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History, Art and Culture

Nritya Kalanidhi Award

Bharatanatyam exponent Urmila Satyanarayanan has been conferred the NrityaKalanidhi award.

• **Awarded during –** The 19th Dance Festival at the Music Academy in Chennai.
• **Aim –** To recognize outstanding artistic excellence and a sustained commitment to the preservation of Bharatanatyam.
• It also commemorates the 50th anniversary of her arangetram and the 30th anniversary of her dance school, Natya Sankalpa.

Bharatanatyam

• Bharatanatyam is among the *oldest classical dance forms* in India.
• **Originated in –** Tamil Nadu.
• **Characterized by –** Grace, purity, tenderness, and distinctive sculptural poses.
• Traditionally, *female dancers* performed Bharatanatyam in temple settings.
• **Key elements –** Nritta (pure dance), Nritya (expressive dance), Natya(drama).
• Performances are typically accompanied by *Carnatic music.*
• **Indian Classical Dance Forms**
  - There are *8 major classical dance forms* recognized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
  - These include Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, Mohiniyattam, Odissi, and Sattriya.

Polity & Governance

AYUSHEXCIL - 4th Establishment Anniversary

• **Observed by –** Ayush Export Promotion Council (AYUSHEXCIL).
• **Registered as –** A Section 8 company with the Registrar of Companies.
• **Launched during –** Global AYUSH Investment and Innovation Summit held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, on 20 April 2022.
• **Objectives –** To strengthen international cooperation, leverage opportunities under Free Trade Agreements.
• To promote quality and certification frameworks, and enhance global acceptance of India's traditional systems of medicine.

National Seminar 'Aeronautics 2047'

• **Commenced at –** Centre for Airborne Systems (CABS), Bengaluru.
• **Organised by –** Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA).
• **Objective –** To explore various aspects of modern aerospace technologies, including
  - Manufacturing and assembly for next generation aircraft,
  - Digital manufacturing, aerodynamics for next generation combat aircraft,
  - Propulsion technologies, flight testing techniques, digital twin technology,
  - Certification challenges, flight control systems & avionics,
  - Maintainability challenges in fighter aircraft,
  - AI in aircraft design, and precision manufacturing for actuators.

Economy

National Textiles Ministers' Conference

• **To be held in –** Guwahati, on 8th and 9th January, 2026.
• **Organized by –** Ministry of Textiles in collaboration with the Government of Assam.
• **Theme –** "India's Textiles: Weaving Growth, Heritage & Innovation."
• **Focus on –**
- Infrastructure & Investment, Expanding Exports, Competitiveness,
- Raw Materials & Fibres, New Frontiers, including technical textiles, research & development,
- Revitalizing Traditional Textiles, with emphasis on handloom and handicrafts for modern markets.

• **Objective –** To deliberate on a coordinated national strategy for positioning India as a global textiles manufacturing hub.
• **Significance –** It aligns with the national vision of developing a USD 350 billion textile industry and achieving USD 100 billion in textile exports by 2030.

A conclave on "Strengthening and Empowering the Textiles Sector of the North-Eastern Region of India"

• **To be held on –** 8th January 2026.
• **Focus on –** Silk, handloom and bamboo-based textiles, promotion of women-led enterprises, and branding "Textiles from North-East".
• **Aim –** To unlock the region's unique textile strengths and integrating them with national and global value chains.

AAA Rating for NHAI's Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust

• **Rated for –** Long-term bank facilities by CARE Ratings Limited.
• **Significances –**
• It underscores the high degree of safety and reliability offered by RIIT's debt instruments, making it among the most secure investment options available to investors.
• It reinforces RIIT's position as a robust, investor-friendly platform supporting India's infrastructure growth and sustainable capital formation.

CareEdge Ratings (CARE Ratings Ltd)

• It is one of India's leading credit rating agencies.
• **Started in –** 1993.
• **Ratings for –** A variety of industries, such as manufacturing, infrastructure, and the financial sector, which includes banking, and non-financial services.
• **Objective –** To provide best-in-class tools, analyses and insights, enabling customers to make informed decisions.

Agriculture

Quality Control Measures for Tea Imports

C. Murugan, Deputy Chairman of the Tea Board, stated that all imported tea will be subject to comprehensive quality testing.

• **Conducted by –** Tea Board of India.
• **Objectives**
  - To prevent the importation of low-cost, inferior-quality tea into India.
  - To establish a standardized procedure for comprehensive quality testing.



Science

Regional AI Impact Conference 2026

• **Host by –** Rajasthan, on 6th January in Jaipur.
• **Part of –** India's build-up to the India AI Impact Summit 2026.
• **Held in conjunction with –** Rajasthan DigiFest × TiE Global Summit 2026.
• **Objective –** To serve as a key regional platform to explore how Artificial Intelligence can drive governance reform, economic growth, innovation, and inclusive development.
• **Agenda –** High-level sessions on AI for Public Service Delivery and Governance, Ethical and Responsible AI, AI and the Future of Employment and Skills, and the emergence of Rajasthan's AI startup and innovation ecosystem.
• **Significance –** It underscores Rajasthan's growing ambition to position itself as a hub for digital innovation and emerging technologies.

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering