

Daily Current Affairs



Date : 23 June 2026



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RAJASTHAN



Ranjana Prakash Desai Committee

(Constituted for the Uniform Civil Code in Rajasthan)



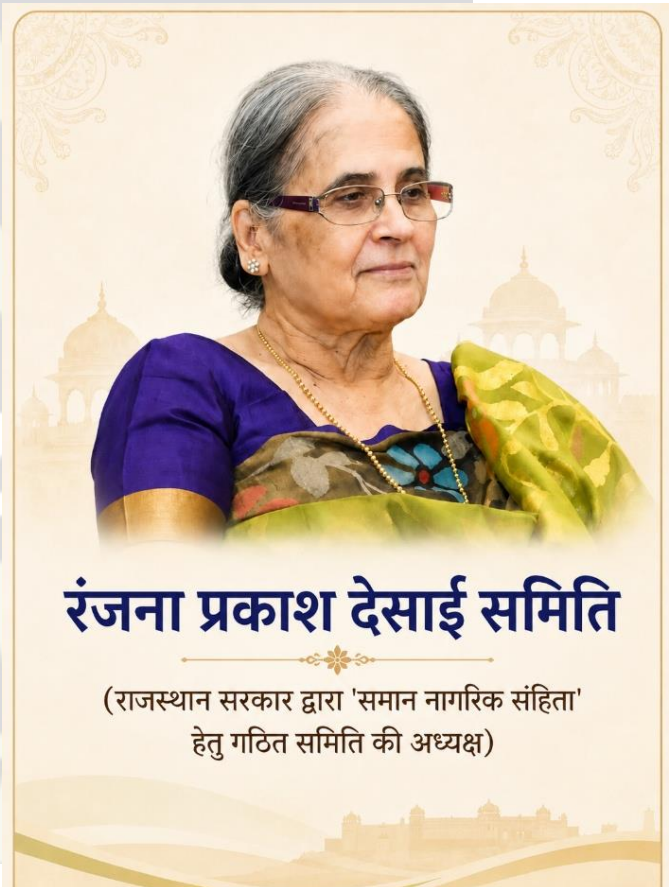
Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan government constituted a high-level committee headed by Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai to draft the 'Uniform Civil Code (UCC)' bill.



Key Points:

- Chairperson of the Committee:** Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai (Retired Judge of the Supreme Court).
- Members of the Committee:** Shatrughna Singh (Retired IAS), Basant Singh Chhaba (Additional Advocate General, Rajasthan High Court), Ramswaroop Agarwal (Retired Principal, Government Law College, Sri Ganganagar), and Dr. Shuchi Chauhan.
- Member Secretary of the Committee:** Additional Chief Secretary (Home Department).
- Cabinet Decision:** Taken during a cabinet meeting held on April 14, 2026, under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister.





Potential Key Provisions:

- Customs and traditions of the tribal community will be preserved, and constitutional protection will be provided to them.
- Mandatory registration of marriage and divorce, a complete ban on polygamy, mandatory registration of live-in relationships, and equal rights for both sons and daughters in ancestral property, etc.

Facts for Prelims:

- **Uniform Civil Code (UCC):** A uniform civil law for every citizen of India, irrespective of religion, caste, creed, or community.
- The primary objective of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is to formulate uniform laws governing personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, and child adoption for all citizens of India, regardless of religion, caste, or gender.
- **Constitutional Provision:** The concept of the Uniform Civil Code is mentioned in Article 44 of Part IV of the Indian Constitution as a 'Directive Principle of State Policy,' which states that the State shall endeavor to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India.
- **Key Point:** On February 7, 2024, Uttarakhand became the first state in the history of Indian democracy to legally implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) after passing it in the Legislative Assembly.

Rajasthan's First 'Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF)' Tolling System



Why in News?

- Recently, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) launched a Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF)-based tolling system at the 'Daulatpura Toll Plaza,' located on the Delhi-Jaipur section of National Highway (NH)-48 in Rajasthan.



Key Points:

- This is the first MLFF tolling system of its kind to be launched in Rajasthan.
- About the system:** MLFF (Multi-Lane Free Flow) is a modern, barrier-free electronic tolling system that eliminates the need for toll booths. Using overhead gantries equipped with RFID readers, AI, and ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras, it automatically deducts the toll amount from the FASTag.

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- **India's first MLFF toll system:** NHAI had launched the country's first MLFF tolling project at the Chorasi Toll Plaza on the Surat-Bharuch section of NH-48 in Gujarat. Meanwhile, the country's second MLFF toll system has been implemented at the Mundka-Bakkarwala Toll Plaza on Delhi's Urban Extension Road-II.
 - The implementation of this system marks a significant milestone in the development of digital national highway infrastructure.
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI):**
- **Establishment:** Commenced operations in 1995 under the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988.
 - **Related Ministry:** Operates under the administrative control of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

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Rajasthan Target Olympic Podium Scheme (RTOPS)



Why in News?

- 'International Olympic Day' is celebrated annually on June 23rd to commemorate the establishment of the International Olympic Committee in 1894.

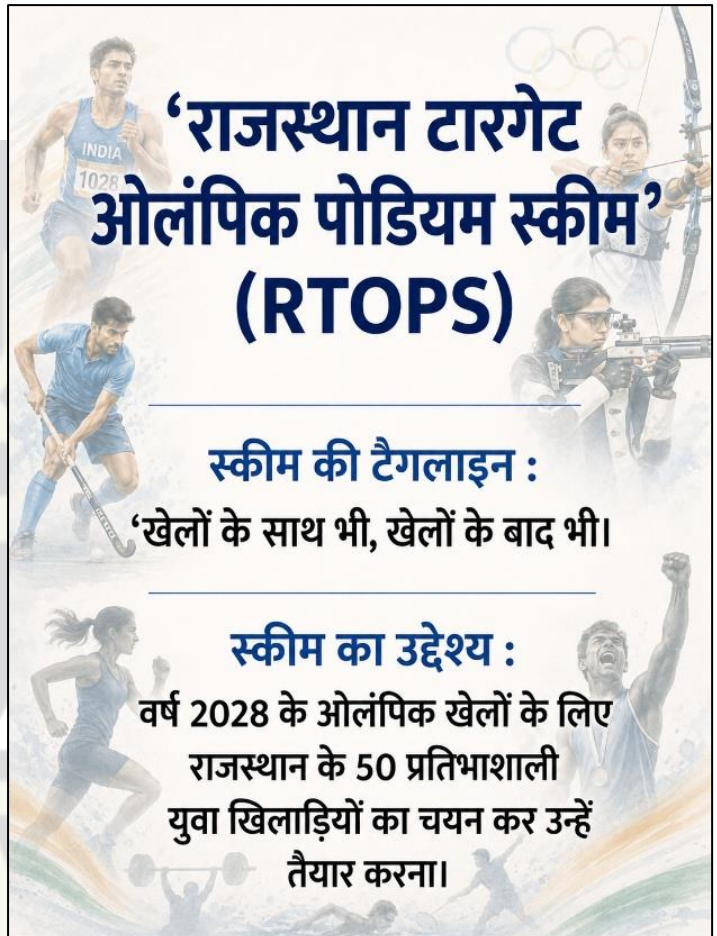


Key Points:

- **Theme for the year 2026:** 'You Can Do It.'

In the context of Rajasthan:

- **RTOPS:** The 'Rajasthan Target Olympic Podium Scheme' (RTOPS) has been launched in the state, modeled after the Central Government's initiative, to propel talented athletes from Rajasthan to the Olympic stage.
- The objective of this scheme is to select and prepare 50 talented young athletes from Rajasthan for the 2028 Olympic Games and to provide them with world-class coaching, training, kits, and other necessary support.
- **Scheme Tagline:** Khelon ke saath bhi, khelon ke baad bhi.
- Athletes selected under the scheme will receive a monthly 'out-of-pocket' allowance of ₹25,000.
- This scheme is intended for athletes who are not availing benefits from the Central Government's 'Target Olympic Podium' (TOP) scheme. 20 percent of the seats are reserved for para-athletes.
- The 'Rajasthan Mission Olympic Committee' and the 'State Talent Search and Development Committee' have been constituted to ensure the transparent operation of the scheme and to monitor the athletes' performance.
- A 'Rajasthan Centre of Excellence' will be established in Jaipur to provide international-standard facilities to the selected athletes.



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Safety Net through Sports Life Insurance:

- Prioritizing the safety of athletes' lives and health, the government has implemented a Sports Life Insurance Scheme.
- Under this scheme, accident and life insurance coverage of up to ₹25 lakh is being provided to international medal winners.
- Additionally, financial assistance is being provided to athletes for the purchase of state-of-the-art sports equipment.

Athletes from Rajasthan who participated in the Olympics:

Player	Sport	Olympic Year
Samar Banerjee	Football	1956
Karni Singh	Shooting	1960
Virsa Singh	Athletics	1960
Avtar Singh	Hockey	1972
Sriram Singh	Athletics	1976
Gangotri Bhandari	Hockey	1980
Varsha Soni	Hockey	1980
Radheshyam	Basketball	1980
Gopal Saini	Athletics	1980
Shyamlal Meena	Archery	1988
Limba Ram	Archery	1988, 1992, 1996
Kasam Khan	Rowing	2000
Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore	Shooting	2004, 2008
Krishna Poonia	Athletics	2008
Bajrang Takhar	Rowing	2008
Shagun Chowdhary	Shooting	2012
Apurvi Chandela	Shooting	2016, 2020
Sapna Poonia	Athletics	2016
Bhawna Jat	Athletics	2020
Arjun Lal Jat	Rowing	2020
Anantjeet Singh Naruka	Shooting	2024
Maheshwari Chauhan	Shooting	2024

- **Other athletes:** Ghulam Mohammad (Equestrian), Vishal Singh (Equestrian), Baldev Singh (Basketball), and Ajmer Singh (Basketball).

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NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	Prof. Jainendra K. Jain (of Rajasthan origin) honored with the prestigious 'Wolf Prize' ■ Prof. Jainendra K. Jain, an American theoretical physicist of Rajasthani origin, was honored with the prestigious Wolf Prize for the discovery of 'composite fermions'. ■ Prof. Jainendra K. Jain was born in Sambhar, Jaipur district. He is the first person of Indian origin to receive the Wolf Prize. ■ Awarded by: Israeli President Isaac Herzog at a ceremony held at the Knesset (Israel's parliament). ■ Presented by the 'Wolf Foundation', this award is considered the world's most prestigious honor after the Nobel Prize.
2.	'BLO Dialogue Program': Jaipur ■ Event: Held on June 20, 2026, at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC), Jaipur. ■ Gyanesh Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of the Election Commission of India, interacted with over 700 Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and supervisors from Rajasthan. ■ Rajasthan secured the first position among 12 states and union territories in the country during the 'Special Intensive Revision' (SIR) process.
3.	'ROYALS Jeeman - 2026' organized in Edinburgh ■ Recently, 'ROYALS Jeeman - 2026' was organized in Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland. ■ Organizer: Rajasthani Organisation for Youth, Arts and Legacy in Scotland (ROYALS).

4. **Jaipur ranked among the world's 20 Best Art and Cultural Cities**

- Jaipur was included in the list of the world's top 20 art and cultural cities in a global ranking released by 'Time Out'. Jaipur is the only city from the country to feature in this list.
- **First place:** London (United Kingdom).
- **Jaipur's rank:** 18th.

5. **Krishna Nagar: 3 Medals at French Open Para-Badminton**

- Para-badminton player Krishna Nagar from Rajasthan won a gold medal in men's singles and two bronze medals in doubles at the 'French Open Para-Badminton'.

Event	Category	Medal	Opponent / Partner
Men's Singles	SH6	Gold	Defeated Charles Noakes of France
Men's Doubles	SH6	Bronze	Partnered with Sivarajan Solaimalai
Mixed Doubles	SH6	Bronze	Partnered with Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan

6. **Three Rajasthan Cricketers Selected for 'Emerging Players Tournament'**

- Recently, Three cricketers from Rajasthan have been selected for the 'Emerging Players Tournament'.
- **Organized by:** The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) at the Centre of Excellence (CoE), Bengaluru.

Selected Players:

- Chetan Sharma (Bharatpur)
- Kartik Sharma (Bharatpur)
- Ganesh Suthar (Jodhpur)

7. **Ravi Bishnoi: Brand Ambassador of Indian Healthcare League (IHL)**

- Young Indian leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi has been appointed as the official brand ambassador of the 'Indian Healthcare League' (IHL), the world's largest healthcare cricket league.



NATIONAL



19th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF), 2026

[Source: PIB and DD NEWS]



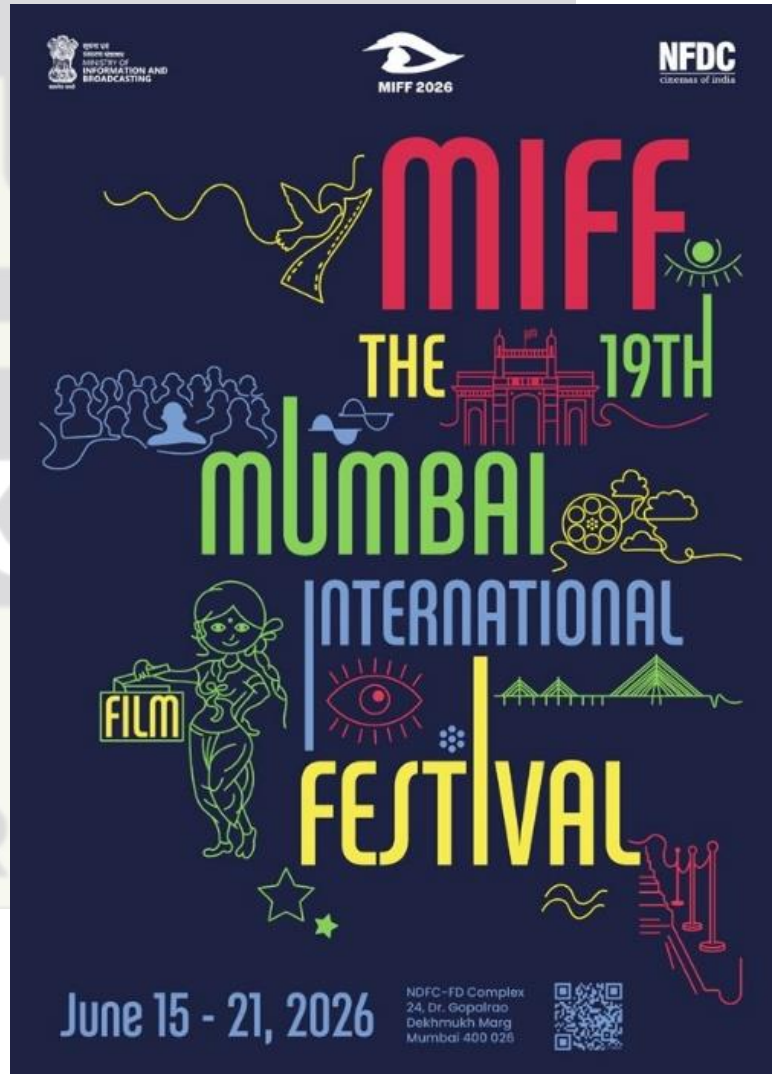
Why in News?

- The 19th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF), 2026 dedicated to documentary, short fiction, and animation films was held in Mumbai from June 15 to June 21, 2026.



Key Points:

- **History:** Launched in 1990, the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) is South Asia's oldest and largest non-feature film festival.
- **Organizer:** It is organized by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.
- The competition section featured a total of 144 films, comprising 52 international and 92 national entries. These films represent filmmakers from 13 countries.
- A total of 202 films were screened in the non-competition section, including 106 international and 96 national films.
- **Winners:** A total of 17 awards were presented during the closing ceremony for excellence in documentary, animation, and short fiction filmmaking.



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1. International Competition Category

Award Category	Winning Film	Country	Winning Individuals
Golden Conch (Best International Documentary Film) + ₹10 lakh	Silver	Poland	Natalia Koniarz (Director) and Maciej Kubicki (Producer)
Silver Conch (Best International Short Fiction Film) + ₹5 lakh	Under the Snow	Iran	Nafise Zare (Director), Kottukathira Prakash and Deepankar Prakash (Producers)
Silver Conch (Best International Animation) + ₹5 lakh	Maya's Song	Germany	Franziska Schönenberger and Jayakrishnan Subramanian (Directors/Producers)

Award	Winning Film	Winner(s)
Best Cinematographer Award	Turtle Walker (Indian Documentary)	Krish Makhija
Best Editing Award	About the Cow (Russian Short Fiction Film)	Evgeny Smirnov and Maksim Smirnov
Best Sound Designer Award	Deva Aaj Pan Whay	Abhay Rumde (Purple Haze Studio)
Best Short Film Award on the Theme "Viksit Bharat / 150 Years of Vande Mataram / Bharat@2026"	The Last Shelter	Bharat Arora and Rajesh Bhatia
Pramod Pati Special Jury Award for Most Innovative/Experimental Film	The Hoarders (Taiwanese Film)	Chuan-Ying Liao

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1. National Competition Category

Award Category	Winning Film	Award Recipient(s) (Director/Producer)
Silver Conch (Best Indian Documentary Film) + ₹5 lakh	Waa	Sainath S. Uskekar (Director) and Bharatbala Ganapathy (Producer)
Silver Conch (Best Indian Short Fiction Film) + ₹3 lakh	Small Clouds	Dheeraj Singh and Shubham Sumit
Silver Conch (Best Indian Animation) + ₹3 lakh	Armstrong from Angaalamman Temple Street (Tamil)	Bhuvanesh M. Kumar

Award	Winning Film	Winner
Best Sound Design Award	Kovarty	Bigyna Dahal
Best Editing Award	MAYDAY	Akhil Krishnan
Best Cinematographer Award	Small Clouds	Ranadhir Biswas
FIPRESCI International Critics Prize (Initiated by the International Federation of Film Critics)	The Hug of Emptiness	Pradeep Kenchanuru
IPDA Award for Best Student Film	The Old Bull Knows, or Once Knew	Milan Kumar
Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari Award for Best Debut Director	Razaa	Pooja Tolani

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‘Guitar Wizz’ App: Apple Design Award, 2026

[Source: DD NEWS]



Why in News?

- US technology company Apple has named the Indian-origin app ‘Guitar Wizz’ as the winner of the ‘Inclusivity’ category at the Apple Design Awards, 2026.



Key Points:

- **Categories:** The awards feature various categories such as Inclusivity, Innovation, Interaction, Social Impact, Delight and Fun, and Visuals and Graphics.
- **Contribution:** This honor has been awarded for providing an accessible and inclusive musical experience to users with diverse abilities.
- **Introduction and Development:** Developed by Indian developer Bijoy Thangaraj, Guitar Wizz is an all-in-one toolkit designed for both novice and experienced guitar players. The app offers voice-based guidance on tuning, chords, correct finger positioning, and other aspects of learning the guitar.

Asian Relay Championships, 2026

[Source: AIR]



Why in News?

- Recently, India's women's team won the gold medal in the 4×100m relay at the Asian Relay Championships, 2026, held in Shangyu, China.



Key Points:

- Earlier, India had secured a silver medal in the 4×400m mixed relay and a bronze medal in the 4×100m mixed relay.
- In the 4×400m mixed relay, India finished second and Kazakhstan third. India also won the bronze medal in the 4×100m mixed relay; Thailand won the gold, while China won the silver.



History and Culture



Rakhigarhi



Why in News?

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has sent approximately 5,000-year-old skeletons, unearthed during excavations at Rakhigarhi in Haryana, for scientific testing and facial reconstruction.



Key Points:

Rakhigarhi

- Modern-day Rakhigarhi is located in the Ghaggar-Hakra river plain in Haryana, 27 kilometers away from the Ghaggar River.
- This archaeological site dates back to 2600–1900 BCE.
- It is the largest Harappan site located in the Indian subcontinent.
- The site was first excavated by Amarendra Nath of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- **Granary:** A granary dating to the Mature Harappan period (2600 BCE to 2000 BCE) has been found here. It consists of seven rectangular or square chambers.
- **Culture, Clothing, and Worship:** Fire altars and semi-circular structures have been discovered at Rakhigarhi.
- **Graveyard and Burial Site:** A Mature Harappan-era cemetery containing eight graves has been discovered at Rakhigarhi.



Harappan Civilization

- The Harappan civilization is considered one of the world's oldest civilizations, alongside those of Egypt and Mesopotamia.
- It developed along the banks of the Indus River; hence, it is also known as the Indus Valley Civilization.
- The Harappan civilization is classified as a Bronze Age civilization because numerous artifacts made from copper alloys have been found there.



Schemes and Policies



Abhigyan App



Key Points:

- The Union Home Minister launched the 'Abhigyan' app, developed by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- By integrating with the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS), this app stores fingerprint scans of accused individuals, convicts, and prison inmates on a centralized platform.
- These fingerprints can be matched against the NAFIS database within 35 seconds.
- During routine vehicle checks on the road, individuals wanted in connection with crimes can be identified by performing a biometric scan of any suspicious person.



ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY



Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs)



Why in News?

- The Western Ghats may soon receive stronger legal protection through the notification of Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs) across at least three states.



Key Points:

- Once notified, strict restrictions will be imposed on mining, polluting industries, and large-scale construction projects in these areas.

What are Ecologically Sensitive Areas?

- ESAs are designated areas selected for special environmental protection due to their rich biodiversity, fragile ecosystems, or significant ecological functions.
- They are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- In 2022, the Supreme Court directed that there must be a mandatory Eco-Sensitive Zone of at least one kilometer extending from the demarcated boundaries of every protected forest, national park, and wildlife sanctuary.
- The ESA status also implies that any development project in the area will be subject to rigorous environmental scrutiny.

Western Ghats

- The Western Ghats, also known as the Sahyadri Hills, is a mountain range running parallel to India's western coast.
- Location: The Western Ghats extend for approximately 1,600 kilometers, stretching from Gujarat in the north to Tamil Nadu in the south.



- **Biodiversity:** The Western Ghats are considered one of the world's eight "hottest hotspots" of biological diversity.
- 50% of India's amphibian species and 67% of its fish species are found in this region.
- **Conservation:** In 2012, the Western Ghats were listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Major Peaks:** Anamudi is the highest peak of the Western Ghats; it is located in Kerala.
- Doddabetta is the highest point in Tamil Nadu.

⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🌡️

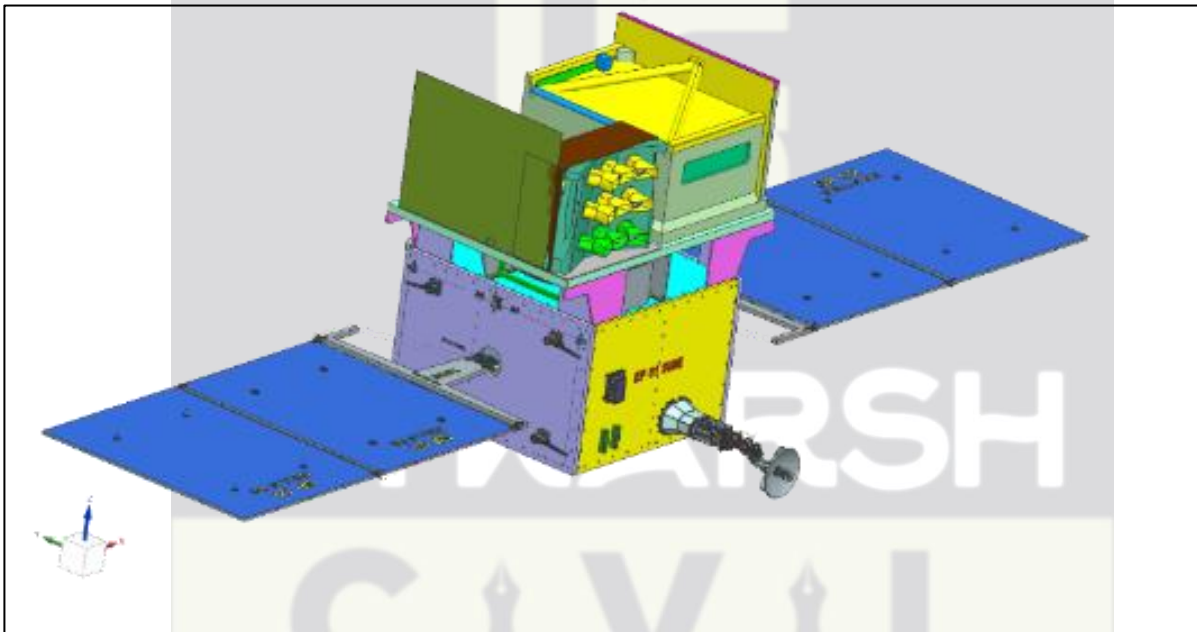
‘TRISHNA’ Satellite

[Source: DD NEWS and ISRO]



Why in News?

- India and France will jointly launch the ‘TRISHNA’ satellite in 2027.



Key Points:

- **Full Name:** Thermal InfraRed Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment.
- **Introduction:** The TRISHNA mission is a collaborative effort between ISRO and CNES (France). It is designed to provide high spatial and high temporal resolution monitoring of Earth's surface temperature, productivity, and biophysical and radiative variables essential for understanding surface energy budgets at scales ranging from regional to global.
- **Collaboration:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the French space agency (CNES).

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- **Orbit:** The satellite will operate in a Sun-synchronous orbit at an altitude of 761 km, with a local crossing time of 12:30 PM at the equator.
- **Duration:** The mission is designed for an operational lifespan of 5 years.
- **Capability:** It will provide a spatial resolution of 57 meters for land and coastal areas, and 1 km for oceanic and polar regions.
- The mission addresses critical water and food security challenges by focusing on the impacts of human-induced climate change and efficient water resource management through evapotranspiration monitoring.
- **Primary Objectives:** The primary objectives of TRISHNA include detailed monitoring of the energy and water budgets of the continental biosphere to measure terrestrial water stress and water usage, as well as high-resolution observation of water quality and dynamics in coastal and inland waters.
- **Secondary Objectives:** As secondary objectives, the TRISHNA mission will also assist in the comprehensive assessment of urban heat islands, the detection of thermal anomalies associated with volcanic activity and geothermal resources, and the precise monitoring of snowmelt runoff and glacial dynamics.
- **Instruments:** The TRISHNA satellite is equipped with two primary payloads.
 1. **Thermal Infrared (TIR) Payload:** The Thermal Infrared (TIR) payload, provided by CNES, features a four-channel long-wave infrared imaging sensor capable of high-resolution surface temperature and emissivity mapping.
 2. **Visible – Near-Infrared – Short-Wave Infrared (VNIR-SWIR) Payload:** Developed by ISRO, this payload comprises seven spectral bands designed for detailed mapping of surface reflectance in the VNIR-SWIR range to generate key biophysical and radiation budget variables.

India: Ship Recycling Hub

[Source: PIB and AIR]



Why in News?

- According to the latest report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India's share in global ship recycling has risen from 30.1 percent in 2024 to 35.4 percent in 2025, the highest in the world.



Key Points:

- India achieved the ship recycling target set under the 'Maritime India Vision 2030' five years ahead of schedule.
- Ship recycling in India has increased by approximately 60 percent, rising from 1.86 million gross tonnes in 2024 to 2.99 million gross tonnes in 2025.
- According to the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), more than 16,000 ships are likely to be recycled globally over the next decade.
- With a current market share of 35.4 percent, India is well-positioned to recycle approximately 500 to 600 ships annually and continue expanding its ship recycling capacity.

Key Government Initiatives:

1. **Compliance with the Hong Kong Convention:** The Government of India enacted the Ship Recycling Act, 2019, to develop a ship recycling ecosystem aligned with the Hong Kong International Convention for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships.
2. **Ship Recycling Credit Note Scheme:** The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has launched the Ship Recycling Credit Note Scheme, under which ship owners receive a credit note equivalent to 40 percent of the scrap value of the recycled ship.
3. **Inclusion under EU Ship Recycling Regulations (EUSRR):** The Government of India is actively striving to have Indian ship recycling yards included in the list of EU-approved recycling facilities.
4. **Expansion of Alang Ship Recycling Yard:** India aims to nearly double its ship recycling capacity to 9 million Light Displacement Tonnes (LDT) through the planned expansion of the Alang ship recycling yard.

Latest Unicorn: Sarvam AI

[Source: Financial Express]



Why in News?

- In 2026, the Bengaluru-based company Sarvam AI became India's fifth unicorn, with a valuation of \$1.5 billion.



Key Points:

- It has become India's first full-stack Artificial Intelligence (AI) startup to be valued at over US\$ 1 billion.
- With this achievement, Sarvam joins the ranks of five startups including Juspay, Neysa, KreditBee, and Skyroot Aerospace that have attained unicorn status in India this year.
- According to regulatory filings, HCL Tech will invest ₹1,427 crore for a 10.46% stake in the company.

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- **Founding:** Established in 2023 by AI researchers Pratyush Kumar and Vivek Raghavan.
 - **Achievements:** The company has developed several foundational models, including Sarvam-105B and Sarvam-30B, designed for multilingual reasoning, document processing, and edge deployment.
 - **Future Strategy:** Under the aegis of the Government of India's IndiaAI Mission, Sarvam AI has been selected to develop the country's first indigenous LLM. This project will involve creating three distinct variants Sarvam-Large (for advanced reasoning), Sarvam-Small (for real-time applications), and Sarvam-Edge (for on-device operations) featuring up to 70 billion parameters.
 - **India's Unicorn Scorecard, 2026**
 - **New unicorns by June 2026: 5**
 - **Total number of unicorn companies in India by June 2026: 131**
 - **Global ranking:** Third place, following the US and China.
- Other important points:**
- **Unicorn:** "Unicorn" refers to a privately owned startup company valued at more than US\$1 billion.

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