

Daily Current Affairs

05 August 2025

India, Philippines

- High-level delegation talks will be held between **Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of the Philippines Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr.** in New Delhi. Mr. Marcos is on a **five-day state visit to India**. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has expressed confidence that talks between the two leaders will significantly deepen bilateral partnership. During the bilateral talks, **India and Philippine will review the entire gamut of bilateral relations** by focusing on trade and investment, defence and security, maritime cooperation, agriculture, healthcare, pharmaceuticals and digital technologies.



- **Several MoUs in different sectors are also expected** to be signed in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of Philippine Ferdinand Marcos. Economic engagement is an important aspect of India-Philippines bilateral relationship. Bilateral trade between the two countries **reached 3.5 billion US dollars in 2023-24**.
- In recent times, **defence, security and maritime cooperation** between the two countries have expanded. The presence of Indian companies in the Philippines, operating in various sectors like IT, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, textiles,

infrastructure, chemicals, automobiles, and agriculture, has increased multifold. With Bhupendra Singh, Adarsh Kumar, Akashvani News, Delhi.



- **Philippines Science Minister Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr.** called on Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh in New Delhi. The meeting marked a renewed momentum in India-Philippines science and technology cooperation, anchored by the recently signed Programme of Cooperation (PoC) for the period 2025-2028.



- **Under the PoC, the two countries have agreed to facilitate** joint research and development, exchange of scientists, capacity building programmes, and the

sharing of non-proprietary scientific data. During the meeting, Dr Singh said that there is immense scope for collaboration in **agricultural biotechnology, geospatial technology**, and disaster risk mitigation and these areas can be immediate starting points for joint research.

- He highlighted India's **National Geospatial Policy 2022**, which envisions an ecosystem enabling widespread use of geospatial data across governance, academia, and business.

Kartavya Bhavan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will **inaugurate Kartavya Bhavan at Kartavya Path in New Delhi** on 6 august. Mr Modi will also address a public programme on the occasion. **Kartavya Bhavan is part of the broader transformation** of the Central Vista. It is the first among several upcoming Common Central Secretariat buildings that aim to streamline administrative processes and enable agile governance.



- **Prime Minister Office said that Kartavya Bhavan** has been designed to foster efficiency, innovation, and collaboration by bringing together various Ministries and Departments currently scattered across Delhi. It will be a state-of-the-art office complex **spanning an area of around 1.5 lakh square meters** across two basements and seven levels.

- It added that this will mark a **major milestone in the Government's commitment** to the Prime Minister's vision of modern, efficient, and citizen-centric governance.

National Medicinal Plants Board

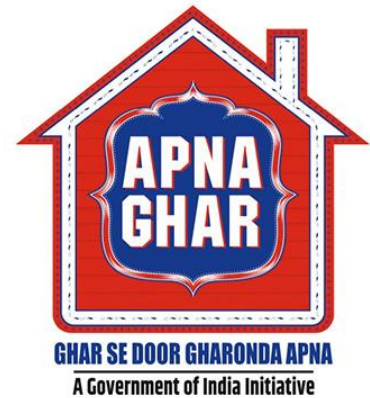
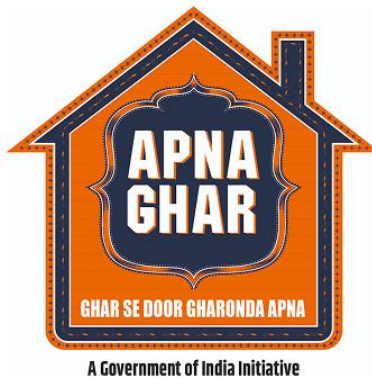
- **National Medicinal Plants Board** under the Ministry of Ayush signed two strategic memorandum of understanding to further boost the **conservation efforts and create public awareness** about medicinal Plants. The MoUs were signed in the presence of Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav in New Delhi.
- Mr. Jadhav congratulated the institutions involved in **signing of these important MoUs, which represent a significant milestone** in conserving and promoting the country's rich medicinal plant heritage.



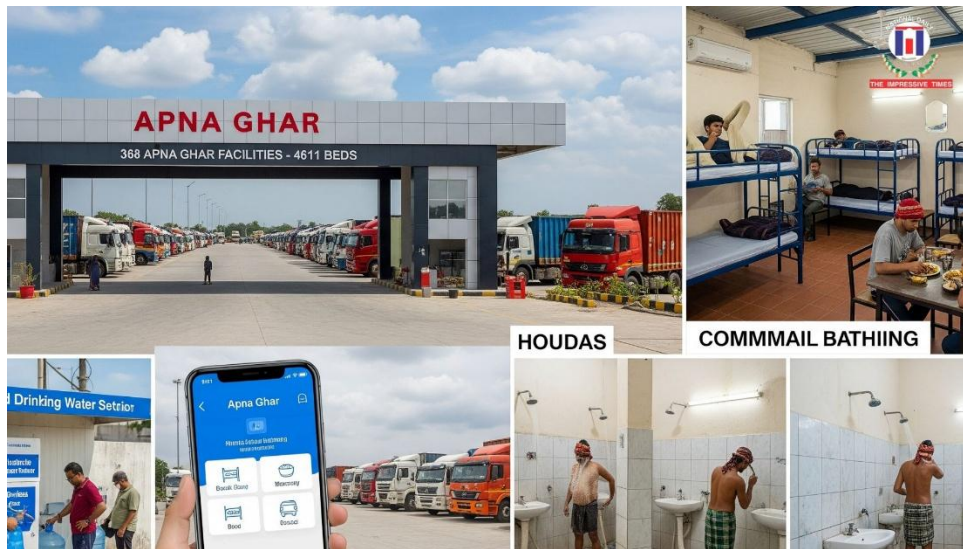
- The MoUs are related to **conserving germplasm of rare, endangered and threatened medicinal plants through tissue culture methods and the establishment of medicinal plants garden in the premises** of All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi.
- **National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)** is a Government of India body, established in 2000, to promote the cultivation, conservation, trade, and export of medicinal plants. Located within the Ministry of AYUSH, it serves to coordinate policies and support programs for the sector, including farmer training, financial assistance for nurseries, quality assurance, and research and development.

Govt Launches 'Apna Ghar'

- To improve the safety, health, and comfort of India's trucking workforce, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has rolled out a pioneering initiative called 'Apna Ghar'. Launched nationwide, the programme provides hygienic and comfortable resting facilities for truck drivers along major highways, marking a crucial step towards ensuring better living conditions for those who drive the backbone of India's economy.



- As of July 1, 2025, the government has successfully established 368 'Apna Ghar' units equipped with 4,611 beds. These facilities are strategically located at retail fuel outlets of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) along both national and state highways, ensuring accessibility for long-haul drivers.
- Facilities Provided to Truckers
- Each 'Apna Ghar' unit is designed to address the pressing needs of truck drivers on tiring journeys. The key amenities include,
 - Dormitory accommodations for safe and restful sleep
 - Restaurants/dhabas serving affordable meals
 - Clean toilets and dedicated bathing areas
 - Self-cooking spaces for those who prefer home-style food
 - Purified drinking water to maintain health and hygiene
- By offering these facilities, the government aims to significantly enhance the quality of life for truck drivers.



- To ensure easy access and convenience, a **dedicated 'Apna Ghar' mobile application has been launched**. The app allows truck drivers to book beds, register as users, and access real-time information about available facilities. Feedback from drivers indicates a highly positive response, with increasing numbers of downloads and active usage.
- **Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Suresh Gopi**, informed the Lok Sabha that this initiative reflects the government's broader commitment to improve infrastructure and working conditions for India's trucking workforce. He noted that truck drivers play a vital role i

Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative

- **Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI)** is a collaborative effort aimed at conserving and restoring wetlands in the Indo-Burma region. It is jointly developed by the **Ramsar National Focal Points (NFPs)** of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam, with support from the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** Asia Regional Office.
- The initiative plays a crucial role in supporting **the implementation of the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan**, ensuring sustainable management of wetland ecosystems across borders.



- At the recently **concluded Ramsar COP15**, a **side event was held** to highlight the progress of the Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative. During this event, the IBRRI officially launched its Strategic Plan 2025–2030, which provides a transboundary framework to halt and reverse wetland loss in the member states.
- **Jointly Developed By:** Ramsar National Focal Points of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

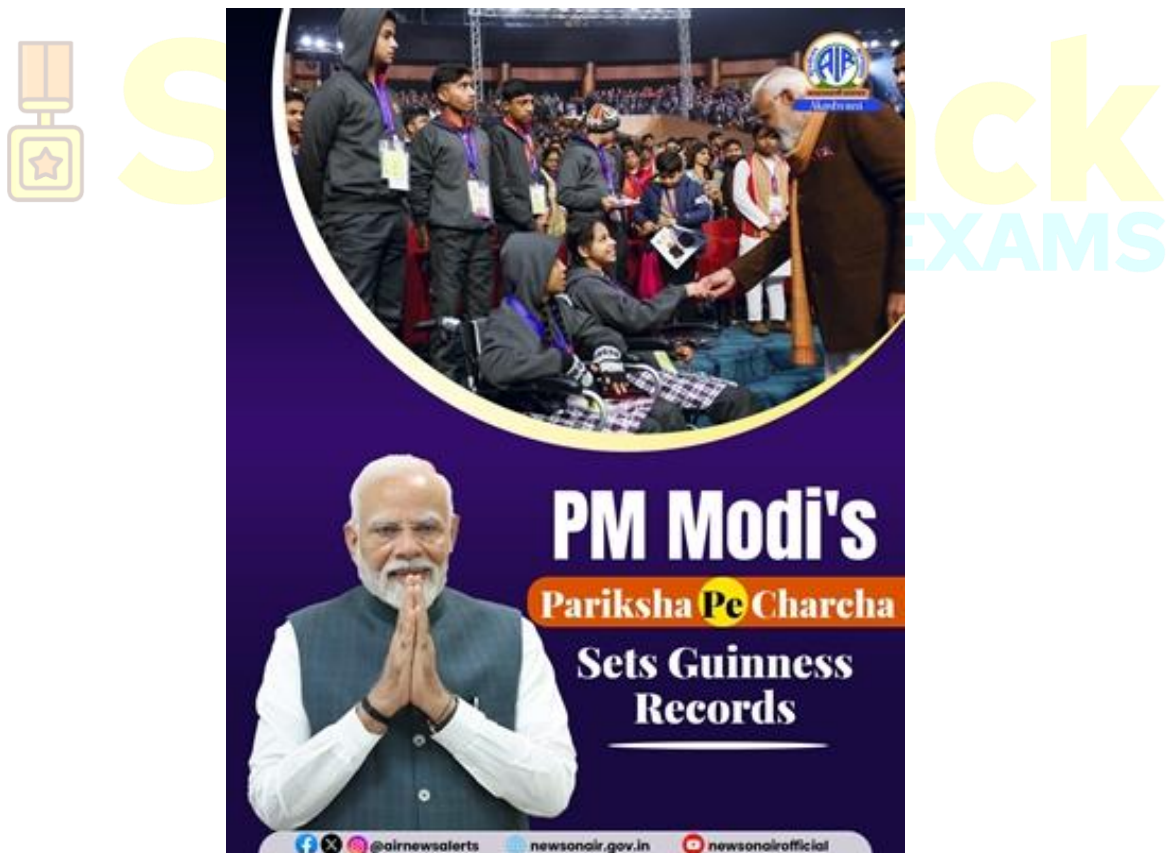


- Supported By: **IUCN's BRIDGE Project** (Building River Dialogue and Governance).
- Objective: To ensure coordinated implementation of the Ramsar Convention's Strategic Plan.

- Governance Structure
- To ensure oversight, transparency, and inclusivity, the IBRRI has a multi-level governance system,
- Steering Committee: **Includes representatives from Ramsar Administrative Authorities** of the five member countries.
- Secretariat: **Hosted by the IUCN Asia Regional Office** in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Stakeholder Committee: Provides technical and strategic guidance, serving as a platform for inclusive, multi-stakeholder engagement in IBRRI activities.

‘Pariksha Pe Charcha’

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s flagship initiative, **Pariksha Pe Charcha** has been conferred with the **Guinness World Record** for the ‘**Most people registered on a Citizen Engagement Platform** in one month’. This recognition is a testament of achievement **made with three crore 53 lakh registrations** during the eight edition of the programme, hosted on the MyGov platform.



- **Pariksha Pe Charcha** is a unique platform conceptualised and led by Mr. Modi wherein the Prime Minister directly interacts with students, teachers, and

parents. The official Guinness World Record certificate was formally presented at a ceremony held in New Delhi.

- The event was graced by the **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Electronics and Information Technology**, Railways and Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and others. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Pradhan said, **Pariksha Pe Charcha** has been redefined as a national approach to examinations by turning stress into a festival of learning under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said, eight editions of Pariksha Pe Charcha witnessed more than 21 crore viewership across all media platforms in 2025.

ISRO Prepares For BlueBird Satellite

- **ISRO is gearing up for its next Indo-U.S. collaboration.** The mission involves launching the Block 2 BlueBird communications satellite, developed by U.S.-based AST SpaceMobile, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, using ISRO's most powerful **launch vehicle, the LVM3 (formerly GSLV-Mk III).**



- According to **ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan**, the **6,500 kg BlueBird satellite** is expected to arrive in India by September 2025, with the launch scheduled within three to four months. Although its delivery faced a delay of three months due to **developmental issues, the mission is now on track.** The BlueBird satellite is expected to significantly **expand communication capabilities**, strengthening India's standing in the global space market.

- Announcement follows the successful launch of the **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)** mission on July 30, 2025, aboard a GSLV-F16. NISAR, a landmark Earth observation project, has now entered a critical 90-day commissioning phase, marking another milestone in Indo-U.S. cooperation in space exploration.

Operation Muskaan-XI

- **Operation Muskaan-XI was conducted across Telangana** from 1 to 31 July 2025. It focused on rescuing children from exploitative and hazardous conditions. The mission involved extensive coordination between police, government departments, and NGOs. It **targeted vulnerable locations like railway stations, construction sites, and religious places**. Thousands of children were rescued during a month-long drive.



- **A total of 7,678 children were rescued.** Among them, 7,149 were boys and 529 girls. More than half, 3,787 children, came from outside Telangana, covering 12 states. **Additionally, 3,783 children were from Nepal.** The operation covered urban and rural areas, focusing on high-risk zones such as brick kilns, mechanic shops, and bus stations.
- **The majority, 6,718 children, were engaged in child labour.** Other categories included 357 street children, 42 beggars, and two in bonded labour. Another

559 children were found in various hazardous or exploitative roles. These conditions severely impacted their health, education, and overall well-being.



- The operation led to **1,713 First Information Reports (FIRs)** being filed. A total of 1,718 individuals were arrested for violations. The Labour Department submitted 1,613 inspection reports. **Penalties totalling ₹47.76 lakh** were imposed under the Minimum Wages Act and the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act. These actions aimed to deter employers from exploiting children.



- Out of all rescued children, **6,593** were reunited with their families. Another 1,049 were admitted to child care homes for protection and counselling. Significantly, 2,600 migrant children were enrolled in 29 urban bridge schools

across Telangana. This step ensured educational opportunities and a path towards social reintegration.

- **In Hyderabad alone, 1,247 children were rescued.** Of these, 1,173 were boys and 74 girls. The rescued included 673 local children and 560 from other states, plus 14 Nepali nationals. The city police registered 55 FIRs and booked 939 cases under the Minimum Wages Act. **Fines worth ₹47,75,921 were imposed** on offending employers. Coordination among 28 divisional teams and multiple agencies was key to success.
- **The success of Operation Muskaan-XI was due to strong collaboration.** Police worked closely with the Women Development and Child Welfare Department, Labour and Health Departments, Child Welfare Committees, District Child Protection Units, and NGOs. Pre-operation meetings and video conferences helped streamline efforts and share information effectively.

US Kids World Championship Golf

- **India's Vedika Bhansali emerged champion** at the US Kids World Championship golf at Pinehurst Village. Playing in the girls 9-year category, Vedika shot her best nine-hole round of the week with 4-under 32, and it was bogey free for the second time in three days.



- **With 33-33-32, she totalled 10-under and beat Japan's Emi Minami** by one shot and American Audrey Zhang by two. Vedika, who was fourth a year ago, had just one bogey in three rounds, each of which is nine holes for her age group.
- **As Vedika picked the gold, another Bengaluru golfer Aida Thimmaiah (75-68-66)** was third in girls 11 category. Aida's final round was brilliant as she shot 6-under 66 and totalled 7-under to finish third.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. BlueBird Communication Satellite Is Developed By Which Country

- A. United States
- B. India
- C. China
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

2. Weight Of BlueBird Satellite

- A. 6000 Kg
- B. 6200 Kg
- C. 6500 Kg
- D. 7000 Kg

ANSWER: C

3. Total Ramsar Sites In India

- A. 85
- B. 90
- C. 91
- D. 93

ANSWER: C

4. In Which State/UT National Medicinal Plant Board Is Located

- A. Chandigarh
- B. New Delhi
- C. Kerala
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: B

5. What Is The New Official Name Given To The Bastar Olympics

- A. Tribal Youth Games
- B. Khelo India Tribal Games
- C. Bharat Khel Mahotsav
- D. None of the Above

ANSWER: B

6. Name Of Operation Launched By Bihar Police To Combat Human Trafficking

- A. Operation Jeevan Rekha
- B. Operation Suraksha
- C. Operation Vijay
- D. Operation Naya Savera

ANSWER: D

7. Who Has Been Appointed As The New Vice- Chief Of Army Staff

- A. Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh
- B. Lieutenant General Rajeev Sirohi
- C. Lieutenant General Ashwani Kumar
- D. Lieutenant General Manoj Sinha

ANSWER: A

8. Which State Has The Highest Population Of Mithun (Bos Frontalis), A Semi-domesticated Bovine Species

- A. Nagaland
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Assam

ANSWER: B

9. Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State

- A. Karnataka
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Gujarat

ANSWER: C

10. Who Was Honoured With The 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2025

- A. Nitin Gadkari
- B. Rajnath Singh
- C. Piyush Goyal
- D. Amit Shah

ANSWER: A

11. What Is The Name Of The Nationwide Initiative Under Which The Telangana Government Rescued Over 7,600 Children

- A. Operation Suraksha
- B. Operation Vijay
- C. Operation Chanakya
- D. Operation Muskaan-XI

ANSWER: D

12. Name Of The Campaign Launched By The Ministry Of Textiles To Mark The Celebration Of National Handloom Day 2025

- A. Weave India Movement
- B. Know Your Weaves Campaign
- C. My Textile My Pride Campaign
- D. Make in India Campaign

ANSWER: B

13. Which Ministry Has Launched The 'Apna Ghar' Initiative To Support Truck Drivers During Long Journeys

- A. Ministry of Urban Development
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- D. Ministry of Transport

ANSWER: C

14. Which State Government Has Launched The 'Him Bus Plus' Scheme

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

ANSWER: B

15. Kopili River, Is A Tributary Of Which River

- A. Ganga
- B. Yamuna
- C. Brahmaputra
- D. Krishna

ANSWER: C

16. What Is The IUCN Status Of “Red Panda”

- A. Endangered
- B. Critically Endangered
- C. Vulnerable
- D. Least Concern

ANSWER: A

17. Where Was Third Edition Of Meghalaya Pineapple Festival 2025 Organized

- A. Shillong
- B. New Delhi
- C. Chandigarh
- D. Dehradun

ANSWER: B

18. Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP) Was Launched Under Which Mission

- A. National Health Mission
- B. Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
- C. Ayushman Bharat
- D. Universal Health Coverage Scheme

ANSWER: A

19. What Kind Of Disease Is African Swine Fever

- A. Bacterial disease
- B. Fungal disease
- C. Viral disease
- D. Parasitic disease

ANSWER: C

20. In Which Century, The Rajatarangini Of Kalhana Was Composed

- A. 10th
- B. 11th
- C. 12th
- D. 13th

ANSWER: B

