

SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

20-08-2026

Impatiens nimspurjai

 The Times of India

Meet the new Himalayan plant named after the legendary mountaineer Nirmal Purja: Nimsdai's legacy blooms

Days after the unfortunate demise of the legendary mountaineer, Nirmal 'Nimsdai' Purja, the Himalayas have decided to give him back by...



Why in News: A newly discovered Himalayan plant species, *Impatiens nimspurjai*, was named in honour of Nepali mountaineer *Nirmal Purja*.

Botanical Profile

- It belongs to the **touch-me-not family** and is **endemic to western Nepal**.
- It grows at **2,800–2,900 m** in moist, humus-rich temperate forests and forest margins.
- The species is closely related to *Impatiens radiata*, *I. harae* and *I. wallichii*.

Distinctive Features

- It is an **annual herb** that can grow up to nearly one metre.
- It has **sessile, oblong-to-lanceolate leaves** and small flower clusters with **yellow and purple coloration**.
- Its name combines "**Nims Purja**" with "**jai**", the Nepali word for jasmine.



Friends of MY Bharat Initiative

PIB

'Friends of MY Bharat': A New Global Youth Connect Inspired by PM Narendra Modi's Vision of Viksit Bharat

'Friends of MY Bharat': A New Global Youth Connect Inspired by PM Narendra Modi's Vision of Viksit Bharat...



Why in News: The **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** launched the **'Friends of MY Bharat'** digital initiative to engage Indian-origin youth worldwide.

Key Features

- The initiative operates through the **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)** platform and connects global Indian youth with nation-building programmes.
- It provides volunteering opportunities in **education, environmental protection, health awareness, disaster relief and cultural preservation**.
- A **'Know Your India'** section provides information on India's culture, heritage, history, tourism and prominent leaders.

MY Bharat Platform

- **MY Bharat** was launched in **October 2023** under the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**.
- It promotes **volunteering, skill development, leadership and civic participation** by connecting government, educational institutions, NGOs and industry.

Dimna Lake

TOI The Times of India

Dimna Lake's Red Fort recognition puts Jamshedpur's water legacy in national spotlight

Dimna Lake in Jamshedpur gains national spotlight as a Red Fort gallery is named after it on Independence Day, highlighting its 80-year...

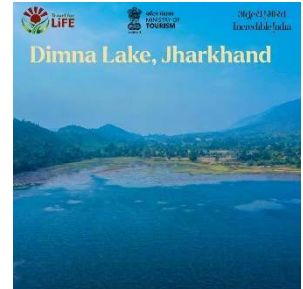


Why in News: **Dimna Lake**, Jamshedpur's important reservoir, was

among 25 Indian lakes commemorated through spectator galleries during the **80th Independence Day celebrations** at the Red Fort.

Geographical and Historical Profile

- Dimna Lake is an **artificial lake** in Jamshedpur, **Jharkhand**, located at the foothills of the **Dalma Range**.
- It was constructed by **Tata Steel** under the **Dimna Nala Water Supply Scheme**.
- Construction began in **1940** and was completed in **1944**, with water supply beginning on **17 April 1944**.



Water and Tourism Significance

- The lake was created by damming the **Subarnarekha River** and covers about **27 sq km**.
- It was designed with a storage capacity of approximately **7,500 million gallons**.
- It is located near **Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary** and supports recreational activities such as **jet skiing, rowing and water scooting**.

Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary — Jharkhand

- Location: Dalma Hills, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, near Jamshedpur, on the Chotanagpur Plateau.
- Established: Notified in 1976 under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- Area: 193.51 km²; its Eco-Sensitive Zone covers 522.98 km².
- Vegetation: Predominantly Dry Peninsular Sal and Northern Dry Mixed Deciduous forests.
- Key Fauna: Particularly important for Indian elephants; also supports sloth bear, barking deer, wild boar, porcupine, pangolin and Indian giant squirrel.

- **Geographical Significance:** Located along the Subarnarekha River system and forms an important elephant habitat/corridor in the region.

Sea Lice



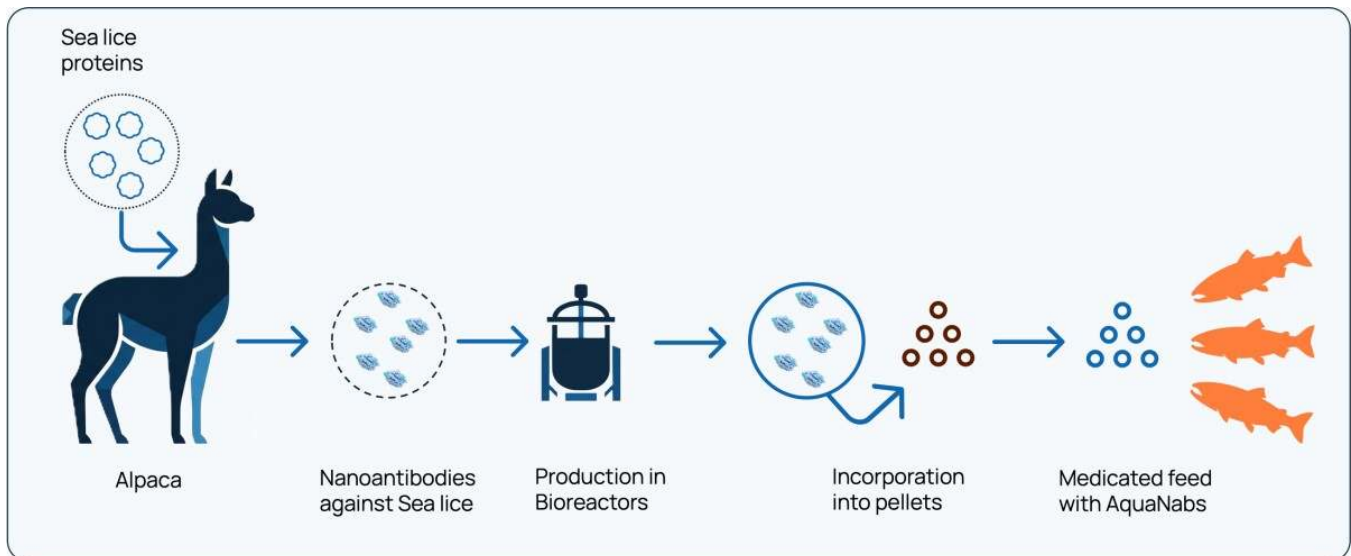
Food Processing Australia

Nanoantibody technology to address aquaculture challenges

German biotech AquaNab is helping to solve a salmon farming challenge with a new nanoantibody technology. With sea lice costing the...



Why in News: A German biotech startup is developing a **feed-based nanoantibody treatment** for sea lice, with potential applications against other aquaculture diseases.



Biological Profile

- “Sea lice” are larvae of certain **jellyfish and sea anemones** that live in marine waters and are distinct from human head lice.
- They are tiny, approximately **2–3 mm**, and drift with ocean currents.

- Their stings can cause **seabather's eruption**, a skin rash caused when pressure triggers their stinging cells.

Health Effects

- The rash is generally **itchy, red and raised** and commonly affects areas covered by swimwear.
- Severe cases may cause **abdominal pain, diarrhoea, fever, nausea and vomiting**, while most rashes resolve within about two weeks.

National Medical Commission

 ETV Bharat

Unique Identification Number Proposed For All Registered Medical Practitioners

New Delhi: The National Medical Commission has proposed a centrally generated unique identification number for every registered medical...



Why in News: The **National Medical Commission (NMC)** has proposed a **UID system for doctors** that could enable nationwide medical practice without separate state registrations.

Legal and Institutional Framework

- The NMC is a **statutory body** established under the **National Medical Commission Act, 2019**, which came into force on **25 September 2020**.
- It replaced the **Medical Council of India (MCI)** and is India's apex regulator for medical education, professionals and institutions.
- Its headquarters is in **New Delhi**.

Major Functions

- The NMC regulates **medical education, professional registration, medical institutions and ethical standards**.
- It assesses healthcare requirements and coordinates with **State Medical Councils and autonomous boards**.

- It also frames guidelines for fees covering 50% of seats in private medical institutions and deemed universities.

Composition

- The NMC has 33 members, comprising the Chairperson, 10 ex-officio members and 22 part-time members.
- Its four autonomous boards cover undergraduate education, postgraduate education, medical assessment and rating, and ethics and medical registration.
- The Medical Advisory Council provides a platform for States and UTs to present their views to the NMC.

Glyphosate

 Down To Earth

Himachal forest department to file FIR over alleged glyphosate use on forest land for pea cultivation

Himachal Pradesh's forest department is set to file FIRs over alleged illegal glyphosate use on forest land for pea cultivation in Mandi...



Why in News: Environmental concerns have been raised over the alleged use of **glyphosate** on forest department land for pea cultivation in parts of Himachal Pradesh.

Chemical and Agricultural Profile

- **Glyphosate** is a **broad-spectrum herbicide** used to control grasses, broadleaf plants and woody plants.
- It inhibits **EPSP synthase**, an enzyme essential for producing certain amino acids required for plant growth.
- It is effective mainly against plants growing **above water**.

Environmental Aspects

- Glyphosate binds strongly to **soil particles**, reducing its leaching into groundwater, and is degraded by microbes in soil and water.

- However, it does not degrade rapidly within plants, allowing **residues to occur in food products**.
- In India, glyphosate is regulated under the **Insecticides Act, 1968**.

Other Important News of the day

Places in News

Sawalkote Hydroelectric Project

 Greater Kashmir

[DCs of Udhampur, Ramban review progress of 1,800 MW Sawalkote Hydroelectric Project](#)

Deputy Commissioners of Ramban and Udhampur, along with senior district officials, on Wednesday visited the headquarters of the Sawalkote...



Why in News: Officials recently reviewed progress of the **1,856 MW Sawalkote Hydroelectric Project** on the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir.

Project Profile

- The project is located on the **Chenab River** across **Udhampur and Ramban districts** and is being developed by **NHPC**.
- It is a **run-of-the-river** project located between the **Baglihar** project upstream and **Salal** project downstream.
- It will feature a **192.5-metre concrete gravity dam**, a reservoir exceeding **1,100 hectares**, nine turbines and an underground power station.

Strategic Significance

- The project is expected to generate around **8,000 million units of electricity annually** and may support downstream flood management.
- It is considered important for India's utilisation of its share of the **western rivers under the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty**.

	The source describes it as the first major hydropower project on the Indus river system to receive environmental clearance following India's 23 April 2025 suspension of the IWT.
Environment	Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary
	TT Telegraph India <u>Black melanistic leopard cub spotted near Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary in Darjeeling hills</u> A leopard with two cubs, one of which is a black melanistic leopard (right), on the eastern fringes of the Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary on the...  Why in News: A black melanistic leopard cub was recently spotted near the Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary in the Darjeeling hills. Geographical Profile - Located in West Bengal, the sanctuary was established in 1915, making it one of India's oldest sanctuaries. - It forms the southeastern extension of Singalila National Park and lies in the Gangetic Plain biogeographic zone. - Its elevation ranges from 1,500–2,600 m, with temperate and alpine forests containing oak, pine and birch. Wildlife and Melanism - Important fauna include barking deer, wild boar, Himalayan black bear, Indian leopard, jungle cat, rhesus monkey, Assam macaque and Himalayan flying squirrel. - Melanism refers to excessive dark pigmentation caused primarily by genetic variation, producing an almost completely black coat in melanistic leopards.

Science and Technology

Methamphetamine

 News On AIR

[DRI Foils Attempt to Illegally Export 56 Kg Methamphetamine to Saudi Arabia, Two Arrested](#)

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has foiled an attempt to illegally export around 56 kilograms of methamphetamine from India to...



Why in News: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) recently foiled an attempt to illegally export a significant quantity of **methamphetamine** from India to Saudi Arabia.

Chemical and Physiological Profile

- **Methamphetamine** is a powerful and highly addictive **central nervous system stimulant**, also known as **meth, ice or crystal**.
- It belongs to the **amphetamine class** and commonly occurs as a white, crystalline, water-soluble powder.
- It primarily affects the neurotransmitter **dopamine**.

Health Effects

- It can cause increased activity, reduced appetite and **euphoria**, while high doses may cause **psychosis, seizures, brain haemorrhage and skeletal-muscle breakdown**.

Uttar Pradesh in News

Parichha Dam Gets World Heritage Irrigation Recognition

 News On AIR

[Jhansi's Historic Parichha Dam Named World Heritage Irrigation Structure](#)

In Uttar Pradesh, the 140-year-old 'Parichha Dam' in Jhansi has now received international recognition.



Why in News: The **140-year-old Parichha Dam** in Jhansi has been recognised as a **World Heritage Irrigation Structure (WHIS)** by the **International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)**.

Historical Significance

- The weir is built across the **Betwa River**; **Captain Strachey** proposed the Bundelkhand canal system in **1855**.
- Construction began in **1881** at **₹40 lakh**, and the canal system became operational in **1886**.
- **WHIS** recognition is given to irrigation structures that are **over 100 years old and still functional**.
- The award will be conferred in **October** during the **26th ICID International Congress in France**.

Regional Significance

- **Sukwa-Dukwan Weir, Jhansi**, received ICID heritage recognition in **2022**.
- Parichha Weir is also expected to play a role in the **Ken-Betwa river-linking project**.