

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 02 February, 2026



CIVIL
SERVICES

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Application Process for Three Policies of the Department of Industries and Commerce to be Completely Online



Why in News?

- An announcement has been issued stating that the application process for three policies of the Rajasthan Department of Industries and Commerce will be made completely online from February 1, 2026.



Key Points:

- These three policies include the 'One District One Product Policy-2024', 'Rajasthan Export Promotion Policy-2024', and 'Rajasthan MSMEs Policy-2024'.
- Applications under the above three policies can be submitted through Single Sign-On (SSO) or e-Mitra.

Other Important Points:

One District One Product Policy-2024:

- Under the One District One Product Policy-2024, implemented to promote unique products of the state, one unique product has been identified in each of the 41 districts.
- Under this policy, micro and small enterprises are provided a margin money grant of up to ₹20 lakh. Additionally, a grant of up to ₹5 lakh on advanced technology and software, and reimbursement of up to ₹3 lakh on quality certification and IPR is provided by the state government.
- There is a provision for assistance of up to ₹2 lakh for participating in marketing events, reimbursement of ₹1 lakh per year for 2 years on e-commerce platform fees, and a one-time assistance of up to ₹75,000 for cataloging and e-commerce website development.

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Rajasthan Export Promotion Policy-2024:

- **Launch:** Notified on December 8, 2024, and will remain effective until March 31, 2029.
- **Objective:** The objective of this policy is to increase the state's exports from the current ₹83,704 crore to ₹1.5 lakh crore by the year 2029.
- Under the Rajasthan Export Promotion Policy-2024, there is a provision for assistance of up to ₹5 lakh for documentation and up to ₹50 lakh for technological upgradation for exporters. Additionally, a grant of up to ₹3 lakh is provided for participation in international events, and a reimbursement of up to ₹2 lakh is offered for e-commerce platform fees.

Rajasthan MSME Policy:

- **Issued:** Notified by the state government on December 8, 2024.
- Under the Rajasthan MSME Policy-2024, implemented with the objective of preparing small entrepreneurs in the state for global competition, an additional 2 percent interest subsidy is provided on loans.
- Furthermore, there is a provision for assistance of up to ₹15 lakh for raising funds through SME exchanges, a grant of up to ₹5 lakh for advanced technology and software, and reimbursement of up to ₹3 lakh for quality certification and IPR.
- A grant of up to ₹1.5 lakh is provided for participation in marketing events, a reimbursement of up to ₹50,000 for digital equipment, and a reimbursement of up to ₹50,000 for e-commerce platform fees.

Kalibai Bhil Udan Yojana

Why in News?

- Recently, in a landmark decision, the Supreme Court declared menstrual health an integral part of the 'right to life' under Article 21, of the Constitution and a fundamental right.

Key Points:

- The Supreme Court also issued directions to provide free biodegradable sanitary pads to girl students from classes 6 to 12 in all government, aided, and private schools across the country.
- It is noteworthy that the Rajasthan government, keeping in mind 'Health and Hygiene' in the budget for the financial year 2021-22, launched the 'Kalibai Bhil Udan Yojana' for girl students and adolescent girls for health awareness and free sanitary napkin distribution.

Kalibai Bhil Udan Yojana:

- Announcement:** By Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in the budget for the financial year 2021-22.
- Launch:** December 19, 2021.
- Department:** Directorate of Women Empowerment, Department of Women and Child Development, Rajasthan.

Objectives of the Scheme:

- To encourage adolescent girls and women to use sanitary napkins and to create awareness about their dignity, safety, and issues related to menstruation.
- To provide safe and free sanitary napkins to adolescent girls and women in the state.
- Under this scheme, eligible women in the age group of 10-45 years are provided with 12 sanitary napkins every month.

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Jaipur Bird Festival – 2026

Why in News?

- The Jaipur Bird Festival – 2026 was held on January 31 and February 1, 2026.



Key Points:

- **Venue:** Kanota Camp Resort, Jamdoli, Jaipur.
- **Theme:** "Join the Celebration of Wings & Wetlands".
- **Organizer:** Green People Society (Jaipur Chapter) in collaboration with the Forest Department of the Government of Rajasthan and WWF India.
- A state-level workshop was organized during this bird festival, in which renowned ornithologists, environmentalists, and conservation experts from across the country participated.
- During the workshop, the book "Falcons of India" by raptor expert Ratul Shah was released. The book mentions that a total of 108 species of raptors are found in India, of which more than 60 species are present in Rajasthan.

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Other Important Points:

Ramsar Sites in Rajasthan:

S. No.	Ramsar Site	Year of Declaration	Included Districts
1.	Keoladeo National Park	1981	Bharatpur
2.	Sambhar Lake	1990	Jaipur, Nagaur, Ajmer
3.	Khichan Wetland	2025	Phalodi
4.	Menar Wetland Complex	2025	Udaipur
5.	Siliserh Lake	2025	Alwar

- **Note:** World Wetlands Day is celebrated every year on February 2nd.

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Discovery of 'Teal Carbon' by Central University of Rajasthan

Why in News?

- Recently, the Department of Environmental Science at the Central University of Rajasthan (CURAJ), Ajmer, successfully completed a study on India's first 'Teal Carbon'. It is considered an effective nature-based solution to mitigate the effects of climate change.



Key Points:

- This research was conducted by the CURAJ team at Keoladeo National Park (KNP) in Bharatpur. International researchers from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Kenyon College, Ohio, also collaborated on the study.
- Study objective:** To understand the carbon storage capacity of wetlands and assess their role in climate change mitigation.

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Teal Carbon:

- 'Teal Carbon' refers to the organic carbon that accumulates in non-tidal freshwater wetlands such as lakes and marshes.
- This carbon is stored in the soil and vegetation in the form of plants, microbial biomass, and organic matter. Teal carbon is light bluish-green in color and stores large amounts of carbon for the long term.

Study Findings:

- **Methane Emissions:** The research found that polluted wetlands can release harmful methane and carbon dioxide.
- **Use of Biochar:** Scientists have recommended the use of biochar to reduce methane emissions and for wetland conservation.

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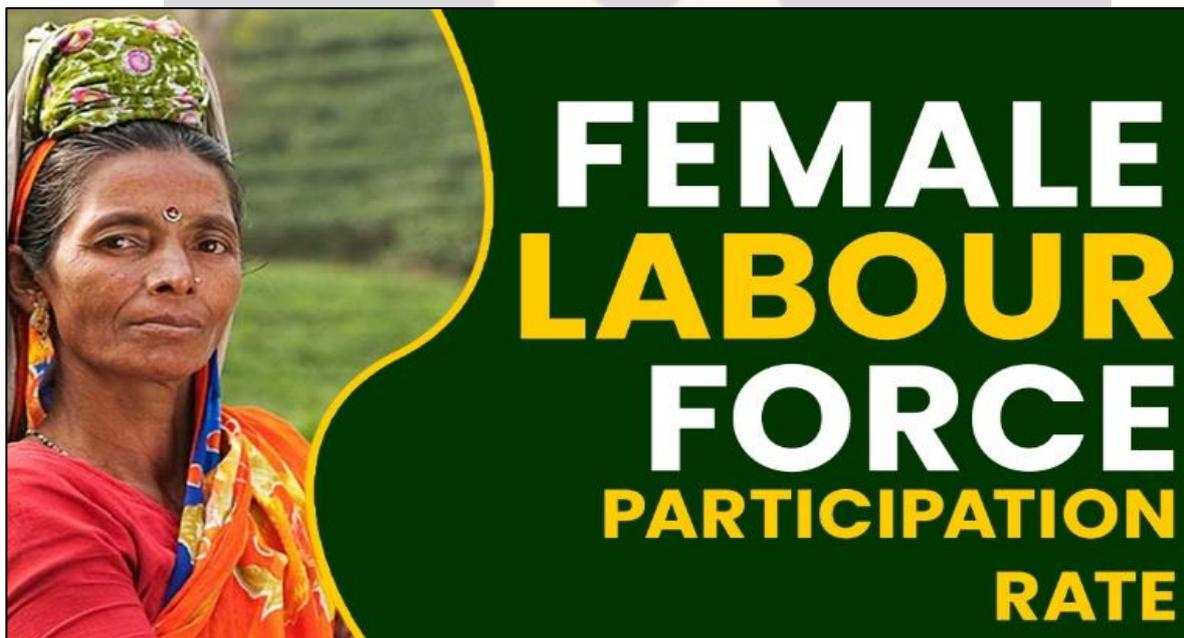
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Economic Developments

Female Labour Force Participation Rate: Economic Survey 2025-26

Why in News?

- The Economic Survey 2025-26 has highlighted that increasing the female labour force participation rate to approximately 55% by 2050 could be crucial for sustaining high annual GDP growth.



Key Points:

Status of Female Labour Force Participation (FLFP) in India

- **Increased Participation:** The Female Labour Force Participation Rate (FLFPR) has seen a significant increase, rising from 23.3% in 2017-18 to 41.7% in 2023-24.
- **Entrepreneurship:** A positive trend has been observed in women-led and women-owned establishments. Their percentage increased from 24.2% in 2021-22 to 26.2% in 2023-24.

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Major Challenges to Female Labour Force Participation

- **Double Burden of Work:** According to the Time Use Survey, 2024, women spend an average of 363 minutes per day on unpaid work (unpaid domestic work).
- **Mobility and "Pink Tax":** Due to safety concerns, women often pay more for safer modes of transportation, a phenomenon known as the "pink tax."
- **Structural Barriers:** Lack of affordable housing and lack of flexibility in work arrangements, which often clash with caregiving responsibilities.
- **Skill and Education Gap:** The perception of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) as a male domain and the high cost of education limit women's entry into these high-value fields.

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Kavach 4.0

Why in News?

- Indian Railways has accelerated the implementation of Kavach 4.0 to strengthen rail safety.



Key Points:

About Kavach 4.0:

- This is the latest and most advanced version of India's indigenous automatic train protection system.
- It utilizes a combination of microprocessors, Global Positioning System (GPS), and radio communication technologies.
- It provides automatic protection against Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD) and prevents head-on collisions between trains.
- It continuously monitors train speed and controls overspeeding. It also ensures safe operation even during low visibility or adverse weather conditions.
- If the train moves in the wrong direction or in reverse, the system immediately generates an alert.
- It complies with SIL-4 standards, which is the highest level of safety standard globally.

New Country Partnership Framework (NCPF)

Why in News?

- India and the World Bank have signed a new Country Partnership Framework (NCPF) for the period 2026-2031.



Key Points:

- Under this framework, India will receive financial assistance of US\$8-10 billion.

NCPF – Additional Information:

- This partnership will promote private sector-led job creation, skill development, reduce barriers for small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourage the creation of new jobs.

Four key strategic objectives of the NCPF:

- Promoting rural prosperity.
- Promoting transformation in urban areas.
- Investing in public services** – such as education, health, skill development, energy security, basic infrastructure, and strengthening climate resilience.

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INTERNATIONAL



Arab League



Why in News?

- India's External Affairs Minister emphasized strengthening relations through dialogue with the ministers of the Arab League.



Key Points:

Arab League - Additional Information -

- **Established:** 1945, in Cairo.
- It came into existence after the adoption of the Alexandria Protocol of 1944.
- **Headquarters:** Cairo (Egypt)
- It is an intergovernmental regional organization of Arab countries in the Middle East and parts of Africa.
- **Members:** 22 countries.
- This includes Palestine (recognized as a state).

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Arab League members

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|-------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. Algeria | 5. Egypt | 9. Lebanon | 13. Oman | 17. Somalia | 21. UAE |
| 2. Bahrain | 6. Iraq | 10. Libya | 14. Palestine | 18. Sudan | 22. Yemen |
| 3. Comoros | 7. Jordan | 11. Mauritania | 15. Qatar | 19. Syria | |
| 4. Djibouti | 8. Kuwait | 12. Morocco | 16. Saudi Arabia | 20. Tunisia | |



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ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

New Ramsar Sites

Why in News?

- The Union Environment Minister announced the inclusion of two new wetlands in India's Ramsar list.



Key Points:

- With the addition of Patna Bird Sanctuary and Chhari-Dhand, the total number of wetlands in India under the Ramsar Convention has now reached 98.

Patna Bird Sanctuary:

- **Established:** 1991
- **Location:** Etah, Uttar Pradesh.
- It is the smallest bird sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh.

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- **Aquatic birds:** Lesser Whistling Duck, Greylag Goose, Comb Duck, Ruddy Shelduck, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, etc.

Chhari-Dhand Wetland Reserve:

- **Location:** Kutch, Gujarat.
- It is situated in the arid Banni grasslands and the salt marshes of the Rann of Kutch.
- **Species:** Dalmatian Pelican, Oriental Darter, Black-necked Stork, Indian Skimmer, etc.
- This area is famous for Chir Batti or ghost light, a mysterious phenomenon observed on dark nights in the Banni grasslands.

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🏆 SPORTS 🏆

Carlos Alcaraz: The youngest player to win all four Grand Slams

📣 Why in News?

- Spain's Carlos Alcaraz became the youngest player to complete a career Grand Slam (all four major titles) by defeating Serbia's Novak Djokovic in the final of the Australian Open 2026.



📌 Key Points:

- The 22-year-old Alcaraz broke the record of Rafael Nadal, who completed his career Grand Slam at the age of 24 years and 101 days by winning the US Open in 2010.

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Carlos Alcaraz's Achievements:

Achievement	Description
Youngest World No. 1	After winning the US Open in September 2022, became the youngest male player to reach World No. 1 in the ATP rankings at the age of 19 years and 129 days.
Youngest Year-End World No. 1	Finished the 2022 season as World No. 1; became the first teenager to end the year as World No. 1 at the age of 19.
Youngest Player to Win Grand Slams on All Surfaces (Courts)	By winning the 2024 French Open, became the youngest male player to win Grand Slams on all three surfaces: Hard Court (US Open 2022), Grass Court (Wimbledon 2023), Clay Court (French Open 2024).
Historic Achievement on Clay Court	In Madrid 2022, became the first player to defeat Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic in consecutive matches on clay court.
Youngest Olympic Gold Medal Participant	At the Paris Olympics 2024, became the youngest male player to play the Singles Gold Medal match; won the Silver Medal in the final.

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