

# THE DAILY GK DOSE

## U. P. RAJEEV APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE

- U. P. Rajeev has been appointed as the Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC). He succeeded in leading one of ISRO's most important launch vehicle centres.
- VSSC is located in Thiruvananthapuram. It is the lead centre for the design and development of India's launch vehicles.
- VSSC was named after Vikram Sarabhai. It plays a key role in missions such as PSLV, GSLV, and future space programmes.

## INDIA CLIMBS TO 70TH RANK IN THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ENERGY TRANSITION INDEX 2026

- India improved its position to 70th in the 2026 Energy Transition Index. The index measures how effectively countries are shifting towards secure, sustainable, and affordable energy.
- The index is published by the World Economic Forum. It evaluates countries on energy security, sustainability, and equity.
- India's ranking improved due to growth in renewable energy and clean energy policies. The

country continues to expand its solar and wind energy capacity.

## HERBAL LIFE & IIT MADRAS LAUNCH INDIA'S FIRST COE ON PLANT CELL FERMENTATION TECHNOLOGY



- Herbalife and IIT Madras jointly established India's first Centre of Excellence on Plant Cell Fermentation Technology. The centre will focus on advanced plant-based biotechnology research.
- Plant cell fermentation enables the production of valuable plant compounds under controlled laboratory conditions. This technology supports sustainable production without excessive harvesting of plants.
- The collaboration aims to promote innovation, research, and skill development. It will also strengthen India's biotechnology ecosystem.

## IMPORTANT FACTS

### THE WESTERN GHATS

- extend for about 1,600 km
- across 6 states—Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.
- recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- The highest peak is Anamudi (2,695 m), located in Kerala.
- one of the world's eight 'hottest' biodiversity hotspots

## JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA LAUNCHED THE SAMAGRASHISHU BAL SWASTHYA PROGRAMME

- The programme aims to improve the health and nutrition of children across India. It focuses on preventive, promotive, and curative healthcare services.
- It strengthens child health screening and early disease detection. The initiative also supports timely treatment and referral services.
- The programme contributes to reducing child mortality and improving overall child development. It aligns with India's public health goals.

## CHINA TOPPED FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES IN 2026

- China continued to hold the world's largest foreign exchange reserves in 2026. Its reserves provide stability to the country's economy and currency.
- Foreign exchange reserves consist of foreign currencies, gold, and other reserve assets. They help manage exchange rates and external financial shocks.
- Large forex reserves enhance investor confidence and support international trade. They also strengthen a country's financial resilience.

## DELHI METRO RAIL CORPORATION WINS UITP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- DMRC received the UITP Achievement Award for Operational Excellence. The award recognizes outstanding performance in public transport operations.

- UITP is a global organization for public transport authorities and operators. It promotes innovation and sustainable mobility.
- DMRC was recognized for its efficient, safe, and reliable metro services. It is regarded as one of the world's leading metro systems.

## MOHAN CHARAN MAJHI ANNOUNCES 'GO EAST' PLATFORM



- The 'Go East' platform aims to attract investment and promote industrial development in Odisha. It focuses on expanding trade with eastern and Southeast Asian regions.
- The initiative supports sectors such as manufacturing, ports, logistics, and exports. It seeks to

- improve economic growth and employment opportunities.
- Odisha aims to strengthen its position as an investment destination. The platform complements the state's long-term development strategy.

## NARENDRA MODI RECEIVES SEYCHELLES' HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi received Seychelles' highest civilian honour during his visit. The award recognizes his contribution to strengthening bilateral relations.)
- India and Seychelles cooperate in maritime security, defence, healthcare, and development. The partnership is important for the Indian Ocean region.
- The honour reflects the growing strategic relationship between the two countries. It also highlights India's commitment to regional cooperation.

## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

29.06.2026 / MONDAY

- **Statistics Day 2026**
- **Statistics Day is observed every year on 29th June to honour the birth anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (1893-1972), whose pioneering work had laid the foundation of India's modern statistical system.**
- **Theme: "Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data"**
- **The celebration is coordinated by the MoSPI and the National Statistical Office (NSO).**