

Daily Current Affairs

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Status of the 'Raj-Kaaj System' in Rajasthan



Why in News?

- Under the 'Raj-Kaaj' system, by April 2026, 71 administrative departments and over 57,000 offices across Rajasthan have been integrated into a unified digital platform, thereby making inter-departmental coordination significantly faster and more effective.



Key Points:

- 'Raj-Kaaj' is an integrated e-Office portal of the Government of Rajasthan. It has been developed by the Department of Information Technology and Communication (DoIT&C) with the aim of making the state government's operations digital, paperless, and transparent.

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- This system ensures the complete digitization of governance processes across government and semi-government offices, ranging from the Secretariat level down to the District and Block levels.

Facts for Prelims (Other Key Applications):

- The Government of Rajasthan has launched several significant digital applications to enhance citizen convenience and simplify government services.
- **Rajasthan Sampark 2.0:** This is an integrated public grievance redressal platform. Through this platform, citizens can register complaints regarding government services and track the status of their resolution.
- **e-Mitra:** This application provides digital access to over 600 services offered by the Government of Rajasthan.
- **RajCop Citizen:** Developed by the Rajasthan Police, this application is designed for the safety and security of citizens. Through it, users can request emergency assistance, check the status of an FIR, and provide information to the police.
- **Shala Darpan:** This serves as the primary platform for sharing educational and administrative data among teachers, students, and parents associated with the state's government schools.

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Chairpersons of Key Committees of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly

Why in News?

- Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani recently constituted various committees for the year 2026-27.



Key Points:

- Tenure:** Until March 31, 2027.

Key Committees and their Chairpersons:

S.No.	Committee Name	Chairperson
1	Rules Committee	Vasudev Devnani (ex officio)
2	Questions and Reference Committee	Rajendra Pareek
3	Committee for Welfare of Women and Children	Kalpana Devi

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4	Backward Classes Welfare Committee	Narendra Budania
5	SC Welfare Committee	Ramesh Khinchi
6	ST Welfare Committee	Phool Singh Meena
7	Home, Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions Committee	Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav
8	Library and Government Assurances Committee	Harisingh Rawat
9	Petitions and Ethics Committee	Kailash Chand Verma
10	Privileges and Subordinate Legislation Committee	Jitendra Kumar Gothwal
11	Minorities Welfare and Environment Committee	Kesar Ram Choudhary
12	General Purposes Committee	Vasudev Devnani (ex officio)

Other Important Points:

- Former Chief Ministers Vasundhara Raje, Ashok Gehlot, and Sachin Pilot have been nominated as members of the Rules Committee.
- Both Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and Leader of the Opposition Tikaram Jully have been appointed as members of the General Purposes Committee.

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NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	<p>World Navkar Mahamantra Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">On April 9, 2026, a program was organized by the Jain International Trade Organization (JITO) at the Anuvibha Centre in Malviya Nagar, Jaipur, to mark the occasion of 'World Navkar Mahamantra Day.'
2.	<p>Military Exercise 'Brahmastra'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Indian Army recently conducted 'Military Exercise Brahmastra' at the Pokhran Field Firing Range.The main highlight of this military drill was the power demonstration by the AH-64E Apache attack helicopters, which are also referred to as 'Tanks in the Air.'
3.	<p>'Nine Dot Squares' Exhibition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Event Dates: April 10 to 12, 2026, at the Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur.This is a premier design and décor exhibition in Rajasthan, presenting a unique confluence of modern design and traditional craft arts.



Sonam Wangchuk



Key Points:

- Recently, Colonel (Retired) Sonam Wangchuk—a recipient of the Maha Vir Chakra and a valiant warrior of the 1999 Kargil War—passed away.
- He commanded the 4th Battalion of the Ladakh Scouts during the Kargil War in 1999.

Kamal Kharrazi



Key Points:

- Recently, Iran's former Foreign Minister, Kamal Kharrazi, passed away.
- Kharrazi served as the country's Foreign Minister from 1997 to 2005.
- Kharrazi was the head of the Strategic Council on Foreign Relations. This institution is an advisory body that provides guidance on foreign policy and reports directly to Iran's Supreme Leadership.

Myanmar's New President: Min Aung Hlaing



📌 Key Points:

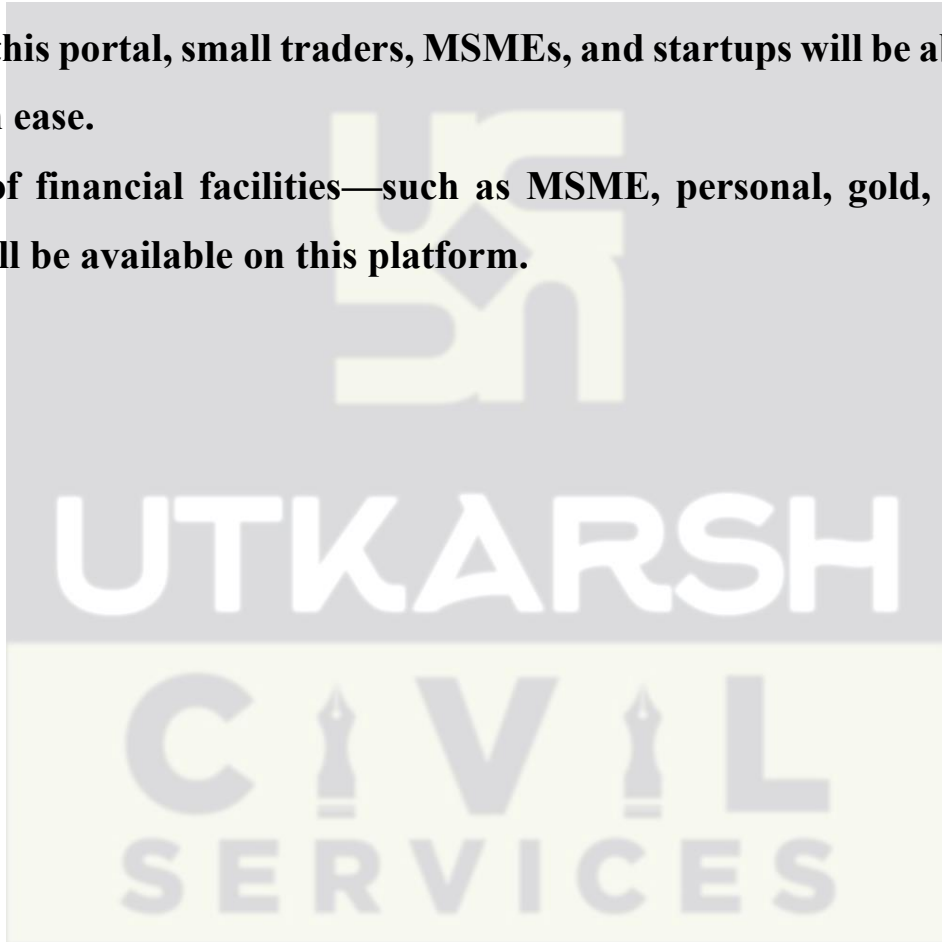
- Recently, Min Aung Hlaing took the oath of office as the newly elected President of Myanmar.
- After seizing power from Aung San Suu Kyi's government in 2021, Mr. Hlaing led the country under strict military control.
- Of the 30 members of the new cabinet who took the oath, 28 are current or former generals, Members of Parliament from the military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party, or members of the previous military government.

FinTech Portal



Key Points:

- The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) and Shriram Finance Limited have jointly launched a new FinTech portal for traders.
- Through this portal, small traders, MSMEs, and startups will be able to access loans with ease.
- A range of financial facilities—such as MSME, personal, gold, and vehicle loans—will be available on this platform.





History and Culture



Champan Satyagraha: 108th Anniversary



Why in News?

- The 108th anniversary of the Champan Satyagraha was observed on April 10, 2026.



Key Points:

- The Champan Satyagraha (1917) was Mahatma Gandhi's first major civil disobedience movement in India.

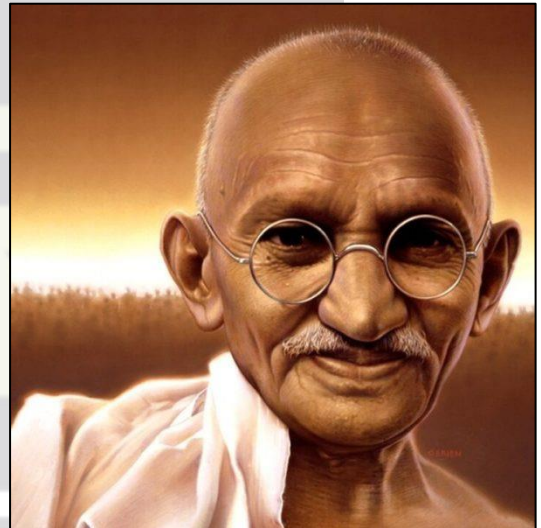
Champan Satyagraha:

Causes and Background:

- For decades, indigo cultivation had been practiced in Champan, North Bihar, under British-controlled land contracts within the Ramnagar and Bettiah Raj (estates).
- Under the Tinkathia system, farmers were compelled to cultivate indigo on 15% of their land (three kathas out of every 20 kathas).
- **Early Peasant Resistance (1905–1908):** The first major peasant uprising against British plantation owners took place in Motihari and Bettiah between 1905 and 1908.

Gandhiji's Role and the Strategy of Satyagraha:

- The Champan Satyagraha marked Gandhiji's first direct political action in India.
- **Invitation by Rajkumar Shukla:** In 1916, Rajkumar Shukla—a farmer from Champan—impressed by Gandhiji's methods in South Africa, invited him to intervene in the matter.



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Achievements and Outcomes of the Satyagraha:

- **Formation of an Inquiry Commission:** Given the gravity of the farmers' grievances, the Governor of Bihar was compelled to constitute a commission of inquiry, of which Gandhiji was also a member.
- **Compensation for Farmers:** The British plantation owners initially refused to refund the money they had collected illegally; however, they subsequently agreed to return 25% of the amount to the farmers.
- **Abolition of the Tinkathia System:** This movement led to the enactment of the Champaran Agrarian Act (1918), under which the Tinkathia system was abolished.
- Champaran inspired similar movements in other parts of India as well, such as the Bardoli Satyagraha (1928) and the Tebhaga Movement (1946–47).

UTKARSH

CIVIL
SERVICES

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Economic Developments



Asian Development Bank



Key Points:

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has raised India's growth forecast for the current fiscal year 2026-27 from 6.5 percent to 6.9 percent.
- Growth is expected to moderate in most economies across the Asia and Pacific region this year and the next.
- Due to conflicts in West Asia and persistent trade uncertainties, the economic growth rate in the region is expected to decline from 5.4 percent last year to 5.1 percent this year and the next.

Methanol



Why in News?

- **Kandla Port has made progress in the field of methanol bunkering, marking a significant step towards green maritime transport.**



Key Points:

- **Methanol bunkering is essentially the process of transferring methanol fuel from a bunkering facility to a ship.**
- **Located in the Kutch district of Gujarat, Kandla Port (Deendayal Port) was the first major port developed in India after independence.**

Methanol (CH₃OH)

- **Methanol is water-soluble and readily biodegradable. It is the simplest member of the group of organic chemicals known as alcohols.**
- **It is also known as 'wood alcohol.' As an engine fuel, methanol possesses chemical and physical properties similar to those of ethanol.**
- **Uses:** As a chemical building block for the production of paints, carpets, fabrics, construction materials, and health and pharmaceutical products.

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🎓 Indian Governance and State System 🎓

Women's Reservation Act

📢 Why in News?

- The Prime Minister stated that reservation for women in the legislature is the need of the hour. This remark by the Prime Minister came after the Union Cabinet approved the draft of an amendment bill aimed at implementing the 'Women's Reservation Act' ahead of schedule.



📌 Key Points:

- Through this amendment bill, an effort is being made to implement the Act for the general elections of 2029.
- Additionally, proposals were considered to increase the number of Lok Sabha members from 543 to 816 following a new delimitation exercise, and to provide vertical reservation for women within the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) categories.

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Background of Women's Reservation

- According to the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (106th Constitutional Amendment Act), women's reservation was originally slated to be implemented following the delimitation exercise conducted after the first census held subsequent to the Act's enactment.
- However, waiting for the results of the 2027 census could have delayed the implementation of the aforementioned Act; therefore, conducting the delimitation exercise based on the 2011 census data will ensure its expedited implementation.

Provisions of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam

- **Enactment:** The Nari Shakti Vandan Bill became an Act after being passed by Parliament in 2023.
- **Reservation for Women in Legislatures:** One-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi have been reserved for women.
- This reservation will also apply to seats already reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST).
- **Rotation of Seats:** The seats reserved for women are to be rotated after every delimitation exercise, in accordance with the provisions of the law enacted by Parliament.
- **The Act proposes the inclusion of the following new Articles in the Constitution:**
 - o **Article 330A:** Reservation in the Lok Sabha.
 - o **Article 332A:** Reservation in State Legislative Assemblies.
 - o **Article 239AA:** Reservation in the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)

Why in News?

- The Central Government has notified the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026.



Key Points:

- This Act provides a unified legal framework to regulate the recruitment, deputation, promotion, and service conditions for officers of the five CAPFs (CRPF, CISE, BSF, ITBP, SSB).

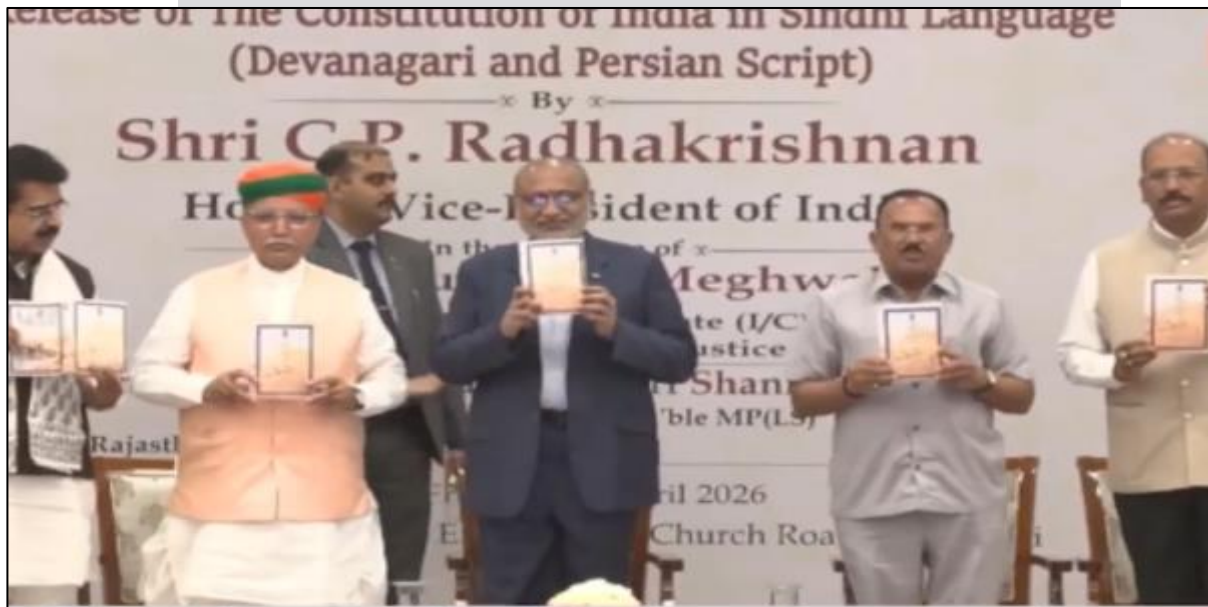
CAPF

- These are seven armed police organizations that function under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Assam Rifles falls administratively under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs; however, its operational control rests with the Ministry of Defence.
- The CAPFs comprise the Assam Rifles (AR), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISE), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), National Security Guard (NSG), and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
- These forces are led by officers of the rank of Director General of Police (DGP).

Constitution in the Sindhi Language

Why in News?

- Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan released the latest edition of the Constitution of India in the Sindhi language in New Delhi.



Key Points:

- For the first time since India's independence, an edition of the Constitution in Sindhi has been released in the Devanagari script.

Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution:

- This Schedule lists the official languages of the Republic of India. Articles 343 to 351, contained in Part XVII of the Indian Constitution, relate to official languages.
 - o **Article 344:** Article 344(1) provides for the constitution of a Commission by the President upon the expiration of five years from the commencement of the Constitution.
 - o **Article 351:** This article provides for the promotion and propagation of the Hindi language to facilitate its development.

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- **Official Languages:** 22 languages (Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili, and Dogri).
- Out of these languages, 14 were included at the very commencement of the Constitution.

Amendments:

- **21st Constitutional Amendment Act:** In 1967, the Sindhi language was included in the Eighth Schedule through the 21st Constitutional Amendment Act.
- **71st Constitutional Amendment Act:** In 1992, Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali were included through the 71st Amendment Act.
- **92nd Constitutional Amendment Act:** In 2003—effective from 2004—Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali were included in the Eighth Schedule through the 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act.

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INTERNATIONAL



Punatsangchhu-II Hydropower Project



Key Points:

- India and Bhutan have signed the tariff protocol for the Punatsangchhu-II Hydropower Project.
- This is a 1,020 MW 'run-of-the-river' project located on the Punatsangchhu River.
- **Origin:** The Punatsangchhu River originates from the confluence of the Phochhu and Mochhu rivers in Bhutan.
- Flowing southward, the river enters the Indian plains in West Bengal. It is a tributary of the Brahmaputra River.

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Strengthening of India-Denmark Economic Relations

Why in News?

- Denmark has announced the establishment of the first Danish Chamber of Commerce in India, which will be located in New Delhi.

Key Points:

- This Chamber will facilitate trade relations between India and Denmark by providing an institutional platform for mutual dialogue.
- It will provide assistance to Danish companies already operating in India, as well as to those planning to enter the Indian market.

India-Denmark Relations

- Diplomatic relations between India and Denmark were formally established in 1949.
- Bilateral relations were elevated to the level of a 'Green Strategic Partnership' in 2020.
- **Economic Relations:** India and Denmark share trade relations spanning over 400 years. More than 225 Danish subsidiaries are currently operating in India.
- The total volume of bilateral trade in goods and services between India and Denmark stands at approximately US\$ 7.8 billion in 2024.
- India exports textiles, vehicles and their components, iron and steel, metal goods, and leather products to Denmark.
- Denmark exports pharmaceutical products, power generation machinery, industrial machinery, metal scrap, ores, and organic chemicals to India.
- India and Denmark signed a Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement in February 2024 to facilitate the movement of skilled professionals.

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Antarctic Species in the Headlines

Why in News?

- The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has revised the Red List of Threatened Species for certain Antarctic species.



Key Points:

Emperor Penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*):

- **Revised IUCN Status:** Endangered (previously 'Near Threatened').
- **Reason:** Climate change.
- **Characteristics:** It is the largest of the 18 species of penguins.

Fur Seal (*Arctocephalus gazella*):

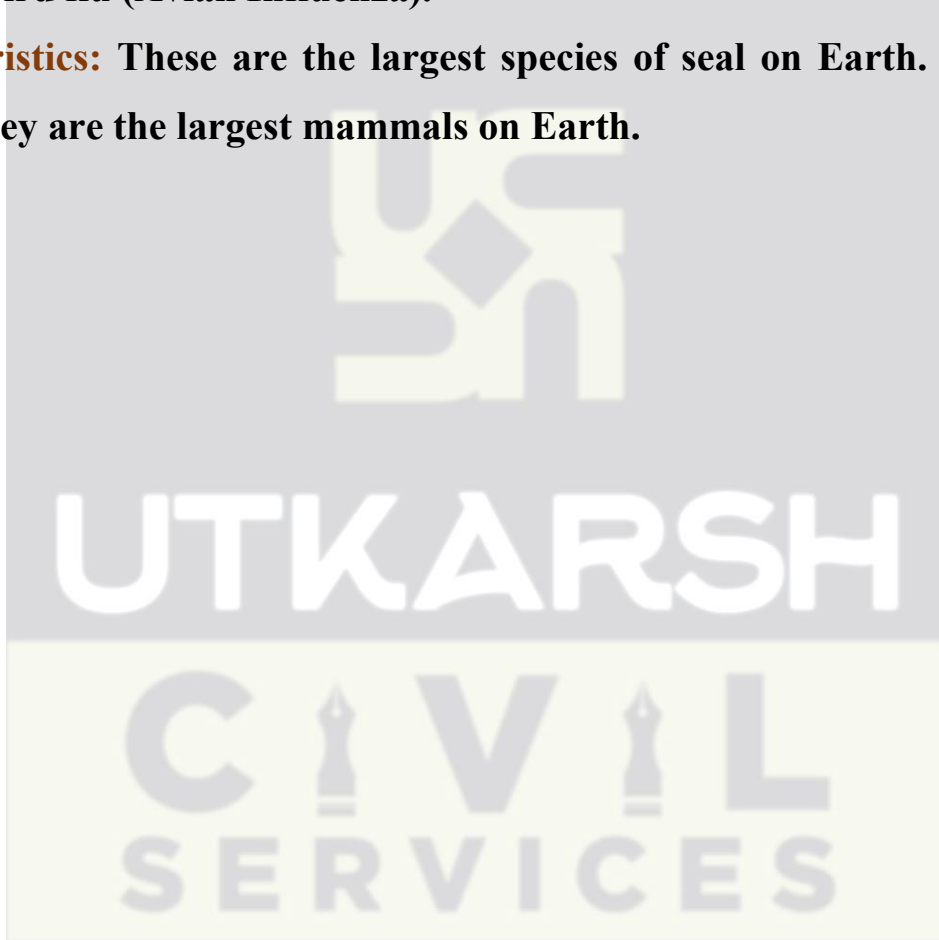
- **Revised IUCN Status:** Endangered (previously 'Least Concern').
- **Reason:** Climate change.

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- **Characteristics:** These are the smallest seals and are closely related to sea lions. They are capable of walking on all four flippers and breed on land.
Southern Elephant Seal (Mirounga leonina):
- **Revised IUCN Status:** Vulnerable (previously 'Least Concern').
- **Reason:** Bird flu (Avian Influenza).
- **Characteristics:** These are the largest species of seal on Earth. Apart from whales, they are the largest mammals on Earth.



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⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🌡️

Measles (Rubella)

📢 Why in News?

- Recently, more than 100 children died in Bangladesh due to a measles outbreak.



📌 Key Points:

- **Nature:** It is a highly contagious RNA virus (genus Morbillivirus). It spreads through fine droplets expelled from the mouth or nose when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or speaks. These droplets can enter another person's body through the air.
- **Symptoms:** High fever, runny nose, conjunctivitis, and Koplik spots (white lesions inside the mouth) are its symptoms.
- **Complications:** In severe cases, pneumonia, encephalitis, and blindness may occur.
- **Prevention:** The safe and effective two-dose MMR vaccine (a combined vaccine against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella).
- India has set a target to eliminate measles and rubella by 2026.

World Parkinson's Day

Why in News?

- World Parkinson's Day is observed globally on April 11, 2026, to raise awareness about Parkinson's disease.



Key Points:

Parkinson's Disease:

- Introduction:** Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that impairs movement and, over time, can lead to immobility and dementia.
- The prevalence of this disease has doubled over the past 25 years. India accounts for approximately 10% of the global population affected by Parkinson's disease.
- Affected Organs:** It is a disorder that affects the nervous system and brain cells.
- Treatment:** There is no cure for Parkinson's disease.

Parkinson's Plus:

- Parkinson's Plus Syndrome, also known as "Atypical Parkinsonism."
- Parkinson's Plus Syndrome is more severe and difficult to treat compared to "classic" Parkinson's disease.
- Types:** Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), Dementia with Lewy Bodies, Multiple System Atrophy, and Corticobasal Degeneration (the rarest).

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Integrated Air-Drop Test



Key Points:

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has conducted its second successful integrated air-drop test for the Gaganyaan mission at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has conducted its second successful integrated air-drop test for the Gaganyaan mission at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- The first successful test took place on August 24, 2025, at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. During this test, a 4.8-ton dummy crew module was dropped from an altitude of three kilometers using a Chinook helicopter.
- India's first manned space mission is scheduled to be launched from Sriharikota in the year 2027.

India Pharma Conference, 2026

The banner for the 9th edition of the India Pharma 2026 conference. It features the event title 'INDIA PHARMA 2026' with a stylized test tube logo. The dates '13th-14th April 2026' and location 'FICCI, Federation House New Delhi' are listed. The theme is 'Discover in India: Leapfrogging Life-Sciences Innovation'. Logos for IPA, the Department of Pharmaceuticals, and FICCI 100 are present. The event components include CEO's Roundtable, Plenary Conference Sessions, Thematic Exhibition, and Startup Showcase Session. A QR code is provided for registration.

📌 Key Points:

- **Event:** The 9th edition of India Pharma will be held in New Delhi on April 13–14, 2026.
- **Theme:** The theme for the 9th edition (2026) is "Discover in India: A Leap in Life Sciences Innovation," aiming to position India at the forefront of global pharmaceutical leadership and healthcare transformation.
- **Organizers:** Jointly organized by the Department of Pharmaceuticals and FICCI.
- **Objective:** To build a future-ready, globally competitive pharmaceutical ecosystem by fostering innovation, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and enhancing the ease of doing business.

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- **Goal:** To establish India as a global hub for pharmaceuticals and biotechnology by boosting investment, expanding exports, and encouraging international collaboration.
- **Inception and Introduction:** India Pharma was conceptualized in 2016 by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), in collaboration with the Department of Pharmaceuticals, as a strategic platform for dialogue between the industry and the government.

India's Global Standing in the Pharmaceutical Industry:

- Ranked 3rd globally by volume and 14th by value, contributing approximately 1.7 percent to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- The sector is valued at approximately US\$ 50 billion and is projected to reach US\$ 130 billion by 2030, with exports exceeding US\$ 30 billion.
- **India's Biotechnology Sector:** Ranked among the top 12 globally and 3rd in the Asia-Pacific region. With a valuation of approximately US\$ 137 billion and a target of US\$ 300 billion by 2030, the sector is driven by innovation, startup growth, and robust research infrastructure.

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INDEXES AND REPORTS



Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2026

Why in News?

- This report has been released by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). It highlights the role of the "Seville Commitment" in steering development finance in the right direction.



Key Points:

Issues Highlighted in the Report

- **Fragile State of the Global Economy:** The global macroeconomic situation remains challenging, with persistent risks of a downturn.
- One in every four developing countries has a per capita income that remains below 2019 levels.
- The ongoing conflict in the Middle East is having a negative impact on energy prices, trade, and global economic stability.

- **Financial Pressures:** Many developing countries are compelled to borrow at high interest rates, increasing the risks associated with debt repayment and refinancing. Over the past two decades, tax revenue growth in developing countries has been minimal.
 - **A More Divided World:** This is impacting the architecture of international financial and development cooperation. Shifts are evident in cross-border payment systems, such as the emergence of alternatives to the SWIFT system.
- The Seville Commitment**
- **Adoption:** It was adopted at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), held in Seville, Spain, in 2025. Its objective is to address the annual financing gap of \$4 trillion in developing countries required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
 - **Key Features:** The global financing framework incorporates 280 specific actions.
 - **Seville Platform for Action (SPA):** This is a voluntary, multi-stakeholder mechanism launched at FfD4. Its aim is to facilitate the rapid implementation of the Seville Commitment.