

# Daily Current Affairs

Date : 02 May 2026



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### Rajasthan Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (RECSBC)



#### Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RRECL) released the draft of the Rajasthan Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (RECSBC) and its associated rules, inviting suggestions from the public.

## राजस्थान ऊर्जा संरक्षण एवं सस्टेनेबल भवन संहिता (RECSBC)



ऊर्जा दक्ष भवन • सस्टेनेबल भविष्य • सशक्त राजस्थान

#### मुख्य उद्देश्य

- ऊर्जा दक्षता को बढ़ावा देना
- जल संरक्षण को प्रोत्साहित करना
- सस्टेनेबल निर्माण सामग्री को बढ़ावा देना
- पर्यावरण अनुकूल और स्वस्थ भवन सुनिश्चित करना
- अनुपालन एवं प्रमाणन की प्रक्रिया को सरल बनाना

हमारे  
मूल सिद्धांत



सततता  
पर्यावरण के प्रति  
जिम्मेदारी



समावेशन  
सभी के लिए सुरक्षित  
और आरामदायक भवन



दक्षता  
कम संसाधन में  
अधिकतम परिणाम



अनुपालन  
मानकों एवं नियमों  
का सरल पालन



सहयोग  
सरकार, उद्योग और  
नागरिकों की साझेदारी



#### Key Points:

- It is noteworthy that the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the Ministry of Power, has issued the 'Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (ECSBC)' to ensure compliance with minimum standards for energy conservation and energy efficiency in commercial buildings.

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- In line with this initiative, the Government of Rajasthan proposes to implement the Rajasthan Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (RECSBC).
- This new Code will supersede the currently notified and enforced 'Rajasthan Energy Conservation Building Code (RECBC)'.
- The proposed Code will be applicable to commercial buildings with a connected load of 100 kW or more, a contract demand of 120 kW or more, or a built-up area of 2,000 square meters or more.
- Under the current provisions, a requirement of 20 percent has been proposed for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and parking facilities, while a minimum renewable energy capacity equivalent to 4 percent of the contract demand has been mandated. To incentivize compliance, the Code includes a provision for an additional Built-up Area Ratio (BAR) of 5 percent for "RECSBC Plus" buildings and 10 percent for "Super RECSBC" buildings.

### Other Important Points:

#### Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RRECL)

- **Formation:** Established in August 2002, through the merger of the erstwhile Rajasthan Energy Development Agency (REDA) and the Rajasthan State Power Corporation Limited (RSPCL).
- Registered under the Companies Act, 1956.
- The objective of RRECL is to serve as the State Nodal Agency for the promotion and development of non-conventional energy sources within the state.

## MoU for the 'Foreign Language Communication Skills Program'

### Why in News?

- The Government of Rajasthan has launched the 'Foreign Language Communication Skills Program' to provide global employment opportunities to the youth. Significant Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) for this program were signed in Jaipur on May 1, 2026.

श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी  
माननीय प्रधानमंत्री

श्री भजनलाल शर्मा  
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री, राजस्थान

राजस्थान सरकार

विदेशी भाषा का ज्ञान,  
राजस्थानी युवाओं को वैश्विक अवसरों की नई उड़ान  
सीखेंगे जर्मन, फ्रेंच, कोरियन, जापानी और स्पेनिश

विदेशी भाषा संचार कौशल कार्यक्रम  
के लिए  
एम.ओ.यू. हस्ताक्षर समारोह

1 मई 2026, प्रातः 10:30 बजे • बिड़ला ऑडिटोरियम, जयपुर

राजस्थान सरकार  
का  
इंग्लिश एंड फॉरेन लैंग्वेज यूनिवर्सिटी, हैदराबाद  
और  
नेशनल स्किल डवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन  
के साथ एम.ओ.यू.

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान  
माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री, भारत सरकार

श्री भजनलाल शर्मा  
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री, राजस्थान

डॉ. प्रेम चंद बैरवा  
माननीय उप मुख्यमंत्री व उच्च एवं  
तकनीकी शिक्षा मंत्री, राजस्थान सरकार

श्री जयंत चौधरी  
माननीय कौशल विकास एवं  
उद्योगिता राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार), भारत सरकार

श्री कृष्ण कुमार के.के. विश्‌नोई  
माननीय राज्य मंत्री, कौशल, रोजगार एवं उद्योगिता विभाग  
राजस्थान सरकार

उच्च एवं तकनीकी शिक्षा विभाग • कौशल, रोजगार एवं उद्योगिता विभाग

### Key Points:

- English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad: An MoU between the Department of Higher and Technical Education, Rajasthan, and the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Hyderabad, under which students will be taught French, German, Spanish, Japanese, and Korean languages.**

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- **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC):** An agreement between the NSDC and the Government of Rajasthan for the establishment of a Skill India International Centre (SIIC) in Jaipur. This center will provide world-class training, language proficiency, and migration assistance to the youth for international employment opportunities.

## Other Important Points:

- **'National Entrepreneurs Empowerment Drive' (NEED):** The 'National Entrepreneurs Empowerment Drive' (NEED) was launched by the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship from Jaipur on May 1, 2026. This initiative is a significant step towards strengthening rural entrepreneurship and establishing India as a global hub for skilled talent.

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## The First State in the Country to Constitute an Electropathy Board – Rajasthan

### Why in News?

- Recently, Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani inaugurated the office and administrative complex of the Rajasthan Electropathy System of Medicine in Gandhi Nagar (Jaipur).



### Key Points:

- Notably, Rajasthan is the first state in the country to grant recognition to the Electropathy system of medicine and its governing board.
- To accord statutory recognition to the Electropathy Board, the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly passed the 'Rajasthan Electropathy System of Medicine Bill, 2018' in the year 2018. Subsequently, the Electropathy Board was constituted on May 1, 2025.

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- This Board, constituted by the State Government, will comprise six members, including the Chairperson.

## Composition:

- **Chairperson:** The Principal Secretary of the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy.
- **Members:**
  - Hemant Sethia.
  - Govindlal Saini.
  - Kuldeep Verma.
  - Harisingh Boomra.
  - S.S. Patodia.
- **Electropathy System of Medicine:** Electropathy is a relatively new system of medicine that has been recognized by the Supreme Court under the category of alternative medicine systems.
- This system of medicine was first discovered in 1865 by Dr. Count Cesare Mattei, an officer in the Italian Armed Forces.
- This medical system is entirely herbal (botanical) in nature, based on medicinal properties derived from the plant kingdom.
- These medicinal properties are extracted through a process known as 'Cohobation' (a process similar to the extraction of Arka—essences—in Ayurveda) and are mixed in controlled proportions with water containing distilled and denatured alcohol, along with Spagyric essences.
- The entire principle of the Electropathy system is based on maintaining the balance of two vital fluids within the human body—Blood and Lymph.
- **World Electropathy Day:** Observed annually on January 11th, on the birth anniversary of Dr. Count Cesare Mattei, the founder of the Electropathy system.

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## Rajasthan Tops the Nation in the '8th Poshan Pakhwada'

### Why in News?

- Rajasthan secured the first position nationwide by organizing the highest number of activities during the '8th Poshan Pakhwada' (Nutrition Fortnight), held from April 9 to April 23, 2026, and organized by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development.



### Key Points:

- **Record Activities:** During the campaign, Rajasthan successfully conducted a total of 4,537,229 activities.
- **Widespread Participation:** These activities were successfully executed across 62,139 Anganwadi centers spanning 41 districts of the state.
- **Main Theme:** The primary focus this time was "Maximum Brain Development in the First 06 Years of Life." Additionally, campaigns such as 'No Screen Hour' and 'Family Play Time' were launched to reduce 'screen time' among children and to promote play-based learning.

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- **Success Rate:** Rajasthan achieved the first rank at the national level with an achievement rate of 112.33 percent.
- **Key Programs:** During the fortnight, initiatives such as "Poshan Ki Kahani: Dadi-Nani Ki Zubani" (Nutrition Stories: Narrated by Grandmothers), awareness drives comparing healthy food versus junk food, and special health camps for pregnant women and children were organized.
- **Play-Based Learning:** Emphasis was placed on the cognitive development of children aged 3 to 6 years by imparting education in an engaging manner through play. To this end, DIY toy workshops, yoga, dance, and storytelling sessions were organized at Anganwadi centers.

## Facts for Prelims:

### Poshan Abhiyan:

- The 'Poshan Abhiyan' (Nutrition Mission) was launched by the Government of India on March 8, 2018, from Jhunjhunu, with the objective of addressing the issue of malnutrition across the country.
- This is a flagship program aimed at raising awareness regarding malnutrition-related issues and fostering community participation.
- **Objective:** To improve nutritional outcomes for women and children through a holistic approach.

### Poshan Tracker App:

- 'Poshan Tracker' is a mobile-based application launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development on March 1, 2021, through the National e-Governance Division (NeGD).
- This app facilitates the robust identification of the prevalence of stunting, wasting, and underweight conditions among children, as well as the tracking of nutrition service delivery.
- Additionally, through this app, Anganwadi workers are provided with assistance and guidance to ensure the efficient delivery of services.

## ✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	<p><b>'Stree Shakti Samriddhi' Campaign</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Canara Robeco Mutual Fund and the Dainik Bhaskar Group have launched the 'Stree Shakti Samriddhi' (Women's Power and Prosperity) campaign with the objective of making women financially independent and empowered.</li><li>The primary aim of this program is to educate women about the basic features of mutual fund investments, as well as strategies for setting and achieving financial goals.</li></ul>
2.	<p><b>Restoration of the Country's Largest Ganga Temple</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recently, restoration work began—after a gap of 90 years—on the country's largest Ganga temple, located in Bharatpur. This temple is renowned for its unparalleled architecture, the construction of which took 92 years to complete.</li><li><b>Construction Period:</b> The foundation of the temple was laid by Maharaja Balwant Singh in 1845, and it was finally completed in 1937.</li><li><b>Style:</b> The temple's architecture showcases a confluence of Rajput, Mughal, and South Indian (Dravidian) styles.</li></ul>
3.	<p><b>Host of the 3rd Asian Para Throwball Championship – 2027: Rajasthan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Event Dates:</b> March 18 to 21, 2027.</li><li><b>Venue:</b> Singhania University, Pacheri Bari (Jhunjhunu).</li><li><b>Organizer:</b> Para Throwball Federation of India (PTFI).</li></ul>

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## **Rajasthan Writers' Financial Assistance Scheme – 2025-2026**

- During the year 2025-2026, financial assistance was provided to a total of 5 writers under the Rajasthan Writers' Financial Assistance Scheme.
- **Recipients:** Rajaram Bhadu (Jaipur), Brahmanand Baba (Chittorgarh), Purnima Mitra (Bikaner), Ramswaroop Kisan (Hanumangarh), and Govind Joshi (Bikaner).
- **Note:** Under the Literary Journals and Magazines Assistance Scheme, support was provided to a total of 9 periodicals.

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## **Formal Launch of 'Census – 2027' in Rajasthan**

- On May 1, 2026, the formal launch of the 'Census – 2027' process in Rajasthan was inaugurated by Governor Haribhau Bagde at Lok Bhawan (Jaipur) through the act of self-enumeration. With this, the first phase of census activities commenced across the state.
- Notably, this will be India's first fully digital census, wherein data collection will be conducted using digital devices.
- Furthermore, citizens have been provided with the facility of self-enumeration through a secure web-based system.

## Geography and Geology

### Cell Broadcast Alert System Launched

#### Why in News?

- The "Extreme Emergency Alert" notification that recently appeared on mobile devices across India signals a significant improvement in the country's disaster preparedness system.



#### Key Points:

- This emergency alert on mobile phones is part of a government initiative aimed at building a robust NDMA warning system capable of issuing real-time alerts during critical situations such as floods, earthquakes, and industrial hazards.

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## Institutional Framework

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) under the Ministry of Communications, in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), has actively enhanced mobile-based disaster communication systems to ensure the timely dissemination of life-saving information.
- At the core of this initiative lies the Integrated Alert System (SACHET), developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)—the premier telecom R&D institute under the Department of Telecommunications.
- Built upon the Common Alerting Protocol recommended by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- Operational across all 36 States and Union Territories.
- Enables geographically targeted alerts via SMS.

## What is SACHET?

- SACHET (System for Advanced Communication and Holistic Emergency Transmission) is India's integrated alert system, which enables authorities to directly send geographically targeted disaster warnings to mobile users via SMS and Cell Broadcast.
- It was developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)—under the Department of Telecommunications—in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to strengthen emergency communication capabilities in real-time.



## Economic Developments



### Unified Payments Interface (UPI)



#### Why in News?

- The Unified Payments Interface has completed 10 years since its inception.



#### Key Points:

##### UPI

- **Inception:** Launched in April 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). This payment system operates under the regulatory supervision of the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Definition:** UPI is a system that links multiple bank accounts to a single mobile application. By bringing together various banking features, it enables the seamless transfer of funds and payments to merchants on a single platform.

##### Key Achievements of UPI

- **Annual Transaction Volume (Number):** Increased from 20 million (2 crore) in the financial year 2016-17 to 241.62 billion (24,162 crore) in the financial year 2025-26.

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- **Banks Linked to UPI:** The number of banks linked to UPI grew from 44 in FY 2016-17 to 703 by FY 2025-26. These include Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks, Small Finance Banks, Payments Banks, Cooperative Banks, and others.
- **Global Reach:** In 2024, approximately 49% of the world's real-time payment transactions were processed through UPI. This fact has also been corroborated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- It has commenced operations in several countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Singapore, France, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and Qatar. This has significantly enhanced its global acceptance.

## National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

- It is the apex organization in India for operating retail payments and settlement systems.
- **Founders:** Established by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA).
- **Legal Framework:** Governed under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- **Nature:** A 'Not-for-Profit' company registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013.
- **Key products offered by NPCI:**
  - o Immediate Payment Service (IMPS),
  - o National Automated Clearing House (NACH),
  - o Unified Payments Interface (UPI),
  - o RuPay,
  - o Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS), etc.

## Prosopis juliflora

### Why in News?

- **Prosopis juliflora will be utilized as raw material for India's first green methanol production plant. This will provide fuel for ocean-going vessels.**



### Key Points:

#### Prosopis juliflora

- **It is a drought- and salinity-tolerant leguminous plant. It is one of the world's most prominent invasive species.**
- **It is a species native to Mexico.**

#### Impact on Ecology:

- **It is a deep-rooted plant (a phreatophyte) that draws water from zones situated below the groundwater table. This increases pressure on water resources and can exacerbate hydrological droughts.**
- **It diminishes the diversity of native plant species, thereby posing a serious threat to plant biodiversity.**
- **IUCN Red List Status: Least Concern.**



## Sociology



### New National Healthcare Initiatives



#### Why in News?

- The Union Health Minister launched several initiatives in the healthcare sector at the '10th National Innovation and Inclusion Summit'.



#### Key Points:

##### New Initiatives Launched

- **Swasth Bharat Portal:** This is a one-stop integrated platform. It is designed to bring multiple national health programs onto a single digital interface.
- It aligns with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission and integrates with ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account).
- **JANANI Portal (JANANI: Journey of Antenatal, Natal, and Neonatal Integrated Care):** This tracks reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health data and adopts a life-cycle approach to ensure continuity of care.
- **Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 and Guidance Document on Diabetes in Children and Adolescents:** These comprise updated guidelines—building upon those from 2013 that address the evolving healthcare needs of children, including new diseases and non-communicable diseases.

## Schemes and Policies

### Mission SAKSHAM

#### Why in News?

- The Reserve Bank of India has launched 'Mission SAKSHAM'—a mission-mode, sector-wide, pan-India capacity-building training initiative for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs).



#### Key Points:

- UCBs constitute a sub-group of cooperative banks that primarily operate in urban and semi-urban areas.

#### Mission SAKSHAM

- Its objective is to conduct a large number of training programs (both in-person and through e-learning courses) for UCBs.
- It covers various target groups, including Board members; senior management; heads of Risk, Compliance, and Audit functions; as well as employees working in IT operations and other critical areas.
- It has been formulated in consultation with the umbrella organization for UCBs, as well as national and state-level cooperative federations.

## Incentive Scheme for Promotion of Recycling of Critical Minerals (IS-PCMR)

### Why in News?

- The Union Ministry of Mines has approved 58 companies as eligible partners under the Incentive Scheme for Promotion of Recycling of Critical Minerals.



### Key Points:

#### IS-PCMR

- This scheme was notified in October 2025. It is a component of the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM).
- **Nodal Ministry:** Union Ministry of Mines
- **Objective:** Its aim is to develop domestic recycling capacity for critical minerals thereby reducing dependence on imports—and to provide support to the clean energy and advanced manufacturing sectors.
- **Scheme Duration:** 6 years (from Financial Year 2025-26 to Financial Year 2030-31).
- **Eligible Waste:** E-waste, Lithium-ion battery scrap, and other scrap materials (excluding e-waste and general scrap)—such as catalytic converters used in end-of-life vehicles.



## INTERNATIONAL



### Jamaica (Capital: Kingston)



#### Why in News?

- India has provided Jamaica with its flagship 'Aarogya Maitri' portable healthcare service infrastructure.



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## Key Points:

- The 'Aarogya Maitri' project is a humanitarian initiative that fulfills India's commitment to global healthcare and disaster relief.
- **Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog, Hit, and Maitri (BHISHM):** This is a component of the 'Aarogya Maitri' initiative, comprising small, portable "mini-cubes." These mini-cubes contain essential medicines and medical equipment, utilized to rapidly deliver healthcare assistance during disasters or emergency situations.

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## Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026 Notified

### Why in News?

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has notified the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026. Its objective is to simplify procedures related to 'Overseas Citizen of India' (OCI) cardholders and to tighten passport regulations for minors.



### Key Points:

#### Key Provisions of the Amendment

- **Ban on Dual Passports for Minors:** A new provision mandates that no minor may hold a passport of any other country while simultaneously holding an Indian passport.
- **e-OCI:** OCI status can now be issued in an electronic format (e-OCI) in addition to the traditional physical card.

- **Mandatory Online Application:** All OCI-related procedures, including registration, will now be conducted entirely online through the designated portal (ociservices.gov.in).
- **Permission to Renounce OCI Status Digitally:** This provision simplifies the process for the renunciation and cancellation of OCI facilities. It mandates the surrender of the physical card while also providing for digital acknowledgment of the entire process.
- **Fast Track Immigration (FTI) Consent:** OCI applicants may now provide consent to share their biometric information. This results in their automatic enrollment in the Fast Track Immigration program.
- **Appellate Mechanism:** Appeals against orders related to OCI matters will now be heard by an officer holding a rank one level higher than the original decision-making authority.

## Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) Scheme

- **Introduction:** This scheme was introduced into the Citizenship Act, 1955, through the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2005.
- In 2015, the Person of Indian Origin (PIO) card scheme was merged into this scheme.
- **Eligibility:**
  - Individuals who were citizens of India on or after January 26, 1950, or who were eligible to become citizens of India on January 26, 1950.
  - **Exception:** Individuals who have ever been citizens of Pakistan, Bangladesh, or any other country designated by the government are not eligible.
  - This card does not confer political rights, such as the right to vote in India or to hold a constitutional office.
  - OCI is not a right, but rather a special privilege. If an individual violates Indian laws, their OCI status may be revoked.

## ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

### Whitley Awards

#### Why in News?

- Barkha Subba and Parveen Shaikh received Whitley Awards for their efforts to protect the habitats of the Himalayan Salamander and the Indian Skimmer.



#### Key Points:

##### Whitley Awards

- These awards are presented by the 'Whitley Fund for Nature,' a nature conservation charity based in the United Kingdom.
- **Objective:** Its aim is to provide encouragement to conservationists working to protect wildlife and ecosystems.
- **Recognition:** It is also known as the 'Green Oscar.' This award is presented annually.

## Himalayan Salamander

- This is a rare and semi-aquatic amphibian found in the Eastern Himalayas.
- It is an endemic species of India, Nepal, and Bhutan, and is also found in Myanmar, Thailand, and other regions.
- It has been classified as 'Vulnerable' by the IUCN.

## Indian Skimmer

- This is one of three bird species belonging to the skimmer genus, Rynchops.
- It has been classified as 'Endangered' by the IUCN.
- India is home to over 90% of the global population of this species, particularly along the Chambal River.

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