

National News

1. Karnataka Documents India's Second 'Sandalwood Leopard'

- **Location:** Vijayanagara district, Karnataka.
- **Discovery:** Recorded by **Sanjay Gubbi** and the **Holematthi Nature Foundation**.
- **Key Fact:** This is only the second sighting in India of this ultra-rare "strawberry-coloured" leopard. The first was seen in Rajasthan in 2021.
- **Scientific Reason:** The unique reddish-pink coat is attributed to genetic mutations known as **hypomelanism** or **erythrism**.

2. 9th Siddha Day Celebrations Held in Chennai

- **Date:** January 3, 2026 (Leading up to National Siddha Day on Jan 6).
- **Theme:** "Siddha for Global Health".
- **Organized by:** Ministry of Ayush.
- **Inaugurated by:** C. P. Radhakrishnan.
- **Significance:** Focused on integrating Siddha medicine with mainstream global healthcare.

3. India's First Govt AI Clinic Launched at GIMS Noida

- **Location:** Government Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS), Greater Noida.
- **Objective:** To enhance diagnostic accuracy and patient safety using AI tools.
- **Startup Hub:** It will act as a validation center for AI-based healthcare startups.

4. India Develops 3D-Printed Weather Stations (Mission Mausam)

- **Project:** Part of the ₹2,000 crore **Mission Mausam**.
- **Lead Agency:** Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM).
- **Implementation:** The first 3D-printed Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) will be installed in **Delhi** in February 2026.
- **Feature:** These are solar-powered and provide real-time data on temperature, humidity, and rainfall.

State & Governance

5. Andhra Pradesh Leads India's Investment Rankings (FY26)

- **Report:** Issued by the Bank of Baroda.
- **Top State: Andhra Pradesh** (attracted 25.3% of total proposed investments).
- **Followed by:** Odisha and Maharashtra.
- **Leading Sectors:** Power, Renewables, and Metals.

6. Haryana Records Highest Sex Ratio in 5 Years

- **Data (2025):** Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) rose to **923** (up from 910 in 2024).
- **Top District: Panchkula** (971).
- **Lowest Performance:** Gurugram and Sonipat.

7. Karnataka Achieves Record Organ Donations

- **2025 Milestone:** 198 organ donations (highest ever for the state).
- National Ranking: 1. Tamil Nadu (267)
2. Telangana (205)
3. Karnataka (198)

8. Delhi Mandates QR Codes on Road Signages

- **Authority:** Public Works Department (PWD).
 - **Purpose:** To track manufacturer details, material warranty, and allow citizens to report road defects (via PWD Sewa app).
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Awards & Sports

9. IFFCO Sahitya Samman 2025

- **Main Award:** Conferred on **Maitreyi Pushpa** for her work in Hindi literature (Prize: ₹11 lakh).
- **Young Literary Award: Ankita Jain** for her book *Oh Re! Kisan*.
- **Theme:** Focus on rural and agrarian life.

10. 72nd National Volleyball Championship

- **Venue:** Dr. Sampurnanand Sports Stadium, **Varanasi**.
 - **Inaugurated by:** PM Narendra Modi.
 - **Participation:** Over 1,000 players from 58 teams.
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Science & International Affairs

11. FDA Approves First Oral Pill for Thalassemia

- **Drug Name:** **Mitapivat** (Brand name: **Aqvesme**).
- **Usage:** First oral treatment for anemia in adults with alpha and beta-thalassemia.
- **Benefit:** Reduces the patient's reliance on frequent blood transfusions.

12. Geopolitical Tension: US Military Strike in Venezuela

- **Incident:** Large-scale US military strike on Venezuela (Jan 3).
- **Claim:** Donald Trump claimed the capture of President **Nicolás Maduro** (not confirmed by Venezuela).
- **US Stated Reason:** Narco-trafficking and national security concerns.

13. Smart Green Aquaculture RAS in Telangana

- **Innovation:** India's first commercial tropical **Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS)** for rainbow trout.
- **Location:** Kandukur, Hyderabad.
- **Significance:** Proves cold-water fish (trout) can be farmed year-round in tropical climates.