

SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

05-07-2026

Medical Innovations Patent Mitra Platform

TNIE The New Indian Express

[National Medical Commission urges medical colleges to use ICMR's 'Patent Mitra' platform](#)

The 'Medical Innovations Patent Mitra' initiative provides fully government-funded support for patent filing and technology transfer,...



Why in News

- **National Medical Commission (NMC)** has directed medical colleges and institutions to utilize ICMR's Medical Innovations Patent Mitra Platform.

Strategic Innovation Ecosystem

- The platform provides **fully government-funded support** for patent filing and technology transfer.
- It promotes **quality patent protection** for innovative biomedical research.
- It helps convert research outcomes into healthcare products and technologies.

Institutional Framework

- The platform was launched by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.
- It operates under the guidance of **NITI Aayog**.
- It is implemented in partnership with the **Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP)** and supported by **DPIIT**.

Technology Commercialisation Dimensions

- It facilitates technology transfer from research institutions to industry.

- It accelerates commercialization of indigenous medical innovations.
- It strengthens collaboration among scientists, startups, and healthcare companies.
- It improves access to affordable healthcare technologies.

Canscora agni

Research Matters

[Meet Canscora agni, a new plant named to highlight the role of fire in the conservation of Indian Savannas](#)

Researchers from the Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune and Savanna Science Foundation have discovered a new...



Why in News

- Researchers discovered a new plant species, **Canscora agni**, in the fire-prone savannas of western India.

Taxonomic Significance

- It is a newly identified plant species found at **Sus Hill, Pune district, Maharashtra**.
- The species name '**agni**' refers to fire in several Indian languages.

Ecological Relevance

- It occurs in ancient **fire-dependent savanna ecosystems**.
- Natural fires help remove woody vegetation and maintain native grasslands.
- The discovery highlights the ecological importance of controlled natural fires.

Distinctive Characteristics

- It is a dwarf herb growing up to **10 cm** in height.
- It possesses white petals and uniquely winged stems.
- It has minute glandular hairs and reticulate venation absent in **Canscora alata**.
- Its closest relative, **Canscora alata**, can grow up to **60 cm**.

Conservation Concerns

- Researchers have proposed its classification as **Critically Endangered**.
- The species is currently known from only one small location.

Rutile

TH The Hindu

[Scientists use budget tech to probe long-standing physics mystery](#)

Scientists at IIT-Delhi investigate ruthenium dioxide's unique magnetism using budget technology to advance electronics and catalysts.



Why in News

- Researchers at **IIT Delhi** recently studied rutile oxides and observed behavior unexplained by existing mathematical models.

Mineralogical Features

- Rutile is composed primarily of **Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂)**.
- It is the most stable and abundant natural form of titanium dioxide.
- It is one of the three principal titanium minerals along with **Ilmenite** and **Leucoxene**.

Geological Distribution

- Rutile occurs in **igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks**.
- It is concentrated in **heavy mineral sands** through wave and stream action.
- Major producers include **Australia, India, South Africa, Ukraine, and Sierra Leone**.

Indian Deposits

- Significant deposits occur in **Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh**.
- These deposits are mainly associated with coastal placer sands.

Industrial Importance

- Rutile is extensively used as a white pigment in **paints, plastics, and ceramics**.
- It serves as an important source of **titanium metal**.
- Titanium is widely used in aerospace, automobile, electronics, and medical industries.
- Transparent rutile crystals are also used as gemstones.

Tandulwadi Fort

India Today

Six tourists rescued after dense fog strands them at Tandulwadi fort in Maharashtra

Six college students were rescued after losing their way on Tandulwadi fort in heavy fog. The operation underlined monsoon trekking risks...



Why in News

- Six tourists were recently rescued after being stranded near Tandulwadi Fort due to dense fog.

Geographical Setting

- The fort is located near **Lalthane village, Palghar district, Maharashtra**.
- It lies approximately **104 km from Mumbai**.
- The fort stands at an elevation of about **1,524 feet**.


Historical Significance

- The fort is around **800 years old**.
- Its first recorded history dates to **1429 CE** during the rule of **Jafar Khan**.
- It served as a watch and reconnaissance fort overlooking neighboring forts and the **Arabian Sea**.
- It came under Portuguese control in **1509** before being captured by the Marathas in **1737**.

Structural Features

- It consists of scattered structures rather than a fully fortified complex.
- It contains several rock-cut water cisterns.
- It lacks bastions, major walls, and residential structures.
- A small water pond exists at the center of the fort.

Seabuckthorn

 The Indian Express

[Spiti's seabuckthorn, Kinnauri apple and topi among 8 Himachal products to get GI tag](#)

Eight traditional products of social, economic, cultural and agricultural significance of Himachal Pradesh have been granted the...



Why in News

- Spiti Seabuckthorn has recently received **Geographical Indication (GI) status**.

Botanical Identity

- Scientific name: **Hippophae rhamnoides**.
- Family: **Elaeagnaceae**.
- It is popularly called **Wonder Plant**, **Ladakh Gold**, and **Golden Bush**.

Distribution Pattern

- It occurs across Europe and Asia.
- In India, it grows above the tree line in Ladakh, Spiti, Lahaul, Kinnaur, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.

Ecological Significance

- It possesses nitrogen-fixing root systems.
- It helps control soil erosion and supports land reclamation.
- It enhances wildlife habitats and ecological restoration.

Adaptation Features

- It can survive temperatures ranging from **-43°C to 40°C**.
- The berries remain intact during harsh winter conditions.
- It thrives in dry, sandy, and cold desert environments.

Matcha Tea

NDTV

Assam 1st In India To Commercially Produce Matcha Tea, Sold For Rs 3,000 A Kg

The first commercially produced batch of Matcha tea was sold at the Guwahati Tea Auction Centre for Rs 3,000, reflecting encouraging market...



Why in News

- India's first commercially produced **Matcha Tea** was recently sold by an Assam tea estate.

Historical Origins

- Matcha developed through cultural exchanges between **China and Japan**.
- It was popularized in Japan by **Zen Buddhist monks**.

Production Process

- Matcha is produced from shade-grown leaves of **Camellia sinensis**.
- Tea plants are shaded for **3–4 weeks** before harvesting.
- Leaves are processed into **Tencha** and then stone-ground into powder.

Distinctive Characteristics

- Reduced sunlight increases **chlorophyll** and **amino acid** content.
- The process gives matcha its bright green colour and umami flavour.
- High levels of **L-theanine** contribute to calm energy and taste.

Nutritional Importance

- Matcha is consumed entirely rather than being infused and discarded.
- It contains higher concentrations of antioxidants, amino acids, and natural caffeine than conventional green tea.

Other Important News of the day

Persons in News

Ishan Kishan Tops ICC Men's T20I Rankings

Why in News

- **Ishan Kishan** became the new **No. 1 batter** in the **ICC Men's T20I Rankings**.

Key Highlights

- He is the fourth Indian to achieve this feat after **Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, and Abhishek Sharma**.
- His ranking surge came after scoring 317 runs at a strike rate close to 200.

Other ICC Rankings

- **Jasprit Bumrah** regained the No. 1 spot in Test bowling.
- **Travis Head** became the No. 1 Test batter.
- **Shubman Gill** moved to second in ODI batting rankings.
- **Ravindra Jadeja** retained the No. 1 Test all-rounder ranking.

Places in News

Peru

Why in News

- The **9th round of India–Peru Trade Agreement negotiations** was recently concluded in Peru.

Geographical Profile

- Peru is located in western **South America**, just south of the **Equator**.



- It is the third-largest country in South America after Brazil and Argentina.
- Its western boundary lies along the Pacific Ocean.

Political and Regional Linkages

- Capital city of Peru is Lima.
- It shares borders with Ecuador, Brazil, Bolivia, and Chile.

Physiographic Features

- Peru consists of three regions: Costa, Sierra, and Amazonia.
- The Andes Mountains dominate the Sierra region.
- The Andes are divided into Occidental, Central, and Oriental Cordilleras.
- Mount Huascarán (6,768 m) is the highest peak.

Hydrography and Resources

- Major rivers include Amazon, Ucayali, and Madre de Dios.
- Lake Titicaca, shared with Bolivia, is the world's highest navigable lake.
- Important resources include copper, silver, gold, petroleum, natural gas, and phosphate.

Environment

Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary

India Today NE


[Mass eviction drive underway at Assam's Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary; locals allege assault by officials](#)

A large-scale eviction drive is underway at the Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam's Nagaon district on July 3, with the administration...



Why in News

- A large-scale eviction drive is being conducted against encroachments in Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam.

	<p>Geographical Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sanctuary is situated in Nagaon district, Assam. • It lies on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River. • It forms part of the Brahmaputra Valley ecosystem. <p>Conservation Linkages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is part of the Laokhowa–Burachapori ecosystem. • It functions as a notified buffer of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. <p>Habitat Characteristics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation includes alluvial grasslands, alluvial forests, moist deciduous forests, and tropical semi-evergreen forests. <p>Faunal Diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It supports the Great Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros, elephant, tiger, and wild buffalo. • More than 225 bird species have been recorded. • Important birds include Spot-billed Pelican, Open-billed Stork, and Brahminy Kite.
Scheme	<p>Modified UDAN Scheme</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #000; padding: 5px;"> <p><small>TH The Hindu</small></p> <p>PM Modi inaugurates new Jodhpur airport terminal, launches Modified UDAN scheme</p> <p><small>PM Modi inaugurates Jodhpur airport's new terminal and launches the Modified UDAN scheme to enhance air connectivity.</small></p>  </div> <p>Why in News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Prime Minister launched the Modified UDAN Scheme during the inauguration of the new terminal building at Jodhpur Airport.

Infrastructure Expansion Strategy

- The scheme has an allocation of ₹28,840 crore for the next ten years.
- It aims to develop 100 aerodromes from unserved airstrips.
- More than ₹12,000 crore has been allocated for aviation infrastructure expansion.

Financial Architecture

- Over ₹2,500 crore has been earmarked for airport O&M support.
- ₹10,043 crore has been allocated as Viability Gap Funding (VGF).
- ₹3,661 crore will support the development of 200 helipads.

Indigenous Aviation Promotion

- The scheme encourages deployment of indigenous aircraft such as HAL Dhruv and Dornier.
- It focuses on improving connectivity in remote and underserved regions.

UDAN Scheme Basics

- UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) was launched in October 2016 under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS).
- The first UDAN flight operated between Delhi and Shimla on 27 April 2017.
- About 50% of seats are offered at capped fares of approximately ₹2,500 per flight hour.
- The scheme is implemented by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Micromonospora shyamaprasadii

 The Times of India

[Scientists name new bacterial species after Syama Prasad Mookerjee](#)

Malda: Scientists at Raiganj University have discovered a new bacterial species and named it *Micromonospora shyamaprasadii* sp. nov. in...



Why in News

- Scientists from **Raiganj University** discovered a new bacterial species named **Micromonospora shyamaprasadii**.

Discovery Profile

- The bacterium was discovered in **West Bengal**.
- It was isolated from the **mulberry rhizosphere**.
- It was named in honour of **Syama Prasad Mookerjee** on his 125th birth anniversary.

Scientific Importance

- The species appears capable of producing compounds with antibiotic properties.
- It may help inhibit the growth of harmful bacteria.

About Micromonospora Genus

- It belongs to the family **Micromonosporaceae**.
- Members are **Gram-positive, aerobic, spore-forming bacteria**.
- They are commonly found in soils, marine sediments, and plant rhizospheres.
- They are known producers of antibiotics and industrial enzymes.