

Daily Current Affairs

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Oil India Finds New Gas-Bearing Zone in Rajasthan

- India has discovered the new natural gas bearing zone in the Rajasthan's Dandewala field. This breakthrough is achieved by the state run Oil India Limited (OIL) and it marks the important step to reducing the India's on imported energy.
- This is significant because it expands the hydrocarbon potential of the Dandewala field and it opens the fresh opportunities for domestic gas production.
- The Dandewala field is located in the Rajasthan, within the hydrocarbon-rich Rajasthan sedimentary basin.
- This basin is one of the India's major onshore oil and gas producing regions.
- As India remains heavily dependent on imported energy.
- Current dependence includes the,
- Over 85% of crude oil imports
- Around 50% of natural gas imports
- Oil India Limited (OIL) is one of the India's leading upstream energy public sector companies.
- The company has been actively expanding the exploration efforts across multiple sedimentary basins.
- The discovery comes at the crucial time.
- As the global energy markets have faced the uncertainty due to the,
- Geopolitical tensions in the West Asia
- Supply disruptions
- Crude oil price volatility
- Rising international gas demand



Government Launches PM-AJAY Portal

- Government of India has launched the PM-AJAY portal and AJAY mobile app to improve the implementation of the welfare schemes under the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY).
- This initiative aims to enhance the transparency, accountability and real time monitoring of socio economic development program which are targeted at the Scheduled Castes (SCs).
- The PM-AJAY portal acts as the centralized digital platform which connecting the stakeholders across different welfare components.
- The core purpose is to improve the coordination, fund management, progress monitoring and beneficiary tracking.
- The AJAY Mobile App extends the PM-AJAY services to mobile users and specially field level workers and administrators.
- The app is also designed for the real-time reporting and monitoring.



India Overtakes UK to Become Sri Lanka's Second-Largest Exporter

- India became the second-largest export destination for Sri Lanka, and overtakes the United Kingdom in the January-April 2026 period.
- This improvement shows the strengthening economic ties between the two neighboring countries and also highlights the growing importance in the South Asian trade. While the United States continue to remain the Sri-Lanka's largest export market.
- According to the Sri Lanka's Export Development Board, exports to India reached USD 364.15 million between January and April 2026 and registered the 8.9 per cent increase compared to the same period last year.
- This growth helped the India move ahead of the United Kingdom and secure the second position among the Sri Lanka's largest export destinations.
- Sri Lanka's total exports includes the both merchandise and services, stood at the USD 1.38 billion in April 2026, recording a 6 per cent annual growth.
- Merchandise exports has reached at the USD 1.06 billion, up 9.87 per cent
- Services exports also estimated at the USD 317.16 million.



India Chairs First BRICS Tourism Working Group Meeting

- In the first edition of BRICS Tourism Working Group (TWG) Meeting India has formally launched the tourism cooperation under BRICS 2026 Chairship, this meeting was conducted as virtual mode.
- This initiative will bring together the tourism agenda among the BRICS nations, focusing on innovation, resilience, sustainability and people to people connectivity.
- The 1st BRICS 2026 Tourism Working Group Meeting was chaired by the Joint Secretary of Tourism under the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.
- The virtual meeting served as the first formal platform for the BRICS nations to discuss tourism collaboration under India's leadership.
- The theme for the India's BRICS tourism agenda is the Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.



India's First Private Medical Museum Opens in Thiruvananthapuram

- The Museum of Medical Archives opened in Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram, on 25 May 2026. It is Kerala's first private medical museum and India's first private medical museum.
- A medical museum is a collection space that preserves teaching aids, anatomical specimens, models, charts, and archival material related to medicine and medical education. Such museums are used in anatomy, embryology, pathology, microbiology, and history of medicine.
- The Museum of Medical Archives was founded by A. Sivaraman, a former artist-modeler at Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram. The museum displays decades of medical teaching materials and models created by him.
- The exhibits include handcrafted anatomical models, embryological displays, paintings, microbiology archives, and photographs. The displays cover fetal circulation, embryonic development, stages of mitosis, tooth formation, reproductive anatomy, heart development, and vascular structures.
- Thiruvananthapuram is the capital of Kerala.
- Ulloor is a locality in Thiruvananthapuram district.
- Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram, is one of the major medical institutions in Kerala.

- Embryology is the branch of biology that studies prenatal development.



India-Canada Target \$50 Billion Trade by 2030

- India and Canada have set a target to raise bilateral trade to \$50 billion by 2030. The two countries have also aimed to fast-track negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, or CEPA, with a goal of concluding it by the end of 2026 or earlier.
- Bilateral trade between India and Canada is reported at different levels in recent references, including about 17 billion, about 13.6 billion in merchandise trade, and about 32 billion Canadian dollars, which is roughly 25 billion.
- Canadian pension funds have invested nearly 100 billion in India, and this figure is used in discussions on long-term capital flows between the two economies.
- CEPA is a broad trade agreement that usually covers goods, services, investment, and regulatory cooperation. India has used CEPA-style agreements with several partners, and negotiations with Canada are linked to market access, tariff reduction, and trade facilitation.
- CEPA stands for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.
- Canada is one of the major sources of foreign institutional investment in India through pension funds.
- Critical minerals, uranium, and renewable energy are key terms in India-Canada economic cooperation.

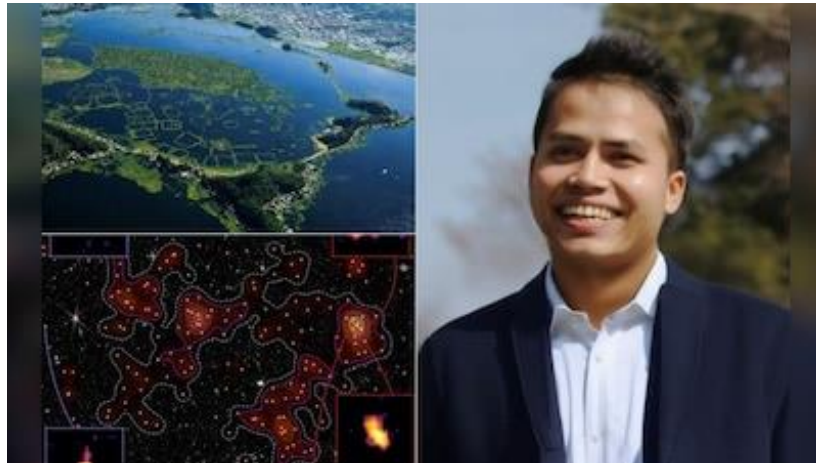
- Team Canada is a business delegation format used by Canada for trade promotion abroad.



Indian Scientist Discovers Loktak Protocluster

- A Manipuri astrophysicist, Ronaldo Laishram, led an international team that discovered a galaxy protocluster dated to 12.6 billion years ago. The structure was named the Loktak Protocluster after Loktak Lake in Manipur, and it existed when the Universe was about 1.2 billion years old.
- A protocluster is an early-stage concentration of galaxies that later develops into a galaxy cluster. Galaxy clusters are among the largest gravitationally bound structures in the Universe and can contain hundreds or thousands of galaxies.
- The Loktak Protocluster contains four connected concentrations of galaxies. The structure was compared with the interconnected floating phumdis of Loktak Lake, which are masses of vegetation, soil, and organic matter found in the lake. Ronaldo Laishram is a researcher at the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan.
- The discovery used observations from the Subaru Telescope and the James Webb Space Telescope.
- Loktak Lake is the largest freshwater lake in north-eastern India and is located in Manipur.
- Phumdis are floating masses of vegetation, soil, and organic matter found in Loktak Lake.

- The James Webb Space Telescope is a space-based infrared observatory launched in 2021.
- The Subaru Telescope is an 8.2-metre optical-infrared telescope operated in Hawaii.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which company discovered a new gas-bearing zone in Rajasthan's Dandewala field?

- A) ONGC
- B) GAIL
- C) Oil India Limited
- D) Reliance Industries

Answer: C) Oil India Limited

2. The Dandewala field is located in which Indian state?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Rajasthan
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Haryana

Answer: B) Rajasthan

3. PM-AJAY scheme is mainly aimed at the welfare of which group?

- A) Women
- B) Farmers
- C) Scheduled Castes
- D) Senior Citizens

Answer: C) Scheduled Castes

4. India became the second-largest export destination for which country in 2026?

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

Answer: C) Sri Lanka

5. Which country remained Sri Lanka's largest export market during January–April 2026?

- A) India
- B) China
- C) United Kingdom
- D) United States

Answer: D) United States

6. India chaired the first BRICS Tourism Working Group Meeting under which mode?

- A) Offline
- B) Hybrid
- C) Virtual
- D) Conference Summit

Answer: C) Virtual

7. India's first private medical museum was inaugurated in which city?

- A) Kochi
- B) Chennai

- C) Bengaluru
- D) Thiruvananthapuram

Answer: D) Thiruvananthapuram

8. India and Canada have targeted bilateral trade of how much by 2030?

- A) \$20 Billion
- B) \$35 Billion
- C) \$50 Billion
- D) \$75 Billion

Answer: C) \$50 Billion

9. The Loktak Protocluster was discovered by which Indian astrophysicist?

- A) Jayant Narlikar
- B) Ronaldo Laishram
- C) Meghnad Saha
- D) Vikram Sarabhai

Answer: B) Ronaldo Laishram

10. The Loktak Protocluster was named after Loktak Lake located in which state?

- A) Assam
- B) Meghalaya
- C) Manipur
- D) Tripura

Answer: C) Manipur