

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 18, 2025

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)**

- ✓ India hosted the first International Big Cat Alliance gathering in Delhi. On 16 July, the first Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) was held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.



- ✓ The alliance comprises 95 big cat range countries and aims to provide both technical and financial assistance.
- ✓ The seven big cat species covered include the Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma. Participating countries reaffirmed their dedication to halting the decline of big cat populations.

DEFENCE

➤ **Exercise 'Shakti 2025'**

- ✓ The Indian Army has deployed a 90-member contingent for Exercise Shakti 2025, a joint Indo-French military drill conducted at Camp Larzac in France.



- ✓ This eighth edition of the biennial exercise focuses on sub-conventional operations, particularly counter-terrorism, under UN Chapter VII frameworks.
- ✓ The Indian troops, mainly from the Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, will train alongside France's elite 13th Foreign Legion Half-Brigade.

APPOINTMENT

➤ **M. Sundaresh Babu**

- ✓ M. Sundaresh Babu, a 2012-batch IAS officer of the Karnataka cadre, would lead the Census operations in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.



- ✓ A communication by the Government of India's Department of Personnel & Training was issued in this regard recently.
- ✓ According to the communication, Mr. Babu has been named the Director of Census Operations / Director of Citizen Registration in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry up to December 31 this year or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

➤ **Varalaru Koorum Tamil Nattu Kaasugal**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin released two volumes of a book titled **Varalaru Koorum Tamil Nattu Kaasugal** (Coins that speak Tamil Nadu History) written by Minister for Finance Thangam Thennarasu and numismatic researcher Arumuga Sitharaman at the Secretariat in Chennai on Wednesday.



- ✓ The book sheds light on the different types of coins that have been in use in the Tamil landscape over the past 2,000 years and how they have evolved throughout history.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Sustainable Gastronomy Day – June 18**
- ✓ Sustainable Gastronomy blends the art of food with environmental responsibility, focusing on local, seasonal, and eco-friendly food practices that honor cultural traditions and minimize harm to the planet.



- ✓ Officially recognized by the United Nations through Sustainable Gastronomy Day on June 18, this global initiative is promoted by UNESCO and FAO to link culinary heritage with sustainable development.

