏆 AWARDS 🏆

### Sangeetha Kalanidhi Award, 2025

#### Why in News?

- Violinist R.K. Sriramkumar has been awarded the Sangeetha Kalanidhi Award for the year 2025 by the Music Academy.

#### Key Points:

##### R. K. Sriramkumar:

- **Affiliation:** Belongs to the Rudrapatnam musical family of Karnataka.
- The Sangeetha Kalanidhi Award is considered the highest honor in Carnatic music.
- **Awarded by:** The Music Academy of Chennai.
- Other awards given by the Music Academy:

Award	Recipient	Contribution / Field
Nritya Kalanidhi Award, 2025	Urmila Satyanarayan	Bharatanatyam dancer (to be conferred at the 19th Annual Dance Festival on 3 January 2026)
Sangeetha Kala Acharya Award, 2025	Vocalist Shyamala Venkateshwar and Thavil artist T. R. Govindrajan	For dedication to teaching and promotion of Carnatic music
T.T.K. Award, 2025	Madambi Subramaniam Namboothiri (Kathakali artist); Veena players J. T. Jayaraj Krishnan and Jayashree Jayaraj Krishnan	Conferred on 1 January 2026
Sangita Jnaana Award	C. A. Sridhar	—



## IMPORTANT DAYS



### Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO): 68th Foundation Day

#### Why in News?

- The 68th Foundation Day of DRDO was celebrated on January 1, 2026, at the DRDO headquarters in New Delhi.



#### Key Points:

- Introduction:** Research and Development Department of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- Establishment:** On January 1, 1958, through the merger of the Technical Development Establishment (TDE), the Directorate of Technical Development and Production (DTDP), and the Defence Science Organisation (DSO).
- DRDO operates 41 laboratories and 5 DRDO Young Scientists Laboratories.



- **Motto/Guiding Principle:** 'Balasya Mulam Vigyanam' (The source of strength is science).
- **Chairman:** Dr. Samir V. Kamat.
- **Dr. P. Rama Rao Committee:** The Rama Rao Committee was constituted in 2007 to review DRDO.

## DRDO Brief Timeline: 1958 to 2026:

1. **Formation Phase (1958-1970s):** Formation and a clear vision for indigenous defence research and development.
2. **Missile Era and Expansion (1980s-1990s):**
  - Formation of the Department of Defence Research and Development to oversee DRDO.
  - **Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP):** Development of 5 missiles; Prithvi, Agni, Akash, Nag, and Trishul, under the leadership of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
  - Initial versions of electronics and electronic warfare (EW) systems.
3. **Diversification and Large Projects (2000s-2010s):** Development of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, Arjun battle tank, INSAS rifle, Pinaka, Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas.
4. **Self-reliance and the Keep Tech Era (2020 onwards):** Agni Prime, QRSAM, Long-Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LR-LACM), Medium-Range Anti-Ship Missile (MRASHM)

## Note: Other DRDO achievements:

- Sonar systems like HUMSA, USHUS, and Mihir for warships, submarines, and helicopters.
- **Varunastra:** Torpedo.
- **Divya Drishti:** AI-based security and surveillance equipment.
- Indigenous Military Combat Parachute System (MCPS)
- Pralay missile (surface-to-surface)
- **Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW):** A glide bomb for attacking airfields up to 100 km away.
- Air Defence Tactical Control Radar (ADTCR): Launched in 2024.
- Development of the Sudarshan Chakra Air Defence System.

## NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	<p><b>Jayshree Ullal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Hurun India has released the Rich List, 2025.</li><li>■ Jayshree Ullal, CEO of Arista Networks, has topped the list of Indian-origin leaders (CEOs) globally.</li></ul>
2.	<p><b>Kamya Karthikeyan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ 18-year-old Kaamya Karthikeyan has become the youngest Indian woman to reach the South Pole.</li><li>■ Kamya is the second youngest woman in the world to achieve this feat.</li></ul>
3.	<p><b>13th Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum International Sports Award</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Announcement:</b> December 30, 2025, during the World Sports Summit in Dubai.</li><li>■ <b>Organizer:</b> Dubai Sports Council</li><li>■ <b>Award established:</b> 2008</li><li>■ Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic was awarded the Global Lifetime Achievement Award, 2025.</li></ul>
4.	<p><b>Cyclone Hayley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Cyclone Hayley, moving towards the northern coast of Western Australia, has intensified into a Category 4 storm.</li><li>■ <b>Speed:</b> 170 km per hour.</li></ul>
5.	<p><b>National Technology Readiness Assessment Framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Professor Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Central Government, has unveiled the National Technology Readiness Assessment Framework.</li><li>■ It has been developed in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).</li><li>■ <b>Objective:</b> To bridge the gap between research and industry.</li></ul>