

THE DAILY GK DOSE

INTERNATIONAL BOOKER PRIZE RENAMED AS BUKHMAN INTERNATIONAL BOOKER PRIZE

- The International Booker Prize has been renamed the Bukhman International Booker Prize after a philanthropic partnership with the Bukhman Foundation. The new sponsorship aims to strengthen support for translated literature and expand the global reach of the award.
- The prize continues to recognize the finest works of translated fiction published in the UK and Ireland. The award money remains equally shared between the author and the translator.
- The renaming does not alter the award's selection process, eligibility criteria, or literary standards. It reinforces the importance of translators in bringing world literature to international readers.

ASSAM BECOMES FIRST STATE TO COMMERCIALY PRODUCE MATCHA TEA

- Assam has become India's first state to commercially produce Matcha tea, a premium powdered green tea traditionally associated with Japan. The initiative is expected to diversify Assam's tea industry and enhance export opportunities.
- Matcha is produced by shade-growing tea plants before harvesting and finely grinding the leaves into powder. It is rich in antioxidants and enjoys strong

demand in global health and wellness markets.

- Commercial production will help tea growers earn higher value from specialty tea products. It also supports the government's efforts to promote innovation and value addition in the tea sector.

MAHARASHTRA GOVT BANS SALE OF HIGH-ENERGY DRINKS NEAR SCHOOLS



- The Maharashtra government has prohibited the sale of high-energy drinks in and around schools to protect children's health. The move targets beverages with high caffeine and sugar content.
- The decision seeks to reduce health risks such as obesity, sleep disorders, and excessive caffeine consumption among students. Schools have also been advised to promote healthier beverage choices.
- The ban aligns with broader public health initiatives encouraging nutritious food environments for children. Authorities will monitor compliance through local enforcement agencies.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- *Chilika Lake* : India's largest brackish water lagoon.
- *Wular Lake* : one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia.
- *Loktak Lake* : famous for its floating islands, known as Phumdis.
- *Sambhar Lake* : India's largest inland salt lake.
- *Vembanad Lake* : the longest lake in India.
- *Dal Lake* : known as the "Jewel in the Crown of Kashmir".

NBA NOTIFIES ASSAM'S 'BORJULI SITE' AS BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE SITE

- The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has notified Assam's Borjuli Site as a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS). The recognition aims to conserve its unique ecological and biological diversity.
- Biodiversity Heritage Sites are declared under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to protect ecologically significant areas. Such sites are managed with the participation of local communities.
- The notification will promote conservation, scientific research, and sustainable use of biological resources. It also enhances awareness about preserving Assam's rich natural heritage.

PMKSY COMPLETED OVER 10 YEARS OF IRRIGATION-LED AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION

- The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has completed more than a decade of improving irrigation infrastructure across India. The scheme focuses on expanding irrigation coverage and efficient water use.
- PMKSY promotes the vision of "Har Khet Ko Pani" and "Per Drop More Crop" through micro-irrigation and water conservation. It has benefited millions of farmers by improving water availability.
- The programme has contributed to higher agricultural productivity, better crop diversification, and sustainable water management. It remains a key component of India's agricultural development strategy.

FOREIGN SECRETARY VIKRAM MISRI GETS ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TILL JULY 2027

- Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri has received a one-year extension, allowing him to continue in office until July 2027. The extension ensures continuity in India's foreign policy and diplomatic engagements.

- A career diplomat from the 1989 Indian Foreign Service (IFS) batch, Misri has served in several key diplomatic assignments. He has played an important role in managing India's strategic international relations.
- The extension comes at a time when India is strengthening ties with major global partners and addressing key regional challenges. His continued tenure is expected to support long-term diplomatic initiatives..

IIT DELHI-DRDO DEVELOP INDIGENOUS TACTICAL AEROSTAT FOR SURVEILLANCE UP TO 20 KM



- IIT Delhi and DRDO have jointly developed an indigenous tactical aerostat capable of surveillance up to 20 km. The system enhances India's defence surveillance capabilities.

- The aerostat can carry advanced sensors and communication equipment for continuous monitoring of strategic areas. It provides a cost-effective and persistent aerial surveillance platform.
- Indigenous development reduces dependence on imported surveillance systems and supports the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. The technology will strengthen border security and defence preparedness.

UNION CABINET APPROVED THE MODIFIED UDAN SCHEME

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Modified UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme to further improve regional air connectivity. The revised scheme focuses on expanding aviation access to underserved and remote areas.
- It aims to connect smaller cities, hilly regions, islands, and aspirational districts with affordable air services. The scheme is expected to boost tourism, trade, healthcare access, and employment.
- Since its launch, UDAN has significantly increased regional connectivity through operational airports and new flight routes. The modified version seeks to make regional aviation more sustainable and inclusive.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

05.07.2026 / SUNDAY

- *Vice President & PM Modi pay tributes to Swami Vivekananda on his death anniversary today*
- *National Youth Day is held every year to observe the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.*
- *In 1893, upon the request of Maharaja Ajit Singh of the Khetri State, he took the name 'Vivekananda.'*