

SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

04-07-2026

LokOS Platform



PIB

LokOS: A Digital Backbone for Rural Livelihoods

26th Strengthening Transparency and Financial Inclusion. Strengthening Digital Governance under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural...



Why in News

- The **LokOS Platform** has significantly expanded its reach across India, strengthening the digital transformation of rural community institutions.

Governance Architecture

- LokOS (Lok = People, OS = Operating System) operates under the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana– National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)**.
- It provides a unified digital platform for managing **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)**, **Village Organizations (VOs)**, and **Cluster Level Federations (CLFs)**.
- The platform currently covers **34 States and Union Territories**.



Digital Inclusion Dimensions

- The web application facilitates creation, approval, and management of SHGs, VOs, CLFs, and members.
- The mobile application enables field-level recording and management of **Community-Based Organization (CBO)** activities.
- It generates Aadhaar-linked and bank-linked digital identities for institutions and members.

Financial and Livelihood Support

- The platform digitally records savings, loans, repayments, and other financial transactions.
- It captures livelihood profiles to support convergence with government schemes.
- It supports the **Lakhpati Didi Initiative** through beneficiary tracking and digital monitoring.

Administrative Utility

- It provides role-based administration from village to national level.
- It offers real-time dashboards and one-click reports for evidence-based decision making.

National Water Awards

 News On AIR

Jal Shakti Ministry launches 7th National Water Awards

Ministry of Jal Shakti has launched the 7th National Water Awards on the Rashtriya Puraskar portal of Ministry of Home Affairs.



Why in News

- The **Ministry of Jal Shakti** has launched the **7th National Water Awards** through the **Rashtriya Puraskar Portal**.

Institutional Framework

- The awards were instituted in **2018**.
- They are administered by the **Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation**.
- The awards promote sustainable water management practices.

Award Categories

- Categories include **Best State**, **Best District**, and **Best Urban Local Body**.
- Awards are also given for the **Best Implemented Water Project**.
- Recognition is provided for **CSR initiatives in the water sector**.

Objectives

- They encourage a holistic approach towards management of surface and groundwater resources.
- They seek to increase public awareness regarding water conservation.
- They promote efficient water-use practices across sectors.

Eligibility and Recognition

- Eligible participants include States, Districts, Urban Local Bodies, industries, and dam-owning agencies.
- Winners receive a **Trophy and Citation**.
- Participation encourages innovation in water governance.

Specialised Investment Fund (SIF)

bt Business Today

[JioBlackRock's ₹10 lakh entry Prism fund opens a new investment avenue. Here's how it works, its risks and who should invest](#)



JioBlackRock Asset Management has expanded into India's newly introduced Specialised Investment Fund (SIF) segment with the Prism Hybrid...

Why in News

- **Specialised Investment Funds (SIFs)** have crossed ₹13,814 crore **Assets Under Management (AUM)** shortly after their introduction.

Regulatory Framework

- SIF is a new investment product introduced by **SEBI**.
- It bridges the gap between **Mutual Funds** and **Portfolio Management Services (PMS)**.
- It has been introduced through amendments to the **SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996**.

Investment Features

- The minimum investment requirement is ₹10 lakh per investor.
- SIFs may be **open-ended, closed-ended, or interval-based**.

- SIP and SWP facilities are permitted subject to minimum investment norms.

Categories of Strategies

- Equity strategies include Equity Long-Short Funds and Sector Rotation Long-Short Funds.
- Debt strategies include Debt Long-Short Funds and Sectoral Debt Long-Short Funds.
- Hybrid strategies include Active Asset Allocator Long-Short Funds and Hybrid Long-Short Funds.

Eligibility for Asset Management Companies

- AMCs must have operated for at least 3 years with average AUM of ₹10,000 crore.
- Alternatively, the AMC must appoint a Chief Investment Officer (CIO) with at least 10 years experience managing ₹5,000 crore assets.
- An additional fund manager with 3 years experience managing ₹500 crore AUM is mandatory.

Cyttopsis indica (Indian Dory)

Why in News

- Scientists from the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) discovered a new deep-sea fish species, *Cyttopsis indica*, from the Arabian Sea.

 The New Indian Express

[New deep-sea fish discovered in Arabian Sea off Kerala coast](#)

Researchers at CMFRI identified the Indian dory using taxonomic and DNA analysis, correcting a long-standing misidentification of the...

About CMFRI

- CMFRI was established in 1947 and joined ICAR in 1967.
- Its headquarters is located at Kochi, Kerala.
- It conducts research on marine fisheries, mariculture, and India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) resources.

Taxonomic Features

- It belongs to the genus *Cyttopsis*, a primitive group of marine fishes called dories.

- The species has been assigned the common name **Indian Dory**.
- Genetic analysis confirmed it as a distinct species.

Habitat Characteristics

- It was discovered in the **Arabian Sea off southern Kerala**.
- It inhabits depths between **350 and 500 metres** below sea level.
- It survives extreme pressure through accumulation of waxy compounds.

Scientific Importance

- Earlier Indian Ocean specimens were misidentified as *Zenopsis conchifer* or related Atlantic species.
- Morphological and genetic studies established its uniqueness.
- The discovery expands knowledge of India's deep-sea biodiversity.

Giant African Snail

THE Hindu

[Giant African snails enter school campuses in Tirunavaya, raising health concerns for children](#)

The invasive giant African snail (*Lissachatina fulica*) is spreading rapidly across Tirunavaya panchayat and has now entered school campuses.



Why in News

- The invasive **Giant African Snail** is spreading rapidly in Kerala, raising ecological and public health concerns.

Species Profile

- The most destructive species is **Lissachatina fulica**.
- It is listed among the world's worst invasive species.
- It feeds on more than **500 crop and ornamental plant species**.

Distribution and Habitat

- The species is native to East Africa.
- It thrives in warm tropical climates with high humidity.
- It occupies forests, wetlands, agricultural lands, and urban areas.

Biological Characteristics

- It is a **hermaphrodite** species.
- Its shell may reach up to **200 mm** in length.
- The shell is generally light brown with dark vertical stripes.

Health and Ecological Impact

- It carries **Angiostrongylus cantonensis** (Rat Lungworm Parasite).
- The parasite can cause **Eosinophilic Meningitis** in humans.
- The species threatens agriculture, biodiversity, and public health.

Direct Seeded Rice (DSR)

NH National Herald

[Chhattisgarh urges farmers to switch to short-duration crops amid El Niño fears](#)

State unveils contingency plan for delayed monsoon, promotes Direct Seeded Rice and water-saving farming practices.



Why in News

- The **Chhattisgarh Government** has encouraged farmers to adopt **Direct Seeded Rice (DSR)** due to anticipated rainfall uncertainty linked to **El Niño** conditions.

Agricultural Innovation

- DSR involves direct sowing of rice seeds without nursery transplantation.
- It is considered a modern and resource-efficient rice cultivation technique.
- Suitable soils range from **medium-textured loam** to **heavy clay soils**.

Economic and Social Benefits

- DSR eliminates labour-intensive transplantation activities.
- It lowers cultivation costs and improves farm profitability.

- Mechanisation creates new service opportunities and attracts youth participation.

Environmental Significance

- DSR can reduce water use by up to **50%**.
- It lowers greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional paddy cultivation.
- It improves soil conditions for subsequent crops.

Operational Challenges

- The method requires higher seed rates.
- Weed management remains a major constraint.
- Risks include bird damage, lodging, and uneven crop establishment.

Other Important News of the day

Places in News

New Zealand

Why in News

- The Prime Minister of

India is scheduled to visit **New Zealand** along with Indonesia and Australia.

Geographical Setting

- New Zealand is an island nation in **Oceania** located in the **South Pacific Ocean**.
- It lies southeast of Australia and south of Fiji, Tonga, and New Caledonia.
- The country comprises the **North Island** and **South Island** separated by **Cook Strait**.

Physical Features


- Capital city is **Wellington**.
- The highest peak is **Mount Cook (Aoraki)** at 12,316 feet.



The Times of India


[Why Stephens Island in New Zealand is forever linked to one of history's most famous cat stories](#)

Rest of World News: Stephens Island is a tiny, windswept patch of land in the Cook Strait, wedged between New Zealand's North and South...



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Taupō is the largest natural lake. <p>Geological Significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It lies within the Pacific Ring of Fire. • The country experiences frequent earthquakes and volcanic activity. • Mount Ruapehu is one of its major active volcanoes. <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important resources include gold, silver, iron sands, phosphate, and limestone. • Tasman Glacier is the largest glacier in the country.
<p>Environment</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nameri Tiger Reserve</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>TT Telegraph India</p> <p>Tiger population in Assam's Nameri Reserve rises fourfold since 2022</p> <p>The tiger population in Assam's Nameri Tiger Reserve has risen from three in 2022 to 12 by 2025. Assam forest and environment minister...</p> </div> <div style="float: right; text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Why in News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tiger population in Nameri Tiger Reserve has increased fourfold within three years. <p>Geographical Profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is located in Sonitpur district of Assam. • It shares its northern boundary with Pakke Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh. • It comprises Nameri National Park, Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, and adjoining reserve forests. <p>Hydrological Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reserve is drained by the Jia Bhoroli River and its tributaries. • Jia Bhoroli is renowned for the Golden Mahseer, known as the "Tiger of Indian Rivers".

	<p>Ecological Diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation includes tropical evergreen, semi-evergreen, moist deciduous forests, cane brakes, and grasslands. • Important flora include Hollong, Nahor, Simul, Orchids, and medicinal plants. • Major fauna include Tiger, Leopard, Clouded Leopard, Wild Dog, and Asian Elephant. <p>Conservation Importance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reserve is a key breeding site for the endangered White-winged Wood Duck. • It forms an important landscape within the Eastern Himalayan biodiversity region.
<p>Water Bodies in News</p>	<p>Borjuli Wetland</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p> DD News</p> <p><u>Assam's Borjuli wetland notified as Biodiversity Heritage Site for wild rice conservation</u></p> <p>The Borjuli wetland in Assam, known for harbouring a disease and pest-resistant variety of wild rice, has been notified as a Biodiversity...</p>  </div> <p>Why in News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has declared Borjuli Wetland in Assam as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS). <p>Ecological Significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wetland is located in Sonitpur district, Assam. • It harbours Oryza rufipogon, the wild ancestor of cultivated rice Oryza sativa. • The species possesses resistance to pests, diseases, flooding, and salinity.

	<p>Agricultural Relevance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oryza rufipogon is an important genetic resource for developing climate-resilient rice varieties. • It is photosensitive and flowers during November–December. • Its mature seeds shatter quickly after ripening. <p>Legal and Conservation Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 empowers State Governments to notify Biodiversity Heritage Sites. • Such notification is undertaken in consultation with local bodies. • The objective is conservation while improving local community livelihoods. <p>Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHS protect areas with rich biodiversity, endemism, rare species, and wild relatives of cultivated crops. • India's first BHS was Nallur Tamarind Grove, Karnataka (2007). • These sites may also possess cultural, ethical, aesthetic, or evolutionary significance.
<p>Science and Technology</p>	<p>Radio Telemetry</p> <p>Why in News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio telemetry recently aided conservation efforts involving the White-rumped Vulture (Z25) before its death due to collision with a power transmission line. <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><small>THE</small> The Hindu</p> <p><u>Radio telemetry almost saved this vulture</u></p> <p>Radio telemetry provided crucial data for Z25, a White-rumped vulture, but ultimately could not prevent its tragic electrocution.</p>  </div>

Concept and Working

- Radio telemetry uses radio waves to transmit data from remote sources to receiving stations.
- It is widely used in wildlife tracking, weather monitoring, industrial control, and healthcare.
- The technology enables monitoring without direct physical access.



Wildlife Conservation Applications

- It has been used since the 1960s for tracking wildlife movements and behaviour.
- Scientists use it to study migration, habitat use, and survival patterns.
- It supports conservation planning and species management.

Components of the System

- The system consists of a radio transmitter, **radio antenna**, and **radio receiver**.
- Transmitters are attached through collars, ear tags, or wing tags.
- Receivers convert radio signals into audible beeps for location tracking.

Limitations

- Researchers must remain within transmission range unlike **GPS-based tracking**.
- Battery size and lifespan limit long-term monitoring efficiency.

Uttar Pradesh in News

Uttar Pradesh to Get Its First Dedicated Leopard Safari Park

अ Amar Ujala

UP: यहां बन रहा यूपी का पहला तेंदुआ सफारी पार्क, वन्यजीव संरक्षण के साथ पर्यटन को मिलेगी नई उड़ान

उत्तर प्रदेश का पहला तेंदुआ सफारी पार्क पीलीभीत जिले के गोपालपुर वनखंड...



Why in News

- Uttar Pradesh is developing its first dedicated **Leopard Safari Park** on the **Pilibhit–Shahjahanpur border** to promote wildlife conservation and eco-tourism.

Key Highlights

- The park will be developed in **Gopalpur Forest Range** over **1,716 hectares** with an investment of **₹49 crore**.
- It will rehabilitate **rescued, injured, and stray leopards**, helping reduce human-wildlife conflict.
- Facilities include a 25-km safari track, **veterinary hospital**, **50-seat theatre**, and dual-layer fencing.
- The area has suitable habitat with **Kahmaiya and Kataiya lakes** and prey species like **Cheetal** and **Wild Boar**.