

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 27 January, 2026



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RAJASTHAN



Rajasthan receives 3 Padma Awards



Key Points:



- **Gaffaruddin**, a resident of Deeg, has received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship award. Gaffaruddin is a renowned Bhapang player and folk singer of "Pandun ka Kada". He inherited his musical education from his family.
- He received this award in the field of art.



- **Tagaram Bhil** of Jaisalmer has impressed art lovers in Europe, Russia, America, and Japan with his unique style of playing the algoza (a type of double flute). He is also proficient in playing the matka (earthen pot drum) and the flute. He has been awarded for his outstanding work in the field of art.
- This award was received in the field of art.



- Social worker **Swami Brahmadev Maharaj** established the Shri Jagdamba School for the Blind in Sri Ganganagar on December 13, 1980. Blind children receive free education here.
- He received this award for his work in the field of social service.

Note:-



- **Piyush Pandey** is originally from Rajasthan, but he received the Padma Bhushan award from the state of Maharashtra.
- Piyush Pandey from Rajasthan was awarded the Padma Bhushan, and Ghaffaruddin, Tagaram, and Brahma Dev were awarded the Padma Shri.
- Piyush Pandey, originally from Jaipur, will receive the Padma Bhushan posthumously for his contribution to the field of art in Maharashtra. Piyush had made a significant mark in advertising creativity. He is also known as Adnan Piyush Pandey.

Rajasthan's tableau, based on the theme 'Golden Touch of the Desert,' was showcased on Kartavya Path on Republic Day.

Why in News?

- Rajasthan's magnificent tableau, 'Golden Touch of the Desert,' was displayed at the national parade held on Kartavya Path in New Delhi on the occasion of the 77th Republic Day.



Key Points:

- This year's tableau included traditional art forms, including Bikaner's Usta art and Ravanhatha musical instrument.
- The world-famous 'Usta art' of Bikaner is the main attraction of this tableau. This art is an unparalleled example of intricate gold carving, traditional craftsmanship, and exquisite artistry. It also features pitchers and flasks adorned with Usta art.
- The tableau also specially included a 180-degree rotating statue of an artist playing the Ravanhatha musical instrument. This unique innovation symbolizes the depth and cultural vibrancy of Rajasthan's folk music.

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Rajasthan contributes 9% to the country's total honey production.

Why in News?

- Rajasthan contributes 9% to the country's total honey production. The state has 3,350 beekeepers who own approximately 2.76 lakh bee colonies, producing about 8,500 metric tons of honey annually.



Key Points:

- The leading districts in honey production in Rajasthan are Alwar, Bharatpur, and Hanumangarh.
- To promote beekeeping, the government will distribute 50,000 colonies and 50,000 bee-boxes in the year 2025-26. A total of Rs. 8 crore will be provided as a 40% subsidy for this initiative.

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NEWS IN SHORTS

| S. No. | News |
|--------|--|
| 1. | <p>Rajasthan's First Cow Sanctuary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The state's first cow sanctuary will be established in Kota district. The cow sanctuary was announced by the Honorable Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma. |
| 2. | <p>Alwar and Jaipur Stations receive 'Energy Conservation Award'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The state government has honored two railway stations in the state with the Rajasthan Energy Conservation Award. Alwar station secured the first position and Jaipur station the second in the 'Railway Station' category for energy efficiency and management.■ These stations were selected based on the Service Comfort Index (SCI). This means that electricity consumption has been minimized through technology without compromising passenger facilities and comfort (such as lights, fans, and AC). |

SERVICES



Granth Kutir



Why in News?

- The President of India inaugurated Granth Kutir at Rashtrapati Bhavan.



Key Points:

Granth Kutir - Additional Information:

- It houses a collection of manuscripts and books in 11 classical languages of India.
- **11 Classical Languages:** Tamil, Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Odia, Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, Bengali.
- **Objective:** To increase awareness among citizens about India's rich cultural and literary heritage.
- **Subject Collection:** This includes epics, philosophy, linguistics, history, governance, science, devotional literature, and also the Constitution of India in these 11 languages.
- This initiative furthers the objective of the Gyan Bharatam Mission.
- The Gyan Bharatam Mission is an initiative of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Its objective is to preserve, digitize, and disseminate India's manuscript heritage.



Digital Climate Map



Why in News?

- The government recently launched a new digital platform, the Atlas of in Climate Adaptation Indian Agriculture (ACASA-India).



Key Points:

- **Developed by:** It has been developed by the National Agricultural Research and Extension System led by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in collaboration with the Borlaug Institute for South Asia.
- **Objective:** To prepare location-specific and data-driven adaptation plans for climate-resilient agriculture.
- This will help farmers to cope with better plans for climate-related challenges.

Climate-Resilient Agriculture:

- This means adopting the adaptation and mitigation practices in agriculture that increase the capacity to withstand and recover quickly from climate shocks (floods, droughts, etc.).

Why is Climate-Resilient Agriculture Needed?

- To prevent production losses
- To ensure rural livelihood security
- To reduce the vulnerability of rain-fed agriculture
- To ensure food security

SCHEMES

Advanced Chemistry Cell Production Linked Incentive (ACC-PLI) Scheme

Why in News?

- Recent, data shows a discrepancy between the targets and actual results achieved under the Advanced Chemistry Cell Production Linked Incentive (ACC-PLI) scheme.

Key Points:

- Launch:** In October 2021
- Objective:** To promote domestic manufacturing of next-generation battery cells.
- Target:** To establish 50 gigawatt-hours of battery cell manufacturing capacity by 2026.
- Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Heavy Industries
- Outlay:** Rs. 18,100 crore.

Secondary Objectives/Importance:

- To reduce dependence on imports and promote private investment and global technological partnerships.
- To reduce battery costs and create a local battery supply chain (cathode, anode) to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles and energy storage.

Incentives:

- Providing a maximum subsidy of approximately Rs. 2000 per kilowatt-hour to selected manufacturers under incentives linked to the actual sale of batteries.
- Companies were required to invest at least Rs. 1100 crore and meet phased domestic value addition targets, including 25% in 2 years and 60% in 5 years.
- Against the target of 50 gigawatts by 2026, only 1.4 gigawatts of battery capacity has been commissioned so far.

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Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)

Why in News?

- PM SVANidhi credit cards have been launched for street vendors.

Key Points:

PM SVANidhi Credit Card:

- Eligibility:** All street vendors who have repaid the second installment of the loan under the PM SVANidhi scheme and are eligible for the third installment.
- Loan Limit:** This will be a RuPay retail credit card. A maximum withdrawal of up to ₹30,000 will be allowed.
- It will have a revolving credit facility, meaning that loans can be taken and repaid anytime within the prescribed limit.

PM SVANidhi Scheme:

- Launched:** In Year 2020
- Scheme Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- Objective:** To provide working capital loans at low-interest rates to street vendors after the COVID-19 lockdown.
- Implementation:** Jointly by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Department of Financial Services.



ECONOMIC SCENARIO



Animal Husbandry and Dairy Production Statistics



Why in News?

- The annual meeting of the Technical Committee on Direction (TCD) for improving Animal Husbandry and Dairy Production Statistics was successfully held on January 22-23, 2026, in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.



Key Points:

- **Primary objectives of the committee:** To identify major data gaps, recommend corrective measures, deliberate on statistical methodologies for implementation by central and state bodies, and provide guidance on conducting relevant sample surveys and censuses.
- **Target:** The committee reviewed major livestock product estimates and set targets for 2025-26. Subsequently, five states, including Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala, Uttarakhand, and Mizoram, presented their best practices in the statistical data collection framework.

Other Important Points:

Status of Livestock in India:

- According to the 20th Livestock Census (2019), India has a total livestock population of 535.78 million.
- **Contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** The livestock sector has grown at a CAGR of 12.997% (from 2014-15 to 2022-23).

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Major Livestock Production:

| Sector | Key Points |
|--------|---|
| Milk | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Rank in World production: 1st position (25% share).■ Milk producing states: Uttar Pradesh (~15.66%) > Rajasthan (~14%) > Madhya Pradesh > Gujarat. |
| Egg | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Rank in World production: 2nd position.■ Commercial poultry farming contributed 84.49% to total egg production at the national level.■ Egg producing states: Andhra Pradesh (18.37%) > Tamil Nadu > Telangana > West Bengal. |
| Meat | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ World rank: 4th.■ Meat producing states: West Bengal (12.46%) > Uttar Pradesh > Maharashtra > Andhra Pradesh. |
| Wool | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Total production: Estimated 34.57 million kilograms.■ Wool producing states: Rajasthan (~47%) > Jammu & Kashmir > Gujarat > Maharashtra. |

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Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2025

Why in News?

- The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for December 2025 showed that workforce participation reached an annual high, while the unemployment rate remained stable.

Key Points:

1. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):

- The LFPR for individuals aged 15 years and above has been consistently increasing since June 2025.
- It was recorded at 56.1% in December 2025.
- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** The percentage of the working-age population (15-59 years) that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

2. Worker Population Ratio (WPR):

- The WPR reached its annual highest level at 53.4%.
- In rural areas, the WPR for men is 76%, and for women, it is 38.6%.
- **Worker Population Ratio (WPR):** The percentage of the working-age population that is actually employed.

3. Unemployment Rate: The overall unemployment rate (UR) remained stable at 4.8%.

Unemployment Rate (4.8%; Stable)

Rural Unemployment Rate

3.9% (Stable)

Urban Unemployment Rate

6.7% (Slight Increase)

4. Livelihood Rate: Rural livelihood rate (59%) > Urban livelihood rate (50.2%)

- The above facts clearly indicate that inequality persists, and unemployment remains consistently higher in rural areas.

🎓 POLITY 🎓

IICDEM and the Delhi Declaration, 2026

📣 Why in News?

- The three-day International Conference on Democracy and Election Management (IICDEM), 2026, organized by the Election Commission of India (ECI), concluded on January 23, 2026, at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, with the unanimous adoption of the 'Delhi Declaration, 2026' by over 40 election management bodies (EMBs).

📌 Key Points:

Delhi Declaration, 2026:

- **Introduction:** A consensus-based global framework adopted by EMBs to strengthen democratic processes through collaboration, innovation, and measurable actions.
- **Provision for Review:** Periodic reviews and a follow-up meeting are proposed to be held on December 3, 4, and 5, 2026, at the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management, New Delhi.

Features of the Declaration:

1. Adopted globally by consensus by the EMB, giving it a high level of global legitimacy.
2. Institutional follow-up, periodic reviews, and annual engagement.
3. A 5-pillar architecture covering the entire electoral cycle.
4. Co-creation of knowledge through a global encyclopedia and thematic reports.

5 Pillars of the Delhi Declaration 2026 –

1. Pillar I: Purity of Electoral Rolls:

- Emphasis on complete, accurate, and law-compliant electoral rolls.
- Focus on universal photo identity cards and inclusion of all eligible voters.

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2. Pillar II: Conduct of Elections:

- Commitment to free, fair, participatory, inclusive, and transparent elections.
- Stakeholder-focused election management.

3. Pillar III: Research and Publications:

- Co-curation of the Encyclopedia of World Democracies.
- Comprehensive reports on 7 topics led by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) and on 36 topics led by IIDEM.

4. Pillar IV: Use of Technology:

- Use of digital tools to facilitate voters and officials while safeguarding impartiality.
- Sharing India's experience with ECINET, including co-development for other EMBs in local languages and legal contexts.
- Special focus on combating misinformation.
- **NOTE:** On the second day of IICDEM, the integrated digital platform 'ECINET' was launched, providing all the Election Commission's election-related information and services on a single platform.

5. Pillar V: Training and Capacity Building:

- Knowledge sharing, professional training, and exchange of transparent practices through IIDEM.
- Building the long-term institutional capacity of EMB.



INDEXES AND REPORTS



State of Finance for Nature, 2026 Report



Why in News?

- According to the State of Finance for Nature, 2026 report released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), finance harmful to nature (\$7.3 trillion) far outweighs nature-positive investments (\$220 billion).



Key Points:

- **Introduction:** This report provides a financial assessment and encourages policymakers and businesses to invest in nature-based solutions (NBS) to protect, restore, and sustainably manage ecosystems to address societal challenges.

- **Edition:** Fourth

Key Findings of the Report:

1. **Financial Gap:** To meet the goals of the global Rio Conventions, investment in NBS needs to increase 2.5 times annually to \$571 billion by 2030.
2. **Public Subsidies:** Governments provided \$2.4 trillion in environmentally harmful subsidies (EHS) (primarily for fossil fuels (\$1.13 trillion), followed by agriculture and water).
3. **Financial Losses:** The annual financial flows that harm nature amounted to \$7.3 trillion in 2023 (7% of global GDP).
4. **Public Finance and NBS:** Of the \$220 billion invested in nature-based solutions (NBS), 90% comes from public sources.
5. **Private Investment and NBS:** Private investment in NBS is only \$23.4 billion, with biodiversity offsets and certified supply chains being the largest contributors.

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Report Recommendations:

1. **Subsidy Reform:** Redirect the \$2.4 trillion in harmful public subsidies towards regenerative agriculture and clean energy.
2. **Scale Blended Finance:** Use public finance to de-risk private investment in NBS through guarantees and co-financing.
3. **Mandatory Disclosure:** Implement legislation requiring all large companies and financial institutions to disclose nature-related risks and impacts.
4. **Budgetary Provisions:** Integrate nature-based infrastructure into national fiscal frameworks and green budgets.
5. **Public Participation:** Protect the rights of local communities and empower them as co-creators and beneficiaries of nature finance.

UTKARSH

CIVIL
SERVICES

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Report on Circular Economy: NITI Aayog

Why in News?

- A report on the circular economy of e-waste and lithium-ion batteries has been released. This report was released by NITI Aayog in collaboration with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

Key Points:

- **Circular Economy** – This is a model of production and consumption that involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling existing materials and products.

Challenges in the circularity of e-waste:

- **Informal and inefficient collection** – Up to 78% of e-waste is processed by the informal sector.
- **Weak monitoring and enforcement** – such as manipulation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system.
- **Limited Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) coverage.**
- **Lack of research, development, innovation, and technology.**

Recommendations:

- **Strengthening waste management rules such as EPR.**
- **Incentives** – such as Production Linked Incentives (PLI).
- **Linking recycling to carbon markets.**
- **Integration of the informal sector.**
- **Consumer awareness, skill development, etc.**

Status of e-waste in India:

- **e-waste generation** – India is the third largest producer of e-waste globally (7% of the world's total).
- **Recycling rate:** In India, it is only 10%, which is half of the global average of approximately 22%.

India's Initiatives:

1. **e-Waste Management Rules: 2022** – These implement the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) order.
2. **Battery Waste Management Rules – 2022**



Lakkundi Excavations

Why in News?

- Recently, Neolithic artifacts were discovered during excavations in Lakkundi, Karnataka.

Key Points:

- Excavation:** The excavation was conducted at the Kote Veerabhadreshwara Temple under the supervision of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), with the aim of uncovering buried structures and artifacts to support heritage conservation and UNESCO nomination.

- Location:** Lakkundi village, Gadag district, Karnataka

History of Lakkundi:

- Nickname:** "Village of a Hundred Wells and Temples"
- 10th to 13th centuries:** It was known as a major economic, religious, and cultural center.
- 11th century:** Home to Queen Attimabbe (a patron of Jainism).
- Symbol of religious harmony/pluralism:** It houses Hindu temples, Jain basadis, stepwells, and a dargah.
- Patronage:** By the Kalyani Chalukya and Hoysala dynasties.
- Known for the "Lakkundi style" of Chalukya temple architecture.

Artifacts Found:

- Neolithic artifacts:**
 - Broken gray pottery.
 - Stone axe.
 - Cowrie shells, cross-shaped base.

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■ Early and Medieval artifacts:

1. Stone platform inscribed with a Jina figure.
2. Inscriptions and remains of a buried temple.

Significance:

1. It confirms human habitation from the prehistoric period to the early medieval period.
2. It strengthens Karnataka's claim for Lakkundi to be nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



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