



Sanskriti IAS



DAILY
CURRENT AFFAIRS

Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC

9th Jan 2026

TOPICS:-

- 1. Nagauri Ashwagandha**
- 2. National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS)**
- 3. National IED Data Management System (NIDMS)**
- 4. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)**
- 5. Grey Slender Loris**
- 6. Other Important News of the day**
- 7. Uttar Pradesh Related News**

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NAGAURI ASHWAGANDHA



ETV Bharat

<https://www.etvbharat.com> › State ›

Centre Grants GI Tag To 'Nagauri Ashwagandha' To Boost ...

3 days ago — Nagaur: The Centre has officially granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag to 'Nagauri Ashwagandha'. The move positions Nagaur as a new ... [Read more](#)

Why in News

- **Nagauri Ashwagandha** from **Rajasthan** received the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**.



About Nagauri Ashwagandha

- It is mainly cultivated in **Nagaur district** under **arid climatic conditions**.
- **Dry climate and sandy soil** produce **superior medicinal quality roots**.
- Roots are **longer, thicker, brittle, and rich in alkaloids**.
- Berries exhibit a **dark bright red colour**, indicating **premium quality**.

Ashwagandha Plant Facts

- **Withania somnifera** is a **medicinal plant** used extensively in **Ayurveda**.
- It is commonly called **Indian ginseng** or **Indian winter cherry**.
- Acts as an **adaptogen**, helping the body manage **stress and fatigue**.

Climatic Requirements

- Grows well in **dry subtropical regions** receiving **500–750 mm rainfall**.
- Tolerates **temperature range between 20 and 38 degrees Celsius**.

NATIONAL QUALITY ASSURANCE STANDARDS (NQAS)



News On AIR

Quality certification to 50k health facilities brought India closer to high

The Government has said that a total of 50 thousand health facilities have received the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS)...



Why in News

- **Over 50,000 public health facilities** certified under **National Quality Assurance Standards**.

About NQAS

- NQAS is a **quality framework** launched by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** in **2015**.

- It ensures **patient-centric, safe**, and **quality-assured** public healthcare services.
- Initially focused on **District Hospitals** before expanding to **primary healthcare facilities**.

Coverage

- Applicable to **District Hospitals, Sub-District Hospitals, and Community Health Centres**.
- Covers **Ayushman Arogya Mandir PHCs, UPHCs, and Sub Health Centres**.

Areas of Concern

- Standards include **service provision, patient rights, and clinical care**.
- Also cover **infection control, quality management, and health outcomes**.

NATIONAL IED DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIDMS)



News On AIR

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in> > hm-amit-shah-virtually... ⋮

HM Amit Shah launches National IED Data Management ...

4 hours ago — Developed by the National Security Guard (NSG), the **NIDMS** is a secure national-level digital platform aimed at enabling the systematic ... [Read more](#)

Why in News

- **Union Home Minister launched NIDMS** to strengthen **counter-IED and internal security architecture**.

What is NIDMS

- **National-level digital platform** for managing **Improved Explosive Device (IED) data**.

Developed By

- Developed by **National Security Guard** through **National Bomb Data Centre**.

Key Features

- **Systematic collection, standardisation, integration and secure sharing** of IED data.
- **Two-way online platform** accessible to **NIA, ATS, State Police and CAPFs**.
- **Bomb explosion database maintained since 1999** integrated into the system.

Significance

- **Supports post-blast investigations, pattern recognition and modus operandi analysis**.
- Enhances **inter-agency coordination and intelligence-led policing**.



UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (UN DESA)

Why in News

- **UN DESA projected India's growth at 7.4%**, driven by **consumption and public investment**.

 News On AIR

UNDESA says India expected to grow at 7.4 percent in current financial year

India is expected to grow by 7.4 per cent in the current financial year, driven by consumption and public investment, the United Nations...



About UN DESA

- UN department supporting **economic, social and environmental pillars** of development.

Headquarters

- **United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA.**

Core Functions

- **Norm-setting, policy analysis, capacity-building** for member states.
- Supports **UN General Assembly and ECOSOC** processes.

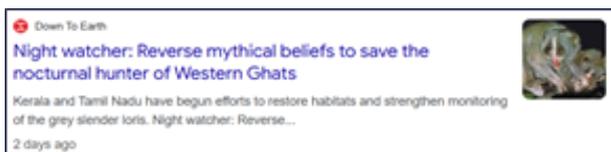
Major Reports

- World Economic Situation and Prospects
- World Social Report
- Sustainable Development Goals Report

GREY SLENDER LORIS

Why in News

- **Kerala and Tamil Nadu initiated habitat restoration and monitoring efforts.**



About Species

- **Scientific name:** *Loris lydekkerianus*
- **Nocturnal prosimian primate** belonging to **family Loridae**.

Habitat and Distribution

- Tropical rainforests, scrub, dry deciduous forests.
- Found in **southern India and Sri Lanka**.

Key Characteristics

- **No tail**, long limbs, **opposable thumbs**, flexible spine.
- **Excellent night vision**, insectivorous diet (ants, termites).

Conservation Status

- IUCN: **Near Threatened**
- CITES: Appendix II
- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

<p>Person in News</p>	<p>MADHAV GADGIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Why in News ➤ Renowned ecologist Madhav Gadgil passed away in 2026. <p>Background</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Born in 1942 at Pune, among India's foremost voices on ecology and environmental protection. ➤ Known for integrating science, democracy, and sustainability in environmental governance.
	<p>Key Institutional Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Founded Centre for Ecological Sciences at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru in 1982. ➤ Played a key role in establishing the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in 1986. <p>Policy & Committee Roles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chairman of Western Ghats Expert Ecology Panel (WGEEP) in 2010. ➤ Recommended entire Western Ghats as Ecologically Sensitive Area under graded protection categories. ➤ Member, Prime Minister's Science and Technology Advisory Council. ➤ Architect of Biological Diversity Act, 2002. ➤ Actively involved in implementation of Forest Rights Act, 2006.

Awards & Recognitions

- Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan.
- Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement.
- Volvo Environment Prize.
- United Nations Environment Programme Champions of the Earth Award.

Places in News

DAL LAKE

Why in News

- Parts of Dal Lake froze due to extreme winter temperatures.
- About Dal Lake
- Mid-altitude urban freshwater lake in Srinagar, J&K.
- Hydrology
- Fed by Telbal stream, originating from Jhelum River.



Unique Features

- Floating gardens called “Rad”
- Floating vegetable markets using Shikaras

Associated Heritage

- Surrounded by Mughal gardens – Shalimar, Nishat, Chashma Shahi.

Other State related News

MADHYA PRADESH

Why in News

- Health administration of Indore declared a waterborne disease outbreak an epidemic.

Location

- Outbreak reported from Bhagirathpura locality of Indore.
- State: Madhya Pradesh.

Key Facts

- At least 10 fatalities confirmed due to the outbreak.
- Disease linked to contaminated water supply.
- Sharp surge in cases beyond normal baseline levels.

Why Declared an Epidemic

- Incidence exceeded expected levels for the area.
- Meets public health criteria for epidemic declaration.
- Enables emergency health measures and administrative action.

Public Health Significance

- Highlights importance of safe drinking water and sanitation.
- Underlines need for rapid surveillance, containment, and medical response.

DELHI

New Delhi World Book Fair 2026

Why in News

- 53rd edition of New Delhi World Book Fair 2026 to be held in New Delhi.

Dates & Venue

- Held from 10–18 January 2026.
- Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

Participation

- Over 1,000 publishers participating.
- Representation from more than 35 countries.
- One of Asia’s largest literary and publishing events.

Special Countries

- Guest of Honour Country: Qatar
- Focus Country: Spain

Theme

- “Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @ 75”.

Science &
Technology

SCRAMJET ENGINE

Why in News

- Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully tested long-duration scramjet engine.



What is Scramjet

- **Supersonic Combustion Ramjet** operating at **Mach 5 and above**.

Working Principle

- **Rocket-assisted launch required.**
- **Supersonic airflow**, hydrogen combustion, thrust generation.

Key Features

- **Air-breathing engine, no moving parts.**
- **Higher fuel efficiency** than turbojets and ramjets.

Strategic Importance

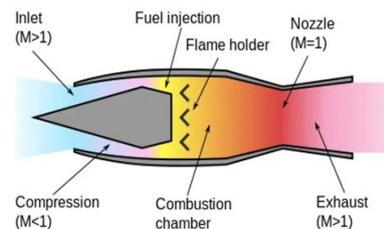
- Enables **hypersonic cruise missiles** and **advanced strike capability**.
- **India becomes fourth country** with demonstrated scramjet technology.

Environments

TWO NEW FROG SPECIES

Why in News

- **Two new frog species** discovered from **remote mountainous regions of Arunachal Pradesh**.



Soman's Slender Arm Frog

- **Scientific name:** *Leptobrachium somani*, discovered at Tiwarigaon.
- **Greyish-brown body**, irregular light-grey markings, **silver-blue eyes**.
- **Named after journalist E. Somanath** for environmental journalism.

Mechuka Slender Arm Frog

- **Scientific name:** *Leptobrachium mechuka*, named after Mechuka town.
- **Uniform brown body with reddish tinge** and **silvery-white eyes**.

Habitat

- **Evergreen forests**, stream banks, adjoining grasslands.

Importance

- Highlights **Eastern Himalayas** as a **global biodiversity hotspot**.

RATAPANI TIGER RESERVE

Why in News

- **Madhya Pradesh** announced naming reserve after **Dr. V. S. Wakankar**.

Location

- Located in **Raisen and Sehore districts of Madhya Pradesh**.

Geographical Features

- Lies in **Vindhya ranges**.
- Runs parallel to **northern bank of Narmada River**.
- **Kolar River** forms western boundary.

Ecology

- **Dry and moist deciduous forests, teak-dominated**.
- Home to **tigers, chinkara, leopard, wild dog, blackbuck**.

Special Importance

- Contains **UNESCO World Heritage Site – Bhimbetka rock shelters**.

Miscellaneous

CREATOR'S CORNER PLATFORM**Why in News**

- **Prasar Bharati** launched 'Creator's Corner' programme on DD News.



PIB

<https://www.pib.gov.in> > PressReleasePage**Prasar Bharati Launches 'Creator's Corner' on DD ... - PIB**

2 days ago — Prasar Bharati Launches 'Creator's Corner' on DD News to Empower Digital Creators Nationwide. 2026 to Be the Year of Major Reforms for ... [Read more](#)

**About Platform**

- Dedicated platform for broadcasting digital creators' content on public television.

Key Features

- Covers news, culture, education, science, environment, travel, and entertainment.

Revenue Model

- 90 percent revenue shared with creators; 10 percent retained by Prasar Bharati.

Significance

- Boosts creator economy and integrates digital content with public broadcasting.

UTTAR PRADESH RELATED NEWS

- Uttar Pradesh's First State-Level Braille Library

Why in News

- Uttar Pradesh inaugurated its first state-level Braille library in Lucknow.

Location & Institution

- Established at Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University (DSMNRU).

Located on the first floor of Swami Vivekananda Central Library.

BRaille SYSTEM

What is Braille

- Tactile writing system used by visually impaired persons.

Invented By

- Invented by Louis Braille in 1824.

Structure

- Based on six raised dots, forming 63 possible combinations.

Usage

- Used for reading and writing, including mathematics and music notation.

Key Features

- Inaugurated on birth anniversary of Louis Braille, inventor of Braille script.
- Over 4,000 Braille books available at launch.
- Covers 54 UG and PG courses aligned with National Education Policy (NEP).
- Visually impaired students outside DSMNRRU also allowed access.

Significance

- First state-level Braille library in Uttar Pradesh.
- Major step towards inclusive education and equal access to learning.
- Supports rights-based approach for persons with disabilities.

Future Expansion

- Collection to be expanded to 10,000 Braille books within one year.