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***1st June 2026***

**TOPICS:-**

- 1. PM SVANidhi Scheme**
- 2. Pallas's Gull**
- 3. Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) Instrument**
- 4. Shangri-La Dialogue**
- 5. Samadhan Didi**
- 6. Kill Switch**
- 7. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**
- 8. Anaphalis sahyadrica**
- 9. Sakura Science Programme**
- 10. Nausena Shaurya Vatika**

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## PM SVANIDHI SCHEME



### PM SVANidhi: From Survival to Self-Reliance

PM SVANidhi has emerged as a major initiative supporting vendors working across India's informal urban economy.



### Why in News

- The **PM SVANidhi Scheme** has emerged as a major support mechanism for street vendors in India's urban informal economy.

### Scheme Profile

- **Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)** was launched in **June 2020**.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme**.
- It is implemented by **MoHUA** and the **Department of Financial Services (DFS)**.

### Financial Inclusion Measures

- It provides collateral-free working capital loans of **₹15,000, ₹25,000 and ₹50,000** in progressive tranches.
- Beneficiaries receive interest subsidy and credit guarantee support.
- Eligible vendors can obtain **UPI-linked RuPay Credit Cards** with limits up to **₹30,000**.

### Digital Empowerment

- Vendors receive cashback incentives of up to **₹1,600** for digital transactions.
- The scheme promotes digital literacy and financial inclusion.
- It encourages adoption of UPI-based payments.

### Social Security Linkages

- Under **SVANidhi se Samridhi (SSS)**, beneficiaries are linked with multiple Central welfare schemes.
- Socio-economic profiling helps create a comprehensive social protection network.
- Vendors receive training in financial literacy and food safety in collaboration with **FSSAI**.

**Empowering Street Vendors with PM SVANidhi Scheme**

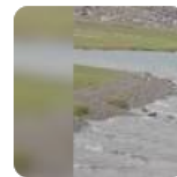
**Salient Features**

- Loan tenure of 1 year** on working capital
- Interest Subsidy at 7% p.a.** on timely repayment, paid quarterly
- Monthly cash-back incentive up to ₹100** on digital transactions
- Higher loan eligibility** on timely/early repayment of the first loan
- Covers urban local bodies** across the country

## PALLAS'S GULL

 The New Indian Express

[Pallas's Gull, a rare migratory bird, spotted in Himachal's Lahaul-Spiti district](#)



The first confirmed record of Pallas's Gull (*Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus*) from the Spiti Valley was documented at Chandratat Lake, a Ramsar...

### Why in News

- The first confirmed record of **Pallas's Gull** was documented at **Chandratat Lake**, a Ramsar site in the **Spiti Valley**.



### Species Identification

- Scientific Name: **Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus**.
- Family: **Laridae**.
- It is also known as the **Great Black-headed Gull**.
- It is the world's largest black-headed gull.

### Distribution and Habitat

- It breeds from southern Russia to Mongolia.
- It winters in India, the Arabian Peninsula, and the eastern Mediterranean region.
- Preferred habitats include wetlands, lagoons, salt lakes, and slow-flowing rivers.

### Key Features

- Length ranges between **55–72 cm**.
- Wingspan ranges from **142–170 cm**.
- Adults possess a distinctive black hood during summer.
- The bill is orangish-yellow with a red tip.

### Conservation Status

- **IUCN Red List Status: Least Concern.**

#### Chandratat Lake Facts

- Located in **Spiti Valley, Himachal Pradesh**.
- Situated at an altitude of approximately **4,300 metres**.
- It is one of the sources of the **Chandra River**.
- It is a designated **Ramsar Site**.

## ZERO COUPON ZERO PRINCIPAL (ZCZP) INSTRUMENT

### Why in News

- The **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has allowed CSR spending through **ZCZP Instruments**.

 The Tribune

[Centre opens new CSR spending route: Zero Coupon Zero Principal instruments on social stock exchange: What this means](#)

This week, the Government took a landmark decision to permit subscription to Zero Coupon Zero Principal on the Social Stock Exchange as a...



### Instrument Features

- It is issued by a **Not-for-Profit Organisation (NPO)**.
- It carries neither interest payments nor repayment of principal.
- It is listed on the **Social Stock Exchange (SSE)**.
- It is issued only in dematerialised form.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A <b>social stock exchange (SSE)</b> works towards the benefit of society by getting people <b>willing</b> to fund welfare initiatives</li> <li>➤ A commercial stock exchange, meanwhile, has a <b>profit motive</b> as one of its core objectives</li> <li>➤ SGBS Unnati Foundation, a <b>not-for-profit organisation</b>, will</li> </ul>	<p>be the <b>first to list</b> on a SSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The foundation will open <b>zero-coupon-zero-principal (ZCZP)</b> bond offerings. ZCZP are debt instruments (bonds), that <b>neither pay interest</b> during the tenure of the bond <b>nor pay back the principal</b> once the project ends. These bonds <b>cease to exist</b></li> </ul>
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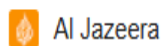
### Governance Relevance

- It enables philanthropic funding through a regulated market framework.
- Funds are raised for specific social projects.
- The instrument remains non-transferable during its tenure.

### Corporate Social Responsibility Linkage

- CSR obligations arise under **Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013**.
- Eligible companies must spend at least **2% of average net profits** on CSR activities.
- CSR activities are specified under **Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013**.

## SHANGRI-LA DIALOGUE



### [What Hegseth’s comments at Shangri-La Dialogue say about US foreign policy](#)



United States Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth has been discussing key foreign policy issues for Washington at a defence summit in...

### Why in News

- The **Defence Secretary of India** held bilateral meetings during the **Shangri-La Dialogue 2026** in Singapore to enhance defence cooperation and maritime security.

### Institutional Profile

- The **Shangri-La Dialogue** is Asia’s premier defence and security summit.
- It is also known as the **Asia Security Summit**.
- It has been held annually since **2002**.
- The event takes place at the **Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore**.

## Organisational Framework

- It is organised by the **International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), London**.
- It is co-organised by the **Ministry of Defence, Singapore**.
- The dialogue includes plenary sessions, breakout sessions, and bilateral meetings.
- Defence ministers, military chiefs, policymakers, and strategic experts participate in the summit.

## Strategic Significance

- It is regarded as the most influential multilateral security platform in the **Indo-Pacific region**.
- Discussions cover territorial disputes, maritime security, and military cooperation.
- The agenda also includes cybersecurity, terrorism, and climate-related security challenges.
- It promotes defence diplomacy and regional stability.

## India's Engagement

- India regularly participates through the **Defence Minister, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)**, or senior military officials.
- India's **Raisina Dialogue** is modelled on the Shangri-La Dialogue.

## SAMADHAN DIDI

 Newsonair

### [Union Minister Jitendra Singh Launches AI-Enabled CPGRAMS Voice Chatbot 'SAMADHAN DIDI'](#)

The Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh, today launched the AI-enabled CPGRAMS Voice Chatbot,...



## Why in News

- The Centre launched **Samadhan Didi**, an AI-enabled grievance redressal chatbot.

## Digital Governance Initiative

- It is a voice-based multilingual grievance registration assistant.
- It uses **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** for complaint categorisation.
- Citizens can register complaints using natural language voice commands.

## Institutional Framework

- Developed by **DARPG** in collaboration with **Bhashini**.
- It is integrated with **CPGRAMS**.
- It operates within secure government digital infrastructure.

### Citizen-Centric Features

- It supports all **22 Scheduled Languages**.
- Citizens need not identify the concerned ministry or department.
- The AI system automatically routes grievances to the appropriate authority.

### About CPGRAMS

- Full Form: **Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System**.
- Managed by **DARPG** under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- Grievances are expected to be resolved within **21 days**.
- The platform provides an appeal mechanism for dissatisfied citizens.

## KILL SWITCH

Moneycontrol.com

[RBI exploring 'kill switch' for all debit transactions to prevent digital payment frauds](#)

The Reserve Bank of India is exploring a 'kill switch' for all debit transactions to prevent any potential digital fraud, if the customer...



### Why in News


- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** is exploring the introduction of a **Kill Switch** mechanism.

### Mechanism Overview

- It enables immediate suspension of financial transactions during emergencies.
- It acts as an emergency control against digital payment fraud.
- Users can activate it through banking applications.

Operational Features	Significance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It can instantly block outgoing transactions.</li> <li>➤ It helps prevent fraudulent fund transfers.</li> <li>➤ It enhances security across digital payment systems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It provides customers greater control over digital banking.</li> <li>➤ It can reduce losses arising from cyber frauds.</li> <li>➤ It strengthens trust in digital payment ecosystems.</li> </ul>

# WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO)

 World Meteorological Organization WMO

## [Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update 2026-2035](#)

Global average temperatures are likely to continue at or near record levels in the next five years, with Arctic temperature anomalies...



### Why in News

- The **WMO** warned that global temperatures may remain at or near record levels over the next five years.

### Institutional Background

- Established in **1950**.
- It is a specialised agency of the **United Nations (UN)**.
- It evolved from the **International Meteorological Organization (IMO)** founded in **1873**.

### Mandate

- It is the UN's authoritative body on weather, climate, hydrology, and related geophysical sciences.
- It promotes international cooperation in meteorology and climate science.
- It facilitates exchange of weather and climate data globally.

### Governance Structure

- The **World Meteorological Congress** is the supreme decision-making body.
- The **Executive Council** consists of **36 members**.
- The Secretariat is headed by a **Secretary-General**.

### Key Facts

- Headquarters: **Geneva, Switzerland**.
- Membership: **193 members** comprising **187 States and 6 Territories**.

## OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

### Environment

## ANAPHALIS SAHYADRICA

TH The Hindu

### [New high-altitude plant species discovered in Western Ghats](#)

Botanists discover a new high-altitude plant species, *Anaphalis sahyadraca*, in the Western Ghats' montane grasslands and shola forests.



### Why in News

- Botanists discovered a new plant species, **Anaphalis sahyadraca**, in the southern Western Ghats.

### Taxonomic Details

- It belongs to the **Asteraceae (Sunflower Family)**.
- It is classified as a **subshrub**.



### Geographical Distribution

- Found in high-altitude montane grasslands and shola forest margins.
- Recorded from **Anamudi** and **Meesapulimala** in Kerala.
- It grows above **2,200 metres** elevation.

### Key Characteristics

- It possesses smooth and hairless leaves.
- The leaves have three prominent veins.
- The plant can reach about one metre in height.
- It bears **90–120 white hemispherical flower heads (capitula)**.

## Science and Technology

### SAKURA SCIENCE PROGRAMME

DD News

#### [Indian students to visit Japan under Sakura Science Programme 2026](#)

The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) under the Ministry of Education on Saturday flagged off a delegation of Indian...



### Why in News

- A delegation of Indian students was flagged off to participate in the **Sakura Science Programme 2026**.

### Programme Overview

- It is a **Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science**.
- The programme was launched globally in **2014**.
- India joined the initiative in **2016**.
- It promotes scientific learning and cultural exchange.

### Institutional Framework

- It is implemented by the **Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)**.
- Students undertake short-term visits to Japan.
- Participants gain exposure to advanced scientific and technological ecosystems.

### Objectives

- It aims to **develop future global scientific talent**.
- It promotes international collaboration and innovation.
- It accelerates international brain circulation.
- It strengthens science diplomacy between Japan and partner countries.

## UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

### NAUSENA SHAURYA VATIKA

TH The Hindu

#### Defence Minister inaugurates 'Nausena Shaurya Vatika' in Lucknow

Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday (May 30, 2026) in Lucknow jointly with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath...



#### Why in News

- The Defence Minister inaugurated **Nausena Shaurya Vatika** in Lucknow.

#### Museum Profile

- It is an open-air naval museum and interpretation centre.
- It is in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**.
- The project cost is approximately **₹19 crore**.
- It covers an area of over two acres.

#### Institutional Significance

- It forms **Phase-II** of the **Nausena Shaurya Sangrahalaya**.
- It was jointly developed by the **Indian Navy** and the **Government of Uttar Pradesh**.

#### Major Attractions

- It displays artefacts of **INS Gomati**, a **Godavari-class guided missile frigate**.
- It includes naval guns, missile launchers, radars, torpedo launchers, and anchors.
- It houses a walkthrough museum of the retired **TU-142M maritime patrol aircraft**.