

05/05/2026 Daily Current News

1. *Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK):*

Context: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare releases the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines.

About Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK):

- ❖ Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) was launched under the National Health Mission to provide child health screening and early intervention services.
- ❖ It covers children from birth to 18 years for the **4Ds**—Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies, and Developmental delays.
- ❖ The updated guidelines expand the 4Ds framework to include non-communicable diseases, mental health issues, and behavioural conditions.
- ❖ It adopts a lifecycle-based approach ensuring continuous screening and care across all stages of child development.
- ❖ The programme strengthens referral linkages and ensures continuity of care through integrated health systems.
- ❖ It promotes the use of digital health cards for better tracking and monitoring of child health.
- ❖ It emphasizes multi-sectoral convergence for comprehensive child healthcare delivery.

2. *Pan Asia Power Grid Initiative:*

Context: ADB launches \$70 billion plan for energy, digital infrastructure in Asia-Pacific. It includes the Pan Asia Power Grid Initiative and the Asia-Pacific Digital Highway, connecting economies through energy and technology.

About Pan Asia Power Grid Initiative:

- ❖ The Pan-Asia Power Grid Initiative was launched by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on May 3, 2026, during its Annual Meeting in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- ❖ It aims to interconnect national power systems across Asia-Pacific to enable cross-border renewable energy trade.
- ❖ The initiative targets an investment of \$50 billion by 2035, as part of a broader \$70 billion infrastructure push.
- ❖ Its key objective is to accelerate the renewable energy transition, enhance energy security, and reduce carbon emissions.
- ❖ The implementation timeline for the initiative is set up to 2035.

About Asian Development Bank(ADB):

- ❖ Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a multilateral development bank promoting sustainable, inclusive, and resilient growth in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ❖ It has expanded from 31 members in 1966 to **69 members**, including 50 from Asia-Pacific and 19 from outside the region.
- ❖ Major shareholders include Japan and the United States (15.6% each), followed by China, India, and Australia (as of Dec 2024).

- ❖ Its headquarters is located in Manila, Philippines.

3. *Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system:*

Context: AIIMS Delhi has introduced India's first portable bedside Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system.

About Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system:

- ❖ MRI is a medical imaging technique that uses a magnetic field and computer-generated radio waves to create detailed images of the organs and tissues in your body.
- ❖ MRI is a non-invasive way for a medical professional to examine your organs, tissues and skeletal system.
- ❖ It produces high-resolution images of the inside of the body that help diagnose a variety of conditions.

4. *Samarth Panchayat portal:*

Context: Samarth Portal to Expand Panchayat Fiscal Management.

About Samarth Panchayat portal:

- ❖ The Samarth Panchayat Portal is a digital platform developed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to manage Own Source Revenue (OSR) in Gram Panchayats.
- ❖ **Own Source Revenue (OSR)** refers to tax and non-tax revenues collected directly by Panchayats, including property taxes, user charges, and local levies.
- ❖ The portal enables online demand generation, digital payment collection, and real-time monitoring of Panchayat revenue.
- ❖ It supports asset management by maintaining records of Panchayat-owned properties and creating a centralised revenue database.
- ❖ The platform facilitates taxpayer registration, property mapping, and issuance of demand notices.
- ❖ As of 3 May 2026, it covered 15,110 Gram Panchayats, 48.26 lakh taxpayers, and 9.38 lakh registered properties.

5. *Growth Hubs Index:*

Context: Bengaluru has been ranked the world's fastest-growing major city through 2035 in Savills' Growth Hubs Index, which is part of the firm's Resilient Cities research programme.

More details:

- ❖ The Savills Growth Hubs Index ranks 245 global cities based on projected GDP growth, wealth expansion, demographics, migration, and high-income households.
- ❖ It is published by Savills, a global real estate advisory firm analysing urban growth and investment trends.
- ❖ Bengaluru secured the top position due to its strong talent pool and role as a hub for Global Capability Centres (GCCs).

- ❖ GCCs are offshore units of multinational companies handling technology, finance, analytics, and operations.
- ❖ India had multiple cities in the top 20, placing it among leading country groups alongside Vietnam, China, Philippines, and Malaysia.

6. *James Webb Space Telescope (JWST):*

Context: The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), launched by NASA in December 2021, has detected a class of high-redshift objects called Little Red Dots (LRDs). These objects are compact, very red, and point-like in appearance, and they are observed in the early universe at large cosmological distances. LRDs are characterised by a dominant red rest-frame optical continuum and a compact morphology. Astronomers have linked them to galaxies seen at high redshift, which means they are observed as they existed when the universe was much younger.

About James Webb Space Telescope (JWST):

- ❖ The telescope is the result of an international collaboration between NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Canadian Space Agency.
- ❖ It was launched in December 2021.
- ❖ It's the largest, most powerful infrared space telescope ever built.
- ❖ It's the successor to the Hubble Telescope.
- ❖ It can see backwards in time to just after the Big Bang by looking for galaxies that are so far away.
- ❖ It will examine every phase of cosmic history: from the Big Bang to the formation of galaxies, stars, and planets to the evolution of our own Solar System.
- ❖ It is placed around 1,500,000 km from Earth and directly opposite the Sun.
- ❖ The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is considered the successor and functional replacement for the Hubble Space Telescope (HST).

7. *Syndromic surveillance:*

Context: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has developed a priority pathogen list for syndromic surveillance in India.

About Syndromic surveillance:

- ❖ **Syndromic surveillance** is a method that tracks patterns of symptoms (like fever, respiratory illness, diarrhoea, and encephalitis) before lab confirmation.
- ❖ It is used to detect unusual clusters of illness early, especially in epidemic-prone settings.
- ❖ The approach enables timely public health response and outbreak prevention.

8. *Pathfinder:*

Context: Pixxel and Sarvam announced Pathfinder on 3 May 2026 as India's first AI-powered orbital data centre satellite. Pathfinder is a 200 kg-class demonstration satellite planned for launch in the fourth quarter of 2026.

About Pathfinder:

- ❖ **Pathfinder** is an orbital data centre satellite that processes data in space instead of sending all raw data to Earth.
- ❖ It enables in-orbit data analysis, reducing the time between data capture and insight generation.
- ❖ Pixxel will design, build, launch, and operate the satellite.
- ❖ Sarvam will provide the AI backbone, including onboard models for training and inference.
- ❖ The satellite will carry data centre-class GPUs for high-performance computing and real-time processing.
- ❖ It will also include Pixxel's hyperspectral imaging camera for capturing and analysing spectral data.
- ❖ Pathfinder will be developed at Pixxel's Gigapixxel facility in India, which targets production of up to 100 satellites.

Quick Bites:

- ☐ NASA Finds 2.5-Billion-Year-Old Structure in Great Dyke. The Great Dyke of Zimbabwe is a 550-kilometre-long igneous formation that dates to about 2.5 billion years ago. NASA scientists have identified a hidden internal geological structure within it using satellite imaging and geophysics mapping. The feature is not visible on the surface and appears as a slight difference in the dyke's inner composition.
- ☐ Hazaribag in Jharkhand has been notified as India's first pearl farming cluster under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- ☐ Canada became the first non-European country to participate in a European Political Community (EPC) summit when Prime Minister Mark Carney attended the 8th EPC meeting in Yerevan, Armenia, on 4 May 2026. The European Political Community is a political forum launched in 2022. It includes EU member states and non-EU European countries such as the United Kingdom, Turkey, Norway and Switzerland. The forum does not function as a membership body for the European Union.
- ☐ The Paranal solar ESPRESSO Telescope (PoET) achieved first light at the European Southern Observatory's Paranal Observatory in Chile's Atacama Desert. The system completed test observations and acquired spectra of the full solar disc and selected solar regions. PoET is designed to study how variations in starlight, including sunlight, can mask the presence of orbiting exoplanets. The observations support research on the detection and characterisation of worlds beyond the Solar System.

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