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## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC**

**11th May 2026**

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- 2. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**
- 3. Sabarmati River**
- 4. Litchi**
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## PM MITRA PARK

DD News

### PM Modi inaugurates India's first PM MITRA Park in Telangana's Warangal



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated the PM MITRA Park at Warangal, Telangana, marking a major milestone in India's industrial...

### Why in News

- The Prime Minister recently inaugurated the **India's first functional PM MITRA Park at Warangal, Telangana.**

### About PM MITRA Park

- **PM MITRA** stands for **Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Scheme.**
- It is a flagship scheme of the **Ministry of Textiles.**
- The scheme aims to establish integrated, world-class textile parks in India.
- It follows the vision of **“Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign.”**
- It integrates spinning, weaving, processing, dyeing, and garment manufacturing at one location.
- The parks are developed through a **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** model under a **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).**
- The government has approved **7 PM MITRA Parks in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra.**
- The scheme aims to reduce logistics costs, boost textile exports, attract investment, and generate employment.
- It supports the **Make in India** and **Atmanirbhar Bharat** initiatives.



## UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME (UN-HABITAT)

### Why in News

- **UN-Habitat** recently launched the **Catalogue of Solutions 2026–2029.**



UN-Habitat

<https://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-catalogue-of-solutions-...>

**UN-Habitat Catalogue of Solutions 2026–2029**

UN-Habitat's Catalogue of Solutions presents the organization's portfolio of tested tools, methodologies and advisory support designed to help countries, ... [Read more](#)

## Institutional Profile

- **UN-Habitat** is the UN agency promoting sustainable urban development and adequate shelter.
- It was established in **1977** after the **Habitat I Conference (1976)**.
- Its headquarters are located in **Nairobi, Kenya**.



## Governance Structure

- The **UN-Habitat Assembly** includes all **193 UN member states**.
- The Assembly meets once every four years in Nairobi.
- The **Executive Board** consists of **36 elected member states**.
- The **Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR)** acts as a continuous oversight body.

## Global Urban Governance Relevance

- The organisation promotes socially and environmentally sustainable cities.
- Its mandate is derived from **UN General Assembly resolutions** and the **Habitat Agenda (1996)**.

## SABARMATI RIVER

◆ The Indian Express

### Dry Sabarmati river in Ahmedabad helps expedite barrage-cum-bridge works

The Sabarmati River in Ahmedabad city remains dry after authorities of Vasna barrage halted water flow for repair works of its gates on...

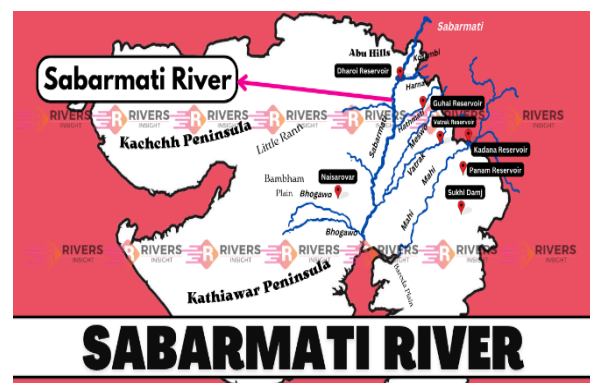


## Why in News

- The **Sabarmati River** in Ahmedabad recently turned dry due to repair work at the **Vasna Barrage**.

## Geographical Features

- Sabarmati is a monsoon-fed, west-flowing river flowing through Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- It originates from Dhebar Lake in the Aravalli Range of Rajasthan.
- The river finally drains into the Gulf of Khambhat in the Arabian Sea.



## Basin Characteristics

- The basin is bounded by the **Aravalli Hills, Rann of Kutch**, and the **Gulf of Khambhat**.
- Agriculture occupies nearly **74.68%** of the basin area.
- The river length is around **371 km**.

## Tributary Linkages

- The river flows through **Ahmedabad** and **Gandhinagar**.
- Major tributaries include the **Wakal, Harnav, Hathmati, Watrak, and Madhumati** rivers.

## LITCHI

 The Times of India

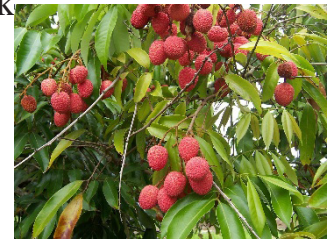
[Sting bug infestation, unseasonal rain threaten state's litchi crop](#)

Patna: Bihar's globally recognised litchi crop, known for its sweetness and aroma, is facing a severe crisis this season as unseasonal rain,...



## Why in News

- The **Union Agriculture Ministry** formed an expert task force to study damage caused by the **litchi stink bug**.



## Botanical and Agricultural Features

- Litchi belongs to the **Sapindaceae** family.
- It is a subtropical fruit requiring moist climatic conditions.
- Ideal soil conditions include deep loamy soil with **pH 5.0–7.0**.

## Climatic Requirements

- The crop grows best below **800 metres** altitude.
- Temperatures above **40.5°C** and frost conditions are harmful.
- Prolonged rainfall during flowering adversely affects pollination.

## Production Geography

- India is the world's second-largest producer after **China**.
- Major producing states include **Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Assam**.
- **Shahi Litchi of Bihar** has received a **GI Tag**.

## MERCOSUR GROUP

### Why in News

- India and Brazil recently agreed to expand trade engagement between India and **MERCOSUR**.

### Institutional Profile

- **MERCOSUR** stands for the **Southern Common Market**.
- It is a South American regional economic organisation created by the **Treaty of Asunción (1991)**.
- Its headquarters are located in **Montevideo, Uruguay**.



### Economic and Trade Dimensions

- MERCOSUR is among the world's largest integrated trade blocs after the **EU, NAFTA, and ASEAN**.
- It became a customs union in **1995**.
- Its objective is the free movement of goods, services, capital, and people.

### Membership Structure

- Founding members are **Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay**.
- **Bolivia** joined later, while **Venezuela** remains suspended since **2016**.
- Associate members include **Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, and Suriname**.

### India Linkages

- India signed a **Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)** with MERCOSUR in **2004**.
- The bloc's official working languages are **Spanish and Portuguese**.

## OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

### Places in News

### OMAN

The Times of India

[‘Missiles, drones locked on US targets’: Iran warns of ‘heavy assault’ after tanker strikes in Gulf of Om](#)

Middle East News: Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) on Saturday warned that any further attacks on Iranian oil tankers or...



### Why in News

- Oman's **Sohar** and **Salalah** ports are facilitating Indian food exports to **GCC countries**.



### Geographical Location

- Oman is located on the **Arabian Peninsula** in **Western Asia**.
- It shares borders with the **UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen**.
- It lies strategically near the mouth of the **Persian Gulf**.

### Maritime and Strategic Importance

- Oman has coastlines along the **Arabian Sea** and the **Gulf of Oman**.
- The **Port of Salalah** is the country's largest port.
- India and Oman conduct the bilateral naval exercise **Naseem Al Bah**.

### Physical Features

- The **Al Hajar Mountains** run through northern Oman.
- **Mount Shams** is the highest point at about **9,777 feet**.
- The **Rub' al-Khali Desert** extends into Oman from Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

### Economic Resources

- Major natural resources include petroleum, natural gas, copper, gypsum, and limestone.
- The capital city of Oman is **Muscat**.

### Health

### LUPUS DISEASE

 News On AIR

World Lupus Day observed globally today to raise awareness about autoimmune disease

World Lupus Day is being observed today globally. The day is marked to raise awareness about Lupus, which is a complex autoimmune disease affecting millions...



### Why in News

- **World Lupus Day** was observed globally on **10 May**.

### Medical Characteristics

- Lupus is a chronic **autoimmune disease** in which the immune system attacks healthy tissues.
- It can affect the joints, skin, kidneys, lungs, heart, blood cells, and brain.
- Women are affected more frequently than men.

### Types of Lupus

- **Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)** accounts for nearly **70%** of cases.
- **Discoid lupus** mainly affects the skin through persistent rashes.
- **Drug-induced lupus** develops due to certain medicines.
- **Neonatal lupus** affects newborns through maternal antibodies.

### Symptoms and Health Impact

- Common symptoms include **joint pain, fatigue, fever, rashes, and mouth ulcers.**
- The disease progresses through phases of flare-ups and remission.
- Untreated lupus can damage the kidneys, heart, lungs, and brain.

### Treatment Dimensions

- There is currently no permanent cure for lupus.
- Medicines and lifestyle modifications help manage symptoms and inflammation.

## Space

### PSYCHE SPACECRAFT

ScienceDaily

[NASA's Psyche probe is about to slingshot around Mars at 12,000 mph](#)

NASA's Psyche spacecraft is about to pull off a dramatic close flyby of Mars, skimming just 2800 miles above the planet to get a powerful...



### Why in News

- **NASA's Psyche spacecraft** recently captured a crescent image of **Mars** from nearly **5 million km** away.

### Mission Profile

- The spacecraft was launched by **NASA** on **13 October 2023**.
- It is travelling towards the metallic asteroid **16 Psyche** located in the **Asteroid Belt** between **Mars and Jupiter**.
- The asteroid's gravity is expected to capture the spacecraft in **July 2029**.
- The spacecraft will begin its prime scientific mission in **August 2029**.

### Scientific and Technological Features

- The spacecraft is approximately the size of a small van.
- It uses **solar-electric propulsion** powered by **xenon gas** for gradual acceleration.
- The mission is testing **Deep Space Optical Communications (DSOC)** technology.
- The spacecraft will orbit the asteroid for nearly two years to study its composition.

### Scientific Instruments

- The **Magnetometer** will detect evidence of an ancient magnetic field.
- The **Gamma-ray and Neutron Spectrometer** will analyse the asteroid's chemical composition.
- The **Multispectral Imager** contains twin cameras with telescopic lenses and spectral filters.

### Defence

### ICGS ACHAL

 News On AIR

[Indian Coast Guard Commissions ICGS Achal at Goa Shipyard Limited](#)

The Indian Coast Guard (ICGS) commissioned ICGS Achal, the latest vessel in the new-generation Adamyia-class Fast Patrol Vessel series at Goa...



### Why in News

- The **Indian Coast Guard** recently commissioned **ICGS Achal at Goa Shipyard Limited**.



### Strategic Significance

- It is a new-generation **Adamyia-class Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV)**.
- The vessel will strengthen coastal surveillance and maritime security in the Arabian Sea region.
- It will operate under the **Commander, Coast Guard Region (North West)**.

**Technical Features**

- The vessel is powered by two **3000 kW diesel engines**.
- It has a maximum speed of **27 knots** and endurance of **1500 nautical miles**.
- It contains an **Integrated Bridge System** and **Automated Power Management System**.
- The vessel has nearly **60% indigenous content**.

**Operational Functions**

- It will conduct **Search and Rescue (SAR)** missions and anti-smuggling operations.
- It will also support maritime interdiction and pollution response activities.
- The ship will be stationed at **Vadinar, Gujarat**.

**UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS****MAJOR VICTORY OVER ENCEPHALITIS IN UTTAR PRADESH**

अ Amar Ujala

UP: इंसेफेलाइटिस पर बड़ी जीत, इस साल नहीं हुई एक भी मौत, गोरखपुर की ये पद्धति बनी 'रामबाण'; जाने पूरी डिटेल

उत्तर प्रदेश में एईएस और जापानी इंसेफेलाइटिस पर बड़ी सफलता मिली है। सू...

**Why in News**

- **Uttar Pradesh** reported **zero deaths** from **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)** and **Japanese Encephalitis (JE)** in 2026.

**Key Achievements**

- The **Case Fatality Rate (CFR)** for both AES and JE reached **zero** in 2026.
- In 2017, the CFR was **13.9% for AES** and **13.4% for JE**.

**About AES**

- **AES** is a group of neurological infections causing sudden fever, seizures, and brain inflammation.
- **Japanese Encephalitis (JE)** is a viral disease caused by the **Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV)**.
- JE spreads through bites of infected **Culex mosquitoes** and mainly affects children.
- JE vaccination is included under the **Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)**.

- Only **35 AES cases** and **3 JE cases** were reported in 2026.
- In 2025, Uttar Pradesh recorded **150 AES cases** and **10 JE cases**.

### Gorakhpur Model

- The state adopted a decentralized healthcare strategy called the “**Gorakhpur Model.**”
- Treatment facilities were expanded to **Primary Health Centres (PHCs)** and **Encephalitis Treatment Centres (ETCs)**.
- The model reduced dependence on **BRD Medical College, Gorakhpur**.

### Governance and Public Health Measures

- A joint team of **12 departments** coordinated sanitation and vector-control activities.
- Departments involved included **Panchayati Raj, Animal Husbandry, and Urban Development**.
- **ASHAs** and **ANMs** were trained for early referral of symptomatic children.
- Health instructors were deployed in schools for awareness and early detection.
- The success of the **Dastak Campaign** and **Communicable Disease Control Campaign** strengthened surveillance and prevention.

### Policy Significance

- The model highlights the importance of **early diagnosis**, decentralized treatment, and inter-departmental coordination.
- Uttar Pradesh plans to replicate this strategy against **Malaria, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Scrub Typhus, and Leptospirosis**.