

15/06/2026 Daily Current News

1. Global Wind Day 2026:

Context: Global Wind Day is celebrated annually on June 15 to promote wind energy and its role in combating climate change. India will host the Global Wind Day 2026 Conference on 15 June 2026 in Goa, under the theme "Wind Energy: From Ambition to Acceleration."

More details:

- ❖ India's estimated gross wind power potential is 695.5 GW at 120 metres and 1,163.9 GW at 150 metres above ground level.
- ❖ Majority of the assessed wind potential at 150 Meter is concentrated in eight high-resource states: Rajasthan: 284.2 GW; Gujarat: 180.8 GW; Maharashtra: 173.9 GW; Karnataka: 169.3 GW; Andhra Pradesh: 123.3 GW; Tamil Nadu: 95.1 GW; Madhya Pradesh: 55.4 GW, Telangana: 54.7 GW.
- ❖ More than 900 wind-monitoring stations have been installed nationwide to map wind resources and identify high-potential sites for wind energy development.
- ❖ Wind potential maps have been developed at 50 m, 80 m, 100 m, 120 m, and 150 m hub heights.
- ❖ India's vast wind resource base provides a strong foundation for achieving 100 GW wind capacity by 2030 and 156 GW by 2036.
- ❖ India ranks 4th globally in installed wind power capacity.
- ❖ Installed wind capacity increased from 21.04 GW in March 2014 to 56.09 GW in March 2026, a 2.66-fold increase.
- ❖ An additional 28 GW is under implementation.
- ❖ India recorded its highest-ever annual wind capacity addition of 6.05 GW in 2025-26, surpassing the previous record of 4.15 GW in 2024-25.
- ❖ Nearly 45% of wind generation occurs during peak demand hours, complementing solar power and strengthening grid reliability.
- ❖ Wind Turbine Manufacturing Capacity has increased from 10 GW in 2014 to about 24 GW, as on March 2026.
- ❖ The sector has achieved 70-80% indigenisation across key components.

Government intervention:

- ❖ ₹6,853 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF) approved for 1,000 MW of offshore wind projects, comprising 500 MW each off the coasts of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ ₹500 crore disbursed under the Generation Based Incentive (GBI) Scheme during 2025–26.
- ❖ A 500 MW pilot project launched under the Contracts for Difference (CfD). CfD is a mechanism designed to reduce price volatility and provide revenue certainty to renewable energy developers.
- ❖ A Task Force constituted in January 2026 to address regulatory, land, transmission, and implementation challenges.
- ❖ Dedicated wind component introduced under Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs) to ensure sustained demand.
- ❖ Green Energy Open Access Rules introduced to facilitate direct procurement of renewable power by industries.

- ❖ Implementation of the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM), transparent bidding guidelines, and Late Payment Surcharge Rules has strengthened investor confidence.
- ❖ Promotion of hybrid and Round-the-Clock (RTC) Renewable Energy projects to improve grid efficiency.
- ❖ India–United Kingdom: The India–UK Offshore Wind Taskforce was launched in February 2026 under Vision 2035 and the Fourth India–UK Energy Dialogue, focusing on market design, port infrastructure, supply chains, and blended finance for offshore wind development.
- ❖ India–Belgium: At the World Economic Forum 2026, India and Belgium reaffirmed cooperation in offshore wind energy, research & development, and green taxonomy, reflecting growing European support for India's clean energy transition.
- ❖ India–Denmark: India signed an offshore wind cooperation agreement with Denmark in 2019, renewed in May 2025. The partnership covers capacity building, power system modelling, integration of variable renewable energy, and expert training.

2. *Butantan-DV and DengiAll:*

Context: The recent deaths of two people in Brazil during its dengue vaccination campaign, leading to the shot's suspension on June 8, is a crucial wake-up call for India. This is because the dengue vaccine in Brazil, Butantan-DV, is pretty similar, if not identical, to India's upcoming dengue vaccine, DengiAll.

About Butantan-DV and DengiAll:

- ❖ Both have live but weakened (attenuated) versions of the dengue viruses (DENVs). And both vaccines are said to be tetravalent because each vaccine is a physical mixture of four live, weakened DENVs.
- ❖ DENVs come in four versions called serotypes: DENV-1, -2, -3 and -4. All four serotypes are known to be prevalent in Brazil and India. Each DENV serotype has an outer shell adorned with specialised envelope proteins, called E proteins — akin to the spike protein of coronaviruses.
- ❖ Even though the four DENV serotypes are very similar, their E proteins are different enough to warrant immunisation against each of the four serotypes.
- ❖ When weakened DENV is used in a vaccine, it will prompt two broad types of antibodies: type-specific antibodies and cross-reactive antibodies. Type-specific antibodies are often made in small amounts and recognise only one particular serotype (based on its E proteins) and excel at blocking infections by that serotype alone.
- ❖ On the other hand, the cross-reactive antibodies are made usually in large amounts and can recognise any of the four serotypes and block an infection — provided they are present at adequate levels. When their levels drop, the cross-reactive antibodies don't just fail to block a new DENV infection: they enhance it, leading to a severe and potentially fatal form of dengue. This phenomenon is called antibody-dependent enhancement (ADE).
- ❖ The risk of ADE during dengue vaccination is considered a serious adverse event. If untreated, it can lead to death.
- ❖ Brazil's tetravalent dengue vaccine (Butantan-DV) has been linked to 42 severe adverse events among about 5 lakh vaccinated individuals, raising concerns about its safety and the possibility of Antibody-Dependent Enhancement (ADE).

- ❖ The earlier dengue vaccine, Dengvaxia, caused severe adverse events in the Philippines because it effectively generated strong immunity mainly against one dengue serotype (DENV-4), rather than all four, increasing the risk of severe disease upon later infection.
- ❖ Phase-3 trials could not adequately assess protection against DENV-3 and DENV-4 because these serotypes were not widely circulating in Brazil during the study period, leaving uncertainties about the vaccine's true tetravalency and effectiveness.
- ❖ India's dengue vaccine candidate, DengiAll, and Takeda's Qdenga should undergo rigorous testing for type-specific immunity and long-term monitoring after rollout. Regulators must strengthen pharmacovigilance systems to quickly detect and manage rare adverse events, including ADE.

3. ***Drop shipping model:***

Context: The success of Amazon, the largest e-commerce retailer in the world, can be credited at least in part to drop shipping practices. In its earliest days, Amazon did not commandeer giant international warehouses packed with products; rather, the company was a web-based middleman that fulfilled many customers' orders by sourcing the books they wanted.

About Drop shipping model:

- ❖ This is a business practice where an online individual or agent — who does not hold any product — takes orders from customers and passes them on to another maker/seller who actually holds the product. The product is then delivered to the customers, either by the original maker/seller or a third-party delivery service.
- ❖ To put it simply, the drop shipper inserts itself into the transaction as a middleman. One or even multiple drop shippers might stand between buyers and the original makers of the product they want.
- ❖ In addition to promoting products and setting up online storefronts, drop shippers may also buy/sell courses that reveal current market trends, customer interests, trusted wholesalers, and useful AI tools, in order to generate further profits.
- ❖ Drop shipping is legal in most jurisdictions, as long as the participants involved ensure transparency and comply with their region's tax laws.

4. ***Merger under Anti-defection law:***

Context: After days of speculation, 20 rebel Trinamool Congress MPs on Sunday met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla at his residence in New Delhi and submitted a letter announcing their decision to merge with the National Citizens Party of India (NCPI). The decision by the rebels to merge with a registered regional political party rather than form a separate bloc within the Trinamool Congress was to avoid any legal complications under the anti-defection law.

What is Anti-defection law?

- ❖ Purpose: Prevents elected representatives from changing political parties for personal or political gain.
- ❖ Background: Introduced to curb the "Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram" culture of frequent party-switching.
- ❖ Defection Trend: Nearly 2,000 defections occurred between 1967 and 1972, with about half of legislators switching parties.

- ❖ Constitutional Basis: Added through the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985.
- ❖ Schedule: Incorporated as the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution.
- ❖ Strengthened By: 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003.
- ❖ Split Provision: The earlier exemption for a split by one-third members was removed in 2003.
- ❖ Merger Provision: A merger is protected if at least two-thirds of legislators agree to it.
- ❖ Voluntarily Giving Up Membership: A member can be disqualified even without formally resigning if conduct indicates leaving the party.
- ❖ Violation of Whip: Voting or abstaining against party directions without permission can lead to disqualification.
- ❖ Independent Members: An independent legislator is disqualified if they join a political party after election.
- ❖ Nominated Members: A nominated member may join a party within six months of taking a seat; joining later attracts disqualification.
- ❖ Decision-Making Authority: The Speaker/Chairman of the House decides disqualification cases under the Tenth Schedule.
- ❖ Judicial Review: Such decisions are subject to judicial review as held in *Kihoto Hollohan v. Zachillhu*.

The case of merger:

- ❖ Provision: Merger exception is provided under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution.
- ❖ Protection: Members are not disqualified if their original political party merges with another party.
- ❖ Condition: A valid merger requires support from at least two-thirds of the legislators of the legislature party.
- ❖ Separate Group: Members who reject the merger and function as a separate group are also protected from disqualification.
- ❖ 2003 Amendment: The 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003 removed the split provision (1/3 members) and retained only the merger provision (2/3 members).

5. *Janakpur-Ayodhya Rail Link:*

Context: India and Nepal held the 10th Project Steering Committee meeting and the 8th Joint Working Group meeting on 11-12 June 2026 in Kathmandu to review cross-border railway cooperation. The discussions covered passenger train connectivity on the Janakpur-Ayodhya section, the Final Location Survey report for the proposed Raxaul-Kathmandu broad gauge railway link, and technical support for Nepal's East-West Railway Link.

About Janakpur-Ayodhya Rail Link:

- ❖ The Janakpur-Ayodhya rail link connects Janakpur in Nepal with Ayodhya in India.
- ❖ Janakpur is associated with Sita, and Ayodhya is associated with Lord Ram in Hindu tradition.
- ❖ The route has been discussed as a passenger rail service between the two countries.
- ❖ Ayodhya is located in Uttar Pradesh, India.
- ❖ Janakpur is located in Madhesh Province, Nepal and is a major Hindu pilgrimage center dedicated to Goddess Sita.

- ❖ **Bilateral Cooperation:** The project is a symbol of growing India–Nepal cooperation in transport and cultural connectivity.

Quick Bites:

- ☐ In a landmark achievement ahead of the International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026, the Ministry of Ayush today created a new Guinness World Record for the Most Viewers for a YouTube Live Yoga Stream, with 4,35,831 viewers joining a special global online Yoga session streamed live through the official Ministry of Ayush YouTube channel.
- ☐ Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, will lay the foundation stone of the Integrated Aqua Park at Bhojpur, with a total investment of ₹31.21 crore, and inaugurate the NFDB Regional Centre at Patna in Bihar on 15 June 2026.
- ☐ India and France adopted an ‘Innovation Roadmap 2030’ and established a Dialogue on Economic Security during bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron held in Nice. Earlier this year, the two countries had renamed their partnership a ‘Special Global Strategic Partnership’ to reflect an enhanced level of cooperation.
- ☐ As the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) accelerates the deployment of technologies in Kusunpur, a remote village in Odisha’s Kendrapara district, as part of the ‘Smart Village’ initiative, residents may soon receive alerts whenever crocodiles stray dangerously close to their homes. The CSIR laboratories are planning to introduce an artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled wild animal detection and alert system. The system is likely to be installed at two key entry points to the village.

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