

September - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Mukesh Ambani announced a massive solar project in Kutch, Gujarat, aiming to install 55 MW of solar modules daily.
- ❖ Air India Express has become the fourth Indian airline to join the International Air Transport Association (IATA) as of August 2025.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology inaugurated India's first tempered glass manufacturing facility for mobile devices in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The Indian Army conducted Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0 in Arunachal Pradesh's high-altitude Kameng region to demonstrate preparedness for next-generation warfare in extreme Himalayan conditions.

NATIONAL NEWS

Aadi Vaani



- ❖ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the beta version of Aadi Vaani, an artificial intelligence (AI)-based translation app, on September 1, 2025.
- ❖ The app translates six Adivasi languages—Bhili, Mundari, Gondi, Santali, Kui, and Garo—to and from Hindi and English.
- ❖ Aadi Vaani was developed in collaboration with IIT Delhi, BITS Pilani, and the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIIT) in Hyderabad and Naya Raipur.
- ❖ The app will be tested nationally as part of the Adi Karmayogi capacity-building initiative targeting 20 lakh volunteers and officials across one lakh tribal villages.

Integration of e-Government services

- ❖ The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) of MeitY has integrated 1,938 e-Government services across all 36 states and union territories.
- ❖ Citizens can now access certificates, welfare schemes, utility payments, and other services seamlessly anytime and anywhere.
- ❖ Maharashtra leads with 254 services, followed by Delhi with 123, Karnataka with 113, Assam with 102, and Uttar Pradesh with 86.
- ❖ This integration enhances convenience and transparency in public service delivery nationwide.



Bhairav battalions

- ❖ The Indian Army is raising the first five Bhairav light commando battalions, each with 250 specially trained soldiers.
- ❖ A total of 23 Bhairav battalions will be created from existing infantry troops to bridge the gap between regular infantry and Para-Special Forces.
- ❖ Three battalions will be under Northern Command, and one each for 14 Corps at Leh, 15 Corps at Srinagar, and 16 Corps at Nagrota.
- ❖ Bhairav units are smaller and more agile than infantry battalions and will be equipped with advanced weapons, gadgets, and drones.



The Indian Army will operationalize its newly raised Bhairav' Commando battalions by the end of this month. Five units are being deployed along critical frontiers : Three in the northern sector facing China and Pakistan, 1 in Northeast, and 1 on the Western front.

Critical Minerals Cooperation



- ❖ India and Japan signed a new pact to strengthen defence industrial collaboration during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit.
- ❖ The agreement promotes cooperation between government entities and private sector stakeholders in both countries.
- ❖ India and Japan will jointly explore, process, and refine critical minerals under the new cooperation framework.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SCO Summit 2025

- ❖ The 25th Heads of State Council Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was held in Tianjin, China, on August 31, 2025.
- ❖ China hosted the summit for the fifth time since the inception of the SCO in 2001.
- ❖ The theme of the summit was “Upholding the Shanghai Spirit: SCO on the Move.”
- ❖ The summit focused on adopting a ten-year development strategy for the period 2025 to 2035.
- ❖ Regional security and counter-terrorism cooperation were key focus areas of the summit.
- ❖ The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is a regional intergovernmental organisation founded in 2001 in Shanghai.
- ❖ The headquarters of the SCO is located in Beijing, China.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Elathur lake

- ❖ Elathur Lake in Erode district has been officially notified as Tamil Nadu's third biodiversity heritage site.
- ❖ The lake spans 37.42 hectares and is protected under Section 37(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
- ❖ Elathur Lake supports 187 species of birds, including migratory and resident birds.
- ❖ Up to 5,000 birds roost at the lake during peak migratory seasons.

- ❖ Endangered species such as the steppe eagle and vulnerable species like the river tern and greater spotted eagle are found here.
- ❖ The site is also home to near-threatened birds like the Asian woolly-necked stork and black-headed ibis.
- ❖ It includes habitats such as deep and shallow waters, marshland, dry scrubland, mudflats, and rocky terrain.
- ❖ Other biodiversity includes 38 plant species, 35 butterfly species, 12 dragonfly species, 12 reptiles, 7 mammals, and various amphibians, fish, and invertebrates.



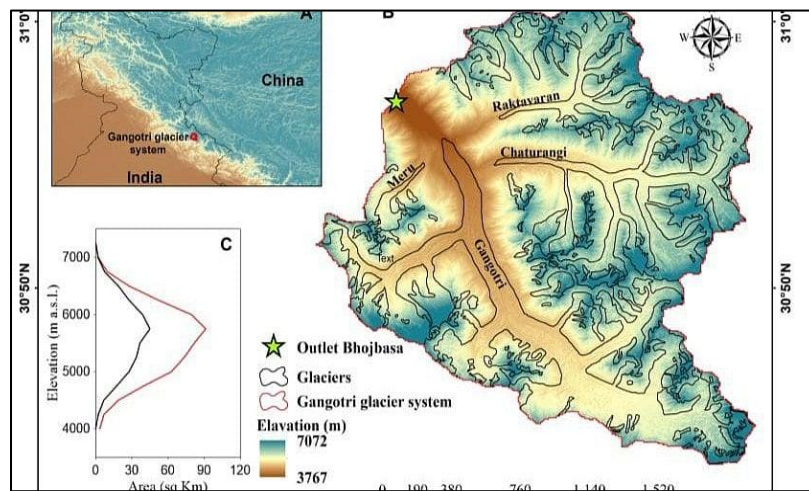
Crocothemis erythraea

- ❖ *Crocothemis erythraea*, an elusive dragonfly species, has been reconfirmed in high-elevation regions of the southern Western Ghats.
- ❖ The species was earlier misidentified due to its similarity to the lowland species *Crocothemis servilia*.
- ❖ The genus *Crocothemis* in India includes two species—*C. servilia* is found in lowlands, and *C. erythraea* is restricted to elevations above 550 metres.
- ❖ *C. erythraea* likely colonised southern India during the Pleistocene Ice Age and became isolated in montane habitats.

- ❖ *C. servilia* remains widespread in lowland areas of both the Himalayas and southern India.



Gangotri glacier



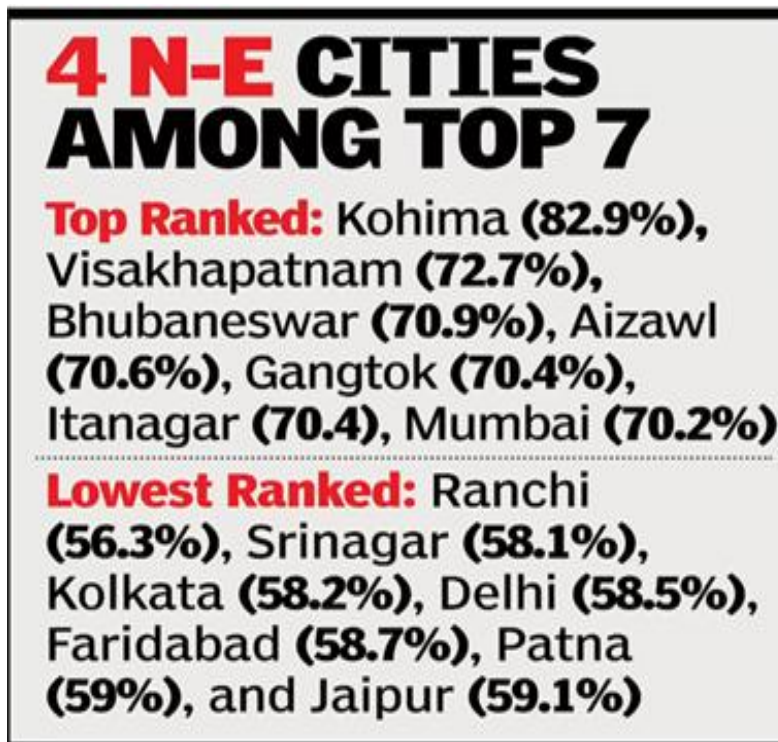
- ❖ Gangotri glacier shows earlier snowmelt due to climate change, altering the water cycle in the Bhagirathi River basin.
- ❖ The Gangotri glacier system (GGS) is the source of the upper Ganga basin feeding the Bhagirathi River in the central Himalayas.
- ❖ A recent study analysed the long-term discharge flow of the GGS from 1980 to 2020.
- ❖ Snow melt contributes 64 percent of the discharge, glacier melt 21 percent, rainfall-runoff 11 percent, and base flow 4 percent.



- ❖ Since 1990, the peak discharge has shifted earlier from August to July due to decreased winter precipitation and increased early summer melting.
- ❖ Snow melt declined due to decreasing snow cover area, despite warming trends.
- ❖ Rainfall-runoff and base flow showed increasing trends from 1980 to 2020.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Safest Cities for Women in India 2025



- ❖ The 'Index on Women Safety (NARI) 2025' surveyed 12,770 women across 31 cities in India.
- ❖ Four Northeastern cities, Kohima (82.9%), Aizawl (70.6%), Gangtok (70.4%), and Itanagar (70.4%), ranked among the top seven safest cities.
- ❖ Other top cities include Visakhapatnam (72.7%), Bhubaneswar (70.9%), and Mumbai (70.2%).
- ❖ The lowest-ranked cities for women's safety are Ranchi (56.3%), Srinagar (58.1%), Kolkata (58.2%), Delhi (58.5%), Faridabad (58.7%), Patna (59%), and Jaipur (59.1%).
- ❖ Mumbai is the only metropolitan city among the top seven safest, while Delhi and Kolkata are in the bottom seven.

STATES' NEWS

Kaleshwaram Project

<p>■ High-Power Committee did not recommend construction of barrages at Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla</p>	<p>■ The then government did not consider Expert Committee report and intentionally kept it in cold storage</p>	<p>■ Defects in construction of the barrages led to the structures suffering distress</p>
<p>■ Expert Committee suggested construction of main barrage at Vemanpally in Mancherial district instead of Medigadda as the latter is not advisable or economical</p>	<p>■ Cabinet Sub-Committee did not propose/ recommend barrages at Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla</p>	<p>■ There was absolutely no operation and maintenance activity, no pre- and post-monsoon inspections</p>
<p>■ Chief Engineer, CDO, is liable for action for lack of O&M since it was the responsibility of Dam Safety Division of CDO to handle O&M till constitution of the O&M unit by ENC on January 1, 2021</p>		<p>■ ENC Karimnagar and ENC (O&M) too liable for action for lack of O&M, thereby perpetuating the damage caused</p>

- ❖ The Justice P.C. Ghose Commission submitted a 665-page report on Telangana's Kaleshwaram Project barrages.
- ❖ All decisions on Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages were taken solely by then Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao from 2014 to 2016.
- ❖ Administrative approvals were granted on March 1, 2016, and contracts were signed without Central Water Commission (CWC) clearance.
- ❖ The Detailed Project Report was submitted to the CWC only in February 2017, after approvals and contracts were made.
- ❖ The barrages were constructed and used as dams or reservoirs, despite warnings about permeable soil by Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) and experts.
- ❖ Construction delays caused multiple extensions: six for Medigadda, five for Annaram, and eight for Sundilla.
- ❖ The Commission found widespread procedural and financial irregularities throughout the Kaleshwaram Project in Telangana.

Multi-Lane Free-Flow Tolling System

- ❖ The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) launched the first Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling system at Choryasi Fee Plaza in Gujarat on NH-48.

- ❖ The Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCL), under NHAI, signed an agreement with ICICI Bank to implement the MLFF system.
- ❖ Another MLFF system will be implemented soon at Gharaunda Fee Plaza in Haryana on National Highway 44 (NH-44).
- ❖ The government plans to roll out around 25 MLFF-based toll plazas across India during the current financial year.
- ❖ MLFF enables barrier-free toll collection using FASTag and vehicle registration number (VRN) recognition via RFID readers and automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras.
- ❖ MLFF implementation aims to improve toll revenue collection and create a smarter and more efficient national highway network.



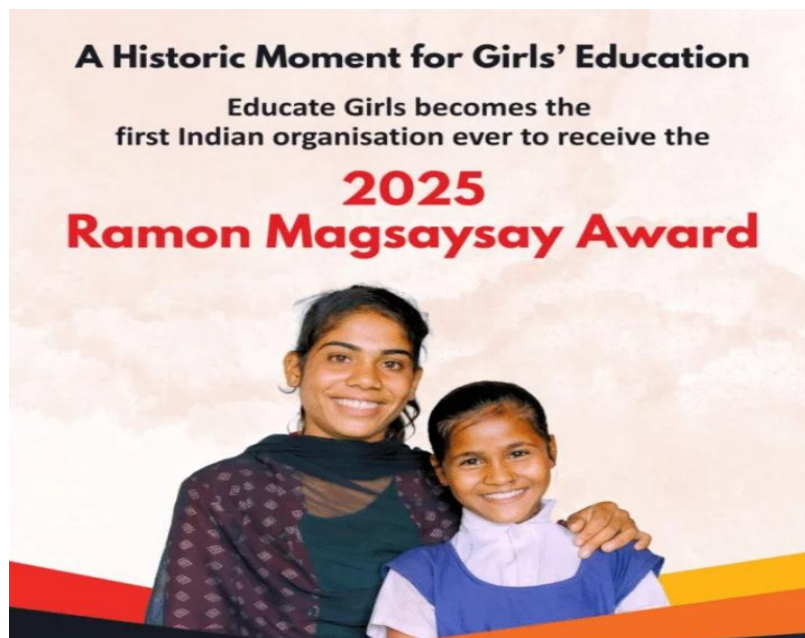
Matsya Shakthi project

- ❖ Matsya Shakthi project launched to empower minority fisher families in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- ❖ It is implemented under the Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) scheme.
- ❖ The project targets 700 minority fisher families in Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala.
- ❖ The initiative aims to improve employment prospects and living standards for minority fisher communities in Thiruvananthapuram.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025



- ❖ Educate Girls, also known as Foundation to Educate Girls Globally, has won the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2025.
- ❖ It is the first Indian non-profit organisation to receive this honour since the award's inception in 1958.
- ❖ The award recognises the NGO's work in promoting education for underprivileged girls in rural and remote parts of India.
- ❖ Educate Girls was named alongside two other 2025 awardees - Shaahina Ali of the Maldives and Flaviano Antonio L. Villanueva of the Philippines.

- ❖ The Ramon Magsaysay Award honours transformative leadership and was established in memory of former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay.
- ❖ Since 1958, over 300 individuals and organisations from across Asia have received the award.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Vrindavani Vastra

- ❖ The 16th-century Vrindavani Vastra silk textile will be temporarily loaned by the British Museum to Assam for 18 months in 2027.
- ❖ The textile was woven under the guidance of neo-Vaishnavite saint-reformer Srimanta Sankaradeva and depicts scenes from the life of Lord Krishna.
- ❖ The British Museum agreed to the loan if Assam builds a museum meeting the required environmental standards.



2 system interaction – IMD

- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast heavy to extremely heavy rainfall in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ The rainfall is caused by the interaction between the monsoon trough and an active western disturbance.
- ❖ This two-system interaction is expected to persist for the next three to four days across northwest India.

- ❖ The monsoon trough is currently running south of its normal position.
- ❖ A western disturbance in the form of a cyclonic circulation is active over north Pakistan and adjoining Punjab.
- ❖ Additional circulations over Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh are drawing in moisture from the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ This overlap of the western disturbance and monsoon axis is enhancing wind convergence and moisture build-up in the Himalayan region.
- ❖ IMD has issued a red alert for Dehradun, Tehri, Pauri, Haridwar, Nainital, Champawat, Bageshwar, and Udham Singh Nagar districts in Uttarakhand.

