SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

14-11-2026

SHATAYU Portal

pib.gov.in
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Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility ...

5 days ago — The platform seeks to bridge the gap between professionally trained geriatric caregivers and **senior** citizens, **their** families and institutions ... Read more

Why in News?

- The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** is strengthening geriatric care through the SHATAYU Portal.

About the Portal

- **SHATAYU** stands for *Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility*.
- It was launched on **22 May 2026** by the **Department of Social Justice and Empowerment**.

Key Features

- It connects trained geriatric caregivers with senior citizens, families and institutions.
- Its national directory lists **30,151 caregivers**, searchable by State/UT and district.
- It provides caregiver profiles, enrolment tracking, OTP-based callback verification and feedback mechanisms.
- It supports both **full-time and hourly caregiving**, while directory searches and callback requests are free.

Water Rail

The Times of India

Water rail bird spotted at TS Chanakya wetland in Navi Mumbai

Water rail (Rallus aquaticus) spotted at TS Chanakya wetland, Navi Mumbai, after nearly 8 years; migratory bird seen by photographer Yash...



Why in News?

- An uncommon **Water Rail (Rallus aquaticus)** was sighted at TS Chanakya wetlands in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Habitat and Distribution

- It belongs to the family **Rallidae** and inhabits well-vegetated wetlands across Europe, Asia and North Africa.

- Northern and eastern populations are migratory, while warmer-region populations are generally resident.
- In the Indian subcontinent, it visits Kashmir during summer and winters in eastern Pakistan and northwestern India.

Key Features

- It measures around **23–28 cm** and has brown upperparts, blue-grey underparts, black flank barring and a long reddish bill.
- Its laterally flattened body helps it move through dense reed beds.
- **IUCN Status: Least Concern.**

Willow Warbler

The Hindu

Migratory bird willow warbler spotted and recorded in Mangaluru

Willow Warbler spotted in Mangaluru; first Karnataka record and fifth in India, per birders Nayak and Goveas.



Why in News?

- A Willow Warbler was recorded at **Kenjar grasslands near Mangaluru**, believed to be Karnataka's first sighting and India's fifth confirmed record.

Habitat and Distribution



- Scientific Name: **Phylloscopus trochilus**.
- It is a widespread insectivorous songbird that breeds across Europe and the Palearctic.
- Almost its entire population migrates to **sub-Saharan Africa** during winter.
- It inhabits open woodlands, gardens, orchards, hedges and pastures.

Key Features

- It is approximately **11 cm long**, with a wingspan of around **19 cm**.
- It has greenish-brown upperparts and off-white to yellowish underparts.
- **IUCN Status: Least Concern.**

Kurumba Tribe

TH The Hindu

Kurumba: a language and community fighting for visibility

The Kurumbas of Keralam are an Adivasi community with a population of only 2719 as of 2024, who speak Kurumba, an oral language without a...



Why in News?

- Increased migration among the Kurumbas has emerged as a threat to the survival of their indigenous language.

Distribution and Status

- They primarily inhabit the hilly forest regions of **Attappady in Palakkad district, Kerala**.
- They are also found in the Cardamom and Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu.
- They are classified as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)**.

Society and Culture

- They speak **Kurumba**, an oral language without a script.
- They worship nature, forests, mountains, rivers and ancestors.
- Their deities are represented through wooden or stone sculptures placed in small huts called **Kaavu**.
- Their traditional livelihoods include forest-based activities, supplemented by wage labour.

Mississippi River

MI Marine Insight

4 American Heritage Crew Sue Tanker Owner And Manager Over Mississippi River Crash

American Heritage crew members have sued the owner and manager of the tanker Atlantic Asphalt over the Mississippi River collision in New...



Why in News?

- A tanker collided with a passenger cruise ship on the **Mississippi River near New Orleans, USA**, triggering rescue operations.



Origin and Course

- It originates from **Lake Itasca in Minnesota** and flows southwards through the United States.
- It empties into the **Gulf of Mexico** through a vast delta southeast of New Orleans.
- The river is more than **3,700 km long** and lies entirely within the USA.

Tributaries and Drainage

- Its major tributaries include the **Missouri River** from the west and the **Ohio River** from the east.
- The Mississippi River basin covers approximately **1.26 million square miles**, making it North America's largest drainage basin by area.
- The combined Mississippi–Missouri river system is among the world's longest river systems.

Disporopsis crispata

Why in News?

- Researchers discovered **Disporopsis crispata** in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh, marking the first recorded occurrence of the genus in India.



Habitat and Distribution

- It was discovered in the **Vijoynagar area** at elevations of **2,500–2,800 metres**.
- It grows on damp slopes in temperate forests dominated by mixed rhododendron and bamboo vegetation.
- The genus was previously recorded mainly in Myanmar, China, Taiwan, the Philippines and other parts of Southeast Asia.

Key Features

- It is distinguished by strongly wavy leaf margins, reddish stems and white-and-green flowers.
- Its stems grow around **30–80 cm** tall, while its lance-shaped leaves measure **5–15 cm**.
- It flowers during **May–June**, with fruiting from **July–December**.

Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPVFRA)

The New Indian Express

Empowering farmers is key to India's agricultural biodiversity: Dr P K Mishra

The event also marked 25 years of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001, which balances the rights of plant...



Why in News?

- The **22nd Foundation Day** of the PPVFRA was recently celebrated.

About the Authority

- It is a statutory body established on **11 November 2005** under the **Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001**.
- It functions under the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare** and is headquartered in **New Delhi.**

Objectives and Functions

- It grants intellectual property rights to plant breeders for developing new plant varieties.
- It recognises farmers and communities for conserving traditional varieties and biodiversity.
- It protects farmers' rights to save, use, sow, resow, exchange, share and sell farm-saved seeds of registered varieties.
- It registers new, essentially derived and extant plant varieties.
- It maintains the **National Register of Plant Varieties (NRPV)** and the **National Gene Bank**.

Composition

- The Authority is headed by a **Chairperson**, who serves as its Chief Executive.
- It has **15 members**, including eight ex-officio members, representatives from State Agriculture Universities and Governments, and nominated representatives of farmers, tribal organisations, the seed industry and women's organisations.
- The **Registrar General** is its ex-officio Member Secretary.

Other Important News of the day

Environment

Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary

Deccan Chronicle

Eturnagaram Sanctuary Turns Into a Transit Corridor for Sand Lorries

Round-the-clock truck movement is disturbing wildlife, while the delay in finalising the eco-sensitive zone notification limits regulatory...



Why in News?

- Movement of sand-laden lorries through Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary is disturbing wildlife habitats.

Location and Physical Features

- It is located in **Warangal district, Telangana**, near the borders of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- Established in **1952**, it covers approximately **812 sq. km**.
- **Dayyam Vagu** divides the sanctuary into two parts, while the **Godavari River** also passes through it.
- The famous **Sammakka-Saralamma Temple** is situated within the sanctuary.

Flora and Fauna

- It is characterised by **southern tropical dry deciduous forests**, with teak (*Tectona grandis*) as an important species.
- Other vegetation includes *Terminalia* and *Anogeissus*.
- Important fauna include tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild dog, wolf, gaur, sambar, nilgai and four-horned antelope.
- It lies within the **Deccan Peninsula biogeographic region**.

Defence

Exercise Mitra Shakti 2026

www.pib.gov.in

INDIAN DEFENCE FORCES CONTINGENT DEPARTS FOR INDIA–SRI LANKA JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE 'MITRA SHAKTI 2026'

A 170-member Indian Defence Forces contingent departed today for Sri Lanka, to participate in the 12th edition of India–Sri Lanka joint...



Why in News?

- A **170-member Indian contingent** departed to participate in the 12th edition of Exercise Mitra Shakti.

About the Exercise

- It is an annual bilateral military exercise between **India and Sri Lanka**, conducted alternately in both countries.
- Its objective is to enhance joint capabilities for **counter-terrorism operations in semi-urban environments under a UN mandate**.

Key Features

- The Indian contingent includes troops from the **Rajputana Rifles**, other Army arms and services, and the Indian Air Force.
- Training includes joint planning, urban patrolling, roadblocks, convoy protection and area ambush operations.

Science and Technology

Pioxaniliprole

The Indian Express

Knowledge Nugget | Pioxaniliprole: What makes India's first indigenously developed insecticide significant?

India's first indigenously discovered insecticide molecule, Pioxaniliprole, has received regulatory approval for use on four crops.



Why in News?

- **PI Industries Ltd's Pioxaniliprole** received approval from the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIBRC).

About Pioxaniliprole

- It is India's first **indigenously discovered insecticide molecule**.
- It belongs to the **anthranilic diamide** class of insecticides.

Mechanism and Applications

- It targets **ryanodine receptors (RyRs)** in insect muscle cells, causing uncontrolled calcium-ion release.

	➢ This disrupts muscle function, resulting in feeding cessation, paralysis and eventual death. ➢ It is effective against pests such as **yellow stem borer, leaf folder, fall armyworm, tobacco cutworm, fruit borer and pod borer**.

Uttar Pradesh in News

Uttar Pradesh Attracts Investment Proposals Worth ₹50 Lakh Crore

ET Government

UP attracts over ₹50 lakh crore in investments in 9.5 years: CM Yogi Adityanath

Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath Uttar Pradesh has received investment proposals worth more than ₹50 lakh crore over the last...



Why in News?

- CM Yogi Adityanath stated that UP received investment proposals exceeding **₹50 lakh crore** over nine-and-a-half years, with over ₹15 lakh crore reaching the implementation/ground-breaking stage.

Industrial Growth

- Factories increased from **14,000 to over 35,000**.
- The state has around **one crore MSMEs** and over **25,000 startups**.
- UP accounts for approximately **18.5% of India's tractor market**.
- The state has introduced over **36 sector-specific policies**.

Infrastructure Development

- Major infrastructure includes expressways, airports and **Dedicated Freight Corridors**.
- The **YEIDA region** is being developed across approximately 25,000 hectares.
- Jewar International Airport is expected to strengthen industrial and logistics connectivity.
- Major projects include semiconductor, electronics, medical device, toy and data centre parks.

Economic Significance

- UP aims to become a **$1 trillion economy**.
- Skill development partnerships involve companies such as Tata, Samsung, Microsoft, IBM and Infosys.
- Industrial reforms and improved connectivity aim to strengthen investment and Ease of Doing Business.