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World Organ Donation Day – AUG 13

- World Organ Donation Day 2025 is observed on 13 August 2025, raising global awareness about the life-saving impact of organ donation.
- The day also remembers the first successful kidney transplant done in 1954 by Dr. Joseph Murray
- Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first heart transplant in 1967 in South Africa.
- Since 2005
- Theme "Answering The Call"
- In India, National Organ Day was observed on November 27th to encourage the act of organ donation and established in 2010 by the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and continued until 2022.
- However, it was later shifted to the 3rd of August, commemorating India's first successful deceased-donor heart transplant on August 3rd, 1994.

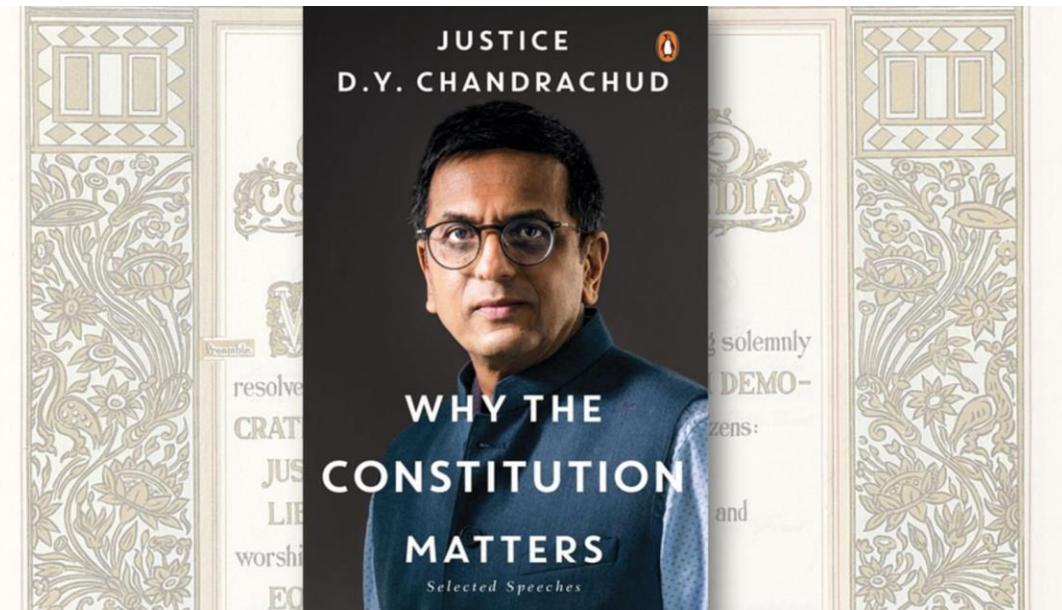


Former Chief Justice DY Chandrachud's first book, Why the Constitution Matters

- The cover of the book Why the Constitution Matters by former Chief Justice of India, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, has been unveiled.
- Justice Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud retired in November 2024 as the 50th Chief Justice of India.
- The 51st Chief Justice is Sanjay Khanna and the 52nd Chief Justice is Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai.
- The book Why the Constitution Matters addresses various issues through the former Chief Justice's historic judgments, such as the right to privacy, decriminalization of homosexuality, and gender equality in the armed forces.

Supreme Court of India:

- The Supreme Court of India is a constitutional body established under the provisions of Article 124 of the Constitution. It is the highest judicial body in India. It came into existence on January 28, 1950.
- Its headquarters is in New Delhi
- The maximum number of judges in the Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice of India, is 34.
- First Chief Justice of India – Justice Hiralal Jekisundas Kania
- Longest-serving Chief Justice – 16th Chief Justice, Justice Yeshwant Vishnu Chandrachud, who served as Chief Justice of India from 22 February 1978 to 11 July 1985.
- Shortest tenure – 22nd Chief Justice of India, Justice Kamal Narain Singh, who served from 25 November 1991 to 12 December 1991 (18 days).



Equator Prize 2025

- The Bibi Fatima Women's Self-Help Group (SHG) from Teertha village in Karnataka's Dharwad district won the prestigious Equator Initiative Award 2025
- 'Equator Prize' given by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which is also referred to as the Nobel Prize for Biodiversity Conservation
- The Bibi Fatima SHG is the only Indian winner among ten global recipients from nine countries.
- The 2025 theme focused on Women and Youth Leadership for Nature-Based Climate Action.
- Each winner receives USD 10,000 and global recognition, including participation in major UN events.



NCERT Adds Biographies of Sam Manekshaw, Usman, and Major Somnath Sharma in Curriculum

- NCERT has added chapters on the lives and sacrifices of Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, Brigadier Mohammad Usman, and Major Somnath Sharma to the syllabus for the upcoming academic year for Class VIII (Urdu), Class VII (Urdu), and Class VIII (English), respectively.
- Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw was India's first Field Marshal officer to be awarded the rank of Field Marshal.
- Brigadier Mohammad Usman and Major Somnath Sharma, who were awarded the Maha Vir Chakra and the Param Vir Chakra (posthumously) respectively
- NCERT will also publish special modules on Mission LiFE ("Lifestyle for Environment") the horrors of Partition; India's rise as a space power — from Chandrayaan to Aditya L1, and Subhanshu Shukla's journey to the International Space Station.
- The first special module on Operation Sindoor will be for students from Class 3 to 8, and the second for students from Class 9 to 12. The achievements of India and its armed forces will be described in modules of 8 to 10 pages.



WHO Declares Kenya Free of Sleeping Sickness

- WHO certifies Kenya free of sleeping sickness, making it the 10th country to eliminate the disease as a public health challenge.
- Sleeping sickness, caused by protozoan parasites transmitted by tsetse flies, is characterized by initial symptoms such as fever, headaches, and joint pain.
- In advanced stages, patients suffer from neurological effects, disrupted sleep patterns, confusion, and behavioral changes.
- The sleeping sickness is endemic in sub-Saharan Africa.

Disease Eradicated by India

- India has eradicated Smallpox (1980), Polio (2014), Plague, Rinderpest (the Cattle Plague), Yaws and Maternal And Neonatal Tetanus (2015), trachoma (2024).
- India received Guinea worm disease-free certification status from the WHO in 2000.

Diseases Targeted for Elimination in India

- **Malaria:** Achieve zero indigenous cases by 2030.
- **Lymphatic Filariasis (LF):** Achieve <1% microfilaria rate in endemic areas (elimination by 2030).
- **Tuberculosis (TB):** End TB by 2025 under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).



Indian Army launches drone competition 'Surya Dronathon2025' in HP

- The Surya Command of the Indian Army, in collaboration with the Drone Federation of India, is set to host the Surya Dronathon2025, a pioneering drone competition that will bring together talented freelancers and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) from across the country.
- This event is scheduled to take place in Spiti Valley at Sumdo, Himachal Pradesh, where participants will face one of the highest drone obstacle courses in the country, situated at an altitude of 10,700 feet.
- The Indian Army's Surya Command, also known as the Central Command, is one of the seven commands of the Indian Army. Its headquarters is in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

**SURYA
DRONATHON
— 2025 —**



Rajasthan to carry out India's first drone-based artificial rain trial



- Rajasthan will conduct the drone-based artificial rain trial, using drones for cloud seeding. The project will be inaugurated near Ramgarh Dam.

Why Was Ramgarh Dam Chosen?

- Ramgarh Dam, which has served as a reservoir for 129 years, has been dry for the last 20 years and has never filled to full capacity since 1981.
- Reviving this dam will improve Jaipur's drinking water supply and benefit the local ecosystem and agriculture.
- Around 60 drones will take part in the initiative, a joint effort between the Rajasthan agriculture department and GenX AI, a technology firm with bases in the US and Bengaluru.
- The drones will spray special chemicals into clouds to trigger the formation of water droplets, which could lead to rain.
- Cloud seeding involves spraying chemicals like sodium chloride into clouds, which act as condensation nuclei, turning water vapor into raindrops.

- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted permissions for drone flights. Data collected from the experiment will be analyzed for one month.

Historical Significance of Ramgarh Dam

- The foundation was laid in 1897 by Maharaja Madho Singh II.
- Construction was completed in 1903.
- In 1931, Viceroy Lord Irwin launched Rajasthan's first drinking water scheme from here.
- The dam hosted the rowing events of the 1982 Asian Games.
- It has also been the main water source for the Jamwa Ramgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

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India wins 27 medals at Asian U19 & U22 Boxing Championships 2025

- India's boxing contingent concluded their campaign at the Asian Under-19 & Under-22 Boxing Championships 2025 on a high note, with Ritika winning gold in the women's 80-plus kg category.
- The prestigious tournament, held in Bangkok

U19 Team Performance:

- The Under-19 team had an outstanding run, finishing second overall with 14 medals –3 gold, 7 silver, and 4 bronze.
- They were just behind Uzbekistan

U22 Team Performance:

- The Under-22 team also performed admirably, securing 13 medals –1 gold, 4 silver, and 8 bronze.
- Ritika emerged as the only gold medalist
- while the U22 team ranked fourth.



SEBI proposes single-window gateway for trusted foreign investors



- Securities Exchange Board of India has proposed a single-window gateway called SWAGAT-FI to ease regulatory process for Foreign Portfolio Investors
- The Sebi's Single Window Automatic & Generalised Access for Trusted Foreign Investors (SWAGAT-FI) aims to offer a unified, streamlined and consistent access mechanism for certain categories of FI that are verified as low-risk category.
- This framework will help reduce regulatory complexity, simplify compliance, and enhance India's attractiveness as an investment destination.
- Currently, the KYC of FPIs are reviewed every year or three years based on the risk categorisation, while FVCI, are reviewed every year/5 years. Now, it is proposed to increase the periodicity for continuance of registration and review of KYC of SWAGAT-FIs to 10 years.
- Currently, aggregate contribution from non-resident Indian (NRI), Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) and Resident Indian individuals in an FPI is capped at 50% of the total corpus of the FPI. Now, it has proposed that restrictions on these contributions from NRIs, OCIs and RIs will be removed for eligible SWAGAT-FI funds, particularly benefiting mutual funds with diversified retail bases.

- It is proposed to permit SWAGAT-FIs to use a single demat account for holding all securities acquired as FPI or FVCI or as foreign investor investing in units of investment vehicles, on an optional basis.
- As of June 30, 2025, India had 11,913 registered FPIs, collectively holding assets valued at Rs. 81 trillion up from Rs 51tn in March 2022.

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India's First Animal Stem Cell Biobank in Hyderabad

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's first-of-its-kind Animal Stem Cell Biobank and Animal Stem Cell Laboratory at the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB) in Hyderabad, a premier institute under the Department of Biotechnology's Biotechnology Research Innovation Council
- The facility is built at a cost of Rs.1.85 crores.
- During the event, Union MoS Dr. Jitendra Singh also launched five innovative veterinary diagnostic tools, designed to revolutionize animal health management and support 'One Health' approach. It includes:
 1. Rapid Detection of Brucellosis, a field-deployable, Differentiating Infected from Vaccinated Animals (DIVA)- capable diagnostic kit for early and accurate detection of Brucella species.
 2. Mastitis Detection Technology, a cost-effective on-site diagnostic evaluation for subclinical and clinical mastitis in dairy cattle.
 3. Antimicrobial Sensitivity Testing Device, a portable tool providing results within two hours to promote responsible use of antibiotics.
 4. Toxoplasmosis Detection Kit, a sensitive and specific test for Toxoplasma gondii Infection in animals.
 5. Japanese Encephalitis Detection Kit, an indigenously developed rapid strip for large-scale surveillance in animals and humans.



India's Longest Ajni-Pune Vande Bharat Express

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually flagged off India's longest running Vande Bharat Express between Ajni (Nagpur) and Pune (Maharashtra) spanning approximately 881 Kilometre at the KSR Bengaluru Railway Station in Bengaluru
- He also inaugurated Vande Bharat trains from Bengaluru to Belagavi (Karnataka) and from Mata Vaishno Devi Katra (Jammu and Kashmir, J&K) to Amritsar (Punjab)
- The Vande Bharat train from Ajni to Pune covers 881 Km in a duration of 12 hours, marking the fastest train between Nagpur and Pune.
- The train halts at 10 stations, including Wardha, Badnera, Akola, Shegaon, Bhusaval, Jalgaon, Manmad, Kopergaon, Ahmednagar, and the Daund Chord Line.



BSNL Partners with Ericsson, Qualcomm, Cisco, and Nokia to Promote 5G, AI and Digital Skills



- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) signed a Memorandums of Understanding with 4 global tech companies: Ericsson India Pvt. Limited; Qualcomm Technologies Inc., Cisco Systems, and Nokia Solutions and Networks India Pvt. Limited
- The program will train over 2,000 students annually with Phase 1 investments exceeding Rs. 1 crore.
- These MoUs will roll out advance skilling programmes in 5G, Artificial Intelligence (AI)/ Machine Language, networking and digital technologies at Bharat Ratna Bhim Rao Ambedkar Institute of Telecom Training in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
- These MoUs align with the Department of Telecommunications to establish a Telecom Innovation, Research and Training Centre (TIRTC) at BRBRAITT, envisioned as industry-led national hub.
- **Ericsson India:** It will help in establishing a dedicated Ericsson 5G Centre of Excellence (CoE) at BRBRAITT. It will offer hands-on 5G training as well as online learning modules under the Ericsson Educate Program to more than 2000 students annually.

- **Qualcomm Technologies Inc.:** Qualcomm will establish a Qualcomm Institute at BRBRAITT. It will mainly focus on advanced 5G and AI training for students, BSNL trainers, and government stakeholders.
- **Cisco Systems:** Cisco Systems will use its Cisco Networking Academy Program to improve skills in networking, cyber security, and Information Technology infrastructure.
- **Nokia Solutions and Networks India Pvt. Ltd.:** It will provide support in the development of 5G CoE and AI/ML Lab at BRBRAITT to train 300 students every year in areas like: 5G radio, core networks, and AI/ML applications

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