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DAILY DOSE

CURRENT AFFAIRS – 07/05/2026

1. Peacock Tarantula:

Recent - Andhra Pradesh launched the 1st scientific survey of Peacock Tarantulas (*Poecilotheria metallica*) in Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve.

Peacock Tarantula, also called the Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantula and Blue Ornamental Tarantula, is a rare, large arboreal spider.

Habitat: Crevices & hollows within dry deciduous forests of Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh.

Diet: Flying insects such as moths and beetles, arthropods, and occasional small reptiles.

IUCN: Critically Endangered; WPA: Sch II; CITES: Appendix II.

2. National AI Skilling Programme for Creative Sector:

Recent - Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Creative Technologies launched a national AI skilling initiative for the creative sector.

Partnership: The programme was developed in partnership with Google and YouTube.

Implemented by: Indian Institute of Creative Technologies.

Objective: Build industry-ready AI skills in the creative sector & strengthen India's creative economy.

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Provides 15,000 AI skill scholarships for creative fields like media, animation, gaming, and digital storytelling.

3. India-EU EV Battery Recycling Initiative:

Recent - India and the EU launched a €15.2 million joint initiative under the Trade and Technology Council (TTC) to advance electric vehicle (EV) battery recycling.

The initiative is funded by the EU's Horizon Europe programme and India's Ministry of Heavy Industries.

India-EU TTC: Established in 2023, it is a bilateral framework comprising 3 dedicated working groups to align digital technologies, green energy technologies, and resilient trade value chains.

4. Hantavirus:

Recent - 3 people died after a suspected hantavirus outbreak on a cruise ship sailing in Atlantic Ocean.

Hantavirus infection is a rare zoonotic disease. The term Hantavirus is derived from Hantan River region in South Korea, where it was first identified in the 1970s.

Transmission: Spread mainly through rodent urine, droppings, or saliva, with very limited human-to-human transmission. Unlike other hantaviruses, the Andes strain (Argentina/Chile) can also spread person-to-person in close-contact settings — making it harder to trace and contain.

2 Types: Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) affects the lungs, and Haemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome (HFRS) affects the kidneys.

Symptoms: Fever, fatigue, muscle pain, progressing to breathing difficulty or kidney failure in severe cases.

Treatment: No specific cure, but early supportive care improves survival.

5. Awards – Pulitzer Prize (TH):

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Anand RK and Suparna Sharma won the Pulitzer Prize in the 'Illustrated Reporting and Commentary' category for their report "trAPPed", which exposed the psychological and financial toll of "digital arrest" scams.

The Pulitzer Prize, administered by Columbia University, is the United States' highest national honour for journalism, literature, and musical composition.

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