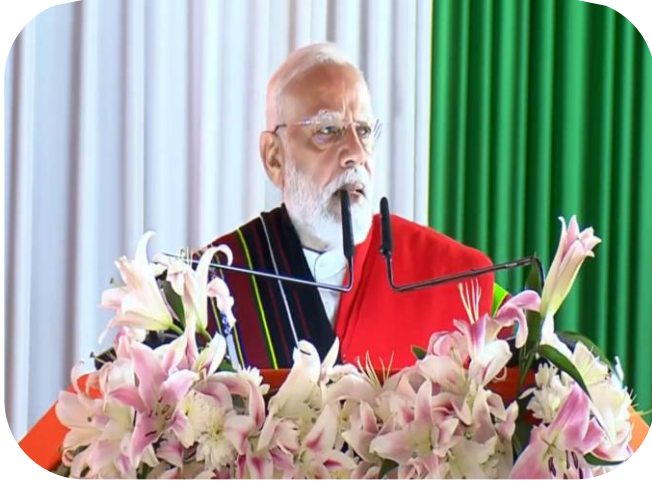


DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

> 15 & 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. PM Narendra Modi's 3-Day Visit to Northeast & Bihar to Launch ₹71,000 Crore Projects.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a three-day visit to Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, West Bengal, and Bihar from September 13–15, 2025, to dedicate and lay foundation stones of multi-sectoral development projects worth over ₹71,000 crore.

- On September 13, in Mizoram, projects worth ₹9,000 crore will be inaugurated, including the Bairabi–Sairang Rail Line (₹8,070 crore) giving the state its first railway connectivity. Three new trains to Delhi, Guwahati, and Kolkata will also be flagged off from Sairang.

- In Manipur, projects worth ₹7,300 crore at Churachandpur and ₹1,200 crore at Imphal will be launched, covering road infrastructure, IT hubs, Civil Secretariat, Police Headquarters, and new Manipur Bhawans in Delhi and Kolkata. He will also attend Bhupen Hazarika's centenary celebrations in Guwahati.

- On September 14–15, PM Modi will inaugurate ₹18,530 crore projects in Assam including Darrang Medical College, Guwahati Ring Road, and Numaligarh Bioethanol Plant, and ₹36,000 crore projects in Bihar such as

Bhagalpur Thermal Plant, Purnea Airport, and Kosi–Mechi River Link.

Key Points:-

- (i) Prime Minister will launch the National Makhana Board in Bihar to enhance farmers' income, strengthen post-harvest management, and boost exports.
- (ii) He will inaugurate a Sex Sorted Semen Facility at Purnea under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission to support scientific cattle breeding.
- (iii) The Prime Minister will distribute ₹500 crore Community Investment Funds under DAY-NRLM to empower women self-help groups across Bihar.

2. Union Minister Piyush Goyal Inaugurates APEDA Regional Office in Patna.



Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated Bihar's first APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority) regional office in Patna to boost the state's agri-export potential.

- The inauguration took place during the Bihar Idea Festival in Patna, with Bihar Deputy CM Samrat Chaudhary and Industries Minister Nitish Mishra in attendance.

- A 7-metric-ton consignment of GI-tagged Mithila Makhana was flagged off to New Zealand, Canada, and the USA, led by woman entrepreneur Neha Arya.

Key Points:-

- (i) The Patna APEDA office will provide exporter registration, advisory support, market intelligence, certification, and infrastructure development, reducing dependency on Varanasi.
- (ii) Bihar's notable GI-tagged products include Shahi Litchi, Jardalu Mango, Mithila Makhana, and Magahi Pan, alongside diverse fruits, vegetables, and grains with high global demand.
- (iii) APEDA has strengthened Bihar's agri-export ecosystem via training, capacity-building, and international buyer-seller meets, including May 2025 event with 70 buyers from 22 countries.

3. IIT Madras & Guidance Tamil Nadu Launch 'INNOVATION-TN', India's First State-Level Start-Up Dashboard.



The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, in collaboration with Guidance Tamil Nadu, launched INNOVATION-TN in

September 2025, a first-of-its-kind state-level start-up and innovation dashboard designed to strengthen the start-up ecosystem in Tamil Nadu.

- The INNOVATION-TN dashboard acts as a one-stop source for information, connecting start-ups with incubators, investors, banks, and corporations seeking innovation partners.
- The initiative follows an agreement signed on 23 July 2025 between Guidance Tamil Nadu, IIT Madras, and YNOS Venture Engine CC Private Limited, marking a collaborative push for entrepreneurship in the state.
- The platform has been developed by the Centre for Research on Start-ups and Risk Financing (CREST), an Institute of Eminence Research Centre at IIT Madras, with support from IIT-incubated YNOS Venture Engine.

Key Points:-

- (i) As of August 2025, Tamil Nadu's start-up ecosystem comprises 19,000 start-ups, generating 2.2 lakh jobs and attracting investments worth Rs. 1.2 lakh crore.
- (ii) The state also has 228 incubators supporting entrepreneurs, with 45 start-ups each successfully raising over Rs. 200 crore, showcasing Tamil Nadu's robust innovation and funding environment.

BANKING & FINANCE

1. India & ADB Sign \$126 Million Loan Agreement for Sustainable Tourism in Uttarakhand.



India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$126 million loan agreement to promote sustainable and resilient tourism in Uttarakhand, with a special focus on climate-vulnerable regions.

- The project will target Tehri Garhwal district, one of the most climate-sensitive and economically disadvantaged areas of Uttarakhand, aiming to boost eco-friendly tourism while strengthening infrastructure.
- It is expected to directly benefit over 87,000 residents and nearly 2.7 million annual visitors through upgraded sanitation, waste management, and improved disaster preparedness systems.
- The agreement was signed between Juhi Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), and Kai Wei Yeo, Officer-in-Charge, India Resident Mission, ADB.

Key Points:-

- (i) The Asian Development Bank was established in 1966 and currently has 68 member countries, including India as a founding member.
- (ii) ADB approved financing worth \$4.5 billion for India in 2023, making India its largest borrower in Asia.

- (iii) Uttarakhand contributes nearly 2% to India's domestic tourism and the project aims to integrate eco-tourism with livelihood generation for local communities.

2. IFC Pledges USD 137 Million to JBM ECOLIFE for Electric Public Transport Expansion in India.



In September 2025, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank Group (WBG), pledged USD 137 million (Rs 1,210 crore) to JBM ECOLIFE (JBM), a subsidiary of JBM Auto Ltd, to promote electric buses and innovative urban mobility solutions across India. This marks IFC's largest global e-bus investment and its first in Asia.

- IFC's funding is split into USD 100 million (Rs 883 crore) for JBM ECOLIFE and USD 37 million (Rs 327 crore) for GreenCell, backed by Eversource Capital, supporting electric mobility initiatives.
- The project will deploy 4,000 e-buses and associated charging stations across 39 municipalities in 8 Indian states/Union Territories: Maharashtra, Assam, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, and Delhi.

● The initiative incorporates a Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) to minimize payment risks for municipal and state transport undertakings, improving bankability and replicability of e-bus projects nationwide.

Key Points:-

(i) India currently operates over 2 million buses, and the government targets 40% electric bus penetration by FY2030, emphasizing sustainable urban transport growth.

(ii) IFC's investment is a landmark in global e-mobility financing, making it the largest e-bus funding globally and first Asian venture by IFC in this sector.

● ICRA's chief economist Aditi Nayar stated that the swift implementation of GST cuts, alongside income-tax relief, has restored FY25 GDP growth forecast from the downgraded 6% back to 6.5%, reversing the earlier negative outlook.

● On banks, Anil Gupta, senior vice-president, ICRA, highlighted that higher disposable incomes will drive retail loan demand, maintain asset quality, and possibly stimulate corporate investment if consumption rises further.

● For NBFCs, AM Karthik, senior vice-president, ICRA, noted that the consumption-led demand boost would reduce risks in unsecured and microfinance portfolios, while supporting sectors like vehicles and housing for a balanced credit growth mix.

Key Points:-

(i) Incremental bank credit is projected to rise to Rs 19-20.5 lakh crore in FY26 (10.4-11.3% growth) from Rs 18 lakh crore in FY25, while NBFC credit, excluding infra-focused entities, is expected to grow 15-17%, compared to 17% in FY25.

(ii) Though incremental bank credit slowed to Rs 3.9 lakh crore in Apr-Aug FY26 from Rs 5.1 lakh crore a year ago, ICRA expects GST rationalisation and the CRR cut to spur further demand, aided by ample liquidity and easing credit-to-deposit ratios.

(iii) Credit vulnerabilities remain for MSMEs and unsecured personal loans (17% of non-food bank credit of Rs 184 lakh crore) and small NBFCs (34% of Rs 35 lakh crore), with projected credit costs rising by ~13 bps for banks and ~30 bps for NBFCs, particularly in non-housing segments.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

1. ICRA Revises FY25 GDP Growth to 6.5% Following Sharp GST Cuts, Predicts Higher Bank & NBFC Credit Demand.



Rating agency ICRA reversed its earlier FY25 GDP growth downgrade to 6.5%, attributing the recovery to sharp and unexpected GST rate cuts, combined with earlier income-tax relief, which have put Rs 3 lakh crore into households, boosting consumption and credit growth prospects.

2. Bharat Forge Signs MoU with UK's Windracers for Deployment of Autonomous Cargo Drones in India.



In September 2025, Bharat Forge, a leading forging and advanced engineering company, signed a collaboration agreement with UK-based Windracers, an autonomous cargo drone manufacturer, for the deployment of the UAV ULTRA across India.

- The MoU has an initial two-year term, enabling both companies to drive localisation, joint trials, and formulate a definitive deployment plan for India.
- ULTRA drones are expected to support India's military and civil sectors, including Carrier On Board Delivery (COD) for the Indian Navy, and critical logistics support for the Indian Army and Indian Air Force.
- The collaboration aligns with the UK-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Vision 2035, promoting technology transfer and innovation between the two nations.

Key Points:-

- (i) The MoU was signed at the Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) 2025 exhibition in London, UK.
- (ii) Bharat Forge–Windracers partnership

advances India's autonomous aerial systems, enhancing logistics and operational capabilities for the armed forces.

(iii) ULTRA UAV enables precision cargo delivery, long-endurance missions, and efficient operations for the navy, army, and air force, also supporting civil transport needs.

MOUs and Agreement

1. TCS & C-DAC Sign MoU to Build India's Sovereign Cloud Ecosystem.



In September 2025, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), the flagship IT company of the Tata Group, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), a premier R&D body under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), to accelerate the development of India's sovereign cloud ecosystem.

- The MoU focuses on creating AI-enabled sovereign cloud platforms that comply with India's data localisation rules while enabling the digital transformation of public sector services across healthcare, safety, and governance.

- This collaboration aims to reduce reliance on global hyperscalers by leveraging OpenStack frameworks and integrating indigenous technologies, thereby strengthening India's technological self-reliance.
- Key government applications such as e-Sanjeevani (telemedicine service) and Dial 112 (national emergency helpline) will be hosted on TCS' SovereignSecure Cloud, ensuring compliance with strict national data protection norms.

Key Points:-

- (i) C-DAC was established in 1988 and is India's premier R&D organisation in High-Performance Computing (HPC), cloud, and AI-driven technologies.
- (ii) TCS' SovereignSecure Cloud is a government-grade platform with encryption, access controls, and AI-based monitoring.
- (iii) The MoU supports the Digital India Programme (2015) by strengthening secure indigenous digital infrastructure for governance and services.

2. NCSSR & IIT-Delhi Ink MoU to Advance Sports Science and Indigenous Innovation.



The National Centre of Sports Science Research (NCSSR) under the Sports Authority of India (SAI), MoYAS recently signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi (IIT-D) to strengthen collaboration in sports science, advanced technology, and indigenous innovation.

- The MoU was signed at IIT-Delhi campus by Dr. Bibhu Kalyan Nayak (NCSSR) and Prof. K. Aggarwal (IIT-D) in the presence of Hari Ranjan Rao, Secretary, MoYAS, and Prof. Rangan Banerjee, Director, IIT-D.

- The collaboration will focus on athlete performance enhancement, injury prevention, and scientific recovery systems, while promoting knowledge-sharing between top scientists and sports institutions.

- A new Biomechanics Research Laboratory has been inaugurated at IIT-Delhi, equipped to conduct advanced sports science evaluations and provide scientific insights into athlete performance and well-being.

Key Points:-

- (i) NCSSR was established in 2017 to integrate medical, sports, and technology research for elite athletes under SAI's High-Performance Centres.
- (ii) The Biomechanics Laboratory at IIT-Delhi has been designed with motion-capture systems, force plates, and wearable sensors, enabling real-time biomechanical and physiological analysis.
- (iii) This MoU also supports India's 2028 Los Angeles Olympics preparation roadmap, aiming to create indigenous scientific training models for international competitiveness.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

1. Acharya Devvrat Appointed to Discharge Functions of Maharashtra Governor Following C.P. Radhakrishnan's Resignation.



On 11 September 2025, President of India Droupadi Murmu appointed Acharya Devvrat, the Governor of Gujarat, to additionally discharge the functions of Governor of Maharashtra after Chandrapuram Ponnusami (C.P.) Radhakrishnan resigned following his election as the Vice President of India.

- Acharya Devvrat will temporarily oversee Maharashtra's gubernatorial functions in addition to his role as Governor of Gujarat, ensuring continuity of constitutional responsibilities in the state.
- C.P. Radhakrishnan resigned from the position of Maharashtra Governor after being elected Vice President of India, a role in which he functions as Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Key Points:-

- Acharya Devvrat, a politician and educationist, served as principal of a Gurukul in Kurukshetra, Haryana for 35+ years, promoting Vedic values, social reforms, and education.
- He held key positions: Governor of

Himachal Pradesh (Aug 2015–July 2019), Governor of Gujarat since 22 July 2019, and Chancellor of multiple universities including Gujarat University, Sardar Patel University, Saurashtra University, and Gujarat Technological University.

(iii) Constitutionally, the Governor is appointed by the President (Article 155), serves 5 years at the President's pleasure (Article 156), and takes the oath from the Chief Justice of the State High Court (Article 159); the Vice President is elected by MPs (Article 66), serves 5 years (Article 67), and takes the oath from the President (Article 69).

2. FSIB Recommends Ravi Ranjan as Next Managing Director of SBI and Final Approval Awaited from ACC.



In September 2025, the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) recommended Ravi Ranjan, Deputy Managing Director (DMD) of State Bank of India (SBI), for the position of Managing Director (MD). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will make the final decision. If appointed, he will succeed Vinay M Tonse, whose term ends on 30 November 2025.

- SBI is currently led by a Chairman (Challa Sreenivasulu Setty) and four MDs, including Ashwini Kumar Tewari, Vinay M Tonse, Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh, and Rama Mohan Rao Amara.
- The FSIB recommendation requires ACC approval, chaired by the Prime Minister, to formalize the appointment of the MD of SBI.

Key Points:-

- Ravi Ranjan is DMD for Global Markets at SBI, with over 33 years of banking experience, having joined as a Probationary Officer (PO) in 1991.
- He has held key leadership roles at SBI, including Chief General Manager (CGM) of Chennai Circle, Vice President at SBI Singapore, Deputy General Manager (DGM) at SBI's Overseas Branches, and General Manager (GM) in Project Finance and Leasing at SBI's Corporate Centre in Mumbai.
- FSIB, set up in July 2022 under the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, recommends appointments of Chairman, MD, CEO, and WTDs in PSBs, PSICs, and other state-owned FIs. It is chaired by Bhanu Pratap Sharma, former DoPT Secretary.

App and Web Portal

1. PM Narendra Modi Launches Gyan Bharatam Mission & Portal at International Conference in New Delhi.



In September 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Gyan Bharatam Mission and its dedicated portal at the International Conference on Gyan Bharatam in New Delhi, focusing on manuscript digitisation and India's cultural legacy.

- PM Modi emphasised that India possesses the world's largest collection of nearly one crore manuscripts, despite the destruction of crores of manuscripts in history, underscoring the country's civilisational devotion to knowledge, science, and learning.

- He stated that the global cultural and creative industries are valued at USD 2.5 trillion, and digitised manuscripts could act as a vast databank to fuel innovation, research, and cultural industries worldwide.

- The three-day international conference, themed "Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy through Manuscript Heritage", brought together scholars, technologists, conservationists, and policy experts to deliberate on revitalising manuscript wealth and promoting global knowledge dialogue.

Key Points:-

- The Gyan Bharatam Portal will serve as a centralised platform for manuscript

digitisation, preservation, and public access.

(ii) The mission promotes youth participation through AI, digital archiving, and cloud tools to globalise India's ancient knowledge.

(iii) The conference showcased rare manuscripts and addressed legal frameworks, cultural diplomacy, and ancient script decipherment.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. India Observed National Forest Martyrs Day on September 11 to Honour Forest Protectors.



On September 11, 2025, India observed National Forest Martyrs Day, commemorating the sacrifices of people who gave their lives protecting forests, trees, and wildlife, with nationwide events led by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

- On 11 September 1730, over 363 Bishnoi villagers led by Amrita Devi Bishnoi and her daughters sacrificed their lives in Khejarli, Rajasthan, to protect sacred Khejri trees from being cut under the orders of Maharaja Abhay Singh's official.

- The Khejarli Massacre is recognized as one of the earliest acts of eco-feminism and

environmental protest in India, where women took leadership in defending biodiversity and forest rights.

- The Khejri tree (*Prosopis cineraria*), declared the state tree of Rajasthan in 1982-83, is known as the "Kalpavriksha of the Thar Desert" for its vital ecological role, covering two-thirds of Rajasthan and aiding socio-economic life in arid zones.

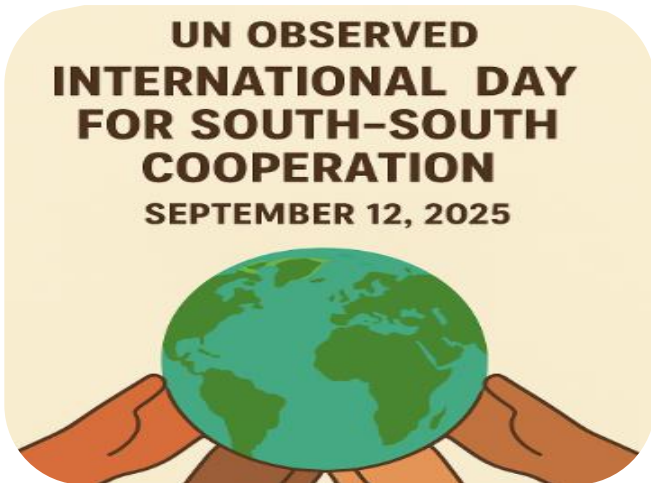
Key Points:-

(i) The MoEFCC declared September 11 as National Forest Martyrs Day in 2013. The main observance is held annually at the National Forest Martyrs Memorial in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

(ii) In 1988, the Department of Posts issued a commemorative stamp of the Khejri tree, highlighting its cultural and ecological value. The Khejarli Massacre later inspired the Chipko Movement (1973) in Chamoli, Uttarakhand, led by Chandi Prasad Bhatt, which resulted in a 15-year ban on green felling in UP Himalayan forests in 1980.

(iii) According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR 2023), India's forest cover is 21.76% of its geographical area, while total forest and tree cover combined stands at 25.17%, highlighting their critical role as the "lungs of the Earth" in oxygen production, carbon storage, and rainfall regulation.

2. UN Observed International Day for South-South Cooperation on September 12, 2025.



The United Nations (UN) observes the International Day for South-South Cooperation annually on 12 September to highlight collaboration among developing countries in the Global South across economic, social, technical, cultural, and political sectors.

- The UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted resolution A/RES/58/220 on 23 December 2003, declaring 19 December as the UN Day for South-South Cooperation, with the first observance held in 2004.
- In 2011, the UNGA shifted the observance to 12 September to commemorate the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA) for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC).
- The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) was established in 1974 as a special unit within UNDP to promote cooperation among developing countries, later restructured as UNOSSC in 2013.

Key Points:-

(i) The 2025 theme is “New Opportunities and Innovation through South-South and Triangular Cooperation”, emphasizing action on commitments and inclusivity so that no

country is left behind.

(ii) UNOSSC functions under the guidance of the UNGA and the High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation (HLCSSC), facilitating South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) globally.

(iii) South-South Cooperation strengthens solidarity among developing nations, enabling bilateral, regional, intraregional, and interregional partnerships across trade, innovation, capacity-building, and sustainable development goals.

DEFENCE

1. Rajnath Singh Flags-off ‘Samudra Pradakshina’, World’s First Tri-Service All-Women Sailing Circumnavigation.



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually flagged-off ‘Samudra Pradakshina’, the world’s first tri-service all-women circumnavigation sailing expedition, from the Gateway of India, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- The expedition is led by 10 women officers from the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, making it the first attempt by an all-women tri-service crew to sail around the globe. They will sail onboard the IASV Triveni, an indigenously

built 50-foot Class A yacht constructed in Puducherry.

- During their journey, the crew will cross the equator twice and pass through the three great capes — Cape Leeuwin in Australia, Cape Horn in South America, and the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa. The toughest phase will be the Southern Ocean and Drake Passage.
- The global voyage will include four international port calls at Fremantle (Australia), Lyttelton (New Zealand), Port Stanley (Canada), and Cape Town (South Africa).

Key Points:-

- (i) The expedition is planned to cover nearly 21,600 nautical miles (40,000 km), adhering to the international circumnavigation sailing standard.
- (ii) Training for the women officers was conducted under the Indian Army Adventure Wing (IAAW) and supervised by experienced naval sailing instructors.
- (iii) This initiative is aligned with India's 75th year of women's induction in the Armed Forces (since 1949), making it a landmark event in military gender inclusion.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. Indra & TASL Commission India's First Indigenous 3D Air Surveillance Radar 'Lanza-N' on INS Mysore.



On 10 September 2025, Indra (Spain) and Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) successfully delivered and commissioned Lanza-N, India's first indigenous Three-Dimension Air Surveillance Radar (3D-ASR), into the Indian Navy on INS Mysore. This marks the radar's first deployment outside Spain.

- The Lanza-N radar enhances India's long-range air defence and anti-missile capabilities by detecting multiple threats, including drones, supersonic aircraft, naval platforms, and anti-radiation missiles.
- A 2020 contract under the Technology Transfer Programme (TTP) ensures delivery of 23 naval radars by 2029, with Indra supplying 3 and TASL manufacturing 20 at its Karnataka facility.
- TASL has established a dedicated radar assembly, integration, and testing facility in Karnataka to support production and future naval deployments.

Key Points:-

- (i) Lanza-N provides 3D detection by measuring distance, direction, and altitude, and has a range of up to 256 nautical miles (~474 km) for comprehensive surveillance.
- (ii) The radar has been customised for

Indian conditions, capable of operating under extreme heat and high humidity, ensuring reliability in diverse environments.

(iii) It is fully integrated with onboard naval systems and has passed rigorous trials across naval and aerial platforms, ensuring combat readiness.

ENVIRONMENT

1. New Gecko Species 'Cyrtodactylus Vanarakshaka' Named After Assam's Forest Department



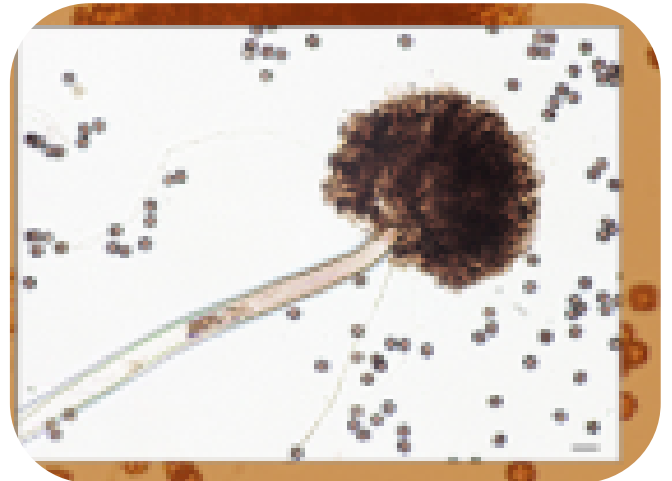
In September 2025, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma announced the discovery of a new bent-toed gecko, *Cyrtodactylus Vanarakshaka*, discovered in the montane forests of Dima Hasao district.

- The species was named after Assam's Forest Department, recognizing its role in forest protection.
- The discovery increases the total number of *Cyrtodactylus* species reported from Assam to five.
- The finding was published in the *Journal of Asia-Pacific Biodiversity* by a team of researchers including Manmath Bharali, Mathipi Vabeiryureilai, and Rupankar Bhattacharjee.

Key Points:-

- The name *Vanarakshaka* comes from Sanskrit words *vana* (forest) and *rakshaka* (protector), symbolizing conservation.
- The species belongs to the *Cyrtodactylus khasiensis* group, known for high endemism and restricted distribution in Northeast India.
- This discovery highlights the biodiversity importance of Assam's montane forests, which host rare and endemic reptilian fauna.

2. New Black Fungal Species *Aspergillus dhakephalkarii* and *Aspergillus patriciavillshireae* Discovered in Western Ghats.



In September 2025, researchers from MACS-Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune, Maharashtra, discovered two new black *Aspergillus* species — *Aspergillus dhakephalkarii* and *Aspergillus patriciavillshireae* — from soil samples of the Western Ghats, a UNESCO biodiversity hotspot.

- The discovery also marked the first geographic record of *Aspergillus aculeatinus* and *Aspergillus brunneoviolaceus* in the Western Ghats.

- The new species exhibit distinct morphological features such as yellowish sclerotia, spiny conidia, and branching conidiophores.
- The findings emphasize the ecological richness of the Western Ghats and the urgent need to explore fungal biodiversity for scientific and biotechnological applications.

Key Points:-

(i) *Aspergillus dhakephalkarii* forms fast-growing colonies with pale to dark brown spores, uniseriate conidiophores (2–3 branches), and smooth ellipsoidal conidia.

(ii) *Aspergillus patriciavillshireae* shows rapid growth, abundant yellowish-orange sclerotia, and acid production on specific media, with conidiophores branching into five or more columns.

(iii) The study used molecular markers such as Internal Transcribed Spacer (ITS), Calmodulin (CaM), BenA, and RPB2 genes to confirm species identity, highlighting its systematic and taxonomic significance.

Static GK

Indian Army (IA)	Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) : General Upendra Dwivedi	Headquarters: New Delhi
Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)	CEO: K. Krithivasan	Headquarter : Mumbai
Sports Authority of India (SAI)	Director General (DG): Hari Ranjan Rao	Headquarters: New Delhi
Asian Development Bank	Chairman :Masato Kanda	Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
Bihar	Capital: Patna	Chief minister: Nitish Kumar
ICRA Limited	CEO: Ramnath Krishnan	Founded: 1991
Maharashtra	Chief Minister (CM) : Devendra Fadnavis	Capital : Mumbai
Agharkar Research Institute (ARI)	Director : Dr. Prashant Dhakephalkar	Headquarters : Pune, Maharashtra
United Nations Office for South-	Director : Dima Al-Khatib	Headquarters : New York, the United States

South Cooperation (UNOSSC)	Established- 1974	of America (USA)
Tamil Nadu	Chief minister: M K Stalin	Governor: R. N. Ravi