

# SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

10-07-2026

## Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains (PACTS)

ThePrint

### India & Australia announce PACTS for a deeper cyber, critical tech and supply chain partnership

New Delhi: India and Australia Thursday signed an agreement to partner in cyber, critical technologies and supply chains, as the two...



### Why in News

- **India and Australia** have launched the **Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains (PACTS)** to deepen cooperation in emerging technologies, cyber security and resilient supply chains.

### Strategic Architecture

- **PACTS** replaces the **2020 Framework Arrangement on Cyber and Cyber Enabled Critical Technology Cooperation**.
- The partnership is jointly overseen by India's **Deputy National Security Advisor** and Australia's **Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**.

“  
We launched the  
Australia-India Partnership on  
**CYBER, CRITICAL  
TECHNOLOGIES AND SUPPLY  
CHAINS (AI-PACTS)**”



PM Modi at India-Australia Joint Press Meet in Melbourne, 9 July 2026

### Technology and Cyber Cooperation

- Both countries will enhance collaboration in **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, **biotechnology**, **telecommunications**, **space technologies** and **advanced materials**.
- The cyber pillar focuses on combating **cybercrime**, improving **cyber resilience** and protecting **critical infrastructure**.
- The framework envisages a bilateral cyber cooperation mechanism and a **Cyber-Technology Skill Incubator**.

## Supply Chain and Digital Resilience

- The partnership aims to develop secure and trusted technology supply chains.
- Both countries will strengthen cooperation on **undersea cable security** through the **Quad Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience**.
- It promotes expansion of **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)** across the Indo-Pacific region.
- India's DPI model will be shared through capacity-building programmes and pilot projects.

## Defence Collaboration

- Cooperation will be strengthened between **DRDO** and Australia's **Defence Science and Technology Group**.
- Joint research will be undertaken in **maritime surveillance, advanced materials and defence technologies**.

## Global Liveability Index 2026

\*\*\* BBC

### [What it's like to live in the world's most liveable cities in 2026](#)

The Economist Intelligence Unit's latest Global Liveability Index names the world's top cities. We asked residents to share the everyday...

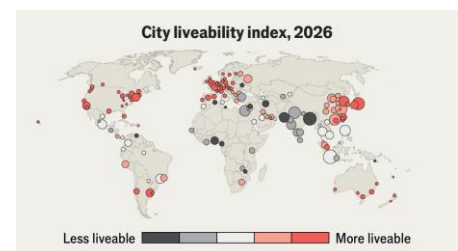


## Why in News

- **New Delhi** ranked **120th** out of **173** cities in the **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) Global Liveability Index 2026**, with an overall score of **48.1**.

## About the Index

- The **Global Liveability Index** is an annual ranking published by the **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**.



- It assesses **173 cities** using **30 indicators** across five categories.
- The categories are **Stability, Healthcare, Culture & Environment, Education, and Infrastructure.**

<p><b>Delhi's Performance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Education:</b> 66.7</li> <li>• <b>Infrastructure:</b> 58.9</li> <li>• <b>Healthcare:</b> 41.7</li> <li>• <b>Culture &amp; Environment:</b> 35.4</li> <li>• New Delhi retained its <b>120th position</b> in the 2026 rankings.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indian Cities in Rankings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New Delhi:</b> 120th</li> <li>• <b>Mumbai:</b> 121st</li> <li>• <b>Chennai:</b> 123rd</li> <li>• <b>Bengaluru:</b> 127th</li> </ul>
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### Important Facts

- **Copenhagen (Denmark)** was ranked the **world's most liveable city** for the **second consecutive year.**
- **EIU** is the research and analysis division of **The Economist Group.**
- Lower rankings of Indian cities are linked to challenges such as **air pollution, traffic congestion, housing stress and pressure on urban services.**
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### ULLAS Programme

 ANI News

[Uttarakhand becomes India's sixth fully literate state under NEP 2020 and ULLAS programme](#)

After fulfilling the literacy standards laid down by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of...



### Why in News

- **Uttarakhand** has become the country's latest fully literate state under **ULLAS** and **NEP 2020.**

### Policy Framework

- **ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society)** is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** under the **Ministry of Education.**

- It aligns with the objectives of the **National Education Policy (NEP), 2020**.
- The implementation period is **2022–2027**.



### Target and Beneficiaries

- The programme targets **adults aged 15 years and above** who missed formal schooling.
- It aims to provide **Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN)** to **5 crore learners**.
- The annual target is **1 crore learners** through **Online Teaching, Learning and Assessment System (OTLAS)**.

### Major Components

- The programme provides **Foundational Literacy and Numeracy skills**.
- It promotes **Critical Life Skills** including digital, financial and legal literacy.
- It supports **Basic Education** through equivalency programmes.
- It develops **Vocational Skills** for local employment opportunities.
- It encourages **Continuing Education** in arts, science, technology and culture.

### Digital and Social Dimensions

- The scheme is implemented through volunteerism and community participation.
- Learners can access content through the **DIKSHA Portal** and **ULLAS Mobile App** in regional languages.

## Mitrephora rashmiae



The Sentinel - of this Land, for its People

<https://www.sentinelassam.com> > ... > Arunachal News

### Rare Himalayan flower rediscovered in Arunachal after ...

1 day ago — A rare Himalayan flowering plant, *Cyananthus hookeri*, has been rediscovered in Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang district after 158 years, marking ... [Read more](#)

### Why in News

- Researchers have discovered a new flowering tree species, **Mitrephora rashmiae**, in Upper Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh.

### Taxonomic Significance

- It belongs to the **Custard Apple Family (Annonaceae)**.
- It is only the **second species** of the genus **Mitrephora** recorded from the **Eastern Himalayan Biodiversity Hotspot**.

### Unique Biological Features

- It is the first known species in the genus bearing both **male and bisexual flowers** on the same tree.
- The flowers are **pale yellow with purple stripes**.
- It possesses a distinctive **dome-shaped floral structure** formed by inner petals.

### Distribution and Conservation

- The species is currently known from only **one wild tree**.
- The identified tree is about **seven metres tall** and grows near a stream.
- It has been classified as **Data Deficient** due to insufficient population data.

## Wildlife Institute of India (WII)

PIB

[Union Environment Minister presides over the 28th Meeting of the reconstituted Wildlife Institute of India \(WII\) Society, at Coimbatore](#)



Union Environment Minister presides over the 28th Meeting of the reconstituted Wildlife Institute of India (WII) Society, at Coimbatore...

### Why in News

- The **28th meeting of the WII Society** was recently held under the chairmanship of the Union Environment Minister.

### Institutional Profile

- **WII** was established in **1982** under the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)**.
- It is located in **Dehradun, Uttarakhand**.
- It is an autonomous institution dedicated to wildlife science and conservation.

### Core Functions

- The institute conducts wildlife research and management studies.
- It provides training programmes and academic courses.
- It offers scientific advice on wildlife conservation issues.
- It develops conservation techniques suited to Indian conditions.

### Research Areas

- Research includes **biodiversity conservation, endangered species, wildlife forensics and climate change**.
- The institute also works on **eco-development, wildlife policy and spatial modelling**.

### Governance Structure

- The apex body is the **WII Society** chaired by the Union Environment Minister.
- The **Governing Body** is chaired by the **Secretary, MoEFCC**.

## Neonatal Sepsis

THE Hindu

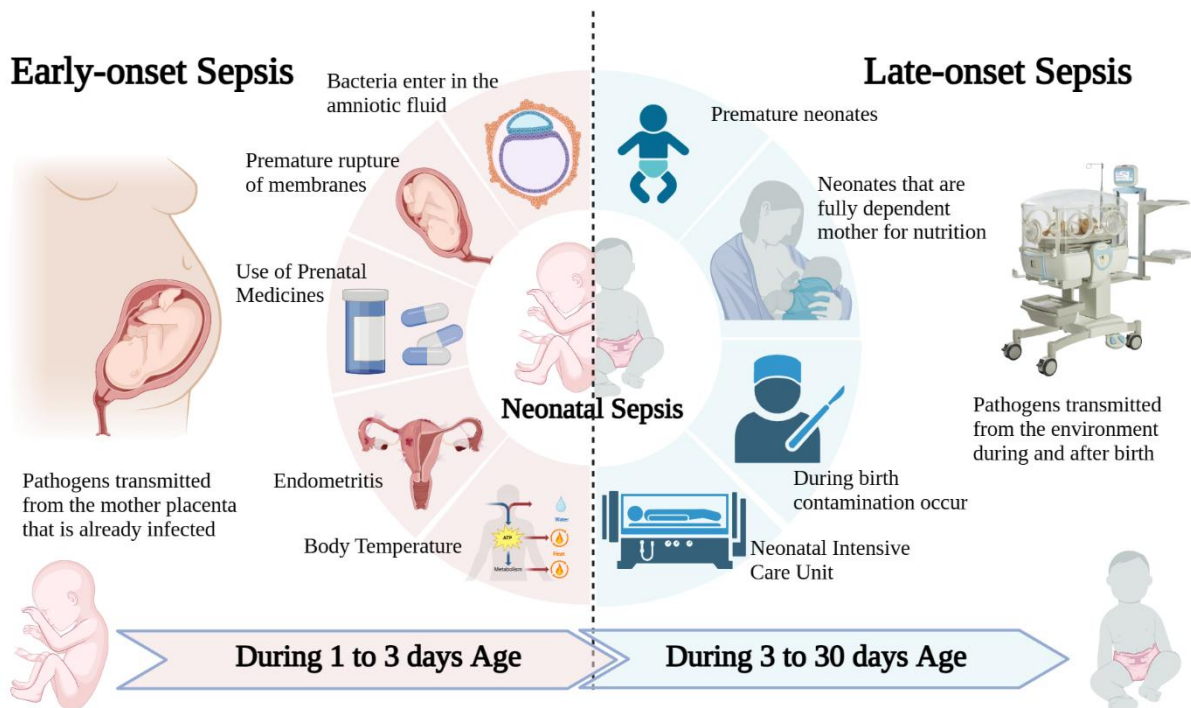
### Multi-centric study to contain antimicrobial resistant neonatal sepsis begins in India

A multi-centric study in India begins to combat antimicrobial-resistant neonatal sepsis, aiming to save newborn lives through innovative...



### Why in News

- The global **NeoSep-1 Trial** for neonatal sepsis treatment has expanded to India with recruitment at **JIPMER, Puducherry**.



### Disease Overview

- Neonatal sepsis is a life-threatening bloodstream infection affecting babies below **90 days of age**.
- Premature and low-birth-weight infants are particularly vulnerable.
- It contributes to nearly **30–50% of neonatal deaths globally**.

## Causes

- Bacterial infections are the most common cause.
- Common pathogens include **Escherichia coli (E. coli)**, **Listeria** and **Streptococcus** species.
- **Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)** can also cause severe neonatal infection.

## Classification

- **Early-Onset Sepsis (EOS)** occurs within **72 hours** of birth.
- **Late-Onset Sepsis (LOS)** occurs after **72 hours** of birth.
- LOS may be healthcare-associated or community-acquired.

## Management

- Early diagnosis and treatment are essential for survival.
- Standard treatment involves **intravenous antibiotic therapy** in hospitals.

## Other Important News of the day

### Institutions in News

### National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER)



[Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh Addresses 15th Graduation Ceremony of 'National Institute of Science, Education & Research' \(NISER\) in Bhubaneswar; invokes legacy of Homi...](#)




In awarding degrees to these youngsters, we are passing on to the next generation, the baton of the mission handed to us by Late Homi Bhabha...

### Why in News

- The Vice-President addressed the **15th Graduation Ceremony of NISER, Bhubaneswar**.

### Institutional Framework

- **NISER** was established in **2006** under the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**.
- It is located near **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is affiliated with <b>Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Educational Role</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It serves as a centre of excellence in basic sciences.</li> <li>• It offers a <b>Five-Year Integrated MSc Programme and PhD programmes.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Research and Outreach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducts theoretical &amp; experimental research in frontier sciences.</li> <li>• It has <b>seven specialised schools</b> in different scientific disciplines.</li> <li>• It actively promotes scientific temper through outreach activities.</li> <li>• Faculty members contribute to national science policy formulation.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mugger Crocodile</b></p> <p><b>Why in News</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A probe found that the banned pesticide <b>Aldrin</b> caused the death of <b>Mugger Crocodiles</b> in Rajasthan's <b>Chandraloi River.</b></li> </ul> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p><b>Species Profile</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scientific Name:</b> <b>Crocodylus palustris.</b></li> <li>• It is a medium-sized crocodile with the <b>broadest snout among living crocodilians.</b></li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #e8f5e9; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>Aldrin Pesticide</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aldrin is an <b>organochlorine pesticide.</b></li> <li>• It is banned in India due to its long-term environmental persistence.</li> <li>• It accumulates through the food chain and affects the nervous system of humans and wildlife.</li> </ul> </div>

- It inhabits rivers, lakes, marshes and other freshwater ecosystems.

#### Distribution and Ecology

- The species occurs in **India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan and Iran.**
- It is a hole-nesting species that breeds during the dry season.
- Its diet mainly includes fish, frogs, crustaceans and insects.

#### Conservation Status

- **IUCN Red List: Vulnerable.**
- **CITES: Appendix I.**
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I.**

## Defence

### Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR)

 PIB

#### [DRDO conducts successful flight-test of Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket](#)

Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight-test of Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR) at the...



#### Why in News


- **DRDO** successfully flight-tested the **Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR)** at **ITR Chandipur, Odisha.**

#### Development Ecosystem

- The rocket has been developed by **ARDE, HEMRL, RCI** and **DRDL** under **DRDO.**
- It is designed for the **Pinaka Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS)** of the Indian Army.

#### Operational Capabilities

- It is an extended-range precision-guided rocket.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The system has a strike range of approximately <b>120 km</b>.</li> <li>• It can engage enemy artillery, command centres and logistics installations.</li> </ul> <p>Technological Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rocket is <b>backward compatible</b> with existing Pinaka launchers.</li> <li>• It uses a guidance system that significantly enhances accuracy.</li> <li>• Guided Pinaka launchers carry <b>eight guided rockets</b> due to additional electronics.</li> </ul>
<b>Space</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Drishti-10 Starliner</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p><small>TH   The Hindu</small></p> <p><a href="#">Navy's Drishti-10 UAV crashes near Gujarat's Porbandar; inquiry ordered</a></p> <p><small>A Board of Inquiry (BoI) has been ordered after an Indian Navy Drishti-10 Starliner unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) crashed near Dharampur...</small></p> </div>  <p><b>Why in News</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Indian Navy <b>Drishti-10 Starliner UAV</b> crashed during a routine training sortie in <b>Porbandar, Gujarat</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Platform Overview</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is an indigenous <b>Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) UAV</b>.</li> <li>• It is based on <b>Elbit Systems' Hermes-900</b> platform.</li> <li>• It is manufactured by <b>Adani Defence and Aerospace</b> under a technology transfer agreement.</li> </ul> <p><b>Operational Role</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is designed for <b>Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR)</b> missions.</li> </ul>

- It enhances maritime and border security capabilities.

#### Technical Specifications

- The UAV can operate continuously for up to **36 hours**.
- It can carry payloads of up to **450 kg**.
- It supports **SATCOM-based beyond-line-of-sight operations**.

#### Certification and Significance

- It is certified under **NATO STANAG 4671** airworthiness standards.
- The certification enables safe operation in segregated and unsegregated airspace.
- It requires comparatively low maintenance and offers operational efficiency.

## Uttar Pradesh in News

### Chief Minister Teacher Cashless Medical Scheme

 The Times of India

#### [CM scheme offers cashless treatment for teachers](#)

Kanpur launches CM's cashless medical scheme for 11484 teachers, staff and dependents, offering treatment up to Rs 5 lakh; statewide rollout...



#### Why in News

- **Uttar Pradesh** launched the **Mukhyamantri Shikshak Cashless Chikitsa Yojana** in **Varanasi** on 8 July 2026.

#### Key Features

- Provides **cashless treatment up to ₹5 lakh per family per year**.
- Covers **12–15 lakh beneficiaries**, including teachers, non-teaching staff, **Shiksha Mitras**, instructors, cooks and **KGBV** staff.

- Treatment is available in **government and empanelled private hospitals.**

#### Implementation

- Implemented through **SACHIS (State Agency for Comprehensive Health and Integrated Services).**
- Modelled on **Ayushman Bharat–PMJAY.**
- The **UP Government** will bear the entire premium cost of about **₹447 crore annually.**

#### Additional Social Security

- An **MoU with SBI** provides **group life, accident and disability insurance** to around **10 lakh employees.**
- Teachers, Shiksha Mitras and instructors will receive **life insurance cover up to ₹1 crore,** with the premium paid by the State Government.

#### Important Facts

- **Ayushman Bharat–PMJAY** was launched in 2018.
- **SACHIS** is the nodal agency for implementation.
- **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs)** are residential schools for girls from disadvantaged groups.