



July - 23

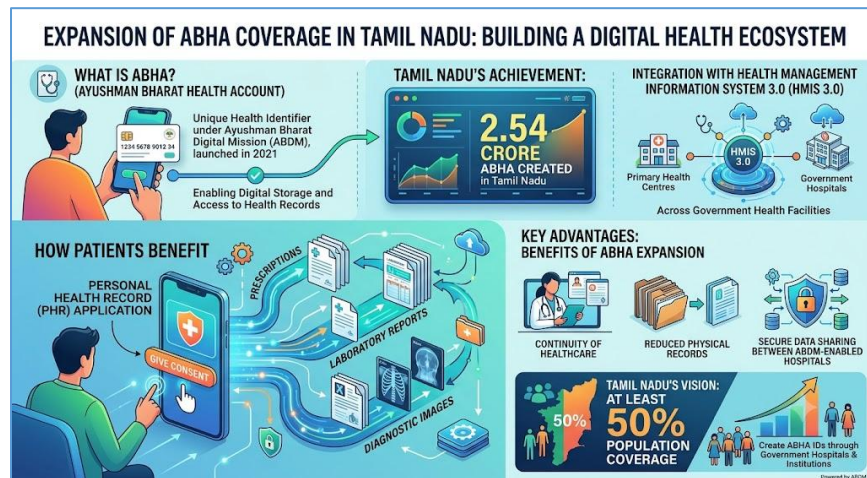
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The union home minister laid the foundation stone for the world's largest curd production plant under the Amul Bengal Dairy Project in Howrah, West Bengal.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off India's first hydrogen-powered train between Jind and Sonipat in Haryana.
- ❖ India hosted the 8th BRICS Heads of Prosecution Services Meeting organised by the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice.
 - The meeting enabled sharing of best practices to improve prosecutorial effectiveness, adjudication and public trust.
- ❖ Scientists discovered 24-million-year-old fossil leaves of the Kevda (Kewra / Pandanus) plant in the Tikak Parbat Formation, Makum Coalfield (Assam), showing it is older than human civilization and predates the final uplift of the Himalayas.
 - The fossils, discovered by scientists from the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeo sciences (BSIP), belong to the Pandanaceae family and confirm that Kevda has survived in the Indian subcontinent for at least 24 million years.
- ❖ The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) approved Wegovy as India's first injectable Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist for treating Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatohepatitis (MASH).
 - The MASH is a progressive form of fatty liver disease that causes liver inflammation and fibrosis; Wegovy is approved for adults with moderate to advanced fibrosis (F2–F3) along with diet and lifestyle changes.
- ❖ India's first Space Exploration Gallery was inaugurated at the Regional Science Centre, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, to promote scientific thinking and popularise space science.
- ❖ The European Commission unveiled the Electrification Action Plan to raise the European Union's electrification rate to 46% by 2040, aiming to make Europe the world's first "electro continent".
 - The plan includes a major reform of the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) and over €100 billion in funding for industrial decarbonisation projects.

TAMIL NADU NEWS

Expansion of ABHA Coverage

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has created 2.54 crore Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHA) and is integrating them with the Health Management Information System 3.0 (HMIS 3.0) across government health facilities.
- ❖ ABHA is a 14-digit unique health identifier under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), launched in 2021, enabling digital storage and access to health records.
- ❖ The integration allows patients to access the digital medical records such as prescriptions, laboratory reports and diagnostic images through a Personal Health Record (PHR) application with consent.
- ❖ ABHA helps improve continuity of healthcare, reduce dependence on physical records and enable secure sharing of health information between ABDM-enabled hospitals.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu aims to create ABHA IDs for at least 50% of its population through government hospitals and healthcare institutions.



NATIONAL NEWS

WTO Fisheries Agreement - India

- ❖ India became the 123rd member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to accept the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies by submitting its Instrument of Acceptance to the WTO.
- ❖ The agreement was adopted at the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) held in Geneva in June 2022.

- ❖ It aims to prohibit subsidies supporting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and address subsidies contributing to overfishing and excess fishing capacity.
- ❖ The agreement applies to marine wild capture fishing and excludes aquaculture and inland fisheries from its scope.
- ❖ The agreement entered into force on 15 September 2025 after acceptance by two-thirds of WTO members.

INDIA ACCEPTS WTO AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES SUBSIDIES

- India Becomes 123rd WTO Member To Accept Agreement On Fisheries Subsidies
- Instrument Of Acceptance Formally Handed Over By Commerce Secy Rajesh Agrawal To WTO's Dir-Gen In Geneva

Department Of Commerce Says

- Move Further Enhances India's Credibility As A Responsible Seafood Exporter
- Move Will Improve Access To Premium Mkts That Increasingly Value Sustainability & Traceability
- Agreement Prohibits Govt Support To Illegal Fishing Activities And Overexploitation Of Stocks
- Aquaculture Based Shrimp Exports Remain Unaffected, Excluded From Trade Agreement

PARIVARTAN Scheme

- ❖ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) approved guidelines for the PARIVARTAN Scheme to reduce transport-related air pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR).
- ❖ PARIVARTAN stands for Programme for Accelerated Renewal and Incentivization of Vehicle Assets for Reducing Transport Air Pollution and Network Emissions.
- ❖ The scheme aims to replace old, highly polluting trucks and buses with Bharat Stage (BS)-VI compliant or electric vehicles.

- ❖ It is implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and funded by the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB).
- ❖ The scheme covers Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and uses digital platforms integrated with VAHAN, V-Scrap, DigiELV and the Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

Delhi approves PARIVARTAN scheme to replace old buses, trucks with cleaner models

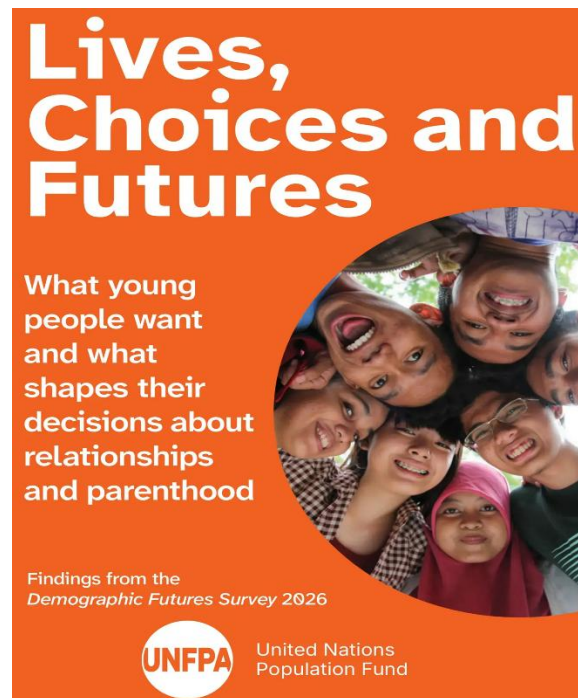


INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Demographic Futures Survey 2026

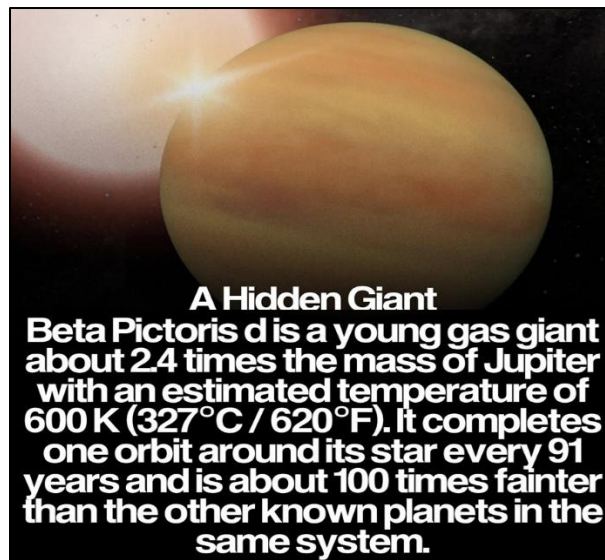
- ❖ The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) released the Lives, Choices and Futures — Demographic Futures Survey 2026, analysing youth aspirations, relationships and family decisions.
- ❖ The global survey covered 108,926 internet-connected young adults (18–39 years) across 73 countries and territories.
- ❖ Over two-thirds of respondents preferred a family arrangement involving marriage, showing continued interest in family life.
- ❖ Financial security (81%) and stable employment and housing were identified as major factors influencing partnerships and parenthood decisions.
- ❖ In India, women aged 18–39 years reported an ideal family size of 2.1 children, while the actual average among women aged 35–39 was 1.0 child.

- ❖ The report highlighted that declining fertility is linked more to economic challenges, housing costs, employment insecurity and lack of support systems rather than reduced interest in parenthood.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

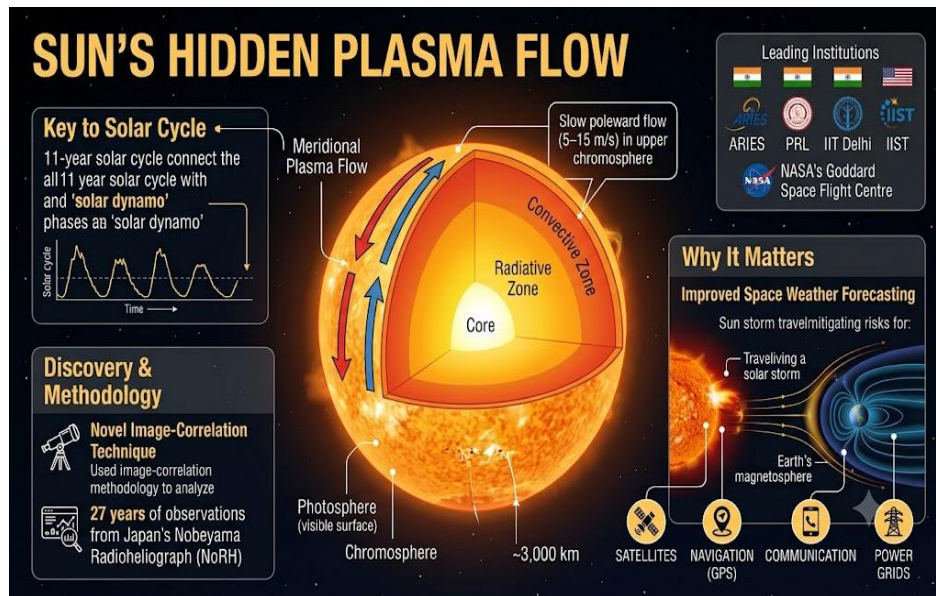
New Exoplanet - Beta Pictoris d



- ❖ Astronomers using NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) discovered a new giant exoplanet, Beta Pictoris d, in the Beta Pictoris system.

- ❖ Beta Pictoris is a 23-million-year-old star system located 63 light-years away, known for its bright debris disc; it is now only the second planetary system with three directly imaged planets.
- ❖ Beta Pictoris d was detected using JWST's Near-Infrared Spectrograph (NIRSpec) through atmospheric carbon monoxide, later confirmed by water vapour and methane observations with the Mid-Infrared Instrument (MIRI).
- ❖ The planet has about 2 times Jupiter's mass and orbits at about 30 astronomical units (AU) from its star, near the inner edge of the debris disc.
- ❖ It is the first exoplanet discovered primarily through moderate-resolution spectroscopy, demonstrating a new method of detecting planets using atmospheric fingerprints.

Sun's Hidden Plasma Flow



- ❖ Scientists discovered a hidden meridional plasma flow in the Sun's upper chromosphere, improving understanding of space weather that affects satellites, navigation, communication and power grids.
- ❖ The study was led by Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) with Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), IIT Delhi, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre.
- ❖ The meridional flow is a slow movement of plasma from the Sun's equator to the poles, about 3,000 km above the visible surface, and plays a key role in the 11-year solar cycle.

- ❖ Scientists used a novel image-correlation technique to analyse 27 years of observations from Japan's Nobeyama Radioheliograph (NoRH), detecting plasma moving poleward at 5–15 m/s.
- ❖ The discovery improves understanding of the solar dynamo and helps improve forecasting of solar storms and other space weather events.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

New Solitary Bee Species

Two Rare Bee Species Discovered in Arunachal Pradesh

- *Elaphropoda triangulata* & *Habropoda adi*
- Discovered in the Siang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh
- Two new species of rare solitary bees documented by researchers
- Each species is currently known from only a single male specimen
- Discovery highlights the Eastern Himalayas as a global biodiversity hotspot

- ❖ Researchers from the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) discovered two new solitary bee species in the Siang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The species are *Elaphropoda triangulata*, named after its triangular abdominal markings, and *Habropoda adi*, named in honour of the Adi indigenous community.
- ❖ Both species are currently known only from male specimens, making the discovery scientifically significant.

- ❖ Solitary bees are important pollinators that nest alone (unlike honeybees, which live in colonies) and play a vital role in maintaining biodiversity and supporting agriculture.

STATE NEWS

1857 Archives - Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh Archaeology Department collected rare historical documents related to the 1857 Revolt, including a record bearing Tatya Tope's signature and an original portrait of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi.
- ❖ The documents are being preserved under the Gyan Bharatam Mission, a national initiative for the collection, preservation and digitisation of rare manuscripts and historical records.
- ❖ The collection includes records from former princely states and documents in languages such as English, Hindi, Urdu, Persian, Marathi/Modi and Bundeli.
- ❖ A 70-page 16th-century treatise on Sanskrit poetics from Panna, covering concepts like Shringara Rasa and Nayika-Bheda, is also part of the preserved collection.
- ❖ These archives provide valuable information on colonial administration, the 1857 uprising, princely states and India's cultural heritage.

