



India to Host 2nd WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine | National Current Affairs | 16 Dec 2025

Why in News?

India will host the **Second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in New Delhi** from 17–19 December 2025, building on the inaugural summit held in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat, in 2023**.

Key Points

- **Organiser:** Jointly organised by the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) and the **Ministry of Ayush** to advance global dialogue on health and well-being through traditional medicine.
- **Theme:** The summit will be held under the theme **“Restoring balance: The science and practice of health and well-being,”** focusing on equitable, sustainable health systems.
- **Global Focus:** Policymakers and leaders from over 100 countries will participate **to shape the future role of traditional medicine.**
- **Vision:** The event aims to reaffirm the relevance of traditional medicine while promoting its integration into **national health systems** based on science, evidence and responsible practice.
- **WHO Strategy:** Discussions will align with the **WHO Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034** to advance people-centred healthcare and planetary well-being.
- **Plenary Sessions:** Key deliberations will cover restoring **balance in health systems, scientific investment, governance, biodiversity stewardship, and Indigenous rights.**
- **Innovation & Evidence:** The summit will emphasize innovative approaches to elevate traditional medicine responsibly **through ethical use of digital technologies,** including AI.
- **Diverse Issues:** Over 25 sessions will address regulation, integration, protection of biodiversity, and intellectual property rights.

WHO

- **Founded:** 7 April 1948, headquartered in **Geneva, Switzerland.**
 - **Type:** Specialized agency of the [United Nations](#) for global public health.
 - **Membership:** **194 member states** (as of 2025).
 - **Objective:** Promote **health,** achieve **Universal Health Coverage (UHC),** and respond to **global health emergencies.**
 - **Current Director-General:** Dr **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** (since 2017).
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Nuclear Energy Transformation Bill, 2025 | National Current Affairs | 16 Dec 2025

Why in News?

Dr **Jitendra Singh**, Minister of State for **Science and Technology**, introduced the **Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Bill, 2025**, in Parliament to modernise India's nuclear energy legal framework.

Key Points

- **New Legal Framework:** The Bill proposes a comprehensive law for nuclear energy by repealing the **Atomic Energy Act, 1962** and the **Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010**.
- **Energy Security:** It aims to expand nuclear installed capacity to ensure **reliable, clean and round-the-clock power** for future needs such as **data centres**.
- **Decarbonisation Goal:** The Bill aligns with India's long-term climate commitments, including a target of **100 GW nuclear power capacity by 2047** and **net-zero emissions by 2070**.
- **Private Participation:** It encourages greater involvement of the **domestic industry and the private sector** in **nuclear power development**.
- **Regulatory Mechanism:** The Bill introduces updated provisions for **licensing, safety authorisation, suspension and cancellation** to strengthen regulatory oversight.
- **Civil Liability:** A revised civil liability framework for nuclear damage is proposed to enhance **safety, accountability and compensation mechanisms**.
- **Institutional Setup:** The Bill provides for bodies such as the **Atomic Energy Redressal Advisory Council**, Claims Commissioners and a **Nuclear Damage Claims Commission**.
- **Technology Coverage:** Nuclear energy and radiation-based technologies are brought under a **modernised regulatory structure**.
- **National Transition:** The Bill reflects India's intent to modernise nuclear governance while balancing **clean energy expansion, safety and public interest**.

Nuclear Energy

- **First Plant:** Tarapur, Maharashtra (1969)
- **Largest Site:** Rajasthan – maximum nuclear power generation.
- **Other Key Sites:** Kakrapar (Gujarat), Kudankulam & Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu), Narora (U.P.).
- **Reactor Types:** PHWR (majority), BWR (Tarapur), Fast Breeder Reactor (Kalpakkam).
- **Fuel:** Uranium & Thorium (India has largest Thorium reserves).

Defence Estates Day Celebrations of 100th Year | National Current Affairs | 16 Dec 2025

Why in News?

Raksha Mantri **Shri Rajnath Singh** will preside over the **Defence Estates Day celebrations** at Raksha Sampada Bhawan, Delhi Cantonment, on **16 December 2025**, marking the **100th year** of the Defence Estates Department.

Key Points

- **Celebrations & Awards:** Raksha Mantri will confer the **Raksha Mantri Awards for Excellence in public service** for **Defence Land Management and Municipal Administration** across **61**

Cantonment Boards.

- **Centenary Significance:** The event marks the **100th anniversary** of the **Defence Estates Department**, with origins tracing back to Barrackpore in 1765 and formalisation on **16 December 1926**.
- **Defence Estates Role:** The Department manages the largest landholding of the Government of India under the **Ministry of Defence**.
- **Digital Transformation:** Modernised land management with projects like **E-Chhawani**, providing 100% municipal services online to ~20 lakh cantonment residents.
- **Awards Recognition:** Won the **National Water Awards for Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari** for efforts in water conservation and rejuvenation of water bodies.
- **Digitisation:** Complete **digitisation of legacy land records**, ensuring preservation, easy retrieval, and secure archival.
- **Raksha Bhoomi Platform:** A centralised software '**Raksha Bhoomi**' serves as a unified repository of all **defence land records** on secure servers.
- **Advanced Survey Tools:** Uses Differential [GPS](#), [GIS](#) tools and high-resolution satellite imagery to improve **land accuracy** and management.
- **Tech Innovation: Centre of Excellence on Satellite and Unmanned Remote Vehicle Initiative** leverages [AI/ML](#) and emerging technologies for next-generation **defence land management solutions**.

India, ADB Sign \$2.2 Billion Development Loans | National Current Affairs | 16 Dec 2025

Why in News?

The Government of India and the [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)](#) signed agreements for **five loans totalling over \$2.2 billion** to support various key development projects across multiple sectors.

Key Points

- **Regional Impact:** Projects span **three states (Assam, Meghalaya and Tamilnadu)**, boosting development across sectors and regions.
- **Loan Value:** Agreements worth **over \$2.2 billion** signed between India and **ADB**.
- **Projects Covered:** Includes programmes for **skilling, rooftop solar deployment, healthcare, metro rail, and ecotourism**.
- **Skilling Initiative:** Supports **Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs Programme**.
- **Solar Programme:** Funds **Accelerating Affordable and Inclusive Rooftop Solar Systems Development** under [Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana \(PM-SGBY\)](#).
- **Healthcare Project:** Includes **Assam State Tertiary Health Care Augmentation Project (ASTHA)**.
- **Urban Transport:** Supports **Chennai Metro Rail Investment Project (Tranche 2)**.
- **Ecotourism & Livelihoods:** Financing for **Integrated Ecotourism and Sustainable Agri-based Livelihood Development in Meghalaya**.
- **Flagship Programmes:** Loans will further India's **national flagship programmes** in renewable energy, healthcare, urban infrastructure and skill development.

ADB

- **Established:** 1966, headquarters at Manila, Philippines.

- **Type:** Multilateral development bank for Asia-Pacific region.
 - **Members:** 68 members (49 regional, 19 non-regional).
 - **Objective:** Promote economic growth, poverty reduction and sustainable development.
 - **India-ADB:** India is a founding member and one of the largest borrowers from ADB.
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National Geospatial Workshop on Geospatial Mission | National Current Affairs | 16 Dec 2025

Why in News?

The [Survey of India](#) (under **Department of Science & Technology**) will host a **National Workshop on Strengthening of Geospatial Ecosystem** titled “**Geospatial Mission: An Enabler of Viksit Bharat.**”

Key Points

- **Inauguration & Venue:** The workshop will be **inaugurated by Dr Jitendra Singh** on **17 December 2025** at **Yashobhoomi, New Delhi**.
- **Objective:** To **strengthen India’s geospatial ecosystem** and advance the **National Geospatial Mission**.
- **Participants:** Will bring together **policymakers, technologists, industry leaders and domain experts**.
- **Announced:** The **National Geospatial Mission** (announced in the **Union Budget 2025-26**) aims to **modernise geodetic frameworks, enhance geospatial infrastructure, standardise data, and adopt emerging technologies**.
- **Significance:** A key step in realising the [Viksit Bharat 2047](#) vision through enhanced geospatial capabilities.