

# SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

07-07-2026

## Chief Labour Commissioner (Central)

News On AIR

[Chief Labour Commissioner \(Central\) Organisation strengthens labour welfare and compliance through awareness, proactive interventions & grievance redressal...](#)



The Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) Organisation has strengthened labour welfare and industrial harmony across the country through...

### Why in News:

The Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) Organisation continues to strengthen labour welfare and industrial harmony through dispute resolution and awareness initiatives.

### Historical Evolution

- The organisation was established in **April 1945** following recommendations of the **Royal Commission on Labour in India**.
- It was formed by merging the organisations of the Conciliation Officer (Railways), Supervisor of Railway Labour, and Labour Welfare Advisor.

### Institutional Framework

- It functions under the **Ministry of Labour & Employment**.
- It is also known as the **Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM)**.
- Headquarters are located in **New Delhi**.

### Labour Governance Functions

- It prevents and settles industrial disputes through conciliation and mediation.
- It enforces labour laws applicable in the Central sphere.

- It performs quasi-judicial functions and trade union membership verification.
- It promotes welfare of workers employed in Central Government establishments.

## National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML)

News On AIR

### Union Minister Nitin Gadkari reviews Multi Modal Logistics Parks and ropeway projects

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari chaired a review meeting of the National Highways Logistics Management Limited...



**Why in News:** The Union Government reviewed major infrastructure projects being implemented by NHLML.

### Institutional Structure

- NHLML is a wholly owned subsidiary of NHAI.
- It was formerly known as Cochin Port Road Company Limited.
- It functions under the guidance of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).


### Logistics Transformation

- NHLML is responsible for developing 35 Multimodal Logistics Parks (MMLPs).
- It promotes integrated logistics and freight movement efficiency.

### Infrastructure Initiatives

- It develops ropeways and port connectivity roads.
- It establishes wayside amenities and warehousing zones.
- It deploys optical fibre cable networks and highway solarisation projects.
- It enhances passenger transport terminals and related infrastructure.

## Global Passport Index 2026

 The Indian Express

### [Global Passport Index 2026: Sweden tops list, India slips to 125th position](#)



Top 10 countries with the world's strongest passports in the latest Global Passport Index 2026: Evaluating 197 countries across mobility,...

**Why in News:** India's ranking in the Global Passport Index 2026 has declined to **125th position**.

Global Passport Index 2026 — Top 10 Overall				
The true power of a passport — mobility, investment and quality of life as one score.				
GLOBAL PASSPORT INDEX	COUNTRY	ENHANCED MOBILITY INDEX	INVESTMENT INDEX	QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX
1 <sup>ST</sup>	 Sweden	11 <sup>TH</sup>	9 <sup>TH</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>
2 <sup>ND</sup>	 Switzerland	7 <sup>TH</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>	36 <sup>TH</sup>
3 <sup>RD</sup>	 Finland	4 <sup>TH</sup>	28 <sup>TH</sup>	1 <sup>ST</sup>
4 <sup>TH</sup>	 Germany	15 <sup>TH</sup>	20 <sup>TH</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>
5 <sup>TH</sup>	 The Netherlands	11 <sup>TH</sup>	18 <sup>TH</sup>	9 <sup>TH</sup>
5 <sup>TH</sup>	 Denmark	15 <sup>TH</sup>	23 <sup>RD</sup>	4 <sup>TH</sup>
7 <sup>TH</sup>	 Ireland	9 <sup>TH</sup>	21 <sup>ST</sup>	13 <sup>TH</sup>
8 <sup>TH</sup>	 United Kingdom	30 <sup>TH</sup>	16 <sup>TH</sup>	9 <sup>TH</sup>
9 <sup>TH</sup>	 Norway	5 <sup>TH</sup>	27 <sup>TH</sup>	5 <sup>TH</sup>
10 <sup>TH</sup>	 Singapore	1 <sup>ST</sup>	1 <sup>ST</sup>	115 <sup>TH</sup>

Standard Competition Ranking (Tied scores share a rank, the next is skipped).

Source: Global Intelligence Unit · Global Citizen Solutions

### About the Index

- It is published by Global Citizen Solutions (GCS).
- It assesses passports beyond visa-free travel by evaluating broader opportunities.

### Assessment Parameters

- Enhanced Mobility carries a weight of **50%**.
- Investment Opportunities account for **25%**.
- Quality of Living contributes the remaining **25%**.
- The methodology uses **14 indicators** sourced from global institutions.

### Key Findings 2026

- India ranked **125th** globally.
- Top-ranked countries include Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands.

## Mahabodhi Temple

Jagran

महाबोधि मंदिर में बरसी आस्था: दानपात्र से निकले ₹200000000, गयाजी में विदेशी भक्तों ने भी खोला दिल

महाबोधि मंदिर के दान पात्रों की छह दिवसीय गणना में लगभग दो करोड़ रुपये का दान प्राप्त हुआ, जिसमें डेढ़ करोड़ भारतीय और 50 लाख रुपये मूल्य की विदेशी मुद्रा शामिल है। यह राशि मंदिर के



**Why in News:** The Mahabodhi Temple received donations worth nearly ₹2 crore during a recent counting exercise.

### Religious Significance

- It is located at **Bodh Gaya, Bihar**, on the banks of the **Niranjana River**.
- It marks the site where **Gautama Buddha** attained **Enlightenment (Bodhi)**.
- It is one of **Buddhism's** four holiest pilgrimage sites.



### Historical Evolution

- The original temple was built by **Emperor Ashoka** in the **3rd century BCE**.
- The present structure dates mainly to the **Gupta Period (5th–6th century CE)**.
- It was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in **2002**.

### Architectural Features

- It is among the oldest surviving brick structures in India.
- The temple complex covers approximately **5 hectares**.
- The main tower rises to about **55 metres (180 feet)**.
- A descendant of the **Bodhi Tree** stands adjacent to the temple.

### Heritage Elements

- The **Vajrasana (Diamond Throne)** marks the spot of **Buddha's** meditation.
- Ancient stone railings and an **Ashokan Pillar** remain integral components of the complex.

## Changpa Community

Jammu Links News

### Ladakh Approves Major Incentives to Boost Pashmina Sector, Support Changpa Herders

LEH: Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has approved two landmark initiatives to strengthen Ladakh's world-renowned Pashmina industry...



**Why in News:** The Ladakh administration announced measures to improve livelihoods of the indigenous Changpa community.

### Demographic Profile

- The Changpas are a semi-nomadic pastoral community inhabiting the **Changthang region of Ladakh**.
- They are renowned for rearing high-quality **Pashmina (Cashmere) goats**.
- They profess **Buddhism** and enjoy **Scheduled Tribe (ST)** status.

### Cultural Identity

- Their traditional conical yak-skin tents are called **Reboo**.
- Nomadic Changpas are known as **Phalpa**, while settled groups are called **Fangpa**.

### Traditional Practices

- Important rituals include **Jyabten**, dedicated to Guru Padmasambhava.
- **Tangpe Chona** is celebrated on the fifteenth day of the first lunar month.

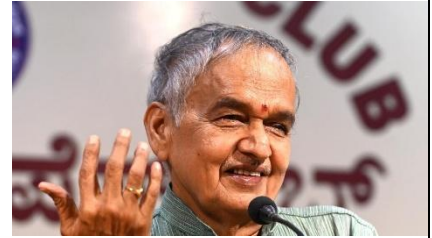
## Other Important News of the day

Persons in  
News

### Girish Bharadwaj (Bridge Man of India)

**Why in News:** Padma Shri awardee Girish Bharadwaj, popularly known as the "Bridge Man of India", passed away on 7

**July 2026** in **Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka**, at the age of 76.



#### Rural Infrastructure Contribution

- Built over **140 low-cost suspension bridges** across **Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, and Odisha**.
- His bridges connected remote villages with schools, hospitals, markets, and public services.
- Constructed his first bridge in **1989** across the **Payaswini River at Arambur (Karnataka)**.

#### Recognition

- Awarded the **Padma Shri (2017)** for contributions to **rural infrastructure and social work**.
- He was a **mechanical engineering graduate** from **PES College of Engineering, Mandya**.

#### Prelims Facts

- Padma Shri is India's **fourth-highest civilian award**.
- Suspension bridges use **cables or chains** to support the bridge deck.
- **Payaswini River** flows through **Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka**.

Places in News

## Nigeria

**Why in News:** Nigeria's competition regulator is investigating major technology and AI firms for alleged unfair market practices.

### Geographical Position

- Nigeria is located on the western coast of **Africa** and is known as the “Giant of Africa.”
- It is bordered by **Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin.**
- It has a coastline along the **Gulf of Guinea.**



### Physical Geography

- Capital: **Abuja.**
- Major drainage systems include the **Niger-Benue Basin, Lake Chad Basin, and Gulf of Guinea Basin.**

### Important Physiographic Features

- The **Niger River** and **Benue River** are the principal rivers.
- The major mountain system is the **Cameroonian Highlands.**
- Nigeria possesses substantial reserves of petroleum and natural gas.

Environment

Eurasian Lynx

**Why in News:** The Eurasian Lynx has been photographed for the first time in Sikkim.



Taxonomic Profile

- Scientific name: **Lynx lynx**.
- It is a medium-sized wild cat and the largest species among lynxes.

Habitat and Distribution


- It is distributed across **Western Europe, Russia, Central Asia, the Himalayas, and the Tibetan Plateau**.
- It inhabits boreal forests, mixed forests, alpine tundra, and mountainous regions.

Ecological Characteristics

- It is a solitary, territorial, and elusive carnivore.
- It is mainly crepuscular and nocturnal, remaining active at dawn and dusk.
- It possesses distinctive black ear tufts and retractile claws.

Conservation Concerns

- Major threats include habitat loss, prey depletion, and hunting pressure.
- **IUCN Red List Status: Least Concern (LC)**.

<p>Defence</p>	<p><b>INS Mahendragiri</b></p> <p><b>Why in News:</b> The Indian Navy will commission INS Mahendragiri (F38) at Visakhapatnam on 11 July 2026.</p>  <p><b>Defence Modernisation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• INS Mahendragiri is the sixth and final ship of the <b>Project 17A</b> Nilgiri-class stealth frigates.</li><li>• It was designed by the Warship Design Bureau (WDB).</li><li>• It was constructed by <b>Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)</b>, Mumbai.</li></ul> <p><b>Technological Features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It uses Combined Diesel or Gas (CODOG) propulsion.</li><li>• It incorporates a Controllable Pitch Propeller (CPP) and Integrated Platform Management System (IPMS).</li></ul> <p><b>Operational Capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It can undertake anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine warfare missions.</li><li>• It supports HADR, Search and Rescue (SAR), maritime security, and power projection operations.</li></ul> <p><b>Project 17A Highlights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project 17A ships are equipped with MF-STAR radar, BrahMos missiles, and Barak-8 surface-to-air missiles.</li><li>• Other ships include <b>INS Nilgiri</b>, Himgiri, Udaygiri, Taragiri, and Vindhyagiri.</li></ul>
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## Space

### Antariksh Venture Capital Fund



PIB

<https://www.pib.gov.in> › PressReleaseDetail

#### Investments Expected from FY2027: Dr. Jitendra Singh

3 days ago — Jitendra Singh informed that the “Antariksh Venture Capital Fund”, set up to boost India's emerging spacetechnology ecosystem, has been ... [Read more](#)

**Why in News:** Investments under the Antariksh Venture Capital Fund are expected to begin from the first quarter of **FY2027**.

#### Financial Architecture

- It is a SEBI-registered Category II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).
- It operates as a closed-ended fund dedicated to the space sector.
- The fund is sponsored by SIDBI Venture Capital Limited.

#### Strategic Objectives

- It provides growth capital to Indian space companies at different development stages.
- It supports scaling operations and commercialization of indigenous space technologies.
- Investments are targeted at companies with **Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4 and above**.

#### Institutional Linkages

- The key investor is IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre) under the Department of Space.
- The initiative aligns with India's space sector reforms encouraging private participation.

### IN-SPACE: Key Facts

- IN-SPACE is an autonomous single-window agency under the Department of Space.
- It promotes, authorizes, enables, and supervises activities of Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs).
- It facilitates infrastructure sharing between ISRO and private players.
- Its functional wings are Promotion Directorate, Technical Directorate, and Program Management & Authorization Directorate (PMAD).

## Uttar Pradesh in News

### Garhwa Fort



### Why in News

- The CBI recently arrested the last absconding accused in the 2002 Garhwa Fort idol theft case.

### Historical Significance

- Garhwa Fort is a Hindu temple complex located in Garhwa village, Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh.
- The fort was built in 1750 CE, while the temples are believed to be over 1000 years old.
- The temple is believed to have been built during the Gupta period.

### Archaeological Importance

- The site is protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as a monument of national importance.

- Seven inscriptions from the reigns of **Chandragupta, Kumaragupta, and Skandagupta** have been discovered here.
- Garhwa was known as **Bhattagram/Bhattapraya** during the Gupta period.

### Architectural Features

- The fort complex extends over nearly **two kilometres** and has bastions at all four corners.
- The Gupta-era temple follows the **Panchakona design** and contains a sanctum and pillared mandapa.
- The complex contains two stepwells that are traditionally believed never to dry up.

### Notable Artefacts

- The most important relic is a **Dashavatara sculpture of Lord Vishnu** dating to the 11th–12th century.
- Gupta sculptures were carved from **pink sandstone**, while medieval sculptures used **grey sandstone**.