

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

>> 08 JULY 2025

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. Tamil Nadu Becomes First State to Use Predictive Model to Reduce TB Deaths.



In July 2025, Tamil Nadu became the first state in India to launch a predictive death model for Tuberculosis (TB) patients. The initiative aims to reduce TB-related mortality by identifying critically ill patients early and facilitating their timely admission to hospitals for life-saving care.

- This model has been integrated with the TB SeWA (Severe TB Web Application) system under the Tamil Nadu – Kasaonai Erappila Thittam (TN-KET) initiative. Through this model, clinicians can identify TB patients at a higher risk of mortality right at the time of diagnosis, helping them prioritise urgent treatment or referral.
- The model was developed by the Indian Council of Medical Research – National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR–NIE), Chennai, which is a premier institute under the Department of Health Research (DHR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). The tool is based on Indian data and is specifically tailored for the needs of public health facilities in Tamil Nadu.
- The predictive algorithm is built using a large dataset of over 56,000 TB patients diagnosed in

government facilities across Tamil Nadu between July 2022 and June 2023. The model takes into account various clinical and demographic factors to predict which patients are most likely to face severe complications or death.

Key Points:-

- (i) In parallel, Puducherry became the first Union Territory (UT) in India to introduce TB screening under the Family Adoption Programme (FAP).
- (ii) This was mandated by the National Medical Commission (NMC) and MoHFW in 2022 under the Competency-Based Medical Education (CBME) curriculum to strengthen medical students' role in public health.
- (iii) The TB screening initiative in Puducherry is being implemented by Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC) and the State TB Cell of Puducherry, which also conducts Verbal Autopsies to identify causes of TB-related deaths. These steps are part of India's broader goal to eliminate TB by 2025, aligning with the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).

2. Haryana to Build Asia's Largest Jungle Safari in Aravalli Hills.



The Haryana government has announced plans to develop Asia's largest jungle safari, spanning approximately 10,000 acres across Gurugram and Nuh districts in the ancient Aravalli Hills. This transformative eco-tourism initiative was unveiled by Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini and Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on July 6, 2025.

- Inspired by models like Gujarat's Vantara wildlife facility, the project aims to establish a modern, eco-friendly safari zone that blends wildlife conservation with tourism. It will feature zones for big cats, herpetariums, aviaries, extensive nature trails, specialized biomes, and even an underwater world, spread across diverse ecosystems such as tropical, coastal, and desert landscapes.
- Beyond tourism, the safari is designed to protect biodiversity in the Aravallis, preserving resident species ranging from leopards and deer to over 180 bird species, 29 aquatic and reptilian species, and 57 butterfly species, according to recent wildlife surveys.

Key Points:-

- (i) A key objective is socio-economic upliftment—by creating employment opportunities in tour guiding, hospitality, wildlife conservation, and homestays under a proposed Home Stay Policy, the project aims to benefit local communities directly.
- (ii) Chief Minister Saini has emphasized eco-friendly execution, directing the Forest and Environment Department to ensure minimal environmental disturbance. The state has formed the Aravalli Foundation and shortlisted two international firms via global Expression of Interest (EOI) to design and operate the park in collaboration with the Central Zoo Authority (CZA).

(iii) Officials anticipate that by 2027 the safari will be fully operational, positioning Haryana as a national leader in green tourism, increasing footfall from nearby Delhi NCR, and acting as a catalyst for environmental restoration in the region.

3. PM Modi Launches 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0' on World Environment Day 2025.



On June 5, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the second phase of the nationwide tree plantation campaign 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0' to mark World Environment Day. The campaign was officially inaugurated at Mahavir Jayanti Park in New Delhi where PM Modi planted a sapling and appealed to citizens to plant trees in honour of their mothers, promoting an emotional and environmental connection with nature.

- The campaign's second phase aims to plant 10 crore trees across India between June 5 and September 30, 2025, with active participation from individuals, schools, panchayats, and urban local bodies.
- This expansion builds upon the success of the original initiative launched in 2024, which had

already achieved significant plantation goals and garnered massive public engagement.

- During the launch event, PM Modi also flagged off 200 electric buses in Delhi, reinforcing the government's commitment to environmental sustainability and green public transportation. He highlighted that the past decade had seen a continuous increase in India's forest cover and that initiatives like this would further strengthen the country's ecological balance and climate resilience.

Key Points:-

(i) States such as Uttar Pradesh have taken the lead in contributing to the campaign, announcing a record attempt to plant 37 crore saplings in a single day. Under the initiative, saplings will be planted using local labour under MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act), while also exploring carbon credit incentives for participating farmers and communities, making it both an environmental and socio-economic movement.

(ii) To ensure long-term impact, the campaign includes mechanisms like geo-tagging of planted saplings, community participation for nurturing trees, and awareness drives by institutions like ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police).

(iii) The saplings selected include fruit-bearing, shade-providing, and climate-resilient species that support biodiversity, public health, and the rejuvenation of water bodies, thereby making this campaign a multi-dimensional contribution toward India's climate goals and its mission to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2070.

INTERNATIONAL

1. Colombia and Uzbekistan Join BRICS-Backed New Development Bank (NDB) as New Members.



On July 5, 2025, Colombia and Uzbekistan officially joined the New Development Bank (NDB), a multilateral financial institution established by the BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa). With their inclusion, the total borrowing membership of the NDB now expands to 11 countries, enhancing the bank's global outreach.

- The announcement was made by NDB President Dilma Rousseff during the 10th Annual Meeting of the NDB Board of Governors (BoG), held just before the 17th BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This strategic expansion is aimed at strengthening the bank's multilateral development role across emerging economies.

- The New Development Bank was established in 2015 with an aim to support infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS and other emerging economies.

- The current members now include Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt, Algeria, and the newly added Colombia and Uzbekistan.

Uruguay holds a prospective member status as of now.

Key Points:-

- (i) Colombia and Uzbekistan met all the required conditions for joining, such as being United Nations (UN) member states, completing the accession process, signing Board approval documents, and agreeing to make initial capital contributions. Even after this expansion, BRICS nations retain over 55% of the total voting power in the bank.
- (ii) During the same meeting, Roman Serov from Russia was appointed as the Vice-President of NDB for a 5-year term from September 7, 2025, to September 6, 2030. This decision further consolidated Russia's leadership role in the governance structure of the NDB.
- (iii) Additionally, Anton Siluanov, Minister of Finance of Russia and NDB Governor for Russia, was elected as the Chairperson of the Board of Governors (BoG). From India, Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance, was nominated as the next Vice-Chairperson of the BoG, representing the Government of India (GoI).

BANKING & FINANCE

1. Indian Bank and PNB Waive Off Minimum Balance Charges.



Indian Bank announced on July 3, 2025, that it will completely waive charges for non-maintenance of Minimum Average Balance (MAB) across all Savings Bank accounts, effective July 7, 2025. This marks a crucial move toward increasing account affordability and promoting financial inclusion for diverse customer segments, including students, senior citizens, and the underbanked.

- At the same time, Punjab National Bank (PNB) removed penalties for not maintaining MAB in savings accounts effective July 1, 2025, targeting relief for women, farmers, and low-income households. This policy aligns with recent measures by SBI and Canara Bank, furthering access to banking services nationwide.

- These reforms come against the backdrop of the Reserve Bank of India's rate cuts and broader regulatory objectives to reduce barriers to formal banking. By eliminating MAB fees, Indian Bank and PNB aim to encourage formal account usage and reduce the risk of dormant accounts.

Key Points:-

- (i) In addition to the MAB waiver, Indian Bank also reduced its one-year Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR) by 5 basis points to 9.00%, effective July 3,

2025, to make borrowing more affordable. PNB similarly cut savings interest rates by 20 bps.

(ii) Overall, this synchronized effort by major public sector banks—SBI, PNB, Indian Bank, Canara Bank—represents a decisive push toward inclusive, customer-first banking. With simultaneous fee waivers and rate cuts, the banks are strengthening India's financial inclusion strategy while adapting to evolving customer expectations and competitive dynamics.

MOUs and Agreement

1. India Signs Six Strategic MoUs with Trinidad & Tobago to Boost Pharma, Education, and Diaspora Ties.



During his first bilateral visit to Trinidad and Tobago since 1999, Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed six Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar in Port of Spain on July 5, 2025. The agreements aim to reinforce cooperation in infrastructure, pharmaceuticals, culture, sports, diplomatic training, and education, marking a strategic deepening of ties between the two nations.

- One of the MoUs focuses on the Indian Pharmacopoeia, designed to streamline access to Indian-made medicines in Trinidad and Tobago, while another provides an Indian grant for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in key development areas.

- . Additionally, cooperation pacts were established in sports, diplomatic training, and the re-establishment of two ICCR Chairs in Hindi and Indian Studies at the University of the West Indies, alongside a 2025–28 cultural exchange programme.

- PM Modi announced several developmental gifts: 2,000 laptops for students, ₹80 million (USD 1 million) worth of agro-processing machinery to NAMDEVCO, a prosthetic-limb camp for 800 individuals, along with the donation of 20 haemodialysis units and 2 sea ambulances.

Key Points:-

(i) PM Modi also unveiled solar panels for the T&T Foreign & CARICOM Affairs Ministry headquarters and launched the 'Heal in India' medical programme for citizens of Trinidad & Tobago.

(ii) A landmark political development announced during the visit was the extension of Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) eligibility to the sixth generation of the Indian diaspora in Trinidad & Tobago (previously up to the fourth generation), enhancing the rights of approximately 40% of its 1.4 million population, who trace their roots to India.

(iii) Both leaders reaffirmed cooperation in global policymaking, with Trinidad & Tobago pledging support for India's bid for a permanent UN Security Council seat, and India backing T&T's 2027–28 non-

permanent seat aspirations. Collaboration was also pledged in energy, digital governance (including adoption of UPI, Aadhaar, DigiLocker), healthcare, and agriculture, solidifying an enhanced Global South partnership.

SPORTS

1. India Creates History with First Test Win at Edgbaston.



India achieved a monumental 336-run victory over England in the second Test at Edgbaston, Birmingham, on July 6, 2025, marking the country's first-ever Test win at this venue. Captain Shubman Gill led the side to glory in only his second match at the helm, elevating his reputation with an outstanding all-round display.

- The win came with a barrage of records: India amassed 1,014 match runs, the largest innings total ever by them in a single Test, with 587 in the first innings and 427/6 declared in the second. This remains the fourth-highest match aggregate in Test history.

Key Points:-

(i) Shubman Gill's batting heroics were the highlight: he scored 269 in the first innings

and 161 in the second, totaling an extraordinary 430 runs—the second-highest runs by an Indian in a single Test and the first time an Indian captain hit both a double century and a century in the same match.

(ii) In the absence of Jasprit Bumrah, India's pace attack stepped up dramatically. Akash Deep delivered a breathtaking performance, taking 10 wickets for 187 runs, the best match bowling figures by an Indian in England, including a match-changing 6/99 in the second innings. Supporting him brilliantly was Mohammed Siraj, who claimed 6 wickets in the first innings.

(iii) The victory ended a 63-year drought—India had previously played nine Tests at Edgbaston without a win (seven losses, one draw), making this first win a historic landmark. The triumph also marked India's largest margin of victory overseas by runs, surpassing the previous record of 318 runs achieved in Antigua in 2019.

2. Magnus Carlsen Wins SuperUnited Rapid & Blitz Croatia 2025 and D Gukesh Secures Third Place.



On July 6, 2025, World No. 1 chess player Magnus Carlsen of Norway won the SuperUnited Rapid & Blitz Croatia 2025

chess tournament, part of the Grand Chess Tour (GCT) 2025, held in Zagreb, Croatia. Carlsen scored a total of 22.5 out of 36 points, securing his 10th GCT title and his sixth consecutive tournament win of the year.

- **The SuperUnited Rapid & Blitz Croatia 2025** was the third official event of the Grand Chess Tour 2025 and was held from June 30 to July 6, 2025. It followed the same format as previous GCT tournaments, combining Rapid and Blitz formats, and featured top global players, including three wildcards: Magnus Carlsen, Anish Giri, and Croatian GM Ivan Šarić.

- The tournament had a total of 36 points up for grabs—18 from Rapid and 18 from Blitz—with players earning double points in Rapid games. The event offered a total prize pool of USD 175,000, with the top three winners being Magnus Carlsen (USD 40,000), Wesley So (USD 30,000), and D Gukesh (USD 25,000).

- Carlsen initially stood in third position after the Rapid section, scoring 10 out of 18 points. However, he made a strong comeback in the Blitz rounds, adding 12.5 points, and finished first with a combined total of 22.5 points. His performance in Blitz sealed his victory before the final round concluded.

Key Points:-

(i) Wesley So, representing the United States of America (USA), placed second with 20 points. Despite a modest performance in Rapid (8/18), he delivered an impressive Blitz run with 12 points, overtaking several higher-ranked players and maintaining consistent form across GCT 2025.

(ii) Indian chess prodigy D Gukesh finished third with 19.5 points. He had a stellar run in the Rapid section as the sole leader but

could not maintain his form in the Blitz rounds. R Praggnanandhaa, also from India, finished 5th with 16.5 points, delivering a strong performance despite fierce international competition.

(iii) The next event in the Grand Chess Tour 2025 will be the Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz, scheduled to be held from August 10 to 16, 2025, at the Saint Louis Chess Club in Saint Louis, Missouri, USA. This event will mark the fourth leg of the five-event GCT 2025 circuit.

3. Neeraj Chopra Clinches Gold at Inaugural Neeraj Chopra Classic 2025 in Bengaluru.



Neeraj Chopra, India's Olympic javelin champion, triumphed at the inaugural Neeraj Chopra Classic 2025—India's first international World Athletics Gold-level field event—on July 5, 2025, at Bengaluru's Sree Kanteerava Stadium, with a winning throw of 86.18 m

- The competition featured 12 elite throwers, including world-class athletes like Julius Yego (Kenya) and Thomas Röhler (Germany). Following three initial rounds, only the top eight advanced, where Chopra regained momentum

after an opening foul to secure the top podium position.

- Julius Yego took silver with a season-best 84.51 m, while Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage claimed bronze at 84.34 m . The event drew a strong crowd of over 14,500 spectators, boosting public interest in track and field.

Key Points:-

(i) Among Indian competitors, Sachin Yadav impressed with a throw of 82.33 m, finishing just off the podium, despite an ankle injury. Overall, three of five Indian throwers advanced to the final stages, showcasing promising domestic talent.

(ii) Neeraj Chopra expressed pride in hosting a world-class javelin event at home and emphasized his commitment to nurturing Indian athletes, hoping to expand the Classic into a multi-discipline competition. His winning mark reinforced his elite status, following a season-best 90.23 m earlier in 2025.

(iii) This prestigious meet marks a major step for Indian athletics, demonstrating capacity to host high-calibre competitions and reigniting national stadium attendance—a crucial factor for long-term sports development.



Kunwar Anand Singh, a veteran politician from Uttar Pradesh and former Member of Parliament representing Gonda, passed away in Lucknow on July 6, 2025, at the age of 87. His death followed a sudden deterioration in health at his residence, after which he was rushed to a hospital where he breathed his last.

- A scion of the erstwhile royal family of Mankapur, Anand Singh completed his schooling at Colvin Taluqdar's College, Lucknow, and earned a BSc in Agriculture from Allahabad Agricultural Institute (now Allahabad University).

- He began his political journey in the 1960s, serving as an MLA before being elected to the Lok Sabha from Gonda four times (1971, 1980, 1984, 1989) as a member of the Indian National Congress.

Key Points:-

(i) After losing his parliamentary seat in the 1990s, he returned to state politics in 2012, winning from Gaura and serving as the Agriculture Minister in the Akhilesh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party government until 2017.

(ii) Known as the "UP Tiger," Singh wielded significant influence in eastern Uttar Pradesh, often shaping local electoral

4. Former MP and MLA Kunwar Anand Singh Passes Away at 87.

outcomes through his deep-rooted political network.

(iii) Leaders across party lines, including UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Deputy CM Brajesh Pathak, and Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, paid rich tributes to his legacy. His passing marks the end of a significant era in Uttar Pradesh politics, leaving behind his wife Rani Veena Singh, three daughters, and son Kirti Vardhan Singh—current MP and Minister of State for External Affairs.

INDEX

1. India Ranked 4th Most Equal Society Globally in World Bank's 2025 Gini Index.



India has been ranked the 4th most equal society in the world in terms of income distribution, according to the World Bank's Gini Index 2025, based on data for the year 2022–23.

- India achieved a Gini score of 25.5, placing it just behind the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Belarus, and ahead of all major global economies including the US and China.

- The Gini Index, a widely used measure of income inequality, ranges from 0 (perfect equality) to 100 (complete inequality). India's

score of 25.5 places it in the “moderately low inequality” category (25–30) and brings it close to the “low inequality” group (below 25). This marks a significant step forward for India in terms of inclusive growth and equitable income distribution across its population.

- India's Gini score improved from 28.8 in 2011–12 to 25.5 in 2022–23, reflecting the impact of sustained poverty reduction and inclusive welfare efforts.

Key Points:-

(i) India now ranks ahead of major developed and emerging economies such as the United States (Gini 41.8) and China (Gini 35.7), and also surpasses all other G7 and G20 countries in income equality. The data reinforces India's position as a global example of equitable growth in the developing world.

(ii) This progress has been supported by flagship government initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme, Ayushman Bharat, and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). These programmes have enhanced financial inclusion, access to healthcare, food security, and basic income stability, thereby directly impacting income equality among the rural and urban poor.

(iii) The World Bank also noted a dramatic reduction in extreme poverty in India. Between 2011–12 and 2022–23, nearly 171 million Indians were lifted out of extreme poverty (living on less than \$2.15/day), and the extreme poverty rate fell from 16.2% to just 2.3%. Using a higher poverty line of \$3/day, the poverty rate stands at 5.3%, further validating the country's socio-economic transformation in the past decade.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. World Rural Development Day Celebrated Globally for the First Time on July 6, 2025.



The first-ever United Nations (UN) World Rural Development Day (WRDD) was observed globally on 6th July 2025 to raise awareness about rural contributions to development and to promote inclusive and sustainable rural progress aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- The World Rural Development Day 2025 marked a significant milestone by recognizing the importance of rural communities in achieving global development. It commemorates the establishment of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) on July 6, 1979, in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

- The 2025 theme was "Rural Empowerment – Global Impact", highlighting rural roles in agriculture, digital inclusion, food security, climate resilience, and youth empowerment. The WRDD aims to mobilize stakeholders globally to address rural poverty and inequality through policy and people-driven change.

- The priority themes for 2025 included Ending Rural Poverty and Hunger, Climate-Resilient

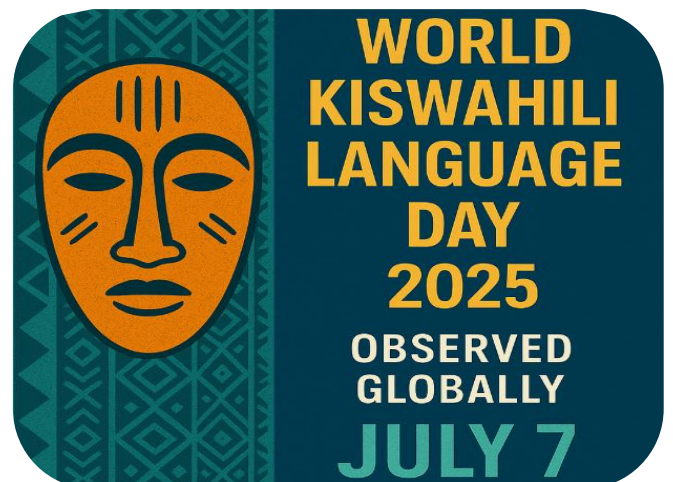
Livelihoods, Digital and Financial Inclusion, Empowering Women and Youth, and Improved Infrastructure and Services—all contributing directly to multiple SDG targets like SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

Key Points:-

(i) The official proclamation to observe July 6 every year as WRDD was adopted on 6th September 2024 by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) through resolution A/78/L.84/Rev.2, introduced by Bangladesh and co-sponsored by over 30 countries, including India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

(ii) This resolution was adopted by consensus and reflects a growing global commitment to recognizing rural populations' key role in sustainable development. With WRDD now officially on the UN calendar, it is expected to drive global focus on rural inclusion, resilience, and empowerment in the years ahead.

2. World Kiswahili Language Day 2025 Observed Globally on July 7.



World Kiswahili Language Day 2025 was celebrated globally on July 7, marking the

fourth observance of this UNESCO-declared event that highlights the significance of Kiswahili in fostering cultural unity, multilingualism, and sustainable development.

- The theme for 2025—“Kiswahili: A Bridge for Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue”—captures the language’s role in bridging diverse cultures across Africa and promoting a shared human heritage.

- Kiswahili, also known as Swahili, is a Bantu language with deep Arabic influences, spoken by over 200 million people across East, Central, and Southern Africa. It is one of the ten most widely spoken languages worldwide, and a key lingua franca in sub-Saharan Africa.

- Its origins date back to the East African coast between the 7th and 15th centuries, where it evolved through trade and cultural exchanges. The term “Swahili” derives from the Arabic sawāḥilī, meaning “of the coast”.

Key Points:-

(i) The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) officially proclaimed this day in November 2021, making Kiswahili the first African-origin language to receive its own UN Language Day. The first occasion was celebrated on 7 July 2022, and the observance continues annually on July 7.

(ii) World Kiswahili Language Day promotes key goals: advancing multilingualism, supporting regional integration, preserving cultural diversity, and enhancing education and peace, in alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals.

(iii) The celebration in 2025 included panel discussions at UNESCO headquarters in Paris and regional festivities in East African

countries such as Rwanda, featuring cultural exchanges, youth mentorship, and academic forums on Kiswahili’s educational and developmental roles.

DEFENCE

1. Cochin Shipyard Signs MoU with South Korea’s KSOE to Strengthen India’s Shipbuilding Sector.



India’s largest public sector shipbuilder, Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with South Korea’s HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. Ltd. (KSOE), a subsidiary of HD Hyundai Co., Ltd. The partnership aims to enhance India’s capabilities in shipbuilding, maritime workforce development, and global maritime innovation.

- This strategic collaboration is closely aligned with the Government of India’s (GoI) vision under the ‘Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030’ and the ‘Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision (MAKV 2047)’.

- Both visions are dedicated to transforming India into a leading global maritime hub by advancing technological standards and infrastructure within the shipping sector.

- Under the terms of the MoU, CSL and KSOE will jointly explore opportunities for building ships in India and abroad. The two companies will work on sharing shipbuilding technology, scaling up technical capabilities to match international standards, and identifying areas to enhance productivity and utilization across their operations.

Key Points:-

(i) A key focus area of this collaboration is skill development. The companies will design initiatives to train and upskill maritime professionals, ensuring a stronger and more capable workforce ready to meet the future demands of shipbuilding and allied sectors. This also includes cooperative efforts in shipbuilding-related research, design, and technology exchange.

(ii) The MoU is further supported by government-backed financial frameworks such as the recently launched ₹250 crore (INR 2.5 billion) Maritime Development Fund, which aims to promote investment in shipbuilding, modernization of port infrastructure, and technological upgrades across India's maritime ecosystem.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. NASA Discovers 3I/ATLAS – Third Interstellar Comet Detected in Solar System After 'Oumuamua & Borisov.



In July 2025, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), United States of America (USA), officially confirmed the discovery of a rare interstellar comet named 3I/ATLAS (C/2025 N1).

- This newly discovered comet has originated from outside our solar system, making it the third-ever confirmed interstellar object (ISO) detected in our solar neighbourhood after 1I/'Oumuamua (2017) and 2I/Borisov (2019).

- The discovery was made by the ATLAS (Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System) using a telescope situated in Río Hurtado, Chile. The interstellar comet is being monitored in coordination with the European Space Agency (ESA)'s Planetary Defence Office, which supports observation of potential near-Earth celestial threats.

- 3I/ATLAS is currently travelling through the outer solar system at an estimated distance of 670 million kilometres from the Sun and is moving at an astonishing speed of 60 km/s (around 2,14,364 km/h). The diameter of the comet is estimated to be up to 20 km, making it a significantly large space object.

Key Points:-

(i) According to NASA, 3I/ATLAS will make its closest approach to the Sun around

October 30, 2025, and will pass near Mars on October 2, 2025. It will approach Earth most closely on December 19, 2025, but will still remain at a safe distance of approximately 270 million kilometres.

(ii) The comet is expected to be visible until September 2025, after which it may temporarily disappear from telescopic view and is likely to reappear in December 2025. Scientists consider this object valuable for studying the origin and composition of icy celestial bodies from beyond our solar system.

Static GK

Trinidad & Tobago	Capital: Port of Spain	President: Christine Kangaloo
Indian Bank	MD & CEO : Shri Binod Kumar	Headquarters: Chennai
Cochin Shipyard	Chairman & MD : Madhu S. Nair	Founded: 1972
Indian Council of Medical Research - National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE)	Director : Dr Manoj Murhekar	Headquarters : Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN)
New Development Bank (NDB)	President: Dilma Rousseff	Headquarters: Shanghai, China
World Bank	CFO: Anshula Kant	Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
Haryana	Chief minister: Nayab Singh Saini	Governor: Bandaru Dattatraya