

Daily Current Affairs

04 August 2026

International Clouded Leopard Day 2026

- **International Clouded Leopard Day** is observed every year on **4 August** to raise awareness about the conservation of one of the world's most unique and elusive wild cats—the **Clouded Leopard**. The observance highlights the growing threats faced by the species, including habitat destruction, poaching, illegal wildlife trade, and increasing human-wildlife conflict. It also encourages governments, conservation organisations, and local communities to work together for the protection of these endangered felines.
- **Background**
- International Clouded Leopard Day was first celebrated in **2018** through the initiative of **The Aspinall Foundation**. The inaugural celebration was held at **Howletts Wild Animal Park**. The day aims to promote awareness about clouded leopards and support conservation programmes across their natural habitats.
- **Key Highlights**
- Observed annually on **4 August**.
- Started in **2018** by **The Aspinall Foundation**.
- First celebration held at **Howletts Wild Animal Park**.
- Clouded leopards are known for their distinctive cloud-shaped markings and exceptional climbing abilities.
- Two recognised species:
- **Mainland Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*)**
- **Sunda Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis diardi*)**
- **Significance**

- The observance draws global attention to the urgent need for habitat conservation and wildlife protection to ensure the survival of these rare big cats.



Nathan Thomas Becomes the World's Youngest Male Professor

- **Nathan Thomas**, an engineering educator from the **United States**, has earned recognition as the **world's youngest male professor**, achieving this distinction at the age of **18 years and 346 days**. His remarkable accomplishment reflects exceptional academic excellence and dedication to higher education at a very young age.
- **Background**
- Nathan Thomas was appointed to teach the **COP 2270: C for Engineers** course at **Miami Dade College** in **August 2023**. He surpassed the long-standing record held by Scottish mathematician **Colin Maclaurin**, who became a professor at the age of 19.
- **Key Highlights**
- Recognised as the **youngest male professor** in the world.
- Appointed at **18 years and 346 days**.
- Teaching **C for Engineers (COP 2270)** at Miami Dade College.
- Currently pursuing a **Juris Doctor (Law)** degree at the **University of Miami School of Law**.
- Expected to complete his law degree in **2028**.
- **Significance**

- Nathan Thomas's achievement demonstrates that dedication, talent, and academic excellence can lead to extraordinary accomplishments regardless of age.



Glaw Lake Becomes Arunachal Pradesh's First Ramsar Site

- **Glaw Lake**, situated in the **Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary** in **Lohit district, Arunachal Pradesh**, has been designated as **India's 101st Ramsar Site** on **3 August 2026**. It is the **first Ramsar wetland** in Arunachal Pradesh, marking a significant milestone in India's wetland conservation efforts.
- **Background**
- The **Ramsar Convention** is an international treaty adopted in **1971** at **Ramsar, Iran**, for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. India became a party to the convention in **1982**.
- **Key Highlights**
- India's **101st Ramsar Site**.
- First Ramsar site in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- Located in **Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- Situated in the **Eastern Himalayas**, a globally recognised biodiversity hotspot.
- India's Ramsar Site count increased from **26 in 2014** to **101 in 2026**.
- **Significance**

- The Ramsar recognition strengthens wetland conservation, biodiversity protection, and sustainable ecosystem management in India's northeastern region.



India Records More Than 20,000 Organ Transplants in a Year for the First Time

- India achieved a major milestone in healthcare by recording **20,138 organ transplants in 2025**, marking the first time the country crossed the **20,000 annual transplant** mark. The figures were compiled by the **National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)**, highlighting significant progress in India's organ donation and transplant ecosystem.
- **Key Highlights**
 - **20,138 organ transplants** performed in 2025.
 - Higher than **18,911** transplants in 2024.
 - India ranked **third globally** in total organ transplants.
 - India remained **first in the world** in living donor organ transplants.
 - **Delhi-NCR** recorded the highest number of transplants among Indian regions.
- **Significance**
 - The achievement reflects improved healthcare infrastructure, greater public awareness, and expanding organ donation programmes across the country.



India and Uzbekistan Set Target of \$3 Billion Bilateral Trade

- India and **Uzbekistan** have agreed to increase their bilateral trade to **approximately \$3 billion** within the next **three years**. The target was discussed during the **India-Uzbekistan Business Forum** held in **New Delhi** on **3 August 2026**, where both countries explored opportunities to deepen economic cooperation.
- **Background**
- India and Uzbekistan established diplomatic relations in **1992** following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Trade between the two countries has grown steadily over the years.
- **Key Highlights**
- Bilateral trade target: **\$3 billion**.
- Current trade crossed **\$1.3 billion**.
- Trade grew by **30%** in the previous year.
- Discussions included the possibility of a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**.
- Cooperation to expand in trade, investment, and multiple strategic sectors.
- **Significance**
- The initiative is expected to strengthen India's engagement with Central Asia while promoting economic growth and regional connectivity.



Centre Proposes Rules for Two-Wheeled Ambulances

- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** has proposed new rules to introduce **two-wheeled ambulances** under the **Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989**. The proposal seeks to create a dedicated legal and technical framework for these vehicles, enabling faster emergency medical services, especially in congested urban areas and remote locations.
- **Key Highlights**
- Proposal introduced by the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**.
- Two-wheeled ambulances will receive a separate regulatory framework.
- Adoption of **AIS-209 (Part 1):2026** safety standards.
- Mandatory compliance for new vehicles manufactured on or after **1 October 2027**.
- Vehicles will require **fitness certification** every two years.
- State governments will determine operational areas based on local needs.
- **Significance**
- The proposed rules are expected to improve emergency medical response times, particularly in traffic-congested cities and difficult-to-access regions, thereby enhancing healthcare accessibility across India.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. International Clouded Leopard Day is observed every year on:

- A) 3 August
- B) 4 August
- C) 5 August
- D) 6 August

Answer: B) 4 August

Explanation: International Clouded Leopard Day is celebrated annually on 4 August to raise awareness about the conservation of clouded leopards and their habitats.

2. International Clouded Leopard Day was first celebrated in:

- A) 2015
- B) 2016
- C) 2017
- D) 2018

Answer: D) 2018

Explanation: The observance was launched in 2018 by The Aspinall Foundation, with the first celebration held at Howletts Wild Animal Park.

3. Nathan Thomas became the world's youngest male professor after being appointed to teach at:

- A) Harvard University
- B) Stanford University
- C) University of Miami
- D) Miami Dade College

Answer: D) Miami Dade College

Explanation: Nathan Thomas was appointed to teach the COP 2270: C for Engineers course at Miami Dade College.

4. Glaw Lake, recently designated as India's 101st Ramsar Site, is located in:

- A) Namdapha National Park
- B) Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary
- C) Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary
- D) Pakke Tiger Reserve

Answer: C) Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary

Explanation: Glaw Lake is situated in the Kamlang Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary in Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh.

5. India became a party to the Ramsar Convention in:

- A) 1971
- B) 1975
- C) 1982
- D) 1992

Answer: C) 1982

Explanation: India joined the Ramsar Convention in 1982 and now has 101 Ramsar Sites.

6. According to the report, how many organ transplants were performed in India during 2025?

- A) 18,911
- B) 19,138
- C) 19,911
- D) 20,138

Answer: D) 20,138

Explanation: India recorded 20,138 organ transplants in 2025, crossing the 20,000 mark for the first time.

7. India ranked _____ globally in total organ transplants in 2025.

- A) First
- B) Second
- C) Third
- D) Fourth

Answer: C) Third

Explanation: India ranked third in total organ transplants worldwide and remained first in living donor organ transplants.

8. India and Uzbekistan have set a target to increase bilateral trade to approximately:

- A) \$2 Billion
- B) \$2.5 Billion
- C) \$3 Billion
- D) \$5 Billion

Answer: C) \$3 Billion

Explanation: Both countries agreed to raise bilateral trade to about \$3 billion within the next three years.

9. The proposed rules for two-wheeled ambulances have been introduced by the:

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

Answer: D) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

Explanation: The draft rules were proposed by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

10. Under the proposed framework, new L2-category two-wheeled ambulances manufactured on or after _____ must comply with AIS-209 (Part 1):2026.

- A) 1 January 2027
- B) 1 July 2027
- C) 1 October 2027
- D) 1 January 2028

Answer: C) 1 October 2027

Explanation: The draft rules mandate that all L2-category two-wheeled ambulances manufactured on or after 1 October 2027 comply with AIS-209 (Part 1):2026 standards.