

RADIUS EDUCATION

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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- **Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY): A major step towards universal health coverage in Rajasthan**
- **Operation Southern Readiness 26-2: India's Maritime Security Diplomacy and Strategic Leadership in the Indian Ocean**
- **Madhya Pradesh Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026: A new step towards uniform civil law**
- **Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen (ECOGEN) at IIT Kanpur: Giving New Momentum to India's Clean Energy and Net-Zero Strategy**
- **Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary: India's first AI-powered bird sanctuary and a new initiative in wildlife conservation**
- **Kanishka Narayan appointed UK's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) Minister: New initiative towards global AI governance**
- **France's landmark digital security law bans social media access for children under 15**
- **International Self-Care Day: A global initiative to promote preventive health and a healthy lifestyle**

1. Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY): A Major Step Towards Universal Health Coverage in Rajasthan

The Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY) is a flagship health insurance scheme of the Rajasthan government, formerly known as the Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme. Under this scheme, eligible families receive cashless health insurance coverage of up to ₹25 lakh per year, accident insurance of ₹10 lakh, and access to over 1,700 treatment packages at empanelled government and private hospitals. All family members linked to the 'Jan Aadhaar' card are covered regardless of age; eligible categories receive benefits free of cost, while other families can avail of the benefits by making an annual contribution of ₹850.



2. Operation Southern Readiness 26-2: India's Maritime Security Diplomacy and Strategic Leadership in the Indian Ocean

The Indian Navy has launched a multinational maritime security training exercise named 'Operation Southern Readiness 26-2' at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi, with 254 delegates from 26 countries participating. This exercise is being conducted in collaboration with the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) and Combined Task Force-154 (CTF-154) with the aim of strengthening capacity building, interoperability, and maritime security cooperation. India is hosting this exercise for the first time in 2026, and the Indian Navy is currently leading CTF-154.



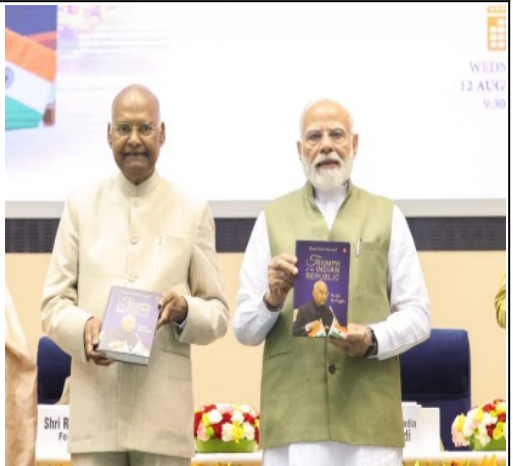
3. Madhya Pradesh Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026: A New Step Towards Uniform Civil Laws

The Madhya Pradesh Cabinet has approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026, making the state the fourth—following Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and Assam—to move towards implementing the UCC. This Bill seeks to establish uniformity in civil laws concerning marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption, maintenance, and live-in relationships; its constitutional basis lies in Article 44 (Directive Principles of State Policy). The Bill mandates marriage registration for all religions, requires the registration of live-in relationships, grants equal property rights to sons and daughters, and establishes monogamy as the standard.



4. Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen (ECOGEN) at IIT Kanpur: Boosting India's Clean Energy and Net-Zero Strategy

ECOGEN (Centre of Excellence on Innovative and Integrated Ecosystem for Green Hydrogen) will be established at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur under the Uttar Pradesh Green Hydrogen Policy, 2024, with the aim of promoting green hydrogen technology and research. The center will work on advanced technologies such as green hydrogen production, storage, utilization, system integration, and fuel cells, while strengthening collaboration among industry, academia, and policymakers. Aligned with the National Green Hydrogen Mission, this initiative will foster clean energy, energy self-reliance, industrial investment, and the reduction of carbon emissions.



5. Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary: India's First AI-Powered Bird Sanctuary and a New Initiative in Wildlife Conservation

The Maharashtra government has approved the development of India's first AI-based bird sanctuary at the Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS) at a cost of approximately ₹45 crore. Under this project, real-time monitoring of bird species—including their identification, migration patterns, population counts, and activities—will be conducted using AI-enabled cameras and smart surveillance systems. TCFS is India's first flamingo sanctuary and a crucial stopover on the Central Asian Flyway, making it vital for the conservation of migratory birds and wetlands.



6. Kanishka Narayan Becomes Britain's First Artificial Intelligence (AI) Minister: A New Initiative Towards Global AI Governance

Kanishka Narayan, of Indian origin, has been appointed as Britain's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) Minister, with the aim of strengthening AI policy, digital governance, technological innovation, and AI regulation. Born in Muzaffarpur, Bihar, Narayan was educated at Oxford and Stanford universities and has made significant contributions to the fields of public policy and technology. As the AI Minister, he will work towards promoting safe and responsible AI, expanding the use of AI in public services, and developing an effective regulatory framework.



7. France's Historic Digital Safety Law: Ban on Social Media for Children Under 15

France has passed a new law banning social media use for children under the age of 15, making it the first country in Europe to implement such a nationwide age-based restriction. Under the law, age verification will become mandatory for new accounts starting September 2026 and for all existing accounts from January 2027. The initiative aims to protect children's mental health and safeguard them against cyberbullying, online exploitation, and harmful digital content. However, challenges such as data privacy, the reliability of age verification methods, and the use of fake identities remain significant issues for its effective implementation.



8. International Self-Care Day: A Global Initiative to Promote Preventive Health and Healthy Lifestyles

International Self-Care Day is observed annually on July 24th, aiming to raise awareness about physical, mental, and emotional health and to encourage preventive healthcare services. Self-care encompasses a balanced diet, regular exercise, adequate sleep, mental stress management, personal hygiene, timely health check-ups, and responsible medication use. The World Health Organization (WHO) recognizes self-care as a crucial means to strengthen Universal Health Coverage (UHC).



1. Under what name was the Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY) previously operated?

- A - Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojana
B - Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme (Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana)
C - Ayushman Bharat Yojana
D - Jan Arogya Suraksha Yojana

The Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY) is a flagship health insurance scheme of the Rajasthan government, under which eligible families are provided cashless health insurance of up to ₹25 lakh per year and accident insurance of ₹10 lakh.



2. Where is 'Operation Southern Readiness 26-2' being organized in India?

- A - Visakhapatnam
B - Mumbai
C - Kochi
D - Chennai

The Indian Navy has launched the multinational maritime security training exercise 'Operation Southern Readiness 26-2' at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi, with 254 representatives from 26 countries participating. This exercise is being conducted in collaboration with CMF and CTF-154; India is hosting it for the first time, thereby further strengthening its strategic role in the Indian Ocean region.



3. Which state in the country has become the [number] state to approve the Madhya Pradesh Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026?

- A - Second
B - Third
C - Fourth
D - Fifth

The Madhya Pradesh Cabinet has approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026, making the state the fourth in the country to move towards implementing the UCC. This bill is based on Article 44 and grants exemptions to ST and PVTG communities while ensuring equality in matters of marriage, divorce, inheritance, live-in relationships, and property rights.



4. Where will ECOGEN (Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen) be established?

- A - IIT Delhi
B - IIT Bombay
C - IIT Kanpur
D - IIT Madras

ECOGEN (Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen) will be established at IIT Kanpur under the Uttar Pradesh Green Hydrogen Policy, 2024; it will promote research on green hydrogen production, storage, utilization, and advanced technologies. Aligned with the National Green Hydrogen Mission, this initiative is a significant step towards clean energy, energy self-reliance, carbon emission reduction, and making India a global green hydrogen hub.



5. Where will India's first AI-based bird sanctuary be developed?

- A - Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan B - Chilika Lake, Odisha
C - Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS), Maharashtra D - Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Gujarat

The Maharashtra government has approved the development of India's first AI-based bird sanctuary at the Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS) at a cost of approximately ₹45 crore. This project will promote biodiversity conservation, scientific research, and eco-tourism by monitoring migratory birds in real-time through an AI-enabled surveillance system.



6. Who has recently been appointed as Britain's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) Minister?

- A - Rishi Sunak B - Kanishka Narayan
C - Priti Patel D - Alok Sharma

Kanishka Narayan, of Indian origin, has been appointed as Britain's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) Minister; he will strengthen AI policy, digital governance, technological innovation, and AI regulation. His appointment is a crucial part of Britain's strategy to promote safe and responsible AI, the digital economy, and global technological leadership.



7. Which is the first country in Europe to impose a nationwide ban on social media usage for children under the age of 15?

- A - Germany B - France
C - Italy D - Spain

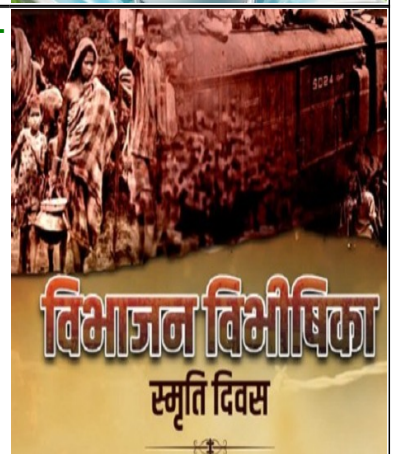
France has become the first country in Europe to implement a nationwide age-based ban on social media usage for children under 15. The law aims to protect children's mental health and curb cyberbullying and online exploitation by mandating age verification.



8. With what does the World Health Organization (WHO) strongly link self-care?

- A - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) B - Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
C - Paris Agreement D - Global Health Security Agenda

International Self-Care Day is observed annually on July 24, aiming to raise awareness about physical, mental, and emotional health and to encourage preventive health services. The World Health Organization (WHO) considers self-care a vital means of strengthening Universal Health Coverage (UHC), while initiatives in India such as Ayushman Bharat, Fit India, and Eat Right India promote it.



One Liner

1. Which goal does the World Health Organization (WHO) consider self-care a crucial means of strengthening? - **Universal Health Coverage (UHC).**
2. Which person of Indian origin has been appointed as Britain's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) Minister? - **Kanishka Narayan.**
3. In which Article lies the constitutional basis for the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) proposed by Madhya Pradesh? - **Article 44.**
4. In which sanctuary will India's first AI-based bird sanctuary be developed? - **Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS), Maharashtra.**
5. Under which command of the Indian Navy is 'Operation Southern Readiness 26-2' being conducted? - **Southern Naval Command, Kochi.**
6. Which Combined Task Force is the Indian Navy currently leading during 'Operation Southern Readiness 26-2'? - **Combined Task Force-154 (CTF-154).**
7. When is International Self-Care Day observed every year? - **July 24.**
8. What is the name of the Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen being established at IIT Kanpur? - **ECOGEN (Centre of Excellence for Green Hydrogen).**
9. Which is the first country in Europe to implement a nationwide age-based ban on social media usage for children under the age of 15? - **France.**
10. Under what name was the Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY) previously operated? - **Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme.**