

11/05/2026 Daily Current News

1. *Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA):*

Context: Navigating maritime security in the wake of the war in West Asia will be at the top of the agenda as India chairs the 23-nation Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), with a leaders' summit expected next year, says the organisation's Secretary-General Sanjiv Ranjan.

About Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA):



- ❖ It is an intergovernmental organisation established to promote economic cooperation and regional integration among countries bordering the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ IORA member states work on various initiatives related to trade, investment, and sustainable development in the Indian Ocean region (IOR).
- ❖ It was established on 7 March 1997 with a secretariat based in Ebène, Mauritius.

2. *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY):*

Context: Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Sunday launched PMGSY-IV during the silver jubilee celebrations marking 25 years of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Bhairunda of Madhya Pradesh's Sehore district.

About Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY):

- ❖ Launch (2000): 100% centrally sponsored scheme to provide all-weather rural road connectivity.
- ❖ Ministry: Implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- ❖ Eligibility: Villages with population >500 (plains) and >250 (hills/difficult areas).
- ❖ Funding Pattern: Changed in 2015–16 to 60:40 (Centre:States), 90:10 for NE & Himalayan States.
- ❖ PMGSY-I (2000): Rural connectivity to eligible habitations as per Census 2001.
- ❖ PMGSY-II (2013): Upgradation of 50,000 km rural roads across States/UTs.
- ❖ RCPLWEA (2016): Road construction/upgradation in Left-Wing Extremism affected areas.
- ❖ PMGSY-III (2019): Consolidation of 1,25,000 km to connect rural links with markets, schools & hospitals.
- ❖ National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA): Provides technical and managerial support at the national level.

- ❖ State Rural Roads Development Agencies (SRRDAs): State-level agencies for implementation of the scheme.
- ❖ Decentralized Planning: Involves Panchayati Raj Institutions, MLAs, and MPs.
- ❖ Online Management, Monitoring, and Accounting System (OMMAS): Web-based monitoring & accounting system developed by C-DAC.
- ❖ eMARG: Geo-tagged mobile app platform to verify maintenance work and monitor contractors.
- ❖ Meri Sadak App: Grievance redressal tool for public complaints on pace, quality, or abandoned works.

3. *Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institute (SATHI) scheme:*

Context: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh takes stock of interdisciplinary facility "SATHI" set up at BHU, Varanasi with support of Department of Science & Technology (DST) Govt of India.

About Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institute (SATHI) scheme:

- ❖ The main objective of Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes is to establish shared, professionally managed, state-of-the-art analytical testing and research facilities to strengthen scientific research, innovation, skill development, and access to advanced scientific infrastructure for academic institutions, startups, industries, and researchers.
- ❖ Under the SATHI Scheme, institutions are selected in cluster mode based on academic and research profile.
- ❖ Institute of Eminence status is an important criterion for selection under the scheme.
- ❖ Selection also considers rankings under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
- ❖ Quality of research publications is a key evaluation parameter.
- ❖ Presence of supportive infrastructure is assessed during selection.
- ❖ Well-structured plans for skill development and capacity building are evaluated.
- ❖ Institutions must contribute at least 25% funding towards the cost slab recommended by DST.
- ❖ The four SATHI centers are at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (Delhi), Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (West Bengal), Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (Telangana)

4. *PM MITRA Parks:*

Context: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the PM MITRA Park at Warangal, Telangana.

About PM MITRA Parks:

- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Scheme aims to develop large scale and integrated world class industrial facilities in the shape of integrated textile parks to help Indian textiles industry to build scale, reduce logistics costs and improve its competitiveness.
- ❖ Anchored in the 5F vision (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign), the Scheme aims to facilitate India's textile industry to achieve global size and scale along with the creation of a modern and integrated textile value chain at one location.

- ❖ Under this Scheme, the Government has approved 7 (Seven) sites for setting up of PM MITRA Parks, one each in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat.



❖ Source: Ministry of Textiles

- ❖ The PM MITRA Parks are envisaged as modern, large scale and integrated parks covering the entire value chain. Hence all parts of the value chain including spinning, weaving, processing, printing, garment and accessories manufacturing etc. are expected to benefit from the employment generated under the initiative.
- ❖ The parks will be set up by 2026-27. The total outlay for the project is Rs 4,445 crore, though the initial allocation in the 2023-24 Budget is only Rs 200 crore.
- ❖ PM MITRA Park will be developed by a Special Purpose Vehicle which will be owned by the Central and State Government and in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode.

Quick Bites:

- ☐ The Indian trio of Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and Kumkum Mohod upstaged World Cup Stage-1 champion and host China, consisting of Zhu Jingyi, Huang Yuwei and Yu Qi, 5-4 in the final to claim the recurve women's team gold medal at the Archery World Cup Stage-2 in Shanghai.
- ☐ A militia attack killed at least 69 people in Democratic Republic of Congo's Ituri province, sources said. Two ethnic groups — Hema and Lendu — have been locked in combat in the mineral-rich region.
- ☐ External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said here on Sunday that an archival cooperation agreement between India and Trinidad and Tobago would help members of the Indian diaspora trace their ancestral roots and reconnect with families, as he underlined New Delhi's efforts to preserve the legacy of the Girmitya community. Girmitya refers to Indian indentured labourers transported by the British to colonies in Fiji, South Africa, Mauritius, and the Caribbean between the 19th and early 20th centuries.
- ☐ Kuljeet Kaur Marhas was elected a Fellow of The Meteoritical Society for 2026 on 9 May 2026. She became the first Indian woman to receive this international honour in meteoritics and planetary science.

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