

Daily Current Affairs

26 August 2025

Centre Sets Up Committees

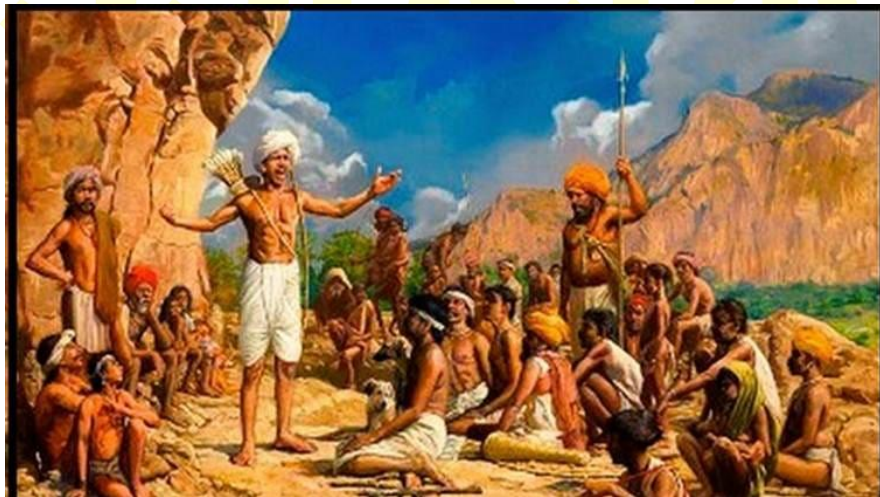
- Government has set up **three high-level committees** to celebrate the 150th birth anniversaries of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and tribal icon Birsa Munda, and the birth centenary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee**. According to the Union Culture Ministry, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be the **chairman of all three committees**.



- The Committee is tasked to approve plans, programmes, supervise and guide the commemoration ceremony across the country. **Vallabhbhai Patel was born on 31st October 1875 in Nadiad, Gujarat.** Mr Patel played an instrumental role in the country's struggle for freedom. He had accomplished the task of integrating **565 Princely States into the Union of India** within a remarkably short span of time- a feat unprecedented in history. Vallabhbhai Patel is also known as the **Iron Man of India**.



- **Birsa Munda is a celebrated tribal icon and freedom fighter.** Tribal movements against British rule, like the **Ulgulan (Revolution) led by Birsa Munda**, were not only pivotal in challenging British oppression but also inspired a national awakening. **Birsa Munda, revered as Bhagwan by tribal communities**, led a fierce resistance against the exploitative colonial system, **making his birth anniversary on 15th November** a fitting occasion to honour tribal heroes.



- **Atal Bihari Vajpayee was a poet, writer and statesman**, who served as Prime Minister for three terms. To commemorate the birth anniversary of **Atal Bihari Vajpayee, 25th December** is observed as Good Governance Day. During his tenure as Prime Minister, India carried out the **Pokhran-II nuclear tests in 1998**. In 2015, he was conferred the country's highest civilian honour- Bharat Ratna.



National Conference On Fly Ash Utilisation

- Ministry of Railways and NTPC convened a National Conference on Fly Ash Utilisation and Transportation at the Power Management Institute in Noida. The Ministry highlighted that in 2024-25, India generated more than **340 million tonnes of fly ash**, of which **332.63 million tonnes** were successfully utilized.



- It added that **32 percent of the total fly ash generated** was used in the construction of roads and flyovers, followed by **27 percent utilized within the cement industry**, and 14 percent in the manufacturing of bricks and tiles. The Ministry emphasized that it is not only offering a green and sustainable mode of

transportation but also providing an economical option through attractive freight concessions.

- **The conference marked a significant step toward fostering partnerships,** sharing insights, and charting a comprehensive roadmap for sustainable fly ash utilization across the country.
- The event brought together fly ash generators, users, transporters, and policymakers to discuss and formulate strategies for sustainable fly ash management in India.

MNRE Signs Performance Based MoU with IREDA

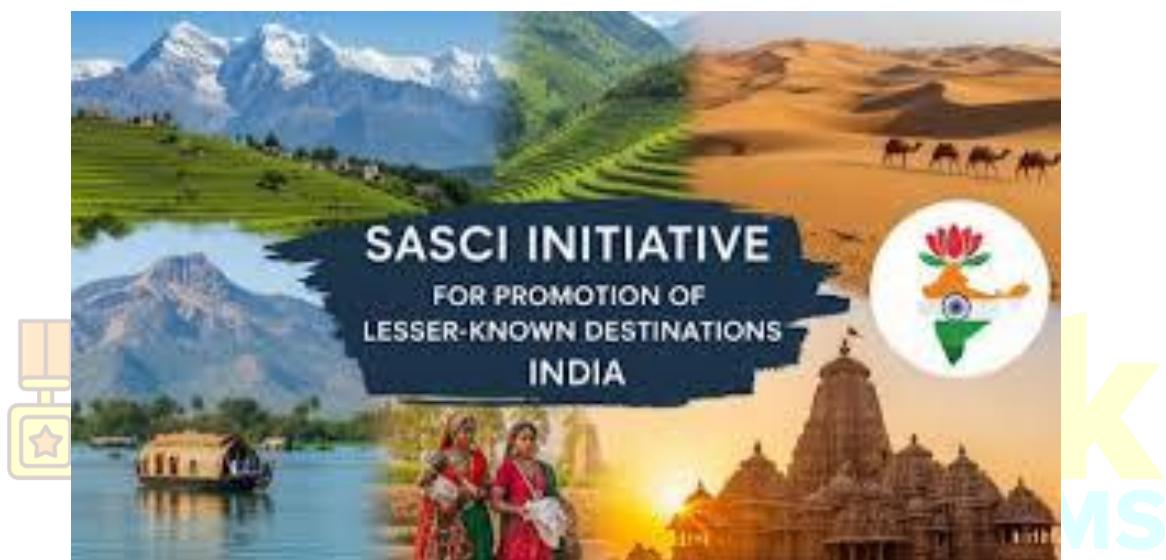
- **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** today signed a **performance based Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA)** in New Delhi.
- The **MoU outlines the strategic targets for the fiscal year 2025-26**. In a statement, the Ministry said that the Government has set a Revenue-from-Operations target of 8 thousand 200 crore rupees for the Fiscal Year 2025-26.



- The **MoU also includes key performance parameters such as Return on Net Worth, Return on Capital Employed, NPA to Total Loans, Asset Turnover Ratio, and Earnings Before Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization (EBTDA),** among other targets.
- It added, IREDA had exceeded its Revenue from Operations target in FY 2024-25, achieving 6,743.32 crore rupees against the target of 5 thousand 957 crore rupees.

SASCI Boosts India's Tourism Capital Investment

- **India's tourism sector received a major boost in 2025** with the implementation of the **Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)** scheme. The **Ministry of Tourism sanctioned 40 projects** worth Rs. 3295.76 crore to develop iconic tourist centres across 23 states.
- These **projects are fully funded by the central government** and aim to enhance the end-to-end tourist experience while promoting responsible tourism. SASCI forms part of a broader government initiative to stimulate economic growth through capital expenditure.



- **Launched in 2020-21, SASCI was designed to support states** with interest-free loans for capital expenditure. The scheme targets economic recovery post-Covid-19 by increasing productive capacity and creating jobs. **It has a high multiplier effect, generating Rs 3 in GDP for every Rs 1 invested.** SASCI covers multiple sectors including urban reforms, industrial development, digital infrastructure, and tourism.
- **Tourism was included for the first time under SASCI in 2025.** The government selected 40 projects through a challenge method based on criteria such as connectivity, existing tourism ecosystem, carrying capacity, and expected impact. **The projects aim to attract high-value domestic and foreign tourists,** increase tourism spending, create employment, and encourage sustainability. While funding is provided centrally, states are responsible for operation and maintenance.



- **Capital expenditure (Capex) refers to long-term investments** in physical assets like infrastructure and technology. The Government of India allocated Rs 11.21 lakh crore for Capex in FY 2025-26, about 3.1% of GDP. Capex acts as a countercyclical fiscal tool, stabilising the economy during downturns and supporting future revenue growth. It also encourages private investment and helps reduce public liabilities.



**Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) –
Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale**

- **SASCI's scale expanded dramatically from Rs 12,000 crore in 2020-21 to Rs 1,50,000 crore in 2024-25.** States implemented reforms such as updating building bylaws, optimising land use, and increasing Floor Area Ratio in commercial zones.
- **Rural land digitisation progressed with 90% of cadastral maps** geo-referenced and 30% of land parcels assigned Unique Land Parcel Identification Numbers (ULPIN). Digitisation of Records of Rights reached 91%, improving transparency and reducing disputes. These reforms aim to boost manufacturing capacity, streamline credit access, and enhance economic growth.

Ujjain TO Host “रूहमantic”

- **Ujjain (Mahakal city) will host “रूहमantic” – PHDCCI's 2nd Global Spiritual Tourism Conclave** on 27 August 2025, organised by PHDCCI in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board.



- The **conclave will be inaugurated by CM Dr. Mohan Yadav** (Chief Guest) and Union Tourism & Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Guest of Honour), with Spiritual Leader Gauranga Das Prabhu delivering the keynote address.
- Key highlights include the release of the **PHDCCI–KPMG Report on Spiritual Tourism “Faith & Flow”**, a **Govt–Industry Roundtable**, and thematic sessions on temple economies, wellness, digital spirituality, Jyotirlinga circuits, and more.

Union Cabinet Extends Fortified Rice Scheme To 2028

- Union Cabinet approved the continuation of **universal supply of fortified rice under all government schemes** until December 2028, fully funded by the **Government of India at 17,082 crore.**
- **The Anemia Mukt Bharat initiative, launched in 2018,** emphasizes fortified foods, with rice fortification pilot programs starting in 2019 and full-scale implementation by March 2024.



- **Fortified rice is used in meals under the PM POSHAN Scheme** across all States and UTs to address micronutrient deficiencies, particularly iron, folic acid, and Vitamin B12.
- **Double Fortified Salt (DFS) and fortified edible oil (with Vitamins A & D)** are incorporated in meals to combat anaemia, vitamin deficiencies, and support children's mental, emotional, and neurological health.

Kalai- II Hydroelectric Project

- **Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project in Arunachal Pradesh** is moving forward with recent public hearings held for environmental clearance. The 1,200 MW project is planned on **the Lohit River in Anjaw district and is developed** by THDC India Limited. This initiative is part of efforts to boost sustainable energy and regional development in Northeast India.



- **Kalai-II is a run-of-river hydropower project with pondage.** It involves a concrete gravity dam, coffer dams, diversion and intake tunnels, pressure shafts, an underground powerhouse, surge chamber, and a tail race tunnel. The **reservoir capacity is 318.8 million cubic metres, with a gross head of 125 metres.** The project will have six turbines, each rated at 190 MW.



The Kalai-II Hydroelectric
Project Arunachal Pradesh

1200 MW Power!
₹14,000 Cr Project

Power House of North East

इस प्रोजेक्ट से नॉर्थईस्ट का किस्मत बदल सकता है?

- The project **requires an investment of nearly Rs 14,000 crore.** It is expected to generate free power worth Rs 318 crore annually after commissioning. It will also contribute Rs 2.2 crore yearly to the Local Area Development Fund. **Approximately 1,700 direct jobs will be created.** Half of these jobs are reserved for families affected by land acquisition. The project is also expected to boost self-employment and entrepreneurship in the region.

- **Arunachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (APSPCB)** conducted the public hearing. Over 350 project-affected persons from 33 villages participated. **Officials from THDC and consultant WAPCOS Ltd outlined environmental impacts and mitigation plans.** Concerns raised included land compensation, employment, and local development. The district administration assured that feedback would be recorded and addressed.

Mirabai Clinches Gold

- **Star Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won a Gold medal** at the 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Ahmedabad yesterday and marked a triumphant return to competitive action.
- The Tokyo Olympics silver **medallist lifted a total of 193kg to set new Commonwealth Championship** records in snatch, clean and jerk, and total, finishing atop the women's 48kg podium.
- **This included 84kg in snatch and 109kg in clean and jerk**, both setting new Commonwealth Championship records. The win also secured her direct qualification for the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Good Governance Day Is Observed On

- A. 31 October
- B. 15 August
- C. 25 December
- D. 17 September

ANSWER: C

2. Kalai- II Hydroelectric Project Is Planned On

- A. Barak River
- B. Lohit River
- C. Ganga River
- D. Yamuna River

ANSWER: B

3. Anemia Mukht Bharat Initiative, Launched In

- A. 2014
- B. 2015
- C. 2018
- D. 2022

ANSWER: C

4. Registrar General Of India Works Under Control Of Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- D. Ministry of Women and Child Development

ANSWER: B

5. Which Institution Has Launched Report Titled "Rethinking Homestays: Navigating Policy Pathways"

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Reserve Bank of India
- C. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
- D. Ministry of Finance

ANSWER: A

6. Which Tiger Reserve Has Become India's Second-biggest Tiger Reserve

- A. Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve
- B. Namdapha Tiger Reserve
- C. Corbett Tiger Reserve
- D. Sunderbans Tiger Reserve

ANSWER: D

7. Which country has been elected as Chairman of the Executive Board of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Indonesia
- D. Japan

ANSWER: B

8. Rampage Missile Is Developed By Which Country

- A. China
- B. Israel
- C. Iran
- D. Russia

ANSWER: B

9. How Many Consecutive Days Of Detention Lead To Automatic Removal Of PM, Cms, And Ministers Under The 2025 Bill

- A. 30 days
- B. 15 days
- C. 60 days
- D. 90 days

ANSWER: A

10. What Was India's Marine Fish Production Recorded At In 2023-24

- A. 34.76 Lakh Tonnes
- B. 44.95 Lakh Tonnes
- C. 40.25 Lakh Tonnes
- D. 42.10 Lakh Tonnes

ANSWER: B

11. Which City Launched 'One Freezone Passport' Initiative For A Unified Business License

- A. Singapore
- B. Abu Dhabi
- C. Doha
- D. Dubai

ANSWER: D

12. Which State Is Promoting Palmyra Palm Trees As A Natural Safeguard Against Lightning Strikes

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha
- D. Andhra Pradesh

ANSWER: C

13. Who Won The Gold Medal In The Men's Skeet Event At The Asian Shooting Championships In Shymkent, Kazakhstan

- A. Mansour Al Rashidi
- B. Anantjeet Singh
- C. Saurabh Chaudhary
- D. Suruchi Inder Singh

ANSWER: B

14. Who Became First Player To Win The PFA Player Of Year Award Three Times In English Football History

- A. Mohamed Salah
- B. Morgan Rogers
- C. Mariona Caldentey
- D. Alexander Isak

ANSWER: A

15. What Is The Primary Impact Of The SASCI scheme

- A. Expands Private Investment
- B. Strengthens State Accountability
- C. Promotes Sustainable Travel
- D. Boosts Tourism Development

ANSWER: D

16. On Which Date Is International Day Commemorating Victims Of Acts Of Violence Based On Religion Or Belief Observed Every Year

- A. July 18
- B. September 10
- C. August 22
- D. October 5

ANSWER: C

17. Which Country Led The APAC Region In Commercial Leasing Demand And New Office Supply In H1 2025

- A. China
- B. Singapore
- C. India
- D. Japan

ANSWER: C

18. In Which State Was A Public Hearing Held For The 1,200MW Kalai-ii Hydroelectric Project

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

ANSWER: D

19. Which Country Has Been Verified By WHO For Eliminating Rubella, Marking A Major Milestone In The South-east Asia Region

- A. Bhutan
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Nepal
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: C

20. In Which Among The Following States Of India Are Located The “Namchik - Namphuk” Coal Fields

- A. Sikkim
- B. Meghalay
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Manipur

ANSWER: C

