


# SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

09-07-2026

 The Indian Express

## [Khadakwasla dam likely to release water as reservoir swells](#)

As heavy rain continues to lash Pune, the district administration on Tuesday sounded an alert for people living in low-lying areas along the...



## Khadakwasla Dam

### Why in News

- Heavy rainfall in Pune reservoir catchments recently led to water release from **Khadakwasla Dam** into the **Mutha River**, causing waterlogging in low-lying areas.

### Geographical Context

- **Khadakwasla Dam** is located on the **Mutha River**, about 21 km from Pune city in Maharashtra.
- It is also known as the **Peacock Dam** due to its shape and the presence of peacocks in the area.

### Historical Significance

- Construction began in 1869 under **Captain Fife RE** of the British Army.
- The reservoir formed behind the dam is known as **Lake Fife**.

### Engineering Features

- The dam is constructed using stone masonry and concrete.
- It is approximately **1.6 km long** and **31.8 m high**.
- It contains **11 radial sluice gates** and six irrigation outlets.

### Economic Utility

- The dam supplies drinking and industrial water to Pune and nearby regions.

- It supports irrigation through canal networks.
- Two hydroelectric stations generate **12 MW** and **10 MW** of electricity respectively.

## Hummus Trail

THE Hindu

### [Rights organisation files 'war crimes' complaint with India against Israeli soldier spotted along 'hummus trail'](#)

Rights group files war crimes complaint against Israeli soldier Eitan Gilboa, traced in India's popular 'Hummus Trail' hotspots.



### Why in News

- The **Hind Rajab Foundation (HRF)** recently traced an Israeli soldier in India's popular **Hummus Trail** destinations while filing a war crimes complaint.

### Concept and Origin

- The **Hummus Trail** refers to the travel circuit in India frequently visited by Israelis after military service.
- Every year nearly **80,000 Israelis** visit India, many of them former military personnel.
- The journey is commonly known as **Tiul Gadol**.

### Geographical Spread

- The trail begins in **Ladakh** and extends through **Kasol, Tosh, Dharamkot, Bhagsu, Kullu, Kalga, Pulga, and Tulga**.
- It connects **Mathura, Vrindavan, Pushkar, Goa, Gokarna, and Vattakanal**.

### Socio-Cultural Dimensions

- Hebrew signboards and Israeli-owned cafes are common along the route.
- Israeli cultural influences are visible in hostels, restaurants, and local tourism networks.

## Associated Concerns

- Studies have highlighted increasing cases of drug abuse and rave parties in some trail locations.
- Mental health support teams from Israel have occasionally visited India to assist veterans.

## INS Surat

TOI The Times of India

### [JS Takanami conducts PASSEX with INS Surat off Mumbai coast](#)

News News: MUMBAI: Warship JS Takanami (DD-110) of the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) conducted a joint naval activities with the...



## Why in News

- INS Surat recently conducted joint naval activities with JS Takanami of the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF).

## Strategic Profile

- INS Surat is a stealth guided missile destroyer of the Indian Navy.
- It is the fourth and final ship of the Visakhapatnam-class (Project 15B) destroyers.
- It was commissioned in January 2025.



## Indigenisation Dimensions

- The vessel was designed by the Warship Design Bureau of the Indian Navy.
- It was built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai.
- It contains nearly 75% indigenous content.

## Technical Capabilities

- The warship has a displacement of 7,400 tonnes and a length of 164 m.

- It is powered by a Combined Gas and Gas (COGAG) propulsion system.
- It can attain speeds of **30 knots** and has an endurance of **8,500 nautical miles**.
- It is India's first AI-enabled warship.

### Combat Systems

- It carries 16 BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles.
- It is equipped with 32 Barak-8 Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missiles.
- Other systems include torpedo tubes, a 76 mm gun, and Close-In Weapon Systems (CIWS).
- It can operate two ALH helicopters or **one MH-60R helicopter**.

## Prambanan Temple

TH The Hindu

Cultural heritage connect us, thank Indonesian people for preserving it: Modi at Prambanan Temple complex

PM Modi and President Subianto visit Prambanan Temple, marking the start of its conservation and restoration project with India's support.



### Why in News

- The Prime Minister of India recently visited the **Prambanan Temple**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, in Indonesia.

### Historical Background

- It is the largest Hindu temple complex in Indonesia.
- The temple was built during the **9th century** by the Sanjaya Dynasty.
- It is locally known as **Roro Jonggrang (Temple of the Slender Virgin)**.



## Religious Significance

- The complex is dedicated to the Hindu Trimurti—Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma.
- It reflects the historical spread of Hindu culture across Southeast Asia.

## Architectural Features

- The architecture combines indigenous Javanese traditions with influences of the South Indian Pallava style.
- The complex contains **240 temples**.
- The central compound includes eight major and eight minor temples.

## UNESCO Recognition

- It was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1991.
- The temple galleries contain famous Ramayana bas-reliefs.
- The **Shiva Temple**, standing at **47 m**, is the tallest and most prominent structure.

## Yak

THE HINDU

### [Scientists develop health tracker for high-altitude yaks](#)

Scientists create an IoT health tracker for yaks, enhancing management and monitoring in remote Himalayan regions near international...



## Why in News

- Scientists recently developed an **IoT-based smart monitoring system** to track the health and movement of yaks in the Himalayan region.

## Taxonomic Profile

- Yak belongs to the **tribe Bovini**, which also includes cattle, buffaloes, and bison.
- It is a high-altitude bovine adapted to extreme cold environments.

## Conservation Status

- **IUCN Red List: Vulnerable**
- **CITES: Appendix I**
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**


## Distribution and Habitat

- Wild yaks inhabit alpine tundra regions at elevations of **5,000–7,000 metres**.
- They are found across the **Himalayas, Tibetan Plateau, Mongolia, and Central Asia**.
- In India, yaks are reared in **Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh**.

## Adaptive Characteristics

- Yaks possess thick shaggy fur that provides insulation against severe cold.
- They have large lungs and hearts that enable survival under low-oxygen conditions.
- Non-functional sweat glands help reduce heat loss in freezing environments.
- They are herbivorous and feed mainly on grasses and alpine vegetation.

## TribeX Platform



ThePrint

**Govt launches TribeX digital platform for tribal knowledge, skill development**

Bhubaneswar, Jul 7 (PTI) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs on Tuesday launched 'TribeX', a digital learning platform focused on tribal arts,...



## Why in News

- The **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** recently launched the **TribeX Platform** for preservation and promotion of tribal heritage.

## Institutional Framework

- TribeX is India's first dedicated digital learning platform for tribal arts, culture, languages, and traditional knowledge.
- It has been launched by the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**.

### Knowledge Preservation Dimensions

- It serves as a digital repository for tribal languages, oral traditions, performing arts, and indigenous knowledge systems.
- The platform aims to preserve endangered cultural practices for future generations.

### Educational Ecosystem

- It provides free certificate courses and UGC-recognised Post Graduate Diploma programmes.
- The platform currently hosts 20 certificate courses covering paintings, handicrafts, handloom, artefacts, and musical instruments.
- It integrates a Learning Management System (LMS) and a Repository Management System.



### Digital Heritage Archive

- The Heritage Archive contains over 5,000 multimedia resources.
- The archive documents tribal festivals, socio-cultural practices, oral traditions, and indigenous knowledge from across India.

## Other Important News of the day

Places in News	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Costa Rica</h3>
	<h4 style="margin: 0;">Why in News</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India and Costa Rica recently held the first Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) meeting to strengthen bilateral economic cooperation.</li> </ul> <h4 style="margin: 0;">Geographical Position</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Costa Rica is a small country located in Central America.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is bordered by <b>Nicaragua</b> in the north and <b>Panama</b> in the south.</li> <li>• It is flanked by the <b>Pacific Ocean</b> on the west and the <b>Caribbean Sea</b> on the east.</li> </ul> <p><b>Physiographic Features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Central Valley</b> is surrounded by the <b>Cordillera Volcanica</b> and <b>Cordillera de Talamanca</b> mountain ranges.</li> <li>• <b>Mount Chirripó</b> is the highest peak, rising to about <b>3,821 m (12,536 ft)</b>.</li> <li>• Major volcanoes include <b>Arenal, Poás, and Irazú</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hydrological Significance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lake Arenal</b> is the largest lake in the country.</li> <li>• The <b>Reventazón River</b> drains into the Caribbean Sea.</li> <li>• The <b>San Juan River</b> forms a natural boundary with Nicaragua.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resource Base</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important minerals include copper, manganese, gold, magnetite, and bauxite.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Behali Wildlife Sanctuary</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p> ETV Bharat</p> <p><a href="#">Encroachers From Arunachal Fire On Forest Personnel In Assam's Behali Wildlife Sanctuary</a></p> <p>Tezpur: Serious allegations of illegal encroachment, large-scale tree felling and firing on forest personnel have surfaced from the Behali...</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 10px;">  </div> <p><b>Why in News</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allegations of illegal encroachment and large-scale tree felling have recently emerged from <b>Behali Wildlife Sanctuary</b> in Assam.</li> </ul> <p><b>Geographical Importance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is located in <b>Biswanath</b> district of <b>Assam</b> at the foothills of the <b>Eastern Himalaya</b>.</li> </ul>

- The sanctuary lies north of the **Brahmaputra River** near the Assam–Arunachal Pradesh border.

### Conservation Significance

- It serves as an important elephant corridor linking habitats near **Kaziranga National Park**.
- It forms part of the **Sonitpur Elephant Reserve**, notified in **2003**.

### Floral Diversity

- The sanctuary contains **Tropical Wet Evergreen** and **Semi-Evergreen** forests.
- It preserves valuable patches of primary rainforest.
- **Tetrameles nudiflora** is an important canopy species used by hornbills for nesting.

### Faunal Richness

- Major mammals include **Asian Elephant**, **Tiger**, **Bengal Slow Loris**, **Hog Deer**, and **Chinese Pangolin**.
- Critically endangered species include the **Black Softshell Turtle** and **Red-necked Vulture**.
- It is recognised as an Important Bird Area (IBA).
- Notable birds include **Great Hornbill**, **Rufous-necked Hornbill**, **Wreathed Hornbill**, **Woolly-necked Stork**, and **Lesser Adjutant**.

## Defence

### Astra Mk-1

 The Indian Express



[The significance of India's Astra missiles, which Indonesia is buying](#)

India will export ASTRA Mk 1 air-to-air missiles to Indonesia for the first time. Know its range, variants, capabilities and strategic...



### Why in News

- India and Indonesia recently signed an agreement for the supply of **Astra Mk-1** missiles.

	<p><b>Strategic Importance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Astra Mk-1 is India's indigenous <b>Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM)</b>.</li> <li>• It has been developed by DRDO.</li> <li>• The missile is intended for both the <b>Indian Air Force and Indian Navy</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Technical Capabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has a strike range of <b>80–110 km</b>.</li> <li>• The missile can engage targets at altitudes up to <b>20 km</b>.</li> <li>• It attains speeds of about <b>Mach 4.5</b>.</li> <li>• Astra Mk-2 is being developed with a range of approximately <b>200 km</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Guidance and Propulsion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It uses inertial guidance, mid-course updates, and active radar homing.</li> <li>• The missile is powered by a <b>single-pulse smokeless solid-fuel motor</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Operational Integration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is being integrated with <b>Su-30MKI</b> fighter aircraft.</li> <li>• Future integration is planned with LCA Tejas Mk-1 and Rafale aircraft.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science and Technology</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p> NDTV</p> <p><b>What Is The Rare Disease That Caused Afghan Cricketer Shapoor Zadran's Death?</b></p> <p>Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH) is a rare but serious condition in which the body's immune system becomes overactive.</p>  </div> <p><b>Why in News</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former Afghanistan cricketer <b>Shapoor Zadran</b> recently died due to <b>Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)</b>.</li> </ul>

### Disease Overview

- **HLH** is a rare and life-threatening disorder caused by an **overactive immune system**.
- The immune system attacks healthy tissues, affecting the **liver, spleen, bone marrow, and brain**.

### Types and Causes


- **Primary (Familial) HLH** is caused by inherited genetic mutations.
- **Secondary (Acquired) HLH** is triggered by infections, autoimmune diseases, cancers, or immune suppression.

### Symptoms and Treatment

- Common symptoms include **persistent fever, enlarged liver and spleen, anemia, skin rash, and low blood cell counts**.
- Treatment involves **chemotherapy, immunotherapy, corticosteroids, antibiotics, and antiviral drugs**.

## Uttar Pradesh in News

### Uttar Pradesh Data Centre Policy-2026

 The Indian Express

#### [UP Cabinet approves new startup, data centre policies to boost investment and innovation](#)

The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet on Monday approved the new startup and data centre policies with an aim to promote innovation, entrepreneurship...



### Why in News

- The state approved the new **Data Centre Policy-2026** after the previous policy expired on **27 January 2026**.

## Investment and Capacity Targets

- The policy aims to develop Uttar Pradesh as a green, AI-ready, and globally competitive data centre hub.
- It targets creation of an additional **2 Gigawatt (GW)** data centre capacity.
- The state seeks to attract investments exceeding **₹2 lakh crore**.

## Key Policy Features

- Special emphasis on GPU-based infrastructure to support AI applications.
- Incentives for Tier III and Tier IV Data Centres.
- Introduction of **AI Compute Booster Incentives**.
- Promotion of Green and Sustainable Operations.
- Additional incentives have been provided for **Purvanchal** and **Bundelkhand** regions.

## Performance of Previous Policy

- Under the **UP Data Centre Policy-2021 (Amended 2022)**, **6 data centre parks** and **2 standalone data centre units** were approved.
- These projects involved investments of about **₹21,343 crore**.
- Out of these, **7 projects have already become operational**.

FE

**Uttar Pradesh approves new Data Center Policy 2026 to attract over Rs 2 lakh crore investment**

