

Daily Current Affairs

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Critical Mineral Mission

- Ministry of Mines has issued guidelines for the setting up of Centres of Excellence (CoE) under the **National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)**. This is in pursuance to a key pillar of the Mission, which is research and technology development in critical minerals.
- Critical raw materials form the **crucial supply chain for emerging sectors** of clean energy and mobility transition, in addition to advanced technology and strategic sectors like electronics, defence and space.



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- Ministry, in a statement, said that in order to **develop, demonstrate and deploy technologies in an end-to-end systems approach**, it is essential to conduct research and development so as to reach higher Technology Readiness Levels (TRL).
- **Centres of Excellence will identify, develop and implement** extraction process and beneficiation technologies for a host of critical minerals from multiple sources and conduct directed research and development. Under this new initiative, **reputed academic and R&D institutions**, as per eligibility prescribed, will be evaluated and recognized as CoEs for R&D in critical minerals.

- CoEs will undertake innovative and transformational research to strengthen and advance the **nation's science and technology capability** in the area of critical minerals. CoEs will aim at undertaking cutting edge research and promoting inter and multi-disciplinary approaches to problem-solving in critical minerals domain.

Hydrogen- Powered Sea Vessel

- Union Minister of Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh has hailed India's **first indigenously developed hydrogen fuel-powered sea vessel**, describing it as a success story stemming from the joint efforts of the public and private sectors.
- Dr. Jitendra Singh held a **high-level meeting to review the ongoing initiatives** and achievements of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in New Delhi.



- During the discussions, the Minister emphasized the importance of aligning CSIR's scientific **pursuits with the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat**, especially in critical technology domains where indigenous development is key. The Minister lauded the **CSIR-New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI)**, calling it a unique example of collaborative innovation in the public-private space.

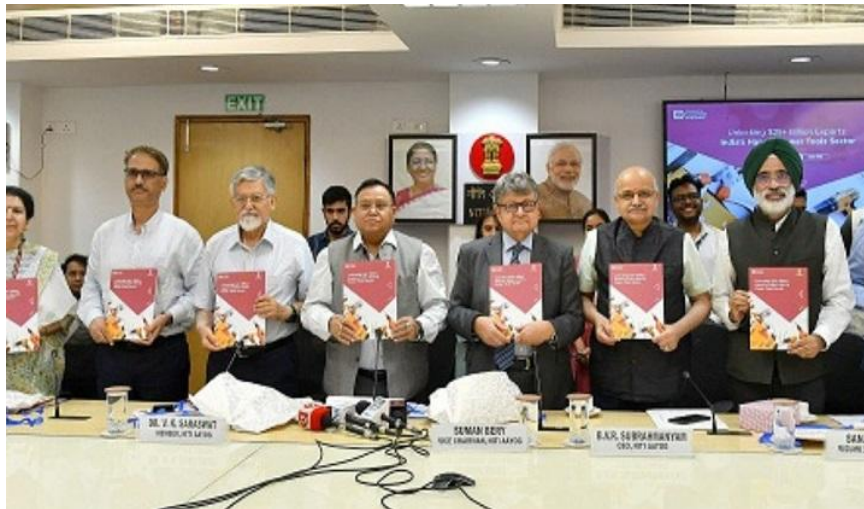
Justice BR Gavai

- Chief Justice of India **Sanjiv Khanna** has recommended the name of **Justice B R Gavai** as the next Chief Justice. Justice Gavai is the second-most senior judge of the Supreme Court, and his name has been recommended to the Union Law Ministry. The tenure of the **current CJ, Justice Khanna** is going to end on the 13th of next month.



Export Potential Report

- NITI Aayog launched a report titled '**Unlocking \$25+ Billion Export Potential – India's Hand & Power Tools Sector**', aiming to explore the potential of India's hand and power tools industry in the global trade landscape.
- The report identifies the transformative role that this sector could play in **boosting India's economic growth, creating jobs**, and enhancing its position as a global manufacturing hub.
- With the global market for these tools expected to grow significantly by 2035, India's focus on strengthening this **sector could lead to \$25 billion in exports** over the next decade and the creation of 35 lakh jobs.



- This article provides a detailed breakdown of the report's key insights, challenges, and interventions suggested to achieve India's growth targets in the **hand and power tools market**, highlighting the opportunities and strategies for success from both an economic and exam preparation perspective.
- **Global Market Size:** The global market for hand and power tools is currently valued at around \$100 billion, with projections indicating it will grow to \$190 billion by 2035.
- **Indian Market Share:** India currently exports \$600 million in hand tools (1.8% of the market) and \$470 million in power tools (0.7% of the market).
- **China's Dominance:** China is the dominant player in this sector, accounting for 50% of hand tools exports and 40% of power tools exports globally, with \$13 billion and \$22 billion in exports respectively.

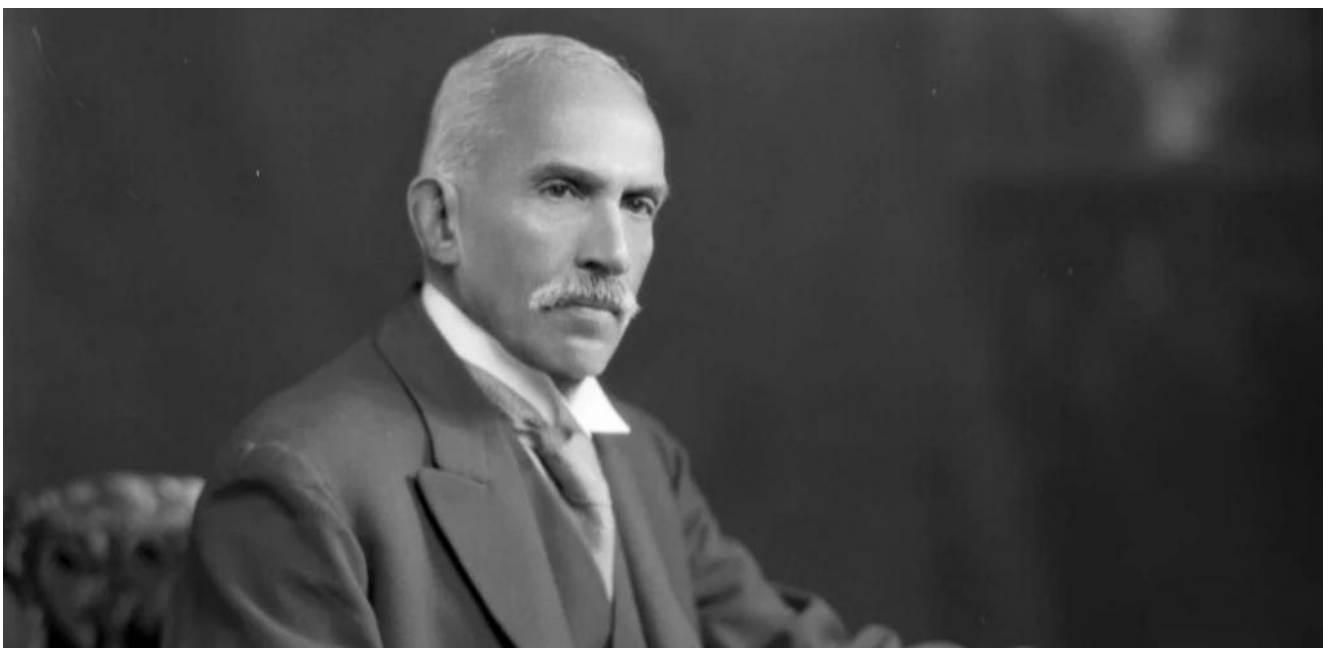
Banaras Shehnai

- The recent conferment of the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the Banaras Shehnai** is a landmark recognition of India's rich intangible cultural heritage. Known worldwide through **Ustad Bismillah Khan**, the shehnai is not just an instrument but a symbol of spiritual and ceremonial music. For the traditional **artisans of Varanasi** (Kashi), the GI tag is not merely an official certificate—it is a deeply **emotional and cultural validation of their legacy**, commitment, and craftsmanship spanning generations.



Sir Chettur Sankaran Nair

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi commemorated **Sir Chettur Sankaran Nair**, a prominent nationalist and jurist. This recognition coincided with **the 106th anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre**.
- Nair's fearless stance against British colonial rule and his courtroom battles have left mark on India's history. His commitment to justice and social reform continues to inspire generations.



- **Sir Chettur Sankaran Nair was born in 1857 in Mankara village, Kerala.** He graduated with a law degree from Presidency College, Madras. Nair began his legal career **under Sir Horatio Shepherd**, who later became the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.
- His early experiences shaped his dedication to justice. Nair's legal career flourished as he became a **public prosecutor in 1899** and later a judge of the Madras High Court in 1908.
- **In 1912, he was knighted by the British Crown.** Nair served on the Viceroy's Executive Council, focusing on education reforms. However, he resigned in 1919 in protest **against the Jallianwala Bagh massacre**. Nair was a vocal advocate for constitutional reforms and self-governance. He presided over the Indian **National Congress session in Amraoti in 1897.**



- He was involved with the All-India Committee during the Simon Commission discussions. Nair's stance often conflicted with other nationalists, including **Mohandas K. Gandhi.**
- **From 1922 to 1924, Nair authored "Gandhi and Anarchy,"** critiquing both British rule and Gandhi's non-cooperation movement. He held Lieutenant Governor Michael O'Dwyer accountable for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Nair faced a defamation suit in a British court for his accusations. Despite losing, he refused to apologise, showcasing his moral courage.
- Nair supported inter-caste **and inter-faith marriages**. His ruling in Budasna v Fatima (1914) upheld conversion to Hinduism without losing caste status. He **founded and edited the Madras Law Journal and Madras Review**, contributing to legal literature and reform.

Inder Singh Suruchi And Saurabh Chaudhary

- In Shooting, the **Indian pair of Inder Singh Suruchi and Saurabh Chaudhary** clinched a gold medal beating Chinese duo of Qianxun Yao and Kai Hu by 17-9 in the **finals of 10 metre Air Pistol Mixed Team event** at ISSF World Cup 2025 in **Lima, Peru**.
- Earlier, the **Indian mixed duo of Olympic medalist Manu Bhakar and Ravinder Singh** missed out on a podium finish after losing to Chinese pair of Qianke Ma and Yifan Zhang in the crucial Bronze medal match.



Indian Open Athletics 2025

- In the **Men's javelin throw**, **Yash Vir Singh** clinched the title by narrowly edging out **Asian Games silver medallist Kishore Jena** at the **Indian Open Athletics 2025** meet in Chennai. Yash Vir recorded his best throw of 77.49m on his fifth attempt, while Jena followed closely with a mark of 75.99m to secure second place.
- Both athletes surpassed the **Athletics Federation of India's (AFI)** qualifying standard of **75.36m** for the **upcoming Asian Championships 2025**. The championships are set to **take place in Gumi, the Republic of Korea**, next month. However, the final selection for the event will remain at the discretion of the AFI.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which State Government Launched “Bhu Bharati Portal” For Land Record Management In April 2025

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Telangana
- C. Odisha
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: B

2. Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant Is Located In Which State

- A. Haryana
- B. Punjab
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: A

3. Which Organization STELLAR Model, For Planning Power Generation

- A. Power Grid Corporation of India
- B. Central Electricity Authority
- C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

ANSWER: B

4. Yimkhiung Tribe Is Primarily Found In Which State

- A. Assam
- B. Sikkim
- C. Nagaland
- D. Tripura

ANSWER: C

5. Which Organization Releases The Global Financial Stability Report

- A. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- B. World Bank
- C. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- D. United Nations Development Programme

ANSWER: C

6. Which City Is Host Of STREE Summit 2025 On Women's Safety And Empowerment

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Bhopal
- C. Chennai
- D. Bengaluru

ANSWER: A

7. Legionnaires' Disease, Is Caused By Which Agent

- A. Virus
- B. Fungus
- C. Bacteria
- D. Protozoa

ANSWER: C

8. Noctiluca Scintillans Is Primarily Responsible For Which Natural Phenomenon Recently Observed In Backwaters Of Kerala

- A. Ocean acidification
- B. Bioluminescence
- C. Meteotsunami
- D. Red tide

ANSWER: B

9. World Parkinson's Day Is Observed On Which Day Annually

- A. April 9
- B. April 10
- C. April 11
- D. April 12

ANSWER: C

10. BM-04 Is A Short-range Ballistic Missile Developed By Which Organization

- A. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- B. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- C. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- D. Bharat Dynamics Limited

ANSWER: C

11. Which State Has Achieved The Geographical Indication (GI) Tag For Ryndia Silk

- A. Assam
- B. Mizoram
- C. Meghalaya
- D. Sikkim

ANSWER: C

12. Mount Spurr, Is Located In Which Country

- A. Indonesia
- B. Vietnam
- C. Japan
- D. United States

ANSWER: D

13. Which State Government Declared A New Wildlife Sanctuary Named Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Abhyaran

- A. Odisha
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: B

14. Index Of Industrial Production In India Is Published By Which Organization

- A. Central Statistics Office (CSO)
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

ANSWER: A

15. Which Institution Has Developed India's First Automated Bat Monitoring System Called BatEchoMon

- A. Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), Bengaluru
- B. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur
- C. Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
- D. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee

ANSWER: A

16. Where Was The Africa India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) Exercise 2025 Held

- A. Tanzania
- B. Madagascar
- C. Mauritius
- D. South Africa

ANSWER: A

17. Pakke Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Mizoram
- B. Assam
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Telangana

ANSWER: C

18. What Kind Of Disease Is "Kyasanur Forest Disease"

- A. Waterborne parasitic disease
- B. Viral haemorrhagic disease
- C. Fungal infection
- D. Airborne bacterial disease

ANSWER: B

19. In The Mauryan Empire, The Post Devatadhyaksha Is Related To

- A. Store House
- B. Crown Lands
- C. Customs
- D. Religious Institutions

ANSWER: D

20. Which Among Following State Produces Maximum Raw Silk In India

- A. Bihar
- B. Assam
- C. West Bengal
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: D

