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**26 DECEMBER 2025**

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# Daily News Analysis

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**FRIDAY, 26th DECEMBER 2025**

## **Table of Contents**

1. Thanjavur Painting (Tanjore Painting).....	2
2. National Population Register.....	3
3. PM-SETU Scheme.....	4
4. Mule Accounts.....	5
5. Rabies.....	6
6. Long Billed Vultures and Melghat Tiger Reserve.....	7





## 1. Thanjavur Painting (Tanjore Painting)

- **Prelims** - Thanjavur Painting (Tanjore Painting)
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Art and Culture (Paintings in India)

### Why in the news?

- The Department of Posts transported a Thanjavur masterpiece depicting the Divine Shri Ram from Bengaluru to Ayodhya.

### Thanjavur Painting (Tanjore Painting)

- **What is it?:** Thanjavur Painting is a **classical South Indian art form** that originated in **Thanjavur**, Tamil Nadu, around **1600 AD**.
- **Patrons:** The art form flourished under the **Nayakas of Thanjavur**.
- **Features:**
  - It is traditionally executed on **wooden panels** called **Palagai Padam**.
  - **Material Used:** Created on **canvas pasted on wooden planks**, usually made from **jackfruit or teak wood**.
  - Characterised by **vibrant and luminous colours**, especially red, blue, green, and **extensive use of gold**, giving the paintings a regal appearance.
  - **Gesso Work** (Relief Technique): A distinctive feature involving a paste made of **chalk, gypsum, and glue**, applied to form **raised, embossed designs**, enhancing depth and ornamentation.
  - Primarily depict **Hindu gods and goddesses**, with common subjects including **Lord Krishna, Lord Ganesha, and Goddess Lakshmi**, usually shown in a **frontal posture**.
  - Thanjavur paintings reflect the **Bhakti tradition**.
- **Recognitions:** Awarded the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**





## 2. National Population Register

- Prelims - National Population Register
- Mains - GS 2 - Polity (Population and Citizenship)

### Why in the news?

- The government links NATGRID with the National Population Register.

### National Population Register

- **What is it?:** The National Population Register is a comprehensive database of usual residents of India.
- **Legal Basis:** Prepared under the Citizenship Act, 1955 and Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.
- **Coverage:**
  - Includes **all residents** of India (citizens and non-citizens).
  - A **usual resident** is a person who has resided in a local area for at least 6 months or intends to stay for the next 6 months.
- **Data Collected:** It captures 21 demographic points such as- Name, sex, date of birth, Place of birth, Relationship to head of household, Marital status, Educational qualification, Occupation, Residential address and duration of stay, Aadhaar number (voluntary) and mobile number.
- **Implementation:** Conducted along with Census House Listing and Housing Census.
- **Difference with NRC:** NPR is a Register of *residents* including both citizens and non-citizens, whereas NRC is the Register of *citizens only*.



### 3. PM-SETU Scheme

- Prelims - PM-SETU Scheme
- Mains - GS 2 - Governance (Government Schemes)

#### Why in the news?

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has invited industry participation to spearhead the upgradation of ITIs under the PM-SETU Scheme..

#### PM-SETU Scheme

- **Expansion of Abbreviation:** Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs.
- **What is it?:** PM-SETU is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** launched to **strengthen and modernise India's vocational training ecosystem**.
- **Key Objective:** It aims to upgrade **1,000 government ITIs** into **modern, industry-aligned training institutions** to enhance employability and workforce readiness.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- **Financial Outlay:** ₹60,000 crore over a five-year period (2022-23 to 2026-27)
- **Key Components:**
  - **Industry-aligned curriculum:** Introduction of **new, demand-driven courses** and revamping of existing ones.
  - **Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs):** Formation of **SPVs with credible Anchor Industry Partners** to manage clusters and ensure **outcome-based training**.
  - **Flexible learning pathways:** Provision for **long-term diplomas, short-term skill courses, and executive programmes**.
  - Strengthening **5 National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs)**
- **Collaboration:** Backed by **global co-financing** from **World Bank** and **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**.



## 4. Mule Accounts

- **Prelims** - Mule Accounts
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy (Money Laundering) & GS 3 - Internal Security (Threat to Economy)

### Why in the news?

- The CBI has arrested two bank officials in connection with a mule accounts case.

### Mule Accounts

- **What is it?:**
  - **Bank accounts are exploited by criminals for illegal activities like money laundering.**
  - Often acquired from individuals in lower-income or less technically literate groups.
  - Account holders, called "**money mules**," may unknowingly become targets of police investigations.
- **Government and RBI Initiatives:**
  - **Policy Measures:** Collaboration between RBI, Department of Financial Services (DFS), Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), and banks. Emphasis on adopting AI/ML technologies and MuleHunter for fraud prevention.
  - **Hackathons:** RBI's "Zero Financial Frauds" hackathon to encourage innovative fraud prevention solutions.
  - **Training and Best Practices:** Staff training and inter-bank collaboration are emphasized. Restrictions proposed on accounts with sudden high-value transactions after dormancy.
  - **MuleHunter AI:**
    - ★ **RBI's AI-powered tool** designed to detect and prevent "mule" bank accounts used for financial fraud. Developed by the **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)** in Bengaluru.
    - ★ Utilizes advanced AI algorithms to identify suspicious patterns and mule accounts efficiently.
    - ★ Encourages collaboration between banks and Reserve Bank Innovation Hub to refine and adopt the tool.



## 5. Rabies

- **Prelims - Rabies**
- **Mains - GS 3 - S&T (Communicable Diseases) & GS 2 - Social Justice and Health (Health)**

### Why in the news?

- According to a new study, out of the rabies-related human deaths reported globally each year, India accounts for nearly one-third.

### Rabies

- **What is it?:** Rabies is a **fatal zoonotic viral disease** primarily transmitted through dog bites.
- **Causing Agent:** **RABV virus** (Rhabdoviridae family), an **RNA virus**, transmitted through **saliva** of infected dog's bite.
- **Vectors:** Majorly by dogs. Can also be transmitted by bats, foxes, and monkeys
- **Infection:**
  - It affects the **Central Nervous system** of humans.
  - Human-human transmission is absent.
  - **Symptoms:** Initial symptoms feature fever, headache, lethargy, and bite-site pain, escalating to hydrophobia, aerophobia, agitation, paralysis, convulsions, and coma.
  - **Characteristic Symptom:** Caused by **painful spasms of the throat and respiratory muscles** when the patient tries to swallow liquids- Known as **Hydrophobia**.
- **Prevention:**
  - Prompt wound washing with soap/water, **rabies immunoglobulin (RIG)**, and a **4-5 dose vaccine series** (intradermal/intramuscular) yields near-100% efficacy.
  - Once symptoms appear, **only supportive and palliative care is possible**.



## 6. Long Billed Vultures and Melghat Tiger Reserve

- **Prelims** - Long Billed Vultures and Melghat Tiger Reserve
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment (Wildlife and their Protection)

### Why in the news?

- Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) has tagged 15 long-billed vultures at the Melghat Tiger Reserve.

### Long Billed Vultures

- **What is it?:** The **Long-billed Vulture** is an **Old World vulture** native to the **Asian region**, also called the **Indian long-billed vulture**, due to its **comparatively long beak**.
- **Distribution:** Native to **India, Pakistan, and Nepal**.
- **Habitat:** Prefers **savannas and open landscapes** and commonly found **near villages, cities, and cultivated areas**, where carcasses are available
- **Conservation Status:**
  - **IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered**
  - **CITES: Schedule II**
  - **WPA, 1972: Schedule I**

### Melghat Tiger Reserve

- **Location:** Amravati district of **Maharashtra**.
- **Physical Features:**
  - Forms part of the **Satpura–Tapti landscape**.
  - **Tapti River** and the **Gavilgarh ridge** act as natural boundaries.
- **Tribal Presence:** **Korkus** form the largest tribal population and other communities like **Gawli** and **Gond** tribes are also present.
- **Features:**
  - It was one of India's first nine tiger reserves under Project Tiger.
  - Dominated by **tropical dry deciduous forests**, with **Teak** as the principal tree species.
  - **Flora:** Teak, *Lagerstroemia parviflora*, *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Ougeinia oojainensis*, *Emblica officinalis* and Bamboo.
  - **Fauna:** Royal Bengal tiger, leopards, Indian gaur, sloth bears, sambar, chital, nilgai, and rare Forest Owlets.