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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC



4th May 2026

TOPICS:-

1. Project Freedom & Strait of Hormuz
2. Asian Development Bank (ADB) Regional Connectivity Plan
3. Childhood Diabetes Guidance Document
4. RBSK 2.0 Guidelines
5. World Press Freedom Index 2026
6. Padma Doree Initiative
7. Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026
8. Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)
9. Other Important News of the day
10. Uttar Pradesh in News

DELHI CENTRE:
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PROJECT FREEDOM & STRAIT OF HORMUZ

TH The Hindu

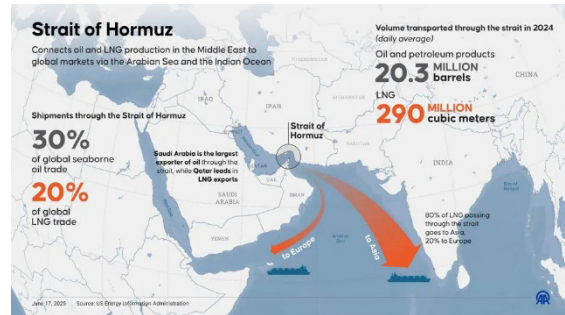
Trump announces 'Project Freedom' to help stranded ships leave Strait of Hormuz



The United States will launch an effort on Monday (May 4, 2026) to "guide" stranded ships from the Iran-gripped Strait of Hormuz,...

Why in News

- The **United States** launched **Project Freedom** on **4 May 2026** to escort commercial ships through the **Strait of Hormuz**.



Geostrategic Location and Features

- The **Strait of Hormuz** lies between **Oman and Iran** and connects the **Persian Gulf** with **Gulf of Oman** and **Arabian Sea**.
- It is one of the world's most critical **oil transit chokepoints** for global energy trade.
- The narrow passage makes it highly vulnerable to **blockades and military disruptions**.

Security Operations and Military Deployment

- The operation involves **US Central Command (CENTCOM)** assets including **guided-missile destroyers and 100+ aircraft**.
- Around **15,000 service members and multi-domain unmanned systems** are deployed for maritime security.
- The mission aims to escort nearly **800 stranded commercial vessels** through the strait.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB) REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN

Why in News

TOI The Times of India

ADB launches \$70 billion connectivity plan; Asia power and digital networks to expand by 2035



International Business News: The Asian Development Bank on Sunday rolled out an ambitious \$70 billion regional investment roadmap to...

- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** announced a **\$70 billion investment plan** for Asia-Pacific connectivity by **2035**.

Infrastructure Integration Strategy

- The plan includes **Pan-Asia Power Grid (\$50 billion)** and **Asia-Pacific Digital Highway (\$20 billion)**.
- It focuses on **cross-border electricity and digital connectivity infrastructure**.

Energy Security and Sustainability Impact

- The power grid will integrate **20 GW renewable energy** and build **22,000 circuit-km transmission lines**.
- It aims to provide electricity access to **200 million people** and reduce emissions by **15% by 2035**.
- The initiative is expected to generate around **840,000 jobs**.

Digital Connectivity Expansion

- The digital highway will provide **first-time broadband access to 200 million people**.
- It will improve connectivity for **450 million people** and reduce costs by **40% in remote areas**.
- The project is expected to create **4 million jobs** in the region.

Institutional Facts and Financing Model

- **ADB (established 1966)** is headquartered in **Manila, Philippines**.
- ADB will finance about **half of the power grid and \$15 billion of the digital project**.
- Remaining funds will be mobilised through **co-financing and private sector participation**.

CHILDHOOD DIABETES GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

TH The Hindu

Health Ministry issues guidelines on childhood diabetes care

The Health Ministry launches guidelines for childhood diabetes care, ensuring universal screening and free treatment across India.

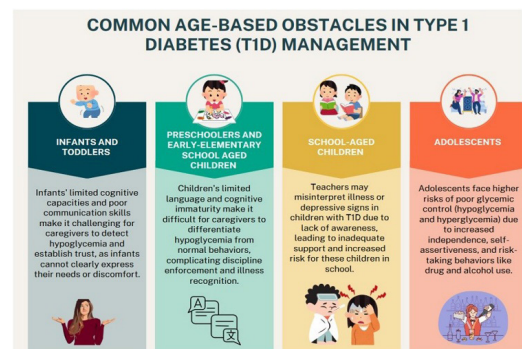


Why in News

- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** released the first **national guidance on childhood diabetes**.

Public Health Framework

- The document covers children aged **0–18 years** for screening and management.
- It integrates services across **primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare levels**.



Healthcare Delivery Mechanism

- It provides **free screening, insulin therapy, glucometers, and diagnostic services.**
- It ensures linkage from **community screening to district hospitals and medical colleges.**

Early Detection and Awareness Tools

- The **4Ts framework** includes **Toilet, Thirsty, Tired, Thinner** for early detection.
- Training is provided for **insulin use, monitoring, and emergency response.**

Medical Facts

- **Type 1 diabetes** is an **autoimmune disease** with little or no insulin production.
- **Insulin** regulates blood glucose and is produced by the **pancreas.**

RBSK 2.0 GUIDELINES

 News On AIR

[Health Ministry Releases RBSK 2.0 Guidelines, Expands 4Ds Child Health Framework](#)

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines recently.

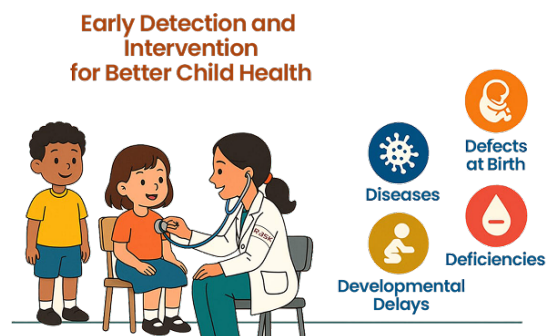


Why in News

- The government launched revised **Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK 2.0)** guidelines.

Expanded Health Coverage

- The programme now includes **mental health, behavioural issues, and NCD risk factors.**
- It builds upon the earlier **4Ds framework: defects, diseases, deficiencies, developmental delays.**



Service Delivery Architecture

- Screening is conducted through **Mobile Health Teams at Anganwadi centres and schools.**
- The programme operates through **451 District Early Intervention Centres (DEICs).**

Digital Governance Features

- Introduction of **digital health cards and real-time tracking systems** improves monitoring.
- The system integrates **screening, referral, treatment, and follow-up care.**

Key Facts

- **RBSK (2013)** is part of the **National Health Mission (NHM)**.
- Over **160 crore screenings** have been conducted under the programme.

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX 2026

 News On AIR

[China remains top jailer of journalists; ranks 178th in press freedom index](#)

China remains the world's largest prison for journalists, and its regime conducted a campaign of repression against journalism and the right to information...



Why in News

- India ranked **157th** out of **180** countries in the **World Press Freedom Index 2026**.

Index Framework and Indicators

- Published by **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**.
- It assesses **pluralism, media independence, legal framework, safety, and transparency**.

India's Performance Trend

- India ranked **151st in 2025** and **159th in 2024**.
- The country falls under the **“very serious”** category in 2026.

Key Concerns Highlighted

- Issues include **violence against journalists and concentrated media ownership**.
- Use of laws such as **defamation and national security statutes** affects press freedom.

Global Context

- Over **50% countries** fall under **“difficult”** or **“very serious”** categories in 2026.

PADMA DOREE INITIATIVE

Why in News

- The **North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC)** launched the **Padma Doree initiative** to integrate regional textile traditions.

 Swarajyamag

[India Unveils 'Padma Doree': Cross-Regional Textile Initiative Linking Northeast Eri Silk And Chanderi Weaving](#)

India unveiled Padma Doree on Friday (1 May), marking the first time in silk history that two indigenous silk traditions - Eri from...



Cultural and Textile Integration

- The initiative combines **Eri (Ahimsa) silk of Northeast India** with **Chanderi weaving of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Eri silk** is produced without killing silkworms, promoting **ethical and sustainable textiles**.
- The fusion creates textiles with **durability of Eri silk and fine motifs of Chanderi**.



Institutional and Economic Dimensions

- The project is executed by **NEHHDC under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**.
- It aims to build a **sustainable and integrated textile ecosystem across regions**.
- It promotes **economic empowerment of artisans through market linkage and collaboration**.

Innovation and Market Orientation

- The initiative includes **modern design adaptation for global sustainable fashion markets**.
- A three-day exhibition showcased the fiber-to-fabric process and artisan collaboration.

National Integration and Sustainability Significance

- The initiative strengthens **cultural integration between Northeast and Central India**.
- It promotes **eco-friendly production and indigenous knowledge systems** in the textile sector.

CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2026

 News On AIR

[Govt notifies Citizenship \(Amendment\) Rules, 2026, introducing revised provisions related to OCI cardholders & citizenship applications](#)



The government has notified the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026, introducing revised provisions related to Overseas Citizen of India...

Why in News

- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** notified the **Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026** to modernize the **OCI framework**.

Governance and Legal Framework

- The rules amend the **Citizenship Rules, 2009** to introduce a **fully digital identity ecosystem**.
- They reinforce that **India does not allow dual citizenship** under existing law.

Digital Transformation and Administrative Reforms

- Introduction of **electronic OCI (e-OCI)** replaces physical documentation.
- All applications including **registration, renunciation, and cancellation** are now fully online.
- A **centralised digital registry (Form XXX)** enables real-time tracking of OCI records.

Regulatory Safeguards and Compliance

- A provision bans **dual passports for minors under Rule 3**.
- **Biometric data integration** supports fast-track immigration via **e-gates**.
- Appeals are handled by a **higher authority**, ensuring procedural fairness.

Significance for Diaspora Governance

- The reforms simplify **OCI services and reduce paperwork delays**.
- They prevent misuse of identity systems and enhance **immigration efficiency**.

ATOMIC ENERGY REGULATORY BOARD (AERB)

ET The Economic Times

[AERB clears equipment installation at Tamil Nadu's Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project Units 5 and 6](#)

A significant milestone has been achieved at the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board has approved the...



Why in News

- The **AERB** approved installation of major equipment for **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project Units 5 and 6**.



Institutional Structure and Legal Basis

- **AERB (established 1983)** is constituted under the **Atomic Energy Act, 1962**.
- It functions as India's **independent nuclear safety regulator**.

Core Functions and Regulatory Role

- It sets **safety standards for nuclear and radiation facilities**.

- It grants permissions for stages like **First Pour of Concrete and equipment erection.**
- It conducts **multi-tier safety reviews of nuclear plant design and operations.**

Safety Oversight and Operational Mechanisms

- It enforces **radiological protection in industrial and medical applications.**
- The **Safety Review Committee for Operating Plants (SARCOP)** monitors plant safety.

Strategic and Technological Significance

- The AERB ensures **safe expansion of nuclear energy infrastructure in India.**
- It enhances **public confidence through independent and expert-based regulation.**

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Person in News

NITI AAYOG APPOINTMENT - DR JORAM ANIYA

Why in News

- **Dr Joram Aniya** was appointed as a **full-time member of NITI Aayog.**



Institutional Structure

- **NITI Aayog (2015)** replaced the **Planning Commission.**
- The **Prime Minister is the Chairperson** of NITI Aayog.

Representation and Diversity Significance

- She is the first member from **Arunachal Pradesh and Northeast India.**
- The appointment enhances **regional representation in policymaking.**

Professional Background

- She has over **18 years of experience in academia and public policy.**
- She was the first woman from the **Nyishi community** to earn a PhD.

Sports

THOMAS CUP 2026 – INDIA’S PERFORMANCE

 The Times of India

[Indian men’s badminton team clinch bronze at Thomas Cup 2026, Ludh’s Dhruv Kapila in squad](#)

Ludhiana: The performance of Indian badminton team at the Thomas Cup 2026, held in Denmark from April 24 to May 3, has brought cheers to the...



Why in News

- India defeated **Chinese Taipei 3-0** to enter the **semi-finals of the Thomas Cup 2026**.

Tournament Structure and Governance

- The **Thomas Cup** is the **men’s world team badminton championship** governed by the **Badminton World Federation (BWF)**.
- Semi-finalists are assured of at least a **bronze medal**.

Match Performance and Team Strength

- India won all three matches in the quarter-final without dropping a **single rubber**.
- The team showed strong coordination in both **singles and doubles formats**.

Strategic Sports Significance

- The victory reinforces India’s position as a **rising global badminton power**.
- It builds upon India’s **historic Thomas Cup win in 2022**.

Defence

DRDO HYPERSONIC ANTI-SHIP MISSILE (LR-ASHM)

 The Times of India

[Boost for Navy's defence: India successfully tests long-range hypersonic anti-ship missile off Odisha](#)

News News: NEW DELHI: India has successfully test-fired a long-range hypersonic anti-ship missile (LR-ASHM) off the Odisha coast.



Why in News

- **DRDO** successfully conducted the second test of a **long-range hypersonic anti-ship missile**.

Technological Capabilities

- The missile has a range of **over 1,500 km** and speeds up to **Mach 10**.
- It uses a **two-stage hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV)** design enabling manoeuvrability.
- Hypersonic systems operate at speeds **greater than Mach 5**.



Strategic Defence Implications

- The missile enhances India's **maritime deterrence and deep-sea strike capability**.
- It can target **moving naval assets including aircraft carriers**, strengthening **“carrier-killer”** capability.

Design and Operational Features

- It uses **indigenous sensors** for precision targeting in the terminal phase.
- It follows **low-altitude and unpredictable trajectories**, making interception difficult.

Institutional and Development Aspects

- Developed under the **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex** with industry partners.
- **DRDO (established 1958)** is India's premier defence R&D organisation.

Space

SOUTH KOREA CAS500-2 SATELLITE

S Space

[SpaceX sends 45 satellites to orbit in nighttime launch from California \(video\)](#)

SpaceX launched 45 satellites to orbit from California early Sunday morning (May 3), including a South Korean spacecraft that was originally...



Why in News

- South Korea launched **CAS500-2 Earth observation satellite** aboard **SpaceX Falcon 9**.

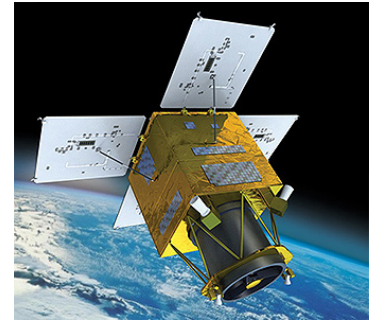
Orbital and Technical Features

- The satellite operates in a **sun-synchronous orbit at 498 km altitude**.

- It provides **0.5 m panchromatic and 2.0 m colour imagery**.

Operational and Strategic Uses

- It supports **land management, disaster response, and spatial data services**.
- It strengthens **national remote sensing and surveillance capabilities**.



Technological Development

- Developed by **Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI)** with **86% domestic platform technology**.
- Communication was established via a ground station in **Svalbard, Norway**.

UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

PM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN VARANASI

 News On AIR

[PM Modi Inaugurates ₹6,350 Crore Projects, Flags Off two New Amrit Bharat Trains in Varanasi](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth around 6 thousand and 350 crore...



Why in News

- The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid foundation stones for projects worth **₹6,350 crore** at a **Mahila Sammelan in Varanasi**.

Connectivity and Infrastructure Boost

- A total of **48 projects (₹1,050 crore)** were inaugurated and **112 projects (₹5,300 crore)** were launched.
- Two **Amrit Bharat Express trains** were flagged off to improve rail connectivity.
- The **Varanasi–Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction rail line with Ganga bridge** will strengthen logistics.
- Upgradation of **local roads** aims to improve urban mobility.

Healthcare and Social Development

- A **500-bed super-speciality hospital** will enhance tertiary healthcare capacity.
- The **Sowa Rigpa hospital** promotes integration of **traditional medicine systems**.

Urban and Cultural Development

- Development of **Assi, Dashashwamedh, and Namoo Ghats** supports tourism and heritage conservation.
- Improvements in **water treatment and urban infrastructure** will enhance city services.

Women Empowerment Dimension

- The **Mahila Sammelan** highlighted women's participation in governance and development.
- Success stories of schemes like **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao** and **PM Ujjwala Yojana** were showcased.
- The initiative aligns with **Article 15(3)** enabling special provisions for women.