

SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

06-09-2026

Bar Council of India (BCI)

TH The Hindu

Supreme Court rules that BCI has no power to punish law students

Supreme Court rules Bar Council of India lacks authority to discipline law students, protecting their freedom of speech and expression.



Why in News

The **Supreme Court** held that the **Bar Council of India (BCI)** and its chairperson lack **jurisdiction to discipline or penalise law students**.

Statutory Status and Legal Basis

- The **BCI is a statutory body** created by Parliament to regulate and represent the Indian bar.
- It was established under the **Advocates Act, 1961**, following the recommendations of the **All India Bar Committee**.
- Its primary objective is to safeguard the **rights, interests and privileges of advocates** in India.

Regulatory Functions

- The BCI prescribes **standards of professional conduct and etiquette** and exercises **disciplinary jurisdiction over advocates**.
- It lays down **standards of legal education** and recognises universities whose law degrees qualify students for enrolment as advocates.
- It conducts the **All India Bar Examination (AIBE)** for granting the **Certificate of Practice** to advocates.

Institutional Composition

- The BCI consists of members elected from **State Bar Councils**, along with the **Attorney General of India** and the **Solicitor General of India** as ex-officio members.
- Members of State Bar Councils are elected for **five years**, while the BCI Chairman and Vice-Chairman serve for **two years**.

- It can recognise **foreign law qualifications on a reciprocal basis** for admission as an advocate under the Act.

Governance Significance

- The Supreme Court ruling clarifies the **jurisdictional limits of the BCI**, particularly regarding disciplinary action against **law students**.

SCO Names Lahore as Tourism and Cultural Capital 2026–27

TH The Hindu



SCO names Lahore as its 'Tourism and Cultural capital'

Lahore is named the SCO's Tourism and Cultural Capital for 2026-27, promoting cultural heritage and tourism among member states.

Why in News

- The **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** designated **Lahore, Pakistan**, as its **Tourism and Cultural Capital for 2026–27**.

Key Facts

- The decision was taken in **April 2026** during the meeting of SCO Heads of Tourism Administrations in **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**.
- The title aims to promote **tourism, cultural exchange and people-to-people contacts**.
- The title is **rotated annually** among SCO member states.
- **Pakistan holds the SCO chairmanship for 2026–27**, with the theme **“Turning Vision into Action: Connectivity, Innovation and Shared Prosperity.”**

Previous Capitals

- **Varanasi (India): 2022–23**, **Almaty (Kazakhstan): 2023–24**, **Qingdao (China): 2024–25**, and **Cholpon-Ata (Kyrgyzstan): 2025–26**.
- Lahore is known for **Lahore Fort and Shalimar Gardens**, both **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.

Anak Krakatau Volcano



Anglers Capture Dramatic Eruption Of Indonesia's Anak Krakatau Volcano

Dramatic footage captured by anglers shows Indonesia's Anak Krakatau volcano erupting in the Sunda Strait, sending ash and volcanic material into the sky.



Why in News

Anak Krakatau erupted in Indonesia, resulting in the cancellation of flights at **Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport**.

Geographical Setting

- Anak Krakatau is a **stratovolcano** located in the **Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra** in Indonesia.
- It lies within the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, a major zone of volcanic and tectonic activity.

Historical Evolution

- Anak Krakatau means “**child of Krakatau**” and is associated with the famous **1883 Krakatau eruption**, which contributed to a period of global cooling.
- The volcano emerged from the sea in **1927** and subsequently grew through frequent **Strombolian eruptions**.
- In **2018**, flank collapse caused a landslide that generated a **tsunami**.

Stratovolcano Characteristics

- A **stratovolcano**, or composite volcano, is generally a steep-sided cone formed by alternating layers of **lava, volcanic ash and other eruptive materials**.
- Stratovolcanoes commonly occur above **subduction zones** and are strongly associated with volcanic regions such as the **Ring of Fire**.
- Their **viscous lava** builds steep slopes around the volcanic vent and favours explosive eruptions due to gas accumulation.

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)

TOI The Times of India

BMC's Tree Authority okays proposal to cut 251 trees and transplant 48 trees for BARC road connectivity_p

Mumbai: The BMC's Tree Authority on Tuesday approved the cutting of 251 trees and transplantation of 48 trees for Bhabha Atomic Research...



Why in News

The **BMC Tree Authority** approved the cutting of **251 trees** and transplantation of **48 trees** for the BARC Old Mandala - New Mandala Road connectivity project.

Institutional Profile

- **BARC** is India's premier **nuclear research facility**, headquartered at **Trombay, Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- It functions under the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**, which is directly overseen by the **Prime Minister of India**.
- Its activities operate within the statutory framework of the **Atomic Energy Act, 1962**.

Historical Development

- **Homi Jehangir Bhabha** established the **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)** in **1945** for nuclear science research.
- The **Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay (AEET)** was established in **January 1954** for India's multidisciplinary nuclear research programme.
- AEET was renamed **Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)** after Bhabha's death in **1966**.

Core Functions

- BARC undertakes research related to **nuclear power, nuclear science, radioisotopes, health, agriculture and frontier science and technology**.
- It develops **nuclear reactors, fuel-cycle technologies, radiation protection and nuclear safety systems**.
- It also provides **nuclear education and training** to scientists, engineers and technicians.

Thismia daemon

TOI The Times of India

A 'devil flower' with no leaves, no branches, no green part has been discovered in a Thai forest, scienti

Science News: It has no leaves, no branches and no green parts, and spends much of its life concealed beneath fallen leaves on the forest...



Why in News

Scientists discovered a new species of **leafless flowering plant**, *Thismia daemon*, in **Thong Pha Phum National Park, western Thailand**.

Taxonomic and Ecological Features

- *Thismia daemon* belongs to the genus **Thismia**, whose species are commonly known as **"fairy lanterns."**
- These plants **lack chlorophyll** and therefore cannot perform **photosynthesis**.
- The species obtains nutrients through **fungi beneath the soil** and remains concealed under **leaf litter** for most of its life.

Habitat and Distribution

- The plant was discovered at an elevation of approximately **1,000 metres** in **Thong Pha Phum National Park**.
- Its occurrence at this elevation and in a **seasonally dry environment** is unusual for the genus.

Distinctive Morphology

- Its flower is predominantly **black**, with horn-like structures emerging from a dome-shaped **miter**.
- **Reddish-orange patches** near the base resemble glowing eyes, inspiring the species name **"devil flower."**

Conservation Concern

- Fewer than **50 individuals** are known, leading to a **provisional assessment of Critically Endangered** status.



Ganymede

SD Space Daily

Ganymede may hold more liquid water than all of Earth's oceans combined, yet this immense reservoir is buried beneath roughly 150 kilometres of ice—and scientists still ...

Magnetic and auroral evidence points to a vast ocean beneath Ganymede, but surface salts do not yet prove a direct connection through its...



Why in News

Magnetic and auroral observations indicate the possibility of a **vast subsurface ocean** beneath Ganymede, although surface salts do not conclusively establish a direct connection through its approximately **150-km ice shell**.

Astronomical Significance

- **Ganymede** is the **largest moon of Jupiter** and the largest natural satellite in the Solar System.
- It is the **only known moon with its own magnetic field**.
- **Galileo Galilei** discovered Ganymede in **1610**.

Physical Characteristics

- Ganymede has a diameter of approximately **5,270 km**, making it **larger than Mercury**.
- It is located about **one million kilometres from Jupiter** and exhibits **synchronous rotation**, showing the same face to Jupiter.
- Its average density is about **1.93 g/cm³**, suggesting a composition roughly half **rock** and half **water ice by mass**.

Space Exploration

- The **Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE)** mission is studying Ganymede's geology, potential subsurface ocean layers and evolution within the Solar System.

Internal Structure and Ocean

- Ganymede has a **metallic iron core**, a rocky layer and a very thick outer crust composed predominantly of **ice**.
- Scientists believe that a **saltwater ocean** exists beneath its icy surface.
- Its thin atmosphere contains **hydrogen** and may contain compounds such as **carbon dioxide**.

Other Important News of the day

Places in News

Poland

Why in News

India and Poland are working on agreements covering areas such as **cyber security, space and clean coal**.

Geographical Location

- Poland is a **Central European country** with **Germany** to the west, **Czech Republic and Slovakia** to the south, **Ukraine and Belarus** to the east, and **Lithuania and Russia** to the northeast.



- It has a northern coastline along the **Baltic Sea**.

International Position

- Poland is a member of both **NATO** and the **European Union (EU)**.
- Its capital is **Warsaw**.

Physical Geography

- Poland has a **continental climate moderated by westerly winds**.
- The **Sudetes** and **Tatra Mountains** are major mountain ranges, with the Tatras forming the highest part of the **Carpathians**.
- **Mt. Rysy**, at **2,499 m**, is Poland's highest point.
- Major rivers include the **Vistula, Warta and Oder**.

Natural Resources

- Poland possesses significant deposits of **coal and natural gas**, along with economically important **copper, rhenium, sulfur and salt** resources.

Environment

Gegeneophis chandgadi

Why in News

Scientists discovered a new species of **legless, worm-like amphibian**, *Gegeneophis chandgadi*, in **Maharashtra**.

Species and Taxonomy

- *Gegeneophis chandgadi* is a **caecilian species** belonging to the group of **tropical amphibians**.
- The species name **“chandgadi”** honours the **Chandgadi language**, a distinct Marathi dialect spoken in the region of discovery.



Morphological Features

- It has a **slender, flesh-coloured body** with ring-like structures called **annuli** around its trunk.
- **Primary rings** occur along the entire body, while **secondary rings** are concentrated on the posterior half.
- Caecilians are **legless and worm-like amphibians** that generally live underground.

Ecological Distribution

- The **northern Western Ghats** are identified as a **hotspot for caecilians**.
- Caecilians primarily inhabit **moist tropical and subtropical regions** of South and Central America, South and Southeast Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Most caecilians are **terrestrial burrowers** and remain underground for most of their lives.

Caecilian Adaptations

- Caecilians possess **shiny skin with annuli** and a hard, thick, pointed skull that helps them burrow through soft soil.

Defence	Exercise Veer Guardian 2026  The Times of India <u>Japanese contingent lands in Jodhpur for IAF's Exercise Veer Guardian; drill to enhance operational syner</u> News News: NEW DELHI: With New Delhi and Tokyo strengthening their defence bond, a Japanese Self-Defense Force (JASDF) contingent touched...  Why in News The Japanese Self-Defense Force (JASDF) contingent arrived in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, for Exercise Veer Guardian 2026. Nature and Objective ➤ Exercise Veer Guardian is a bilateral air exercise between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and JASDF. ➤ The exercise aims to improve interoperability, operational synergy and mutual understanding between the two air forces. Exercise History ➤ The first edition was conducted in 2023 at Hyakuri Air Base, Japan. ➤ The 2026 edition is being conducted at Jodhpur, Rajasthan. Operational Focus ➤ The exercise focuses on tactical proficiency, mutual understanding and complex operational scenarios. ➤ Training includes air-combat manoeuvring involving personnel from both countries. Japanese Participation ➤ Japan is participating with three Mitsubishi F-2A fighter aircraft from the 8th Air Wing at Tsuiki Air Base, along with approximately 110 personnel. ➤ This is the first participation of the Mitsubishi F-2 fighter aircraft in an exercise in India.
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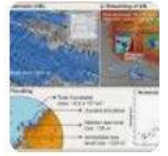
Science and Technology

Valles Marineris

TH The Hindu

Valles Marineris flood may have raised ancient Martian sea level by 34 metres: study

A study reveals Valles Marineris flood may have raised ancient Martian sea levels by 34 meters, impacting global water distribution.



Why in News

Research indicates that a **massive outburst flood** occurred on Mars during the **Late Hesperian to Early Amazonian**, following the breaching of ancient lakes in Valles Marineris.

Location and Discovery

- **Valles Marineris**, or **Mariner Valley**, is a vast interconnected canyon system on **Mars**.
- It was discovered during and named after the **Mariner 9 mission in 1971**.
- The canyon system extends roughly **4,000 km** in an east-west direction, just south of the **Martian equator**.

Key Dimensions

- Valles Marineris spans approximately **20% of Mars' circumference** and is one of the largest canyon systems in the Solar System.
- Individual canyons can reach about **200 km in width**, with walls rising **2–5 km** high.
- At its centre, several canyons merge into a depression approximately **600 km wide and 9 km deep**.

Formation and Geological Processes

- Some canyon walls are interpreted as **fault scarps** produced by crustal movement along faults associated with the **Tharsis rise**, a massive volcanic bulge.
- **Erosion** also contributed to canyon formation, as indicated by deep gullies along the walls.

	➤ Thick sedimentary sequences within parts of the canyons indicate that lakes may once have occupied the system. ➤ Ancient lakes may have drained catastrophically towards the east, leaving evidence of large-scale floods.
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UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY'S JALSETU CENTRE

 Western Sydney University

Western Sydney University deepens India–Australia partnership with NSW Premier visit ahead of campus opening

Mr Saumya Shrivastava, ACEO, Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority;
Western Sydney University, Vice-Chancellor,...



Why in News

Western Sydney University (WSU) will establish the **JalSetu Centre of Excellence** at its upcoming **Greater Noida campus**, scheduled to open in **2027**.

Key Focus Areas

- The Centre will focus on **water security, digital innovation and community resilience**.
- Key areas include **groundwater sustainability, river health, sustainable irrigation and urban water management**.

Greater Noida Campus

- The campus will offer **Australian degrees** and plans to introduce a **Master's in Sustainable Water Management** in 2027, subject to **UGC approval**.
- Other programmes will cover **business, data, applied finance and fintech**.

India-Australia Cooperation

- JalSetu will build upon the **Australia India Water Centre**, a network of **33 organisations** led by WSU.
- The initiative will strengthen cooperation in **higher education, research, innovation and sustainability**.