

Sanskriti IAS Daily Current Affairs

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Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana

 PM India

Cabinet approves 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)' for Development of Floating Solar Photovoltaic Projects with Energy Storage Systems with a total outlay of...



The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today approved the 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)',...

Why in News

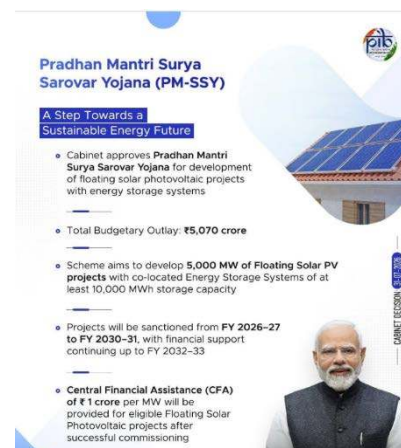
- The Government launched the **Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana** to develop **Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV)** projects with **Energy Storage Systems (ESS)**.

Key Features

- It targets **5,000 MW** of floating solar capacity with **10,000 MWh** (minimum two-hour) energy storage.
- Projects will be sanctioned during **FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31**, with financial support till **FY 2032–33**.
- Eligible projects will receive **Central Financial Assistance (CFA)** of **₹1 crore per MW**.
- Additional **CFA up to ₹50 lakh** is available for feasibility and environmental studies.

Significance

- It will expand India's floating solar capacity from about **700 MW** to **5,700 MW**.
- It promotes efficient use of reservoirs, reduces land requirement, and improves **grid reliability**.



- It is expected to reduce 10 million tonnes of CO₂ annually and generate 16,000–17,000 jobs.
- It also strengthens domestic manufacturing of floating solar components.

Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel



CHIEF OF THE ARMY STAFF LAUNCHES INDIGENOUS XTREME WEATHER GRADE DIESEL

General Dhiraj Seth, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), today launched the indigenously developed Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel in New...



Why in News

- The Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) launched the indigenously developed Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) Diesel in New Delhi.

Key Features

- It is a specialised diesel designed for temperatures as low as – 42°C.
- It has a pour point of –42°C and a flash point of about 50°C.
- It complies with BS-VI norms and IS 1460:2025 specifications.
- It was jointly developed by the Indian Army and Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

Significance

- It can be used in existing Army vehicles without engine modification.
- It improves mobility and operational readiness in high-altitude and extreme winter regions.
- The technology also has civilian applications and supports

Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Bagdara Wildlife Sanctuary

ThePrint

Bagdara Wildlife Sanctuary denotification: SC-NBWL tells MP govt to explore compensatory sites

New Delhi, Jul 31 (PTI) The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) has told the Madhya Pradesh government to...



Why in News

- The **Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL)** asked the **Madhya Pradesh Government** to explore alternative areas for compensatory notification while considering the proposed denotification of **Bagdara Wildlife Sanctuary**.

Geographical Profile

- It is located in the **Sidhi** and **Singrauli** districts of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The sanctuary covers an area of approximately **478 sq. km**.
- It was established in **1978** primarily for the conservation of **Blackbuck**.
- The **Son River** forms the southern boundary of the sanctuary.

Ecological Features

- The sanctuary contains **natural caves** and **rock shelters**.
- It is dominated by **dry deciduous mixed forests** with dense vegetation.
- The major flora includes **Teak, Mango, Orchids, Khair, Tendu, Lendia, and Dhawda**.

Biodiversity Significance

- It supports wildlife such as **Tiger, Panther, Blackbuck, Chinkara, Sambar, Cheetal, Wild Boar, and Hyena**.
- The sanctuary also sustains rich avian diversity along with several mammalian species.
- Its protection contributes to conserving central India's dry forest ecosystem.

Pseudolaguvia khairii

TNIE The New Indian Express

New catfish from Odisha's Budhabalanga named after legendary tigress Khairi

Researchers have named the new species as *Pseudolaguvia khairii*, as a tribute to the orphaned Royal Bengal tigress.



Why in News

- Researchers discovered a new freshwater catfish species, *Pseudolaguvia khairii*, in Odisha.

Discovery Profile

- It was discovered in the Budhabalanga River of Mayurbhanj district, Odisha.
- The species is named after the legendary tigress Khairi, a symbol of wildlife conservation in Odisha.

Taxonomic Significance

- *Pseudolaguvia khairii* is a newly identified species of freshwater catfish.
- It belongs to the genus *Pseudolaguvia*, comprising small hillstream catfishes.

Distinctive Characteristics

- It is only a few centimetres long.
- It possesses a unique fleshy protuberance at the base of its dorsal fin.
- This distinguishing feature has not previously been recorded in the genus.
- Species of this genus inhabit the clear, fast-flowing rivers of India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Myanmar.

Dhimsa Dance

Why in News

- A performance by over 13,000 tribal women and girl students at Bhogapuram was recognised by Guinness World Records as the largest Dhimsa dance.

NDTV

[13,000 Students Perform Dhimsa Dance For PM Modi In Andhra Pradesh](#)

More than 13000 students performed the traditional Dhimsa dance to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the inauguration of the Alluri Sitarama Raju...



Cultural Background

- Dhimsa is a traditional tribal dance of Andhra Pradesh.
- It is performed by tribes such as Bagata, Valmiki, Poraja, Khond, Gadaba, Kondadora, Mukadora, and Kotia.
- It is associated with festivals, weddings, and the annual hunting festival held in April.

Performance Characteristics

- The dance is generally performed by groups of 15–20 women in traditional attire.
- The dancers move in circular formations to the rhythm of indigenous musical instruments played by men.
- The performance emphasises coordinated hand and foot movements rather than facial expressions.
- It is accompanied by instruments such as Mori, Thudum, and Dappu.

Heritage Significance

- There are 12 recognised varieties of Dhimsa.
- Its origin is traced to the Koraput region associated with the Ghond Tribe.
- Its themes depict tribal mythology, folklore, livelihoods, kinship, marriage, and community traditions.

Samudra Manthan Scheme

 The Indian Express

Government greenlights Rs 84,000-crore scheme to boost offshore oil & gas exploration, production

The Centre expects the Samudra Manthan scheme to catalyse reserve accretion of over 600 million tonnes of oil and oil equivalent gas,...



Why in News

- The **Union Cabinet** approved **Samudra Manthan**, the **National Offshore Exploration Scheme**, with a total outlay of **₹84,084 crore**.

Governance Framework

- **Samudra Manthan** is a **Central Sector Scheme** of the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas**.
- It will be implemented up to **FY 2030–31**.
- The scheme aims to unlock India's offshore oil and gas potential.

Key Features

- It supports large-scale acquisition, processing, and interpretation of high-quality **seismic data**.
- It promotes accelerated **deepwater**, **ultra-deepwater**, and **scientific drilling** in frontier basins.
- It envisages common offshore production and evacuation infrastructure.
- It provides for an integrated **Oil & Gas Manufacturing and Services Zone**.

Strategic Importance

- The scheme strengthens the entire offshore exploration value chain.
- It promotes **digital programme management**, **capacity building**, and **technology adoption**.



- It enhances stakeholder participation and international outreach for offshore exploration.
- It supports long-term growth in India's domestic energy production ecosystem.

Other Important News of the day

Places in News

Republic of Naoero

Why in News

- The Pacific island nation **Nauru** has officially changed its name to the **Republic of Naoero**, restoring its traditional designation to strengthen national identity and cultural heritage.

Geographical Identity

- It is an island republic located in the **southwestern Pacific Ocean**.
- It is a **raised coral island** situated in **southeastern Micronesia**, about **40 km south of the Equator**.
- It is the **world's smallest independent republic**, covering only **21 sq. km.** with a population of about **12,000**.
- It has **no rivers or lakes**, and **Yaren** hosts government offices despite having **no official capital**.



Political and Administrative Features

- Its **Constitution (1968)** established a **Westminster-style parliamentary republic**.
- The **President** serves as both **Head of State** and **Head of Government**.

	• The unicameral Parliament elects the President. • All Members of Parliament contest elections as independents, as there are no political parties. Economic Characteristics • The country historically prospered through phosphate mining. • The depletion of phosphate reserves has created significant economic challenges. • The Australian Dollar is the official currency. • Revenue is also generated through its 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and commercial fishing licences. • Agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, and fishing contribute only modestly to the economy.
Environment	Pygmy Hog Why in News • The SC-NBWL recommended including the Pygmy Hog under the recovery programme of the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH) Scheme. Species Profile • It is the smallest and rarest wild pig species and an indicator species of healthy grasslands. • It constructs its own roofed nest, a rare trait among mammals. • It survives only in Manas and Orang National Parks of Assam. 

- It feeds on roots, tubers, shoots, worms, and other invertebrates.

Conservation

- It improves soil quality through foraging and aids seed dispersal.
- **IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered.**
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I.**
- **IDWH** is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** supporting Protected Areas and recovery of critically endangered species.

Space

Magellanic Bridge

 The Indian Express

[New data from X-ray reveals unique star system in Magellanic Bridge: IUCAA](#)

Discovery offers new way to understand how encounters between galaxies affect lives of their stars.

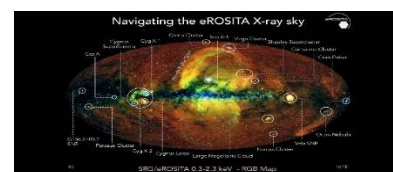


Why in News

- An **IUCAA-led** team discovered the first known system of its kind in the **Magellanic Bridge** using the **eROSITA X-ray Telescope**.

Astronomical Features

- The **Magellanic Bridge** is a stream of stars and gas connecting the **Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC)** and the **Small Magellanic Cloud (SMC)**.
- It is primarily a gaseous structure containing a limited population of young stars.
- It is believed to consist of material tidally stripped from the **SMC** around **200–300 million years ago**.



Scientific Importance

- It provides insights into the impact of galactic interactions on **binary star formation and evolution**.
- It enables comparative studies of stellar evolution between the **Bridge**, **LMC**, and **SMC**.
- It improves understanding of the long-term consequences of interactions between neighbouring galaxies.

eROSITA X-ray Telescope

- **eROSITA** is mounted aboard the **Russian-German Spectrum-Roentgen-Gamma (SRG) Observatory**.
- It was developed under the leadership of the **Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics (MPE)**, Germany.
- It observes X-rays in the **0.2–8 keV** energy range.
- It operates in a **halo orbit around the L2 point**.
- It performs an **all-sky survey** by mapping the celestial sphere every **six months**.

Science and Technology

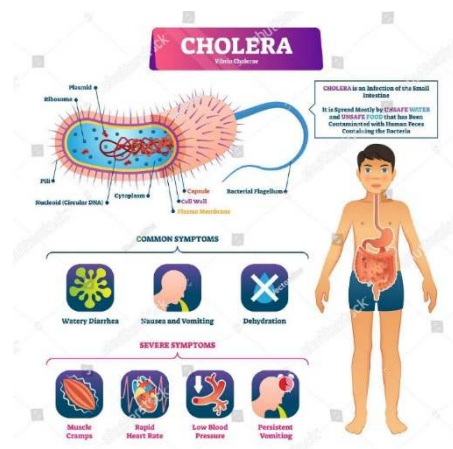
Cholera

Why in News

- **Cholera** continues to be a major water-borne disease in regions with poor sanitation and inadequate healthcare.

Disease Profile

- It is caused by the bacterium **Vibrio cholerae**.



- It causes severe diarrhoea and dehydration, which may become fatal without treatment.
- Symptoms appear within **12 hours to 5 days**, though many infected persons remain asymptomatic.

Transmission & Treatment

- Infection spreads through contaminated food or water and is common in areas with poor sanitation.
- The bacteria also survive in **brackish** and coastal waters and may spread through raw shellfish.
- **Oral/IV rehydration** is the primary treatment, while **doxycycline**, **erythromycin**, or **azithromycin** may be prescribed.
- **Zinc supplements** are recommended for children, whereas **antidiarrhoeal drugs** should be avoided.

Uttar Pradesh in News

India's First Dedicated Department of Military Medicine

 The Hindu

First dedicated Department of Military Medicine comes up in Lucknow

Lucknow inaugurates India's first Department of Military Medicine, enhancing military medical preparedness and innovation for Armed Forces.



Why in News

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** inaugurated India's first **Department of Military Medicine** at **Command Hospital (Central Command)**, Lucknow.

Key Features

- It functions under the **Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS)** as the national hub for **training**, **research**, and **combat medicine**.



- It focuses on battlefield trauma, combat psychiatry, extreme environment physiology, and CBRN defence.

Significance

- It will offer postgraduate and super-speciality courses for military medical officers.
- It aims to become a Centre of Excellence for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).
- Training will use AI-based triage simulators and high-fidelity battlefield medical dummies for realistic combat casualty care.