

# APTI PLUS OAS GAZETTE

OCTOBER 2025



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CREATING CIVIL SERVANTS FOR THE NATION



Exotic Eustoma Blooms  
in Odisha



Gupta Gundicha Yatra  
begins in Puri



Odisha approves 5,500+ Village  
Action Plans under Aadi  
Karmayogi Abhiyan



Abhimanyu Mishra, Youngest  
Grandmaster Who Defeated  
World Champion



Padma Shri Awardee  
Gopinath Swain  
passes away

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COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR ODISHA STATE CIVIL SERVICES EXAMS



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## **Odisha Current Affairs**

**SYLLABUS: CURRENT EVENTS OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE: TO BE READ FROM THE IAS GAZETTE: COVERS - POLITY, GOVERNMENT SCHEMES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ECONOMY, SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, SECURITY, GEOGRAPHY, SOCIETY, ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY**

## Odisha to Scrap Old Government Vehicles by Mid-October

### Context

- Odisha government plans to **scrap all government vehicles over 15 years old** at **Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities (RVSF)** by **October 15, 2025**.
- Focus on replacing old vehicles with **new, mostly electric vehicles**.

### Current Status:

- By March 31, 2025: **~4,000 vehicles scrapped**.
- Received **₹300 crore special assistance** from Ministry of Finance for capital investment.

### Incentives under Central Scheme:

- Rs 50,000–1.5 lakh per vehicle depending on volume:
  - Up to 500 vehicles: ₹50,000 each.
  - 501–1,000 vehicles: ₹60,000 each.
  - 6,000+ vehicles: ₹1.5 lakh each.

### Implementation:

- Departments must **identify and scrap vehicles >15 years old** across offices & field units.
- Monitoring via **VAHAN database** by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.
- Total vehicles to be scrapped: **6,241**.

### Significance:

- Phases out **polluting, inefficient vehicles**.
- Promotes **electric mobility** and **environmental sustainability**.
- Leverages **central financial incentives** for accelerated adoption.

## Odisha Panchayat Samiti Accounting Procedure (Amendment) Rules, 2025

### Context

- Odisha BJP government introduced the **Panchayat Samiti Accounting Procedure (Amendment) Rules, 2025**.
- Criticism from **BJD and Congress**: Rules undermine **elected representatives** of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

### Key Amendments:

- Financial Authority Shift:**
  - BDOs** can now sanction bills up to **₹10 lakh** independently (previous limit ₹2 lakh).
  - Chief Development Officer-cum-Executive Officer** of Zilla Parishad can approve Panchayat Samiti plans & estimates.

- Engineer Powers Increased:**

- Technical sanctions raised to **₹5 lakh–₹4 crore** depending on rank.
- Includes projects under **MGNREGA** and other developmental schemes.

- Administrative Approval:**

- BDOs**: Projects up to **₹20 lakh**.
- Panchayat Samiti Chairpersons**: Projects up to **₹50 lakh**.

### Reason for Controversy:

- Elected vs Bureaucratic power**: Financial and administrative authority increasingly rests with **bureaucrats** rather than **elected PRI representatives**.
- Perceived **undermining of grassroots democracy**.

### Significance:

- Raises questions on **democratic decentralisation** and **PRI autonomy**.
- Balances administrative efficiency vs **local representative authority**.

## Review of Odisha's Watershed Development Projects

### Context

- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** reviewed Odisha's new-generation watershed projects via video conferencing.
- Key focus: **Watershed Development Component of PM-Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0)** and **PM-AWAS Yojana**.

### Highlights:

- Fund Utilization**: Odisha has used **88% of released funds**, improving rainfed and degraded land productivity.
- Community Focus**: Projects strengthen **local institutions**, promote livelihoods, and ensure watershed sustainability.

### Proposals & Reforms:

- Increase in unit cost per hectare under WDC:**
  - Plain areas: ₹22,000 → ₹26,000
  - Hilly areas: ₹28,000 → ₹35,000
- Inclusion of four districts** (Nuapada, Malkangiri, Kandhamal, Sundargarh) under **PM Dhan Dhanya Yojana** to boost aspirational agriculture.

## Odisha approves 5,500+ Village Action Plans under Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyan

### Context

- Special Gram Sabha convened on **Gandhi Jayanti** approved **5,500+ Village Action Plans (VAPs)**.
- Part of **Aadi Karmayogi Abhiyan – Responsive Governance Programme**, under **Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)** and **PM Modi's leadership**.

### Key Features:

- Covers **7,623 villages** across **213 blocks** in **22 districts** of Odisha.
- Mobilisation: **~1 lakh Aadi Saathis**, **30,000 Aadi Sahyogis**, and support from **50+ NGOs**.
- **Aadi Seva Kendras**: **6,255** inaugurated (target **7,623**) to serve as service delivery & community engagement hubs.

### Process:

- VAPs prepared via **transect walks**, **FGDs**, **resource & vision mapping**, ensuring **participatory governance**.
- Emphasizes **multi-departmental convergence** and **whole-of-government approach**.

### Significance:

- Strengthens **grassroots governance** in **tribal regions**.
- Enhances **service delivery**, **accountability**, and **community empowerment**.
- Builds **trust in governance institutions** and enables tribal communities to take ownership of development.

### Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan

On 19 August 2025, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan**, the world's largest tribal grassroots leadership programme, to empower tribal communities and strengthen responsive governance. Guided by **Sewa, Sankalp, and Samarpan**, it aims to co-create the **1 Lakh Tribal Villages Vision 2030**, build **20 lakh change leaders**, and establish **Adi Sewa Kendras** in all tribal villages. Through **Governance Lab Workshops**, community engagement, and volunteer support, the Abhiyan promotes inclusive development and holistic tribal empowerment across **550 districts and 30 States/UTs**.

## Padma Shri Awardee Gopinath Swain passes away

### Overview

- **Gopinath Swain**, renowned **Krishna Leela** folk artist from Odisha, passed away at **107** in **Ganjam district**.
- Awarded **Padma Shri** in **2024** and **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award** in **2023**.

### Contributions:

- Celebrated **folk singer and Guru**, trained numerous students in **Krishna Leela**.
- Established an **Akhada (traditional dance school)** in his village for rural youth training.
- Practiced and performed traditional folk art actively even in old age.

## Rasanara Parwin Retires: Odisha's First T20 World Cup Star

### Overview

- **Rasanara Parwin**, Odisha's pioneering woman cricketer, announced her **retirement from international cricket**.
- She was the **first woman from Odisha** to represent India in a **T20 World Cup squad**.

### Career Highlights:

- Played **one ODI and two T20 matches** for India.
- Member of the **2012 Asia Cup-winning team**.
- Inspired young athletes in Odisha and contributed to popularising women's cricket in the state.

## Exotic Eustoma Blooms in Odisha

### Context

- **Exotic Eustoma**, previously imported, has bloomed in Odisha for the first time.
- Cultivation achieved in a **polyhouse** developed by **National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI)**, **Lucknow**, a **CSIR research arm**.

### Significance:

- Opens **new avenues for farmers** to cultivate this **high-value flower locally**.
- Promotes **livelihood generation** and **horticulture-based entrepreneurship**.
- Demonstrates successful **technology transfer** from **NBRI's Lucknow campus** to Odisha.



### Scientific Context:

- **Origin**: Native to **Mexico and America**.
- Previously unavailable locally, cultivation in Odisha marks a **horticultural breakthrough**.

### Impact:

- Supports **floriculture development** in the state.
- Reduces dependence on **imports** and increases **local profitability**.

## Gupta Gundicha Yatra begins in Puri

### Context

- The **Gupta Gundicha Yatra** has commenced at **Srimandira, Puri**.
- In this ritual, **Lord Jagannath** takes **Maa Mahalaxmi** as **Maa Durga** to the **Narayani Temple** at **Dolamandap Sahi**.

### Cultural Significance:

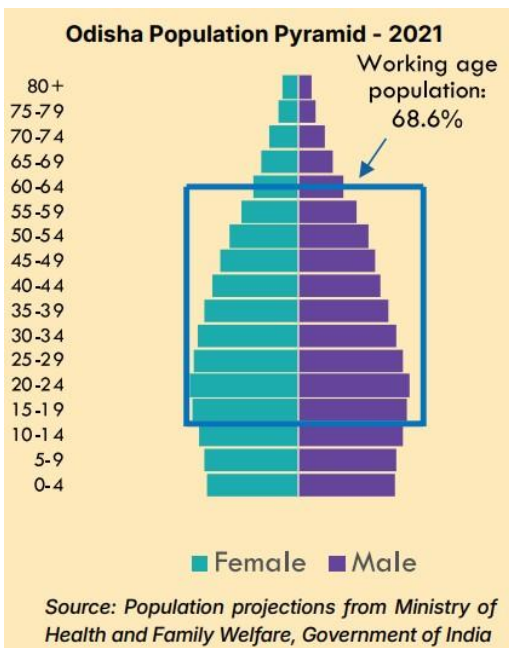
- Folklore:** During the famous **Rath Yatra**, Lord Jagannath does not take Maa Lakshmi to Gundicha Temple; He promises to do so on **Niladri Bij**, which is fulfilled through this Yatra.
- Preserves **ancient tradition** and brings **devotional joy** to devotees.
- Also called **Shakta Gundicha** or **Gupta Gundicha**, symbolizing **Durga Madhav worship**.

## ODISHA RELATED STATIC GK

### Odisha: Mineral Production

- Iron ore:** Odisha contributes **57%** of India's production – **Rank 1**.
- Chromite:** **100%** production – **Rank 1**.
- Bauxite:** **71%** production – **Rank 1**.
- Coal:** **21%** production – **Rank 3**.
- Manganese ore:** **15%** production – **Rank 4**.

### Workforce Size in Odisha



Source: Periodic Labor Force Survey, MoSPI, Government of India, 2023-24

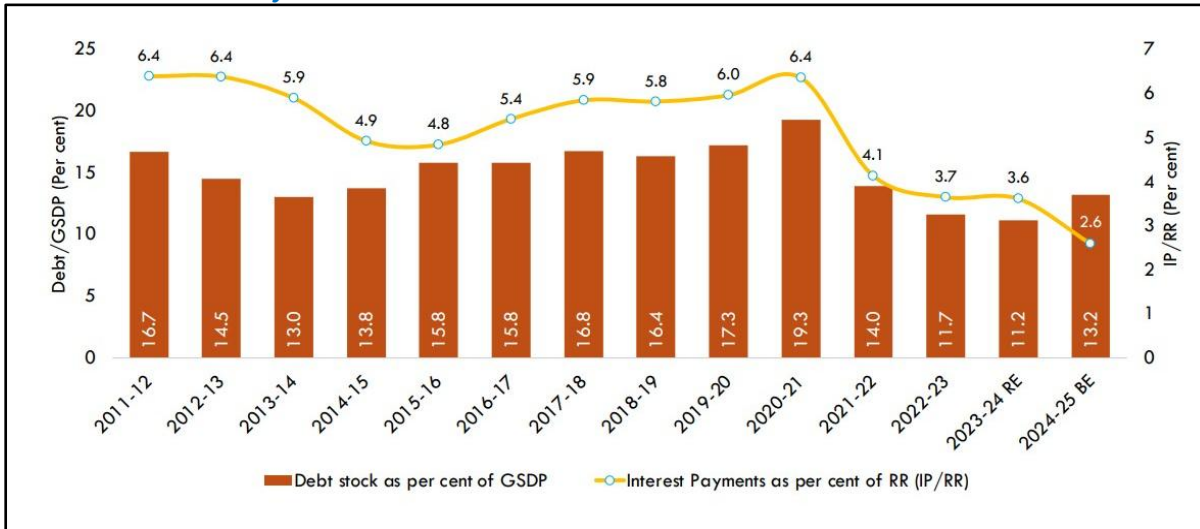
### Odisha's Export Performance

- Odisha's exports fell from **\$17 billion (2021-22)** to **\$10 billion (2024-25)** – over **40% decline** in four years.
- Ranked **9th in India** in 2024-25, down from **7th in 2021-22**, contributing **2.31%** to India's total exports (\$437.42B).
- Major export destinations: **China (21.53%)**, Turkey (7.37%), South Korea (6.5%), UK (6.4%), USA (5.5%).
- Odisha exports **106 commodities**, with top 10 accounting for **97.93%** of total exports.
- Heavy reliance on **minerals & metals** (iron ore, ferro alloys, steel, aluminium) makes Odisha vulnerable to **global market shocks**.
- Factors affecting performance: slowdown in **Chinese demand**, weak **steel prices**, stringent **European environmental standards**.
- Other states like Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal, UP, Andhra Pradesh performed better in 2024-25.
- Experts highlight **lack of diversification** into high-value sectors like **pharmaceuticals, electronics, engineering goods**; limited growth in **seafood, textiles, handicrafts** insufficient to offset decline.

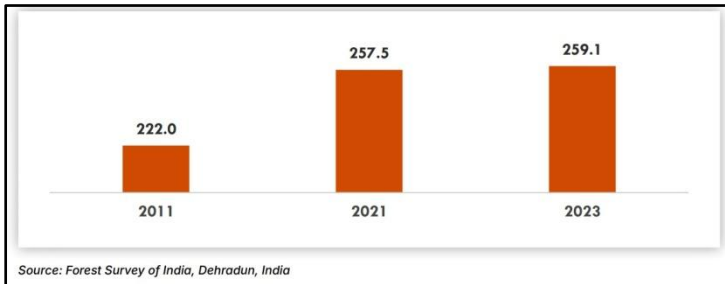


- Recent US 50% tariff on Indian goods adds to challenges but is **not the sole cause**; decline predates the tariff.

## Debt Sustainability, Odisha



## Status Of Mangrove Cover in Odisha



Mangrove Cover Assessment 2023 (Area in Sq. Km)

District wise Mangrove Cover	Very Dense Forest (VDF)	Moderately Dense Forest (MDF)	Open Forest (OF)	Total	Change over the assessment 2021
Balasore	0.00	0.57	4.25	4.82	0.06
Bhadrak	0.12	8.92	23.35	32.39	-0.07
Jagatsinghpur	0.00	1.32	7.10	8.42	0.00
Kendrapara	81.55	83.80	47.34	212.69	1.67
Puri	0.00	0.00	0.74	0.74	-0.11
Total	81.67	94.61	82.78	259.06	1.55

## Production of Major Minerals in Odisha (Volume in lakh tonnes)

Minerals	2014-15	2023-24	CAGR (2014-15 to 23-24)
Iron Ore	533	1,690	13.7%
Bauxite	92	175	7.4%
Chromite	22	32	4.3%
Manganese Ore	3	7	9.9%
Coal	1,228	2,211	6.8%

Source: Directorate of Mines, Government of Odisha



## Jharsuguda in Odisha

- Jharsuguda in Odisha is amongst the top 25 exporting districts of the country in Export Preparedness Index 2022: the top contributing export product being 'Engineering Goods'. It is one of the three districts in India to have a 'very high' export concentration, along with Jamnagar Gujarat - petroleum products) and Bharuch Gujarat - Chemical products) districts.

## Geographical Indications of Odisha

- Odisha has **17 registered Geographical Indications (GIs)** highlighting unique local products made using traditional knowledge and skills.
- GIs promote awareness, increase demand, and protect regional heritage.
- Key Handicraft GIs:**
  - Kotpad Handloom Fabric (GI 10, 2005):** Tribal handloom from Koraput; Odisha's first GI.
  - Orissa Ikat (GI 22, 2006):** Tie-and-dye Bandha fabrics; historic maritime trade influence.
  - Konark Stone Carving (GI 87, 2008):** Ancient temple stone-carving craft.
  - Orissa Pattachitra (GI 88, 2008):** Painted cloth with mythological themes from Puri.
  - Pipli Applique Work (GI 86 & 108, 2008):** Decorative canopies for Ratha Yatra chariots.
  - Khandua Saree (GI 136, 2010):** Single Ikat used in Jagannath Temple rituals.
  - Gopalpur Tussar Fabrics (GI 167, 2012):** 400-year-old silk weaving tradition.
  - Dhalapathar Parda & Fabrics (GI 207, 2012):** Handmade curtains from Khurda.
  - Sambalpuri Bandha Saree (GI 208, 2012):** Double Ikat from western Odisha; distinct from Odisha Handloom.
  - Bomkai Saree (GI 217, 2012):** Handloom from Ganjam and other districts.
  - Habaspuri Saree (GI 219, 2012):** Cotton textiles by tribal weavers in Kalahandi.
  - Berhampur Patta Saree & Joda (GI 220, 2012):** Silk with temple patterns from Brahmapur.
- Agricultural & Manufactured GIs:**
  - Ganjam Kewda Rooh & Flower (GI 228 & 229, 2012):** Perfume and agricultural product.
  - Araku Valley Arabica Coffee (GI 607, 2019):** Coffee from Odisha and parts of Andhra Pradesh.
  - Kandhamal Haladi (GI 610, 2019):** Organic turmeric from Kandhamal.
  - Odisha Rasagola (GI 612, 2019):** Traditional sweet offered as 'bhog' on Niladri Bijie during Ratha Yatra.

## RAMSAR SITES OF ODISHA

### Ansupa Lake

- Freshwater oxbow lake formed by the **Mahanadi River**; largest freshwater lake in Odisha.
- Endangered species: **Indian Skimmer, Black-Bellied Tern, Wagur, Indian River Tern, Helicopter Catfish.**

### Bhitarkanika Mangroves

- Part of **Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary**; core area is **Bhitarkanika National Park**.
- Adjacent to **Gahirmatha Marine Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- Famous for **Olive Ridley Turtle** and **Saltwater Crocodile**.

### Chilika Lake

- First Indian wetland of international importance under the **Ramsar Convention** in 1981; largest coastal lagoon in India.
- Located at the **mouth of the Daya River**; brackish water separated from the sea by a sandy ridge.
- Migratory birds come from **Caspian Sea, Lake Baikal, Aral Sea, Central Asia, Ladakh, and Himalayas**.
- Flagship species: **Irrawaddy Dolphin** – only population in India.
- Was on the **Montreux Record** in 1993; removed in 2002 after rehabilitation by the **Chilika Development Authority**.

### Hirakud Reservoir

- Largest **earthen dam** in Odisha; regulates **floods in the Mahanadi delta**.

### Satkosia Gorge

- Gorge over the **Mahanadi River**; mosaic of rivers, marshes, and evergreen forests.
- Located at the meeting point of the **Deccan Peninsula** and **Eastern Ghats**.
- Major fauna: **Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle, Indian Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle, Tiger, Black-Bellied Tern.**

### Tampara Lake

- Formed during a **1766 battle** in Ganjam between British and French forces.
- Connected to the **Rushikulya River**; aids in **flood control**.

### River Basins in Odisha

The area of the state falls in the catchment of the following 9 major river basins.

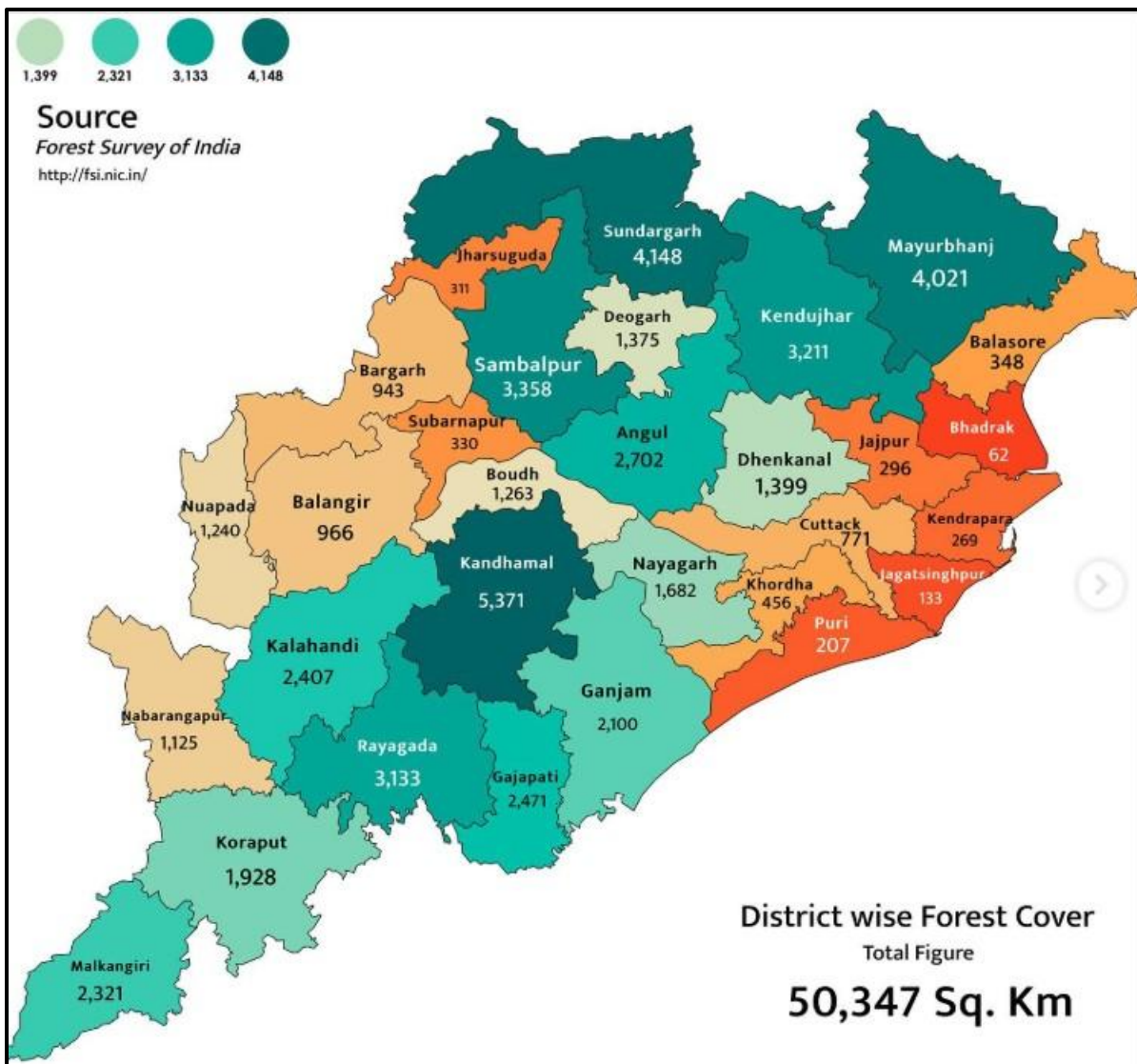
River	Origin	Out fall	Catchment Area inside Odisha sq.km	Length inside Odisha
<b>Mahanadi</b>	Nagri Town, Chhattisgarh	Bay of Bengal(Odisha State)	65,628	494
<b>Brahmani</b>	Vedvyas, Rourkela, Odisha	Bay of Bengal(Odisha State)	22,516	461
<b>Baitrani</b>	Dumuria Village, Keonjhar, Odisha	Bay of Bengal(Odisha State)	13,482	360
<b>Rushikulya</b>	Matabhari Village, Daringbadi hills, Kandhamal, Odisha	Bay of Bengal(Odisha State)	8,963	175
<b>Vamsadhara</b>	Tentulipadar(lanjigarh), Kalahandi, Odisha	Bay of Bengal(A.P State)	8,960	176
<b>Nagavali</b>	Lakhabahal, Kalahandi, Odisha	Bay of Bengal(A.P State)	4,500	125
<b>Kolab</b>	Sinkaran hills, Eastern Ghats, Koraput, Odisha	Godavari River	10,300	270
<b>Indervati</b>	Thuamul Rampur, Kalahandi, Odisha	Godavari River	7,400	167
<b>Subernarekha</b>	Nagri Village, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Bay of Bengal(Odisha State)	2,983	81
<b>Budhabalang</b>	Similipal Hills, Mayurbhanj, Odisha	Bay of Bengal(Odisha State)	4,838	199

Agreement Year	River	States
1983	Mahanadi	Madhya Pradesh, Odisha
1978	Subarnarekha	Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal
1978	Bahuda	Odisha, Andhra Pradesh
1962	Vanshadhara	Odisha, Andhra Pradesh
1978	Nagavali	Odisha, Andhra Pradesh
1978	Indravati (Godavari)	Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh
1975	Kolab	Odisha, Andhra Pradesh
1980	Godavari (Polavaram)	Odisha, Andhra Pradesh

River Agreements Source: (Pati, WATER RESOURCES OF ODISHA, 2010)

Odisha Bamboo Development Agency has achieved 43.89 Ha bamboo plantation raised in farmers' land during the year 2024-25.

Year	Achievement in ha.	No of Farmers
2024-25	43.89	44



#### Do you Know?

The **Boula-Nuasahi Complex** is a Mesoarchean (approximately 3.1 billion years old) ultramafic igneous formation located on the southeastern flanks of the **Singhbhum Craton** in Odisha, India. It is the **only proven source of platinum-group metals in India**. The complex comprises multiple litho-units, including **gabbro-anorthosite**, **peridotite with chromite bands**, **pyroxenite**, and a younger **Bangur gabbro**. It hosts chromitite lodes and exhibits magmatic as well as late-stage hydrothermal platinum-group metal mineralization, along with chromite alteration related to serpentinization and hydrothermal processes.

The site is scientifically important as it provides critical insights into the **origin and distribution of platinum-group metals**, the petrography and chemistry of **ferrianchromites**, and the effects of **hydrothermal remobilization on magmatic mineralization**, particularly in brecciated zones associated with the Bangur gabbro. It serves as a natural laboratory for understanding the geological evolution of ultramafic complexes and PGM enrichment processes.



### Dolphins and other cetaceans in Odisha

The Dolphins and other cetaceans were found in coastal of Odisha. The Irrawaddy dolphin (*Orcella brevirostris*) is found mainly in Chilika lagoon. Census of Irrawaddy dolphin is carried out regularly in the Chilika lagoon since the year 2003 but during the year 2015 first time the census of Dolphins and other cetaceans species were conducted in entire coast of Odisha by the six coastal Divisions. During the current year 2025 census, a total of 710 nos. of Dolphin and other Cetacean species were found in Odisha.

Sl. No.	Name of the Division	Species and number of Dolphins and other Cetaceans					Total
		Irrawaddy Dolphin	Bottle-nose Dolphin	Humpback Dolphin	Spinner Dolphin	Finless Porpoise	
1	Chilika Wildlife	159	0	15	0	0	174
2	Mangrove (WL) Rajnagar	22	5	470	8	0	505
3	Puri (WL)	0	7	0	0	0	7
4	Berhampur	0	0	13	0	0	13
5	Bhadrak (WL)	0	4	0	0	0	4
6	Balasore (WL)	7	0	0	0	0	7
<b>Total</b>		<b>188</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>710</b>

### Census of Blackbucks in Odisha

The population estimation exercise for Blackbuck (*Antelope Cervicapra*) for the year 2025 has been conducted in the State on 29.01.2025. Census was conducted in Ghumsur South Forest Division (Buguda, Badagada, Polosara and Aska Ranges), Berhampur Forest Division (Khallikote, Digapahandi and Berhampur Ranges), Ghumsur North Forest Division (Mujagada, Jagannath Prasad and Tarasing Ranges). The method of census adopted was individual total count of animals by direct sighting. The animals sighted were categorized in to males, females and young ones.

The Division wise details of Blackbuck estimated population is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Division	No. of Blackbucks during the year 2025 census			Total
		Male	Female	Young	
1	Ghumsur South	1108	3414	1105	5627
2	Ghumsur North	135	230	39	404
3	Berhampur	685	2028	45	2758
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1928</b>	<b>5672</b>	<b>1189</b>	<b>8789</b>

### Soil and Agroclimatic Profile of Odisha

#### Geography & Climate

- **Area:** 15.57 million ha in tropical eastern India
- **Latitude:** 17°47'-22°33' N; **Longitude:** 81°31'-87°30' E
- **Climate:** High temperature, medium rainfall
- **Average annual rainfall:** 1500 mm; **Mean annual temperature:** 26.2°C
- **Summer/Winter mean temperatures:** 30.3°C / 21.3°C

#### Physiography & Agroclimatic Zones

- **Physiographic divisions:** Northern Plateau, Central Table Land, Eastern Ghat, Coastal Plain
- **Agroclimatic zones:** 10 zones based on landform, climate, soil, crop adaptability

#### Soil Classification



- **Broad soil groups:** 8; **Taxonomy:** 4 orders, 10 suborders, 18 great groups
- Each **soil group** has specific **characteristics** and **constraints** affecting **crop productivity**

Soil Type	Area (m ha)	Key Characteristics	Management Practices	Suitable Crops
<b>Red Soil</b> (Haplustalfs, Rhodustalfs, Ustorthents)	7.14	Acidic, low organic matter, poor water retention, N & P deficient, B & Mo deficient	Lime for acidity, phosphogypsum for S, borax/molybdate, insoluble phosphate application	Rice, finger millet, minor millets, groundnut, vegetables, mango, jackfruit, guava, papaya, sapota
<b>Mixed Red &amp; Yellow Soil</b> (Haplustalfs, Paleustalfs, Ustochrepts)	5.5	Moderately shallow, coarse-textured, acidic, variable N, P, K, ferruginous concretions	Liming, paddy-pulse rotation, nutrient management	Rice, finger millet, sugarcane, vegetables, mango, guava, banana
<b>Black Soil</b> (Chromusterts, Ustorthents)	0.96	Heavy clay (>30%), smectite-dominated, neutral-alkaline, Ca rich, P, K, Zn, B deficient	Green manuring, organic matter addition, proper tillage, rice straw recycling	Rice, jowar, bajra, maize, pulses, safflower, mustard, cotton
<b>Laterite Soil</b> (Haplustalfs, Plinthustalfs, Ochraqualfs)	0.70	Acidic, loamy sand to sandy loam, iron/aluminium oxides, low fertility, hard clay pan	Liming, organic manures, green manuring, balanced fertilizer, paper mill sludge	Groundnut, pulses, rice, finger millet, minor millets, sesamum, vegetables, fruit trees
<b>Deltaic Alluvial Soil</b> (Haplaquepts, Fluvaquents, Ustochrepts)	0.67	Coarse sand to clay, high water holding, fertile, pH acidic-neutral, drainage issues	Regular flood recharge, drainage management, balanced fertilizers	Kharif rice; Rabi groundnut, mustard, sesamum, potato, vegetables
<b>Coastal Saline &amp; Alluvial Soil</b> (Halaquepts)	0.254	High soluble salts, clay/clay loam, pH 6-8, high Na <sup>+</sup> , N & K rich, P low	Lime, organic matter, green manuring, drainage, salt embankments, furrow irrigation	Rice, safflower, mustard, barley, linseed, tomato, cotton, cucurbits
<b>Brown Forest Soil</b> (Haplustalfs, Ustochrepts, Rhodustalfs)	0.17	Acidic, light texture, medium-high organic matter & N, erosion-prone	Moisture conservation, check shifting cultivation	Ginger, turmeric, tapioca, maize, wheat, mustard, niger, fruit trees, social forestry
<b>Mixed Red &amp; Black Soil</b> (Alfisols, Vertisols, Vertic Intergrades)	0.16	Light-medium texture, neutral pH, deep soils, medium fertility, black soil rich in Ca, red soil in Fe	Zinc supplementation in lowland, balanced fertilization	Rice, sugarcane, maize, ragi, groundnut, sesamum, vegetables



## APPOINTMENTS

### India's New Ambassador to South Korea

- Gourangalal Dashas been appointed India's next ambassador to South Korea.

- Srinivas Injeti has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Governing Board of the National Stock Exchange (NSE).

### Chairperson of the Governing Board of the National Stock Exchange

### Director of CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research.

- Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam has officially taken charge as the Director of CSIR–National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (NIScPR)

### Secretary of the Ministry of Mines

- Piyush Goyal has officially assumed charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Mines.



## AWARDS

### 'Living Bridge' Honour

#### Context

- Keir Starmer has been awarded.

#### Details

- Keir Starmer has been awarded the 'Living Bridge' honour for his key role in strengthening India-UK relations and facilitating the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

### 71st National Film Awards Ceremony

#### Context

- President Murmu honoured winners at the 71st National Film Awards Ceremony.

#### Details

- **Dadasaheb Phalke Award:** Mohanlal for lifetime contribution to Indian cinema
- **Best Feature Film:** *12th Fail* (Dir: Vidhu Vinod Chopra)
- **Best Hindi Film:** *Kathal – A Jackfruit Mystery* (Lead: Sanya Malhotra)
- **Best Actor (Leading Role):** Shah Rukh Khan (*Jawan*), Vikrant Massey (*12th Fail*) – tie
- **Best Actress:** Rani Mukerji (*Mrs. Chatterjee vs Norway*)

#### Key Highlights:

- Honoured both veteran legends and new-age talents
- Recognition of socially relevant films
- Encouragement for experimental and unconventional cinema

#### Regional Film Winners:

- Best Telugu: *Bhagavanth Kesari*
- Best Tamil: *Parking*
- Best Malayalam: *Ullozhukku*
- Best Marathi: *Shyamchi Aai*
- Best Kannada: *Kandeelu*
- Best Punjabi: *Godday Godday Chaa*
- Best Assamese: *Rongatapu 1982*
- Best Bengali: *Deep Fridge*

### Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- Diplomat Dr. Deepak Mittal has been selected as next Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- Best Gujarati: *Vash*
- Best Odia: *Pushkara*

**Technical Awards:** Best Action Direction – Nandu Prudhvi (*HanuMan*), Best Music Direction – GV Prakash Kumar (*Vaathi*), Best Choreography – Vaibhavi Merchant (*Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani*), among others

#### Non-Feature & Short Films:

- Best Documentary: *God Vulture and Human*
- Best Short Film: *Giddh The Scavenger*
- Best Non-Fiction Film: *Flowering Man*
- Best Debut Film (Non-Feature): *The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw*

### India's entry for Best International Feature Film, Oscars 2026

#### Context

- Neeraj Ghaywan's film *Homebound* has been officially selected as India's entry for the Best International Feature Film category at the Oscars 2026.

#### Details

- Produced by Karan Johar and Adar Poonawalla, with Martin Scorsese as Executive Producer mentoring the script and post-production, it stars Ishaan Khatter, Janhvi Kapoor, and Vishal Jethwa. *Homebound* premiered at Cannes 2025. It was second runner-up at the Toronto International Film Festival People's Choice and won Best Film and Best Director at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne. India has previously had only three films nominated in this category – *Mother India*, *Salaam Bombay!* and *Lagaan* – and no Indian film has won yet.

### Emmy Awards

#### Context

- The 77th Primetime Emmy Awards on September 14, 2025, at Los Angeles' Peacock Theater



celebrated the best of 2024-2025 television, honoring standout shows, performances, and creators.

#### Details

- Notable winners included “Severance” for Drama, “The Studio” for Comedy, and “Adolescence” for Limited Series, with actors like Britt Lower, Seth Rogen, Cristin Milioti, and Jean Smart receiving top acting awards. Shows like “Last Week Tonight with John Oliver” and “SNL50: The Anniversary Special” were recognized in the variety category, while “The Traitors” triumphed in reality competition.

### Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan and Wetland City Awards 2025

#### Context

- The Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan and Wetland City Awards 2025, held on September 9, celebrated India’s top environmentally proactive cities.

#### Details

- Indore, Jabalpur, Agra, and Udaipur topped the rankings, showcasing excellence in air quality management, green initiatives, sustainable transport, and wetland conservation. Under NCAP, 130 cities mobilized ₹1.55 lakh crore for pollution control, circular economy projects, and urban greening, while Indore and Udaipur earned global recognition for wetland protection.

### P V Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics

#### Context

- The award was instituted by the PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Foundation (PVNMF) to recognise outstanding contributions in economics.

#### Details

- Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, the chief architect of India’s 1991 economic liberalisation, was posthumously honoured with the **P V Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics** for his historic role in shaping India’s economic transformation. The award was conferred by Montek Singh Ahluwalia, former deputy chairman of the erstwhile Planning Commission.

### National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2025

#### Context

- NECA 2025, instituted by the Ministry of Power and implemented by the Bureau of Energy

Efficiency (BEE), has introduced a new “**Content Creators & Influencers**” category to leverage digital platforms for spreading awareness on energy conservation and sustainable living.

#### Details

- Launched in line with **Mission LiFE** and **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**, this initiative acknowledges the role of influencers in shaping public habits and encourages the creation of short, engaging videos on themes like energy-efficient appliances, responsible festival celebrations, and green buildings. Instituted in 1991, NECA remains a prestigious platform for recognizing excellence in energy efficiency, now modernized to include the power of digital media.

### MANAK 2025

#### Context

- Muzaffarpur district of Bihar has secured the **top rank in the Inspire Award – MANAK 2025**.

#### Details

- The Inspire Award – MANAK scheme, run by Department of Science and Technology in collaboration with the National Innovation Foundation, encourages students of classes 6 to 10 to submit original, socially relevant ideas and supports them in developing prototypes.

### 82nd Venice Film Festival 2025

#### Context

- Indian filmmaker **Anuparna Roy** wins **Best Director Award** at Venice Film Festival 2025.

#### Details

- **Anuparna Roy** won the **Best Director award in the Orizzonti section** at the **82nd Venice Film Festival 2025** for her evocative film *Songs of Forgotten Trees*.

### V.K. Gokak Award

#### Context

- **Anand V. Patil**, was honoured with the **Prof. V.K. Gokak Award**

#### Details

- **Anand V. Patil** was acclaimed for his remarkable contributions to **children’s literature (Bal Sahitya)**. Named after the eminent literary figure **Prof. Vinayaka Krishna Gokak**, the award recognises significant contributions to **Kannada and Indian literature**.

## Ramon Magsaysay Award

### Context

- Educate Girls (Foundation to Educate Girls Globally) made history by becoming the **first Indian organisation** to win the **Ramon Magsaysay Award**.

### Details

- It was awarded for its transformative work in bringing out-of-school girls into classrooms across India's remotest regions. Founded in **2007** by **Safeena Husain**, the NGO has enabled the **enrolment of over 2 million girls**, expanded operations to **30,000+ villages**, pioneered the **world's first Development Impact Bond (2015)**, and launched **Pragati**, an open-schooling programme now supporting **31,500+ young women**. Established in **1957** and often called the "**Asian Nobel Prize**," the Ramon Magsaysay Award celebrates **integrity, service, and leadership**, with past Indian recipients like **Arvind**

**Kejriwal, Ravish Kumar, Bezwada Wilson, and Sonam Wangchuk**. The award is conferred annually on **November 7 in Manila**, honouring the legacy of former Philippine President **Ramon Magsaysay**, remembered for people-centric governance and anti-corruption reforms.

## SCOPE Eminence Awards 2022-23

### Context

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the SCOPE Eminence Awards 2022-23 in New Delhi.

### Details

- Honoring the outstanding performance of **Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)** in governance, innovation, and sustainability. Instituted by the **Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE)**, the awards highlight the vital role CPSEs have played in India's development since Independence.



## BOOKS & AUTHORS [CURRENT]

Book	Author and Details
Why the Constitution Matters	Former CJI DY Chandrachud's debut book " <i>Why the Constitution Matters</i> " highlights how constitutional values shape everyday life in India.
Demography, Representation, Delimitation: The North-South Divide in India	Historian Ravi K. Mishra's new book examines the complexities of India's ongoing delimitation debates, focusing on constituency boundaries, regional identity, representation, and the north-south population divide.
Dapaan: Tales from Kashmir's Conflict	<b>Ipsita Chakravarty's</b> book <i>Dapaan</i> illuminates everyday Kashmiri life amid decades of conflict, state surveillance, and silent resistance, giving voice to stories often absent from official histories.
Rocket Dreams: Musk, Bezos, and the Inside Story of the New, Trillion-Dollar Space Race	Christian Davenport's book delves into private space exploration, revealing a modern space race driven by ego, ambition, and billionaire rivalries rather than NASA's traditional spirit of discovery.
Different But No Less	Anupam Kher's fourth book, <i>Different But No Less</i> , follows his earlier motivational works— <i>The Best Thing About You Is You</i> , <i>Lessons Life Taught Me Unknowingly</i> , and <i>Your Best Day Is Today</i> —offering readers another message of hope, resilience, and personal growth.
Mother Mary Come To Me	Arundhati Roy, best known for her Booker Prize-winning novel <i>The God of Small Things</i> , returns in 2025 with the memoir <i>Mother Mary Comes to Me</i> , offering a candid and poetic account of her lifelong relationship with her mother, <b>Mary Roy</b> , a pioneering educator and women's rights advocate.
The Chola Tigers: Avengers of Somnath	Amish Tripathy's latest book, <i>The Chola Tigers: Avengers of Somnath</i> , continues his journey of reimagining India's history through compelling fiction.
M.S. Swaminathan: The Man Who Fed India	Written by Priyambada Jayakumar it is a heartfelt tribute to the agricultural visionary who made India self-sufficient in food during the Green Revolution.





## BOOKS & AUTHORS [STATIC GK]

Book Name	Author
Chronicles of Change Champions	Smriti Zubin Irani
Shuttling to the top: The story of PV Sindhu	V.Krishnaswamy
Lockdown Liaisons	Shobhaa De
Naoroji Pioneer of Indian Nationalism	Dinyar Patel
Overdraft: Saving the Indian Saver	Urit Patel
Getting Competitive: A Practitioner's Guide for India	R C Bargava
A Song of India	Ruskin Bond
Bapu- the Unforgettable	Manish Sisodia
40 Years with Abdul Kalam: Untold Stories	Dr A. Sivathanu Pillai
Runway to Skilled India	Dr Darlie O Koshy
1857- The Sword of Mastann	Vineet Bajpai
Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis	Anindya Dutta
The Light of Asia	Jairam Ramesh
OPERATION KHUKRI	Major General Rajpal Punia & Ms. Damini Punia
The Battle of Rezang La	Kulpreet Yadav
Democracy, Politics and Governance	Dr. A Surya Prakash



## SPORTS

### World Championship Gold

#### Context

- Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone won world championship gold in the women's 400m in Tokyo.

#### Details

- She clocked 47.78 seconds, the fastest in 40 years, marking her successful shift from 400m hurdles, where she is a two-time Olympic and one-time world champion.

### 2025 World Speed Skating Championships

#### Context

- Anandkumar Velkumar, a 22-year-old Indian skater, won **India's first-ever world championship gold in speed skating** at the 2025 World Speed Skating Championships in China.

#### Details

- He clinched gold in the 42km marathon, gold in the 1000m event with a record 1:24.92, and bronze in the 500m sprint, totaling two golds and one bronze.

### Smriti Mandhana breaks Virat Kohli's record

#### Context

- Smriti Mandhana made history on 20 September 2025 by scoring the fastest ODI century by an Indian – 50 balls – against Australia at Arun Jaitley Stadium, New Delhi, surpassing Virat Kohli's 52-ball record from 2013.

#### Details

- Mandhana scored 125 off 65 balls with 17 boundaries and 5 sixes. This century is the second-fastest in women's ODI history after Meg Lanning's 45-ball ton. Mandhana had previously held the record for India's fastest women's ODI hundred with 70 balls vs Ireland.

### Asian Cadet Cup India-2025

#### Context

- Uttarakhand hosted the Asian Cadet Cup India-2025 in Haldwani.

#### Details

- This was India's first-ever international fencing event, featuring over 250 athletes, including 150 Indians and participants from Tajikistan, Syria, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Indonesia.



Fencing is gaining popularity among Indian youth, inspired by athletes like Arjuna Awardee Bhavani Devi.

## First Indian bowler to reach 100 T20I wickets.

### Context

- Arshdeep Singh became the first Indian bowler to reach 100 T20I wickets.

### Details

- He reached it during India's final group game against Oman in the 2025 Asia Cup, dismissing Vinayak Shukla in just 64 matches.

## First Woman FIDE Master from Bihar.

### Context

- Marium Fatima from Muzaffarpur, Bihar, became the first Woman FIDE Master (WFM) from the state.

### Details

- The WFM title, awarded by FIDE, recognizes international-standard play and requires a FIDE rating of typically 2100+.

## 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss (Open and Women's sections)

### Context

- Anish Giri and Vaishali Rameshbabu won the 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss (Open and Women's sections) in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

### Details

- Anish Giri won the Open section of the 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss with 8/11, remaining undefeated and defeating GM Hans Niemann. Vaishali Rameshbabu claimed her second consecutive Women's Grand Swiss title with 8/11, finishing ahead of GM Kateryna Lagno, who secured the second Women's Candidates spot.

## Davis Cup World Group

### Context

- India defeated Switzerland 3-1 in the 2025 Davis Cup World Group I tie in Biel.

### Details

- India secured its first European away win since 1993 and qualifying for the 2026 Davis Cup Qualifiers, with Sumit Nagal sealing the tie by beating Henry Bernet 6-1, 6-3. The Davis Cup is the premier international team event in men's tennis. It is organised by the International Tennis Federation and contested annually between teams

from over 150 competing countries, making it the world's largest annual team sporting competition.

## Gold at World Boxing 2025

### Context

- Jaismine Lamboria won gold in the 57kg women's category at the 2025 World Boxing Championships in Liverpool.

### Details

- She defeated Poland's Julia Szeremeta 4-1, marking her first world title after an early exit at the 2024 Paris Olympics. India's women boxers secured three medals overall: Lamboria (gold), Nupur Sheoran (silver, 80+kg), and Pooja Rani (bronze, middleweight), with no medals in the men's category.

## Youngest Grandmaster Who Defeated World Champion

### Context

- Abhimanyu Mishra, the 16-year-old American chess prodigy and youngest Grandmaster in history, defeated reigning World Champion D Gukesh at the FIDE Grand Swiss 2025.

### Details

- He became the youngest ever to beat a reigning world champion in classical chess. Born in New Jersey to Indian-origin parents, Mishra began chess at under three, achieved GM at 12, and now holds a live rating of 2637.2, entering the world top 100.

## 2025 Archery World Championships

### Context

- India won its first-ever men's compound team gold at the 2025 Archery World Championships in Gwangju.

### Details

- India defeated France 235-233, with Rishabh Yadav, Aman Saini, and Prathamesh Fuge delivering a flawless final end. India also claimed mixed team silver (Yadav & Jyothi Surekha Vennam).

## International Table Tennis Federation-Asian Table Tennis Union (ITTF-ATTU) Asian Table Tennis Team Championships

### Context

- India will host the 28th International Table Tennis Federation-Asian Table Tennis Union (ITTF-ATTU) Asian Table Tennis Team Championships

in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from October 11 to 15, 2025.

#### Details

- The tournament will feature top men's and women's teams from across Asia and serve as a qualifier for the 2026 ITTF World Team Championships, with the top 13 teams in each category earning spots. This marks the first time Odisha will host an Asian-level table tennis championship.

### Asia Cup 2025

#### Context

- India defeated South Korea 4-1 in the Asia Cup 2025 final at the Rajgir Sports Complex, Bihar.

#### Details

- India won fourth title. The victory also secured India direct qualification for the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Hockey (FIH) Men's Hockey World Cup in Belgium and the Netherlands.

### Anti-Doping Reference Material

#### Context

- India has successfully developed Methandienone Long-Term Metabolite (LTM).

#### Details

- LTM is a rare anti-doping reference material, through a collaboration between the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) Guwahati and the National

Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL), New Delhi. This achievement strengthens drug detection in sports, supports global World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) laboratories, and positions India among the few nations capable of synthesizing such specialized materials.

### 2026 Badminton World Championships.

#### Context

- India will host the 2026 Badminton World Championships.

#### Details

- This will be marking the tournament's return to India after 17 years and reaffirming the country's global standing in badminton and sports infrastructure.

### Gold at the 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships

#### Context

- Mirabai Chanu made a spectacular comeback by winning gold at the 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Ahmedabad.

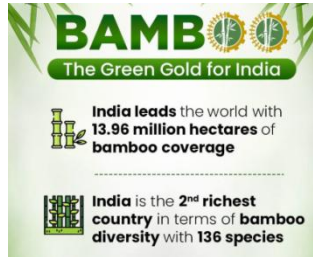
#### Details

- Competing in the women's 48kg category, she broke all records with an 84kg snatch, 109kg clean and jerk, and a total lift of 193kg. This victory also earns her direct qualification for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Event & Details
September 23	The International Day of Sign Languages 2025 is observed on September 23 with the theme <b>"Sign Language Unites Us"</b> , emphasizing inclusion, accessibility, and the unifying power of sign languages. Recognized by the United Nations, this day celebrates linguistic and cultural diversity while promoting the rights of the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.
September 22	World Rhino Day 2025 is observed on 22 September to raise awareness about rhino conservation, anti-poaching efforts, and India's initiatives through <b>Project Rhino</b> and <b>Kaziranga National Park</b> . Established in 2011, the day highlights the plight of the five rhino species – the Greater One-Horned, Black, White, Javan, and Sumatran rhinos – threatened by poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict.
September 21	The <b>International Day of Peace 2025</b> is observed globally on 21 September with the theme <b>"Act Now for a Peaceful World"</b> , promoting unity, non-violence, and global cooperation. Established by the United Nations in 1981 and fixed to 21 September in 2011, the day emphasizes that peace is more than the absence of war – it requires active efforts to ensure justice, equality, and sustainability.
Third Saturday of September	<b>International Red Panda Day 2025</b> , observed on Saturday, September 20 (the third Saturday of September), celebrates and raises awareness for the endangered Himalayan red panda, with fewer than 10,000 left in the wild. Launched in 2010 by the Red Panda

	Network, the day has grown into a global campaign involving zoos, schools, and communities to spotlight conservation needs. Native to the Eastern Himalayas, red pandas are small, nocturnal, and solitary creatures with bushy, striped tails and coppery fur, feeding mainly on bamboo. Threatened by deforestation, poaching, the exotic pet trade, and low reproduction rates, they require urgent protection.
18 September	<p><b>World Bamboo Day 2025</b>, observed on 18 September, celebrates bamboo's role in sustainability, livelihoods, and innovation, with the theme <b>"Next Generation Bamboo: Solution, Innovation, and Design."</b> First marked in 2009 by the World Bamboo Organization during the 8th World Bamboo Congress in Bangkok, the day highlights bamboo's ecological, cultural, and economic importance.</p> 
September 16	<b>World Ozone Day 2025</b> , observed on September 16, highlights global efforts to protect and restore the ozone layer under the Montreal Protocol, with the theme <b>"From Science to Global Action."</b> Established by the UN in 1994 to mark the 1987 signing of the Montreal Protocol, the day celebrates science-driven policy and international cooperation in safeguarding Earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation.
15 September	The <b>International Day of Democracy 2025</b> , observed on 15 September, emphasizes democratic values, human rights, and citizen participation, with the theme <b>"Achieving Gender Equality, Action by Action."</b> Established by the UN in 2007, the day underscores the need for transparent, inclusive, and accountable governance while highlighting the role of women, youth, and marginalized communities in political life.
8 September	<b>International Literacy Day 2025</b> is observed on 8 September with the theme <b>"Promoting Literacy in the Digital Era."</b> Established by UNESCO in 1967, the day highlights literacy as a fundamental right and a tool for empowerment, equality, and sustainable development.
5 September	<b>Teacher's Day 2025</b> is celebrated on 5 September to honor educators and the birth anniversary of <b>Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan</b> , India's second President and a distinguished philosopher. This year's theme, <b>"Inspiring the Next Generation of Learners,"</b> highlights teachers' role in nurturing curiosity, creativity, and character.
1-7 September	<b>National Nutrition Week 2025</b> , observed from 1-7 September, promotes healthy eating and malnutrition prevention under the theme <b>"Eat Right for a Better Life."</b> Coordinated by the Ministries of Health & Family Welfare and Women & Child Development, the week emphasizes balanced diets, mindful eating, and reducing processed food consumption.
29 August	<b>Major Dhyan Chand's Birth Anniversary 2025</b> is celebrated on 29 August, marking the 120th birthday of the legendary "Wizard of Hockey." Renowned for his unmatched ball control and goal-scoring, he led India to <b>three Olympic gold medals</b> in 1928, 1932, and 1936, scoring over 1,000 goals in his career.
29 August	<b>National Sports Day 2025</b> is celebrated on 29 August to honour <b>Major Dhyan Chand</b> , the legendary "Hockey Wizard." The 2025 theme, <b>"Sport to Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies,"</b> highlights how sports unite people across regions, religions, and identities.
27 August	<b>World Lake Day 2025</b> is observed on 27 August to highlight the importance of protecting lakes, the heart of Earth's freshwater ecosystems.
23 August	<b>National Space Day 2025</b> is celebrated on 23 August to honor India's space achievements, from the launch of <b>Aryabhata</b> to the upcoming <b>Gaganyaan mission</b> . The day marks <b>Chandrayaan-3's historic soft landing</b> near the Moon's South Pole in 2023, making India the first country to land there. The 2025 theme, <b>"Aryabhata to Gaganyaan: Ancient</b>



**Wisdom to Infinite Possibilities,”** celebrates India’s journey from early astronomical knowledge to cutting-edge space technology.



## STATIC GK

- The first recipient of Dada Saheb Phalke award was actress **Devika Rani** who was honored at the 17<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards.
- Bats are the **only mammals capable of true flight**.
- The human eye can distinguish about 10 million colors.
- The Planck length is considered the smallest meaningful unit of space.
- The half-life of Uranium-238 is about 4.5 billion years.
- Time slows down near a massive object due to gravitational time dilation, as predicted by Einstein’s general relativity.
- Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) is a potent greenhouse gas with a global warming potential nearly 300 times that of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) over a 100-year period.
- The first motion picture was created in 1888 by Louis Le Prince.
- CGI (Computer-Generated Imagery) uses 3D modelling and rendering to create visual effects in films.
- The first feature-length film to use **synchronized sound** was *The Jazz Singer* in 1927.
- All India Radio (AIR) began regular broadcasting in 1936.
- Playback singing, first introduced in *Dhoop Chhaon* (1935), revolutionized Indian film music.
- The Battle of Talikota (1565) led to the downfall of the Vijayanagara Empire in South India.
- The League of Nations, established after World War I, failed to prevent the outbreak of World War II due to lack of enforcement power.
- Sher Shah Suri introduced the *Rupiya*, which became the precursor to modern Indian currency.
- EXIM Bank of India, established in 1982, provides financial assistance to promote India’s international trade.
- RBI’s first Governor was Sir Osborne Smith, serving from 1935 to 1937.
- RBI launched the first digital currency pilot (e₹-Rupee) in 2022.
- The Gini coefficient measures income inequality within a country, where 0 represents perfect equality and 1 represents extreme inequality.
- The National Population Register (NPR) is a database of all usual residents of India.
- Abhinav Bindra became India’s first individual Olympic gold medalist in shooting at Beijing 2008.
- The **Pro Kabaddi League** started in 2014, revitalizing interest in kabaddi across India.
- The Kigali Amendment (2016) to the Montreal Protocol aims to phase down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), potent greenhouse gases.
- The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a multilateral fund established before the 1992 Rio Earth Summit that provides grants and blended finance for global environmental projects.
- The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) is a global movement to protect and revive ecosystems worldwide, driven by the UN General Assembly and led by UNEP and the FAO.



## CURRENT GK

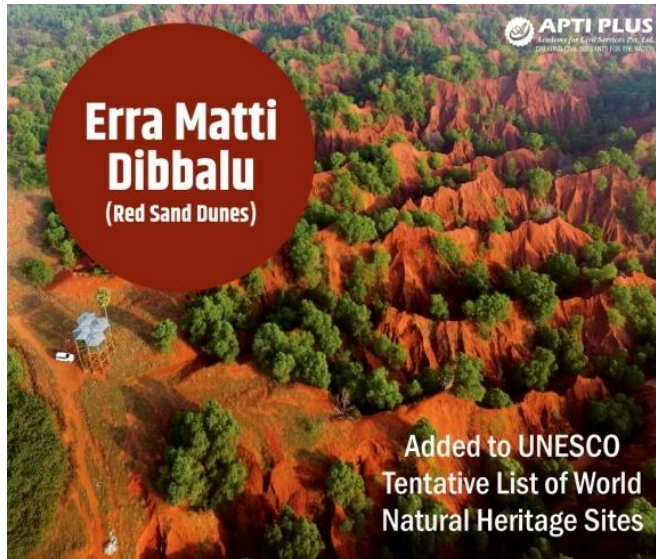
- **Mana Mitra** is Andhra Pradesh's first WhatsApp-based governance platform, providing 738 citizen services across 36 departments digitally, ensuring transparency, ease of access, and inclusivity, and serving as a replicable model for nationwide digital governance.
- **Isobutanolis** a next-generation biofuel in India made from sugarcane, grains, or plant waste, which mixes well with diesel, burns cleaner, saves energy, supports farmers, and helps India move towards cleaner transport and Net-Zero 2070 goals.
- **Super Typhoons** are Category 5 tropical cyclones with winds over 240 km/h, forming over warm oceans with low wind shear, spinning due to the Coriolis effect, and named by World Meteorological Organization or local agencies for public alerts.
- **Bagram Air Base in Parwan, Afghanistan**, is a key strategic hub controlling major transport routes, historically used by the Soviets and US/NATO for military and intelligence operations, and remains vital for regional influence post-US withdrawal.
- **Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)** are parties registered with the Election Commission of India but not recognised as state or national parties due to insufficient electoral performance; inactive or non-compliant RUPPs risk delisting to improve transparency, accountability, and electoral integrity.
- India successfully test-fired the **Agni-Prime, a nuclear-capable intermediate-range missile**, from a rail-based mobile launcher, marking a first and enhancing strategic mobility and stealth.
- **Mahendragiri Hills in Odisha's Gajapati district**, part of the Eastern Ghats and a Biodiversity Heritage Site since 2022, is ecologically fragile, home to rich flora and fauna.
- **Antifa** is a loosely connected, decentralised "anti-fascist" movement opposing fascism, white supremacy, and far-right extremism, originating from 1930s Europe.
- **Exercise Cold Start** is India's largest tri-service drone and counter-drone drill, to be held in Madhya Pradesh in October 2025.
- **Aflatoxins** are toxic, heat-stable fungal metabolites (mainly B1, B2, G1, G2, M1) contaminating crops like groundnuts and maize, posing serious health risks including liver cancer, immune suppression, and growth issues, and are strictly regulated in international trade to ensure food safety.
- India has been **re-elected to the Universal Postal Union's Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC)** during the 28th UPU Congress in Dubai, strengthening its role in shaping global postal policies and modernizing international mail services.
- **Majorana particles** are special particles that are their own antiparticles and carry no electric charge. Found as quasiparticles in superconductors, they are promising for quantum computers because their unique properties make information more stable and resistant to errors.
- **Mira variable stars** are pulsating red giant stars whose brightness changes regularly over 100–1,000 days; their predictable luminosity makes them "standard candles" for measuring cosmic distances and refining the Hubble constant.
- **Typhoon Ragasa** (Super Typhoon Nando in the Philippines) is the strongest tropical cyclone of 2025 so far, hitting northern Luzon, Taiwan's Hualien County, and currently affecting South China, Hong Kong, and Macau.



- Mini Cloudbursts** are sudden, intense rainfall events of  $\geq 5$  cm per hour over a small area ( $\sim 20-30$  sq km), less severe than standard cloudbursts ( $\geq 10$  cm/hr).



## LEARNING THROUGH INFOGRAPHICS



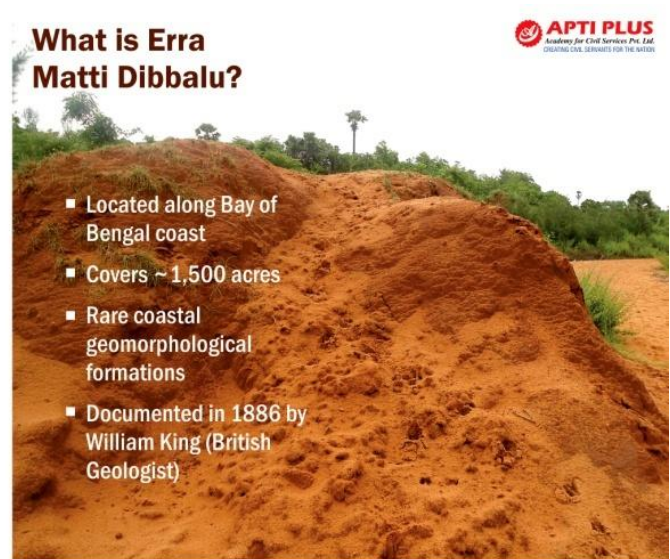
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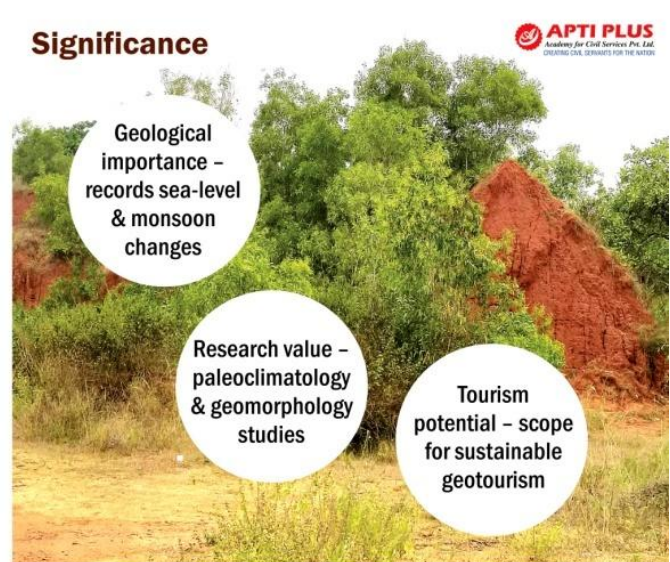
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The Supreme Court of India has reaffirmed the  
Bonnard Standard

### The Bonnard Principle (1891, Bonnard v. Perryman)



*It directs courts to exercise utmost caution in granting interim injunctions in defamation cases. Such restraint is vital as early curbs on free speech carry high risk. An injunction is justified only if it is clear the defendant's defense will fail at trial, ensuring protection of both public interest and free expression.*

APTI PLUS



### Do you know?

**Involution** is when excessive internal competition leads to **diminishing returns** instead of real progress. It is plaguing the Chinese **EV sector**.

India's first bamboo-based ethanol plant inaugurated in eastern Assam's Golaghat district

- India signed a **15-year ISA contract for polymetallic sulphides** at **Carlsberg Ridge** (3,00,000 sq km, Indian Ocean).
- Carlsberg Ridge**: boundary between Indian & Arabian plates, Rodrigues → Owen fracture zone.
- Targets**: manganese, cobalt, nickel, copper – essential for batteries, renewables, electronics.
- Significance**: first global licence in this region; India's third ISA contract, second for sulphides; exclusive rights for survey, mapping, environmental assessment.
- Previous Contracts**: 2002 – polymetallic nodules (75,000 sq km, expires 2027); 2016 – polymetallic sulphides (expires 2031). India holds largest ISA-allocated area.
- Formation**: Polymetallic sulphides form near hydrothermal vents, rich in base & critical metals.
- Economic Edge**: reduces import dependence (India imports 95% critical minerals), supports net-zero 2070, creates subsea tech & processing jobs.

### AdFalcivax

INDIA'S FIRST INDIGENOUS MULTI-STAGE MALARIA VACCINE.

- Targets Plasmodium falciparum, the deadliest malaria parasite.
- Supports India's Malaria Elimination Goal 2030.



### What is amoebic encephalitis and how does it spread?

Amoebic encephalitis is a rare but deadly infection of the brain caused by free-living amoebae found in warm freshwater like lakes, ponds, and rivers. The amoeba enters the body through the nose, usually while swimming, diving, or bathing and then reaches the brain. It does not spread from person to person, and swallowing contaminated water does not cause infection.

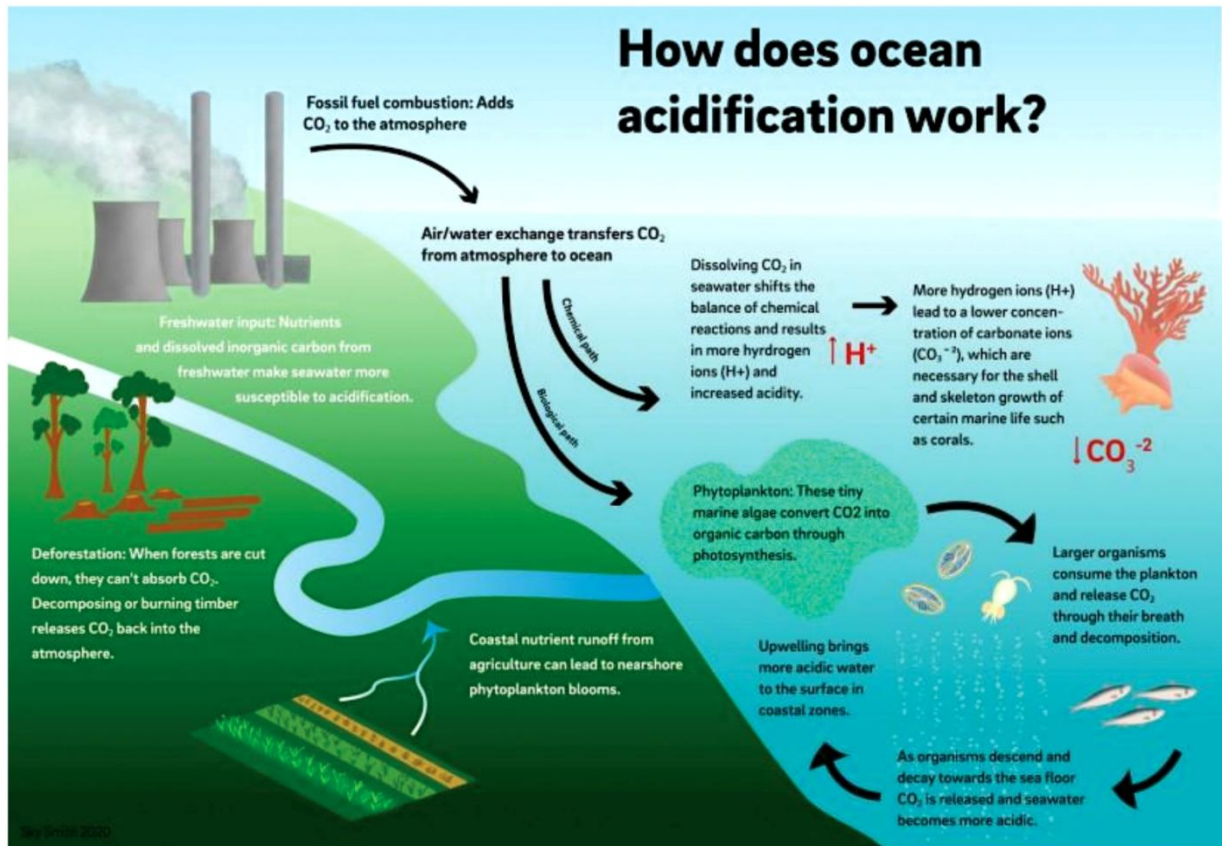
### What are the common types of amoebic encephalitis?

- Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM) caused by *Naegleria fowleri*, also known as the "brain-eating amoeba." This is more common and highly fatal.
- Granulomatous Amoebic Encephalitis (GAE) less common but still dangerous, can mimic other brain infections.

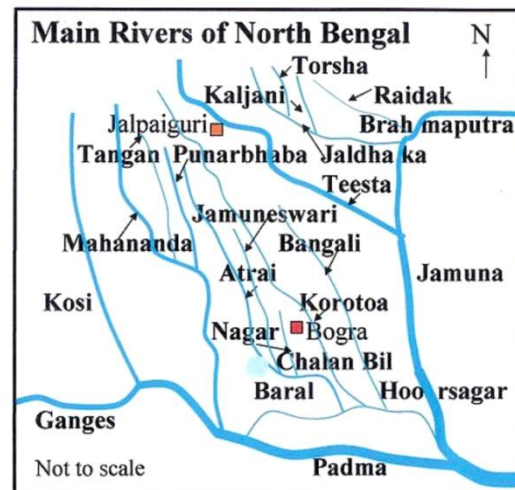
Table: Forest and Tree Cover of India

Class	Area	Percentage of GA
Forest Cover	7,15,342.61	21.76
Tree Cover	1,12,014.34	3.41
<b>Total Forest and Tree Cover</b>	<b>8,27,356.95</b>	<b>25.17</b>
Scrub	43,622.64	1.33
Non Forest	24,16,489.29	73.50
<b>Geographical Area of the country</b>	<b>32,87,468.88</b>	<b>100.00</b>





Important World Organisations and Their Headquarters	
In today's interconnected world, various international organizations play a vital role in addressing global challenges, promoting cooperation among nations, and improving the quality of life for people worldwide. These organizations, with their headquarters located in different parts of the globe, serve as platforms for countries to come together, exchange ideas, and work towards common goals.	
World Organisation	Headquarter
United Nations Organisation (UNO)	New York
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Nairobi (Kenya)
United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)	Geneva
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	New York
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	New York
United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)	Paris
World Health Organisation	Geneva
International Monetary Fund	Washington
Commonwealth	London
Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	Vienna
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	Gland (Switzerland)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	Geneva
International Olympic Committee (IOC)	Lusanne
League of Arab States	Cairo (Egypt)
Amnesty International	London
Asian Development Bank	Manila (Philippines)
Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Jakarta
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)	Brussels
African Union (AU)	Addis-Ababa
South Asian Association for Regional Corporation	Kathmandu
International Police (INTERPOL)	Lyons (France)
World Trade Organisation	Geneva
Women Aid International	London
World Bank	Washington
Universal Postal Union	Berne (Switzerland)
BENELUX Economic Union	Brussels
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)	Geneva
United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)	New York, USA
UN Women	New York, USA



## MIDDLE EAST

