

29/06/2026 Daily Current News

1. *Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI):*

Context: Seychelles joined the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as a 51st member country.

About Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI):

- ❖ It is an international coalition of countries, UN agencies, multilateral development banks, the private sector, and academic institutions that aim to promote disaster-resilient infrastructure.
- ❖ It aims to increase the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development.
- ❖ It was launched in 2019, at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in New York.
- ❖ It is the Government of India's second major global initiative after the International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ As of June 2026, CDRI consists of more than 51 Member Countries and more than 10 Member Organizations. The CDRI Secretariat is keen to expand its membership to 75 countries and 25 organizations by 2026, with a focus on Southeast Asia, Africa and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- ❖ The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is headquartered in New Delhi, India.

2. *Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram (SSBSK):*

Context: In a significant step towards strengthening newborn and child health services in the country, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda will launch the Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram (SSBSK) during the 16th Conference of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare (CCHFW) to be held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

About Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram (SSBSK):

- ❖ Unified Programme: Integrates Home-Based Newborn Care (HBNC) and Home-Based Care for Young Child (HBYC) into a single national programme.
- ❖ Continuity of Care: Provides integrated care from birth to 3 years for child survival, nutrition, healthy growth, and early childhood development.
- ❖ Risk-Stratified Approach: Introduces special follow-up for 'At-risk' newborns and children.
- ❖ Additional Home Visits: At-risk newborns: Up to 9 home visits in the first 42 days and At-risk children: Up to 8 home visits up to 36 months.
- ❖ Maternal Mental Health: Includes post-partum maternal mental health screening as a structured component.
- ❖ Early Childhood Development (ECD): Promotes responsive caregiving, early learning, age-appropriate play, child safety, and family engagement during all home visits.
- ❖ Digital Integration: Uses Decision-Support Systems (DSS), child tracking, referral loops, and alert mechanisms for monitoring and continuity of care.
- ❖ Portal Integration: Linked with JANANI Portal, U-WIN Portal, MPCDSR Portal, RBSK 2.0 Portal, and POSHAN Tracker through ABHA and Baal-ABHA IDs.

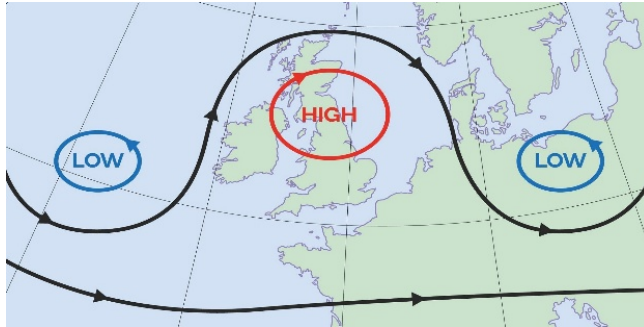
- ❖ Urban Focus: Includes tailored home-based care strategies for slum, migrant, and underserved urban populations.

3. ***Omega Block:***

Context: Western Europe is facing a deadly heatwave, driven by a meteorological phenomenon known as an "Omega Block".

About Omega Block:

- ❖ It is a type of weather block that resembles the Greek letter omega, Ω .



- ❖ Blocks are areas of high pressure that remain nearly stationary and distort the usual eastward progression of pressure systems.
- ❖ Omega block occurs when a strong area of high pressure builds up between two zones of lower pressure.
- ❖ Because of the high pressure, warm air rising from the ground cannot escape into the atmosphere; instead, it is trapped close to the surface and causes compressional heating.
- ❖ It promotes widespread sinking air, which suppresses cloud formation and leads to prolonged, intense sunshine.

4. ***Pax Silica Initiative:***

Context: India, along with 34 other countries, signed a US-led 'Joint Statement on AI Opportunity' at the second Pax Silica Summit in Washington, D.C.

About Pax Silica Initiative:

- ❖ Pax Silica is a US-led coalition focused on building a secure, resilient, and innovation-driven silicon and AI supply chain ecosystem with trusted global partners
- ❖ Pax Silica is envisioned as a strategic coalition of trusted nations committed to securing the "silicon stack", from critical minerals and semiconductor fabrication to advanced AI systems and deployment infrastructure
- ❖ The inaugural Pax Silica Summit was held in Washington, D.C. in December 2025
- ❖ It aims to reduce coercive dependencies on a single country, safeguard AI-critical materials, and enable aligned nations to scale transformative technologies
- ❖ The initiative responds to China's dominance in critical mineral refining (over 60% of lithium, cobalt, and rare earths) and recent rare earth export restrictions

- ❖ Participating countries include Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Israel, United Arab Emirates, and Australia
- ❖ Partner nations host key firms such as Samsung, SK Hynix, Sony, Fujitsu, ASML, Rio Tinto, DeepMind, and Temasek, which power the global AI supply chain
- ❖ Core commitments include joint projects on critical minerals, semiconductor design and fabrication, compute infrastructure, energy grids, and protection of sensitive technologies from countries of concern.

5. **Anaemia Mukh Bharat:**

Context: The Union Health Ministry is set to launch revised operational guidelines for the Anaemia Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (AMB) on Monday, expanding the national programme's strategy to include a new beneficiary group, greater emphasis on dietary interventions, and digital tracking of beneficiaries. The revised framework seeks to strengthen anaemia control through improved testing, treatment, monitoring and community participation. The revised programme adds low birth weight babies (0-6 months) as a seventh beneficiary group, recognising the need for early intervention.

About Anaemia Mukh Bharat:

- ❖ Anemia is a condition in which the number of red blood cells or their oxygen-carrying capacity is insufficient to meet physiological needs.
- ❖ Iron deficiency is the most common cause of anaemia, although other conditions, such as folate, vitamin B12 and vitamin A deficiencies, chronic inflammation, parasitic infections, and inherited disorders can all cause anaemia.
- ❖ Launch: Government of India initiative to reduce the burden of anemia across the country.
- ❖ Objective: Reduce the prevalence of anemia by 3% annually among children, adolescents, and women of reproductive age.
- ❖ Focus: Addresses the root causes of anemia, including iron deficiency, folic acid deficiency, and malnutrition.
- ❖ Strategy: Implemented through a 6×6×6 strategy.
- ❖ Six Beneficiaries: Children (6–59 months), children (5–9 years), adolescents (10–19 years), pregnant women, lactating women, and women of reproductive age (15–49 years).
- ❖ Six Interventions: Iron-folic acid supplementation, deworming, nutrition counselling, blood loss prevention, early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding, and diet diversification.
- ❖ Six Institutional Mechanisms: Convergence, accountability, capacity building, IEC (Information, Education and Communication), research, and monitoring & evaluation.
- ❖ Goal: Improve nutritional status and reduce anemia-related health risks, especially among vulnerable population groups.

Quick Bites:

- At a special ceremony, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was today conferred with a Presidential Distinction - 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' by the President of Seychelles, H.E. Dr. Patrick Herminie. The honour has been conferred upon Prime Minister for his green leadership, and efforts towards advancing the interests of developing countries and his longstanding commitment towards promoting the Blue Economy, climate action, sustainable management of

ocean resources, and the developmental aspirations of Small Island Developing States. This is the first time that this distinguished honour has been bestowed.

- ☐ After local extinction due to poaching, tigers were successfully reintroduced in Sariska Tiger Reserve and Panna Tiger Reserve. In Sariska, where tigers disappeared in 2005, the reintroduction programme began in 2008 by translocating tigers from Ranthambore National Park, making it the world's first successful scientific reintroduction of tigers into a landscape where they had become locally extinct; the reserve now supports about 56 tigers. In Panna, where tigers became locally extinct in 2009, reintroduction was initiated the same year using tigers from Bandhavgarh National Park, Kanha Tiger Reserve, and Pench Tiger Reserve, successfully restoring a breeding tiger population.
- ☐ Union Minister for Rural Development Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan today launched the 'Rural Internal Audit Portal' during the Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Sammelan at Pusa Campus in New Delhi. The AI-enabled portal marks a significant step towards enhancing transparency, accountability and technology-driven governance in the Ministry of Rural Development.
- ☐ 3D-Printed Artificial Reefs are an innovative marine habitat restoration initiative that Tamil Nadu will deploy for the first time in India under the PM Matsya Sampada Yojana. Developed by Tvasta, an Indian Institute of Technology Madras-incubated startup, in collaboration with ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, these reefs feature complex geometries with crevices, folds, high porosity, species-specific habitat designs, and no iron reinforcement. They aim to restore coral and marine biodiversity, improve fish habitats, strengthen coastal resilience, and enhance fish stocks, thereby supporting the livelihoods of traditional fishing communities.
- ☐ Gitchak nakana is a newly discovered genus and species of blind subterranean loach from Assam, belonging to the Cobitidae family. It is completely blind, lacks body pigmentation and a skull roof (its brain is covered only by skin), and has long sensory barbels, elongated branchiostegal rays, and a unique vertebral structure that help it survive underground. It is found exclusively in a groundwater-fed open well in Goalpara district and lives in an underground aquifer rather than caves, making it a rare phreatobitic (groundwater-dwelling) fish.
- ☐ Muzhiyan Kulam is a more than 400-year-old historic pond located near Thavalakuppam at Pooranankuppam. Dating back to the Pallava dynasty period, this two-acre pond traditionally served as a source of drinking water and irrigation and contains four natural spring-fed wells. Its restoration was inspired by the ancient Naangu Mozhi rainwater management system of South India, which features a primary tank (kulam) connected to four wells (mozhi) through underground chambers to enhance rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge.
- ☐ A massive landslide caused by heavy rainfall blocked the flow of the Siji River in Arunachal Pradesh's Lower Siang district on Sunday, endangering lives and infrastructure downstream.

-----The END-----