

THE DAILY GK DOSE

RAMAN MEENAKSHI SUNDARAM APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF NAARM

- **Professional Background:** Dr. Sundaram is a renowned scientist specializing in crop biotechnology, rice genetics, and molecular breeding. Before his current appointment at NAARM, he served as the Director of the ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (ICAR-IIRR) from 2021 to May 2026.
- **Academic and Research Excellence:** Throughout his distinguished career, he has published over 160 research papers and contributed to significant agricultural innovations, such as the development of the "Improved Samba Mahsuri" rice variety. He is also a fellow of several prestigious scientific bodies, including the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) and the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI).
- **Current Leadership Role:** As the Director of ICAR-NAARM, he oversees capacity-building initiatives and research management programs for the agricultural sector. He is also actively involved in mentoring agricultural stakeholders, including workshops for input dealers to promote science-based nutrient management for farmers.

SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT LEE JAE MYUNG NOMINATES HAN SEONG- SOOK AS PM

- **Background and Expertise:** Han Seong-sook, the current Minister of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Startups, is a former CEO of the internet giant Naver. Her background in the technology sector is intended to help the administration navigate the transition toward an artificial intelligence-driven economy.
- **Strategic Reshuffle:** The nomination follows the resignation of current Prime Minister Kim Min-seok, who is stepping down to

pursue the leadership of the ruling Democratic Party. This transition occurs as the Lee administration marks its first anniversary since taking office in June 2025.

UP LAUNCHES 'PROJECT GANGA' TO BRING HIGH-SPEED INTERNET TO RURAL AREAS



- **Objective and Reach:** The project aims to provide high-speed fiber-based broadband connectivity to approximately 20 lakh households across the state. It will initially roll out in 21 districts, with the ultimate goal of reaching all 57,000 Gram Panchayats and 8,000 Nyaya Panchayats.
- **Empowerment Model:** The initiative will develop a network of 8,000 to 10,000 local youth as Digital Service Providers (DSPs) to establish and manage fiber broadband networks in their communities. This model prioritizes entrepreneurship, with a specific target of ensuring 50% participation from women, and is supported by interest-free loans through the CM Yuva Scheme.
- **Economic and Social Impact:** Beyond internet access, the project is designed to accelerate the adoption of digital education, telemedicine, e-governance, and smart agriculture. The government expects the initiative to generate over one lakh direct and indirect employment opportunities while bridging the digital divide in rural Uttar Pradesh.

IMPORTANT FACTS

MAJOR FESTIVALS OF INDIA

- **Jharkhand:** Karam Festival, Holi, Rohini, Tusu
- **Karnataka:** Mysore Dussehra, Ugadi
- **Kerala:** Onam, Vishu
- **Maharashtra:** Ganesh Festival, Gudi Padwa, Ganesh Utsav
- **Manipur:** Yaosang, Porag, Chawang Kut
- **Mizoram:** Chapcharkut Festival
- **Nagaland:** Hornbill Festival, Moatsu Festival
- **Odisha:** Rath Yatra, Raja Parba, Nuakhai
- **Punjab:** Lohri, Baisakhi.

INDIA TOPS WORLD YOGASANA CHAMPIONSHIP 2026 MEDAL

- **Global Participation:** The championship brought together over 500 athletes from more than 70 countries to compete in various disciplines, including traditional, artistic, and rhythmic yogasana. The event featured a diverse range of participants from nations including the USA, Japan, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka, among many others.
- **Significance of the Venue:** Hosted in the UNESCO World Heritage City of Ahmedabad, the championship was inaugurated via video-conferencing by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Prime Minister emphasized that hosting this inaugural event in India—the birthplace of yoga—further cements the nation's role in the global legacy of health and wellness.

BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN ELECTS BANWARILAL PUROHIT AS PRESIDENT

- Leadership Transition:** Banwarilal Purohit succeeds Surendralal Mehta, who resigned from the presidency due to health reasons after serving the institution for over two decades. The committee formally expressed deep appreciation for Mehta's distinguished service and leadership during his long tenure.
- Professional Background:** Purohit, a former parliamentarian and veteran administrator, brings extensive experience to the role, having previously served as the Governor of Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Assam, and Meghalaya. His long-standing commitment to education and social development is well-aligned with the Bhavan's mission of promoting Indian culture and values.

INDRAPRASTHA GAS LIMITED APPOINTS KUMAR SHANKER AS NEW MD

- Kumar Shanker has officially taken charge as the Managing Director of IGL, succeeding Kamal Kishore Chatiwal. Mr. Chatiwal has been repatriated to the company's parent organization, GAIL (India) Ltd, following the completion of a three-year tenure.
- Mr. Shanker is a chemical engineer from BITS Pilani and brings over three decades of extensive experience in the oil and gas sector. Prior to this role, he served as the

Managing Director of Maharashtra Natural Gas Ltd (MNGL), where he was instrumental in its growth into one of India's top five city gas distributors.

- Throughout his career at GAIL, he has held diverse roles across multiple states and business verticals, including gas processing, petrochemicals, and project management. Notably, he played a significant role in advancing regulatory reforms in the Indian natural gas sector.

E-JAGRITI WINS SILVER AWARD AT NATIONAL AWARDS FOR E- GOVERNANCE 2026



- Recognition & Category:** The platform received the Silver Award under the "Government Process Re-engineering by Use of Technology for Digital Transformation" category. This prestigious recognition from the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances highlights its success in modernizing consumer grievance redressal.
- System Consolidation & Efficiency:** Launched on January 1, 2025, e-Jagriti consolidated four fragmented legacy systems—OCMS, e-Daakhil, NCDRC CMS, and CONFONET—into a single AI-enabled, paperless interface.
- Enhanced Accessibility & Citizen-Centricity:** The platform has significantly improved access to

justice by enabling virtual hearings as the default mode and allowing Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) to file complaints without returning to India.

INDIA'S FIRST FOOD-LED METABOLIC RECOVERY SYSTEM 'GRASA' WON RASHTRIYA RATNA SAMMAN 2026

- Recognition of Innovation:** The award, presented at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, recognizes GRASA's unique approach to addressing metabolic health through clinical nutrition rather than traditional supplements. This honor highlights the startup's success in leveraging food science, fermentation, and millet-based diets to restore gut microbiome and improve metabolic stability.
- Clinical Impact & Methodology:** GRASA utilizes a 72-hour natural fermentation process to create everyday foods like millet flour and sourdough bread that break down anti-nutrients and reduce chronic inflammation. Their clinical outcomes have been documented in peer-reviewed journals, with over 87% of their 500+ clients reporting measurable improvements in energy and digestion within just 30 days.
- Ecosystem and Scientific Validation:** The startup operates as the precision nutrition arm of MediCAPS and was incubated within the Innovation Development Council (IDC) India's COSMINNOX ecosystem. This award validates a comprehensive model where food science, clinical research, and startup incubation work.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

10.06.2026 / WEDNESDAY

- International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations: 10th June**
- Theme 2026: "Equal Dialogue among Civilizations for a Better Future through Multilateral Cooperation."**
- The observance highlights the "collective heritage of humankind," asserting that civilizational achievements are universal and not restricted by religion or culture.**