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India Develops First Indigenous Antibiotic Nafithromycin Marks Breakthrough in Biopharma Innovation

- India has successfully developed its first **indigenously made antibiotic**, named **Nafithromycin**.
- It is **effective against drug-resistant respiratory infections**.
- The antibiotic is especially beneficial for **cancer patients** and those with **uncontrolled diabetes**.
- Nafithromycin is the **first antibiotic molecule fully conceived, developed, and clinically tested within India**.
- The drug was developed through a **collaboration between the Department of Biotechnology and Wockhardt**, a private pharmaceutical company.
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** described it as a **model example of industry–academia partnership**, which strengthens India’s biopharma sector.
- He inaugurated a **three-day workshop** titled *“Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for Multi-Omics Data Integration and Analysis.”*
- India’s **first successful gene therapy clinical trial for Hemophilia** was completed at **Christian Medical College, Vellore**, achieving **60–70% correction** with no bleeding incidents.
- India has already **sequenced over 10,000 human genomes** and plans to **expand this to one million**, marking major progress in genomic research.



Ayodhya Deepotsav 2025 – Uttar Pradesh Sets Guinness World Record with 26.17 Lakh Diyas

- Uttar Pradesh set a Guinness World Record by lighting over 26.17 lakh earthen lamps.
- These lamps were lit across 56 ghats in Ayodhya during the 9th Deepotsav.
- The grand lighting ceremony took place at Ram Ki Paidi. It marked Ayodhya's celebration of light and devotion.
- A new milestone was achieved as 2,128 Vedic scholars performed a massive Maha Aarti. They chanted sacred hymns along the Saryu River.
- Across Uttar Pradesh, more than 1.51 crore diyas illuminated the state.
- An innovative laser and drone show depicted the story of the Ramayana.
- Around 1,100 indigenous drones painted beautiful scenes in the night sky.



Bharti Airtel Partners with IBM to Expand Cloud Services and Launch Multizone Regions in India

- **Bharti Airtel has partnered with IBM to offer the tech giant's services through its Airtel Cloud platform, catering to growing demand for computing capacity.**
- **The partnership enables Airtel Cloud customers to deploy AI-ready servers and other IBM offerings in regulated sectors like banking, healthcare, and government.**
- **IBM and Airtel plan to establish two new Multizone Regions (MZR) in Mumbai and Chennai to strengthen cloud infrastructure in India.**
- **Airtel's collaboration with IBM complements its ongoing partnership with Google for a data center in Visakhapatnam, following Google's \$15 billion AI investment plan in Andhra Pradesh.**



Rodrigo Paz – New President of Bolivia: End of 20 Years of Socialist Rule

- Rodrigo Paz, a 58-year-old senator, has been elected President of Bolivia, securing 54.5 % of votes and ending 20 years of socialist rule begun by Evo Morales (2006).
- His win represents a move from state-controlled socialism to market-oriented economic liberalization, focusing on private investment and efficiency.
- The election followed a period of fuel shortages, 20 % + inflation, and falling foreign-exchange reserves, which fueled public frustration with the socialist model.
- Campaign Theme “Capitalism for All” Paz promised to revive growth, attract investment, and create jobs while retaining basic social-welfare safety nets.
- Foreign-Policy Reorientation Paz is expected to shift toward Western nations rebuilding ties with the U.S. and Europe while reducing dependency on Venezuela, Cuba, and China.
- Plans include IMF/World Bank engagement and attracting Western investment in Bolivia’s lithium and natural-gas sectors, balancing reform with national interests.



RBL Bank Launches 'Humsafar' RuPay Prepaid Card with NPCI at Global Fintech Fest 2025

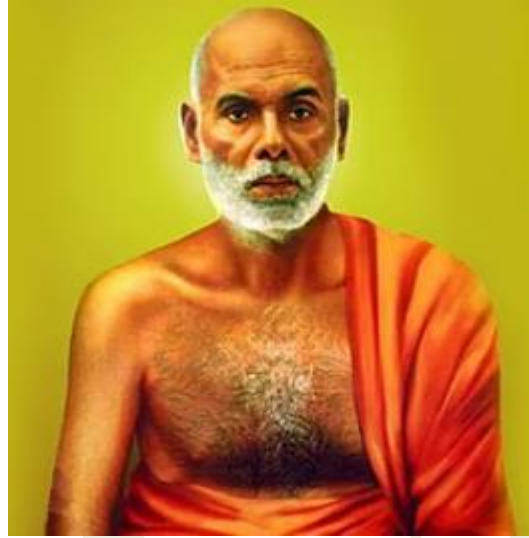
- RBL Bank, one of India's leading private sector banks, in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has launched its new RuPay prepaid card 'Humsafar' at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) in Mumbai.
- The National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) enablement will streamline public transportation across cities in India. Customers can conveniently load their 'Humsafar' Prepaid Card instantly and securely.
- RBL Bank aims to provide a smarter and more secure way to manage daily expenses, while giving customers the freedom to control and track their spending effectively.

Key Benefits of the Humsafar RuPay Prepaid Card:

- **Smooth Travel Experience:** Customers can skip long queues at metros and buses
- **Seamless Transactions:** Enabled through RuPay's secure and robust infrastructure.
- **Smart Spending:** Customers can pre-load the card with a desired amount and enjoy hassle-free transactions without the need to carry multiple cards or cash.
- **Enhanced Control:** Better visibility of expenses and budget management through prepaid functionality.



Sree Narayana Guru – The Saint Who Transformed Kerala’s Social and Spiritual Landscape



- Sree Narayana Guru (1856–1928) was a saint, philosopher, and social reformer from Kerala who fought against caste discrimination and promoted equality.
- In October 2025, President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Mahasamadhi Centenary celebrations of Sree Narayana Guru at Sivagiri Mutt, Varkala.
- The year 2025 also marks the centenary of the historic meeting between Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi in 1925, which emphasized social harmony and the elimination of caste discrimination.
- He led a peaceful revolution against caste-based discrimination in Kerala during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- He propagated the principle of “One Caste, One Religion, One God for Man,” emphasizing equality, brotherhood, and human dignity.
- He founded the Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam (SNDP Yogam) in 1903 and the Sivagiri Mutt in 1924 to promote education, cleanliness, and self-reliance.

- He built more than 40 temples across Kerala and promoted interfaith harmony through initiatives like the Alwaye Advaita Ashram and the All-Religion Conference.
- He composed several literary works in Malayalam, Sanskrit, and Tamil such as Atmopadesa Satakam, Daiva Dasakam, and Jati Nirnayam.
- His egalitarian philosophy became a foundation for Kerala's social reform and inspired movements like temple entry reforms and Kerala's renaissance.
- His teachings on unity, education, and equality continue to influence institutions like Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam and Sivagiri Mutt, remaining relevant for peace and social progress even today.

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Kapas Kranti Mission – Boosting Cotton Productivity through Technology and Innovation

- Centre Launches ₹600 Crore Kapas Kranti Mission.
- The central government has launched the ₹600 crore “Kapas Kranti Mission” to enhance high-yield, longstaple cotton cultivation through innovative agricultural practices and technology.
- The mission aims to replicate successful High-Density Plantation (HDP) methods from Maharashtra in Telangana.
- A new mobile application, “Kapas Kisan App,” will facilitate the cotton procurement process, ensuring transparency and fair pricing for farmers.

High-Density Plantation (HDP) Methods:

- High-Density Plantation (HDP) is an agricultural technique that involves planting crops closer together than traditional methods, increasing the number of plants per unit area.
- This approach maximises yield and optimises resource use, such as water and nutrients.
- HDP is particularly beneficial for crops like cotton, where increased plant density can significantly boost production.

Kapas Kisan App:

- The “Kapas Kisan App” is a mobile application designed to streamline the cotton selling process for farmers. It allows farmers to book slots for selling their produce, reducing reliance on middlemen and ensuring fair prices. The app aims to enhance transparency and efficiency in the cotton procurement process, offering a user-friendly platform for farmers to manage their sales.



Ningol Chakouba 2025 – Festival of Brother-Sister Bond Celebrated in Manipur

- Ningol Chakouba is a Manipuri festival that celebrates the bond between married women and their paternal families.
- It is observed every year on the second day of the Hiyangei month in the Meitei lunar calendar.
- In 2025, it is celebrated with great enthusiasm across Manipur.
- The word Ningol means married daughter and Chakouba means feasting together.
- The festival highlights love and respect between brothers and sisters even after marriage.
- Before the festival, the Department of Fisheries, Manipur, conducts an Annual Fish Fair at Hapta Kangjeibung in Imphal to make fish available at affordable prices.



Ministry of Civil Aviation Celebrates 9th Anniversary of Regional Connectivity Scheme – UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik)



- Ministry of Civil Aviation is celebrating the 9th anniversary of the Regional Connectivity Scheme – UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik).
- The main celebration was held in New Delhi, chaired by Secretary (Civil Aviation) and attended by Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- The UDAN, launched on 21st October 2016 under the National Civil Aviation Policy, has been a transformational initiative aimed at making air travel affordable and accessible to the common citizen.
- The first UDAN flight, inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 27th April 2017 between Shimla and Delhi, marked a new era in regional aviation connectivity.

- Under the scheme, 649 routes have been operationalized connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes, facilitating over 1.56 crore passengers through 3.23 lakh UDAN flights.
- To support airline operators and regional infrastructure, the Government has disbursed more than Rs. 4,300 crore as Viability Gap Funding (VGF) and invested Rs. 4,638 crore in airport development under RCS.
- A key recent initiative has been the introduction of Comprehensive Guidelines for Seaplane Operations in August 2024, and the launch of the UDAN 5.5, a special bidding round for seaplanes and helicopters.
- Under this round, Letters of Intent have been issued for 150 routes connecting 30 water aerodromes across various coastal and island regions.
- The Ministry's commitment to continue the scheme beyond April 2027 through an Expanded UDAN Framework, focusing on connectivity with hilly, North-Eastern, and aspirational regions, and the development of around 120 new destinations.

Kerala to be Declared India's First Extreme Poverty-Free State on November 1, 2025



- Kerala will become India's first state to be declared free of extreme poverty on November 1, 2025, announced by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at Central Stadium, Thiruvananthapuram.
- The Extreme Poverty Eradication Programme was launched in 2021 by the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government soon after it assumed office for its second term.
- The programme aimed to identify and uplift families living in severe economic distress through an integrated state and local governance effort.
- It combined support for housing, food, healthcare, education, and employment to provide sustainable rehabilitation for poor families.
- Extreme poverty was defined as households lacking access to basic income, shelter, food, and health services, often excluded from welfare schemes due to documentation or social isolation.

- Kerala used a data-based approach involving social surveys, panchayat-level assessments, and NGO participation to map extreme poverty accurately.
- The state's achievements are rooted in its long-standing social investments—high literacy, universal healthcare, strong local self-governance, and efficient welfare distribution.
- This declaration represents a major milestone in India's poverty eradication efforts and supports the UN Sustainable Development Goal 1 of ending poverty in all forms.
- Kerala's model showcases that poverty is multidimensional, requiring coordinated action in education, health, sanitation, and dignity along with income generation.
- After the declaration, the government plans to continue monitoring vulnerable households, expand skill development, and strengthen safety nets to prevent families from slipping back into poverty.

Fifth Khelo India University Games to Be Held Across 7 Cities in Rajasthan

- **The fifth Khelo India University Games (KIUG) will be held from November 24 across 7 cities in Rajasthan—Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota, and Bharatpur—with over 5,000 university athletes participating in 23 medal sports and one demonstration sport, Kho-Kho.**
- Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya highlighted that the Rajasthan edition will showcase India's growing sports ecosystem, inspire students to balance academics and sports, and strengthen the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' through healthy competition.
- This year's medal sports include archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, fencing, football, hockey, judo, kabaddi, mallakhamb, rugby, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling, yogasana, cycling, beach volleyball, canoeing, and kayaking, while Kho-Kho will be featured as a demonstration sport.
- For the first time, beach volleyball, canoeing and kayaking, and cycling are being introduced in the KIUG programme, reflecting the initiative's aim to expand sports opportunities and promote talent development nationwide.



Nirmala Sitharaman Inaugurates BioNEST Incubation Centre at IIT Dharwad

- **Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** inaugurated the **BioNEST Incubation Centre (BIC)** at **IIT Dharwad** in collaboration with Research and Technology Incubator (dhaRti), aiming to foster innovation and entrepreneurship among students.
- The FM emphasized the government's commitment to sustainable green models and zero emissions by 2047, highlighting support for renewable energy enterprises through subsidies, green bonds, and CSR funds, while noting the need for advanced technology in sectors like steel and cement to reduce emissions.
- Sitharaman stressed the importance of industry-academia collaboration, urging technology institutes to update curricula, provide hands-on experience, and help students develop multiple skill sets to meet the evolving needs of the job market and technological advancements.

