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DAILY DOSE

CURRENT AFFAIRS – 14/05/2026

1. AI-enabled Weather Forecasting Systems by IMD

Recent - India Meteorological Department (IMD) has launched two advanced AI-enabled weather forecasting systems for hyper-local forecasts.

AI-enabled “Forecast of Monsoon Advance”: It will provide block-level monsoon forecasts up to four weeks in advance.

“High Spatial Resolution Rainfall Forecast” for Uttar Pradesh: It will generate rainfall forecasts at 1-km spatial resolution up to 10 days in advance. It uses the “Mithuna” weather model, which was downscaled from 12.5 km to 1 km resolution.

The systems were jointly developed by IMD, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting.

2. Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary:

Recent - Forest department has begun a scientific wildlife census in Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary.

Binsar WLS is on Jhandi Dhar hills in Almora, Uttarakhand, within the Central Himalayan region.

It was established in 1988 to conserve shrinking broad-leaf oak, Quercus, and rhododendron forests.

3. Blue Moon MK1:

Recent - Blue Moon MK1, also known as Endurance, is an unmanned lunar cargo lander developed by Blue Origin in collaboration with NASA.

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It is designed to transport cargo, scientific instruments and infrastructure to the lunar surface.

It supports NASA's Artemis program aimed at establishing long-term human presence on the Moon.

Technology: The spacecraft uses cryogenic liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen propulsion systems for efficient deep-space operations.

Launch Vehicle: The lander is expected to be launched using the New Glenn heavy-lift rocket.

4. Infrasound:

Recent - Study has found that infrasound exposure can increase stress, irritation and cortisol levels.

Infrasound refers to sound waves with frequencies below 20 Hz, which are generally beyond normal human hearing capacity.

Sources: Infrasound is produced by traffic, industrial machinery, air conditioners, wind turbines, etc.

Human Hearing Range: Humans can generally hear sound frequencies between 20 Hz & 20,000 Hz.

5. Valley Fever:

Recent - An Indian tech professional based in California died recently from Valley fever.

Valley fever is a respiratory infection caused by the *Coccidioides* fungus found in arid soils. It is contracted by inhaling fungal spores from disturbed soil and is non-contagious.

Extreme weather, like heavy rain and droughts, promotes spore growth and dispersion.

Symptoms: Mimics bacterial pneumonia or viral flu (persistent cough, fever, fatigue, chest pain).

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Treatment: Mild cases resolve naturally; severe infections need prolonged antifungal medications.

Risk Group: Agricultural workers, construction labourers, older adults, and immunocompromised people.

Geographic Range: Endemic to the Southwestern US and parts of Mexico, it is moving northward.

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