



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

India Exempts Import Duty on Rare Disease Drugs and Food

The Indian government has announced an **exemption on basic [customs duty](#) for all drugs and food used for special medical purposes** that are imported for personal use to treat **[rare diseases](#)**.

The exemption will become effective from April 1, 2023. **Pembrolizumab (Keytruda)**, a medication used to **treat various [cancers](#)**, has also been **exempted from basic customs duty**. Previously, drugs and medicines that were used to treat **Spinal Muscular Atrophy or [Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy](#)** were provided with exemptions.

The individual importer must provide a certificate from the **Central or State Director Health Services or District Medical Officer/Civil Surgeon** of the district to avail of the exemption. The treatment for rare diseases can be very expensive, and this exemption will result in **substantial cost savings for patients**.

Read More: [Custom Duty](#), [Rare Diseases](#).

ISRO Releases Global Earth Mosaic Captured by EOS-06 satellite

The **[Indian Space Research Organisation \(ISRO\)](#)** has recently released a **Global False Colour Composite (FCC)** mosaic of images captured by the **Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM)** payload on board the **[EOS-06 satellite](#)**.

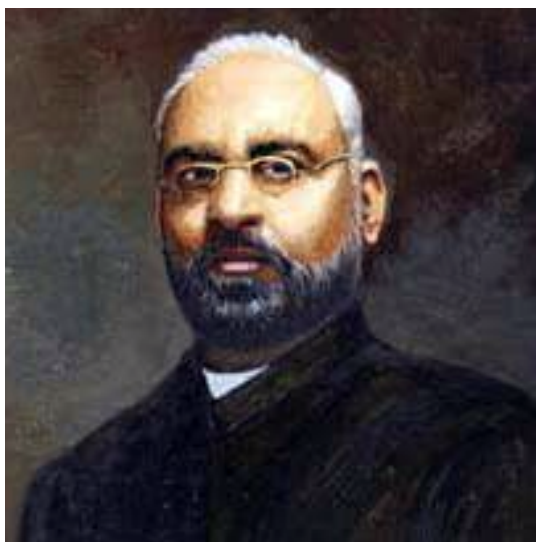
The **OCM senses the Earth in 13 distinct wavelengths** to provide information about **global vegetation cover on land and ocean biota for [global oceans](#)**.

Launched by ISRO in November 2021, the **EOS-06 satellite is the third generation in the [Oceansat series](#)** and is equipped with **four payloads to observe ocean colour data, sea surface temperature, and wind vector data for climatic and meteorological applications**, among other things.

Read More: [EOS-06 Satellite](#), [Oceansat](#)

Shyamji Krishna Varma

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On March 30, 2023 the **death anniversary of Shri Shyamji Krishna Varma** was commemorated.

Shyamji Krishna Varma was a **prominent Indian revolutionary who played a significant role in the country's freedom struggle** against **British colonial rule**. He was known for his strong nationalist ideals and courage, which inspired many other leaders of the time.

He also established the [Indian Home Rule Society](#) in London, which provided a **platform for Indian students to voice their opposition to British rule**. His contributions to the Indian independence movement are widely recognized and celebrated in India.

Read More: [India's Freedom Struggle](#)

Tiwa Tribes Celebrates Yangli Festival in Assam

[Tiwa tribesmen](#) in Assam celebrate the **Yangli festival** once every three years to mark the beginning of the **sowing season**.

The **Yangli** festival, which is related to agriculture, is a significant event for the Tiwas as **farming is the main source of income for their community**.

During the festival, the Tiwas perform dances and offer **prayers for a successful harvest**, seeking protection for their crops from pests and natural calamities.

Read More: [Tiwa tribe](#).

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