SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

15-11-2026

Periyar River

The New Indian Express

Repeat offenders, brokers keep illegal Periyar sand trade alive

KOCHI: Repeated arrests and seizures of boats and vehicles have failed to deter illegal sand mining along the Periyar, with suspects...



Why in News?

- Illegal sand mining along the Periyar River continues despite arrests and seizures of boats and vehicles.

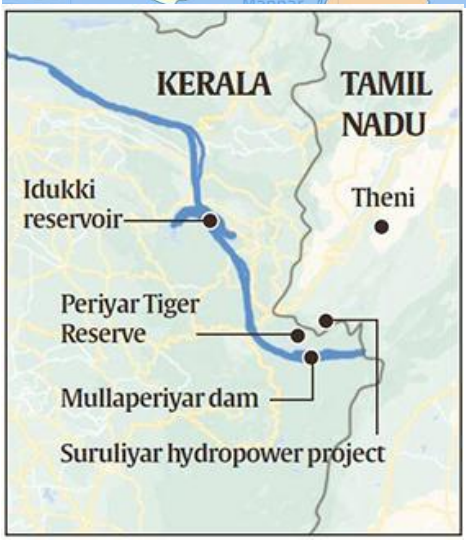
Origin and Course

- It is the **longest river in Kerala**, with a length of approximately **244 km**.
- It originates in the **Sivagiri Hills of the Western Ghats**, near the Kerala–Tamil Nadu border.
- It flows through Periyar National Park and Periyar Lake, an artificial reservoir created in **1895**.
- It ultimately drains into the **Arabian Sea**, north of Kochi.
- It is also known as the **lifeline of Kerala** because of its importance for drinking water, irrigation and power generation.



Tributaries and Projects

- Major tributaries include **Muthirapuzha, Mullayar, Cheruthoni, Perinjankutti and Edamala**.
- The **Idukki Hydroelectric Project** is a major hydropower project associated with the river.
- Other dams include **Mullaperiyar, Neriyamangalam, Pallivasal, Panniyar, Kundalam and Chenkulam**.
- **Kalady**, the birthplace of Adi Shankaracharya, is situated on its bank.



International Maritime Organization (IMO)

International Maritime Organization

IMO Council urges stronger protection of seafarers amid threats to global shipping

Council condemns attacks on merchant shipping in the Red Sea and Black Sea, mourns loss of 25th seafarer since onset of Strait of Hormuz...



Why in News?

- The IMO Council reaffirmed its commitment to the safety, security, health and well-being of seafarers amid threats to international shipping.

About IMO

- It is a **specialised agency of the United Nations** responsible for improving the safety and security of international shipping and preventing marine pollution from ships.
- It aims to establish a fair and effective regulatory framework for the global shipping industry.
- It was established in **1948** as the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) and became a UN specialised agency in **1959**.
- It was renamed the **International Maritime Organization in 1982**.

Governance and Membership

- **Assembly:** The highest governing body, comprising all member states; it meets once every two years and approves the work programme and budget.
- **Council:** The executive organ, consisting of **40 elected members**, which supervises the organisation's work.
- **Committees:** Five major committees develop and review international maritime regulations and guidelines.
- **Membership: 176 Member States**; India has been a member since **1959**.
- **Headquarters: London, United Kingdom**.

Cyclone Akvan

Why in News?

The Hindu

Depression likely to become cyclone, move towards A.P.; Tamil Nadu, Odisha to get rain: IMD

Depression over southeast Bay of Bengal is expected to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by November 17, with rain and heavy winds...



- On **16 November 2026**, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a pre-cyclone watch for the Andhra Pradesh and adjoining south Odisha coasts as a Bay of Bengal low-pressure area was forecast to develop into **Cyclone Akvan**.

Forecast and Expected Impact

- The system was forecast to intensify into a **severe cyclonic storm by 17 November** and reach the Andhra Pradesh coast around **19 November** as a very severe cyclonic storm.
- Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam were expected to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall, with isolated extremely heavy rainfall, from **18–20 November**.
- Gale winds of **115–125 km/h**, with gusts of **135–145 km/h**, were forecast along the Andhra Pradesh coast on 18–19 November.
- Authorities advised fishermen to remain ashore.

Important Facts

- **Regional Warning Centre:** The IMD is responsible for tropical cyclone forecasts, naming and issuing warnings in the Northern Indian Ocean.
- **Wind Measurement:** The IMD uses a **three-minute average** for maximum sustained wind speed, while the US National Hurricane Center uses a one-minute average.
- **Landfall:** It occurs when the centre of a tropical cyclone crosses the coastline; damaging winds and rainfall may reach land before landfall.
- **Pre-Cyclone Watch:** The IMD normally issues it at least **72 hours before** the expected onset of adverse weather associated with a cyclone.

Other Important News of the day

Places in News

Bum La Pass

DH Deccan Herald

Bum La Pass: Experiencing army life at India-China border's high altitude

India-China border: Experience the harsh weather conditions faced by soldiers at Bum La Pass, situated at 15200 ft in Arunachal Pradesh near...



Why in News?

- Bum La Pass, located on the India–China border near Tawang, is significant for its strategic and historical importance.

Location and Features

- It is a high-altitude mountain pass in **Arunachal Pradesh**, situated at approximately **15,200 feet (4,633 metres)**.
- It lies along the sensitive India–China border in the **Eastern Himalayas**.

- It is an officially agreed **Border Personnel Meeting (BPM) point** between the Indian Army and China's People's Liberation Army (PLA).

Historical Significance

- The Bum La sector witnessed intense fighting during the **1962 India-China War**.
- **Subedar Joginder Singh**, awarded the Param Vir Chakra posthumously, fought against Chinese forces in this sector.
- The pass is also associated with the **Dalai Lama's escape from Tibet to India in 1959**.

Sports

India Wins Ninth Under-19 Asia Cup Title

The New Indian Express

India clinch U-19 Asia Cup with thrilling last-ball win over Pakistan

Chasing a daunting target of 338, India finished at 339 for nine in 50 overs, pulling off a dramatic victory after a series of twists and...



Why in News?

- India won its record-extending **ninth Under-19 Asia Cup title** on **14 November 2026**, defeating Pakistan by one wicket in the final at **Al Amerat Cricket Ground, Muscat, Oman**.

Match Highlights

- India chased Pakistan's target of **338 runs**, scoring **339/9 in 50 overs**.
- **Mohit Ulva** remained unbeaten on 49 off 26 balls and hit the winning boundary.
- Captain **Lakshya Raichandani** scored 80, while **Aaryavir Sehwag** contributed 58.
- Sehwag was named **Player of the Tournament**.
- India's Kavya Patel took **4/68**, while Chigurupati Venkata took **3/40**.

Science and Technology

Alzheimer's Disease

Why in News?

- A review of studies found that people with

Science Daily

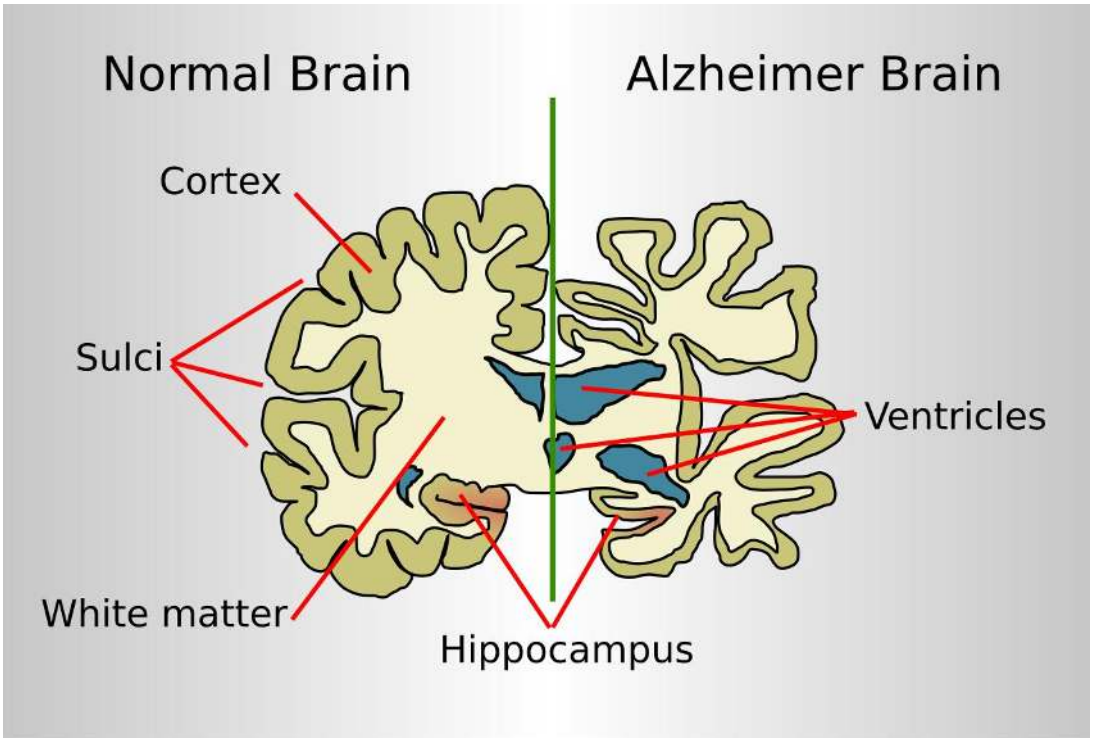
MIT scientists discover a surprising way to boost the brain's nighttime cleaning system

MIT scientists discovered that carefully timed bursts of gentle pink noise during sleep can strengthen the brain's natural cleaning waves,...



diabetes could have a **53% higher risk** of Alzheimer's disease than those without the metabolic disorder.

About the Disease



- Alzheimer's is a progressive **neurodegenerative disorder** characterised by memory loss, cognitive decline and behavioural impairment.
- It is the most common cause of dementia, accounting for approximately **60–80% of global dementia cases**.
- It generally affects people aged **65 years and above**.

Causes and Mechanism

- Its exact cause is not fully understood and may involve genetic, environmental and lifestyle factors.
- The accumulation of **amyloid-beta (Aβ) plaques** in the brain is a key feature of its pathology.
- The disease disrupts communication between brain cells, resulting in progressive cognitive and functional decline.

Symptoms and Treatment

- Early symptoms include forgetting recent events and conversations.

	➢ Advanced stages can involve severe memory loss and difficulty performing everyday activities. ➢ There is currently **no cure**, although medicines and therapies can temporarily manage symptoms.

Uttar Pradesh in News

CNH Industrial Tractor Plant at Jewar

DD News

New Tractor Plant in UP's Jewar to Generate 1,200 Direct Jobs

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday virtually laid the foundation stone for a tractor manufacturing plant in the Yamuna...



Why in News?

- CM Yogi Adityanath laid the foundation stone for a **CNH Industrial tractor manufacturing plant** in the YEIDA region of Jewar.

Project Details

- **Investment:** Over ₹1,200 crore.
- **Location:** Sector 8D, YEIDA, Gautam Buddha Nagar.
- **Land:** Approximately 100 acres.
- **Employment:** Around **1,200 direct jobs**, besides indirect employment.

Industrial and Agricultural Significance

- The plant will strengthen tractor manufacturing and agricultural machinery production.
- UP accounts for approximately **18.5% of India's tractor market**.
- It will support farm mechanisation, modern manufacturing and local supply chains.

Regional Development

- The project will strengthen Jewar as an emerging **industrial, economic and logistics hub**.
- The YEIDA region is also developing semiconductor, electronics, medical device, toy and MSME parks, supported by the upcoming **Noida International Airport**.