

Monthly Current Affairs

July 2026

India's First Offshore Airport Approved in M.H

- Maharashtra is set to become home to India's first offshore airport, marking a major milestone in the country's aviation infrastructure. The ambitious project has received in-principle approval from Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis, following a proposal presented by the **Maharashtra Airport Development Company (MADC)**.
- The proposed offshore airport will be developed off the coast of Palghar district and is expected to significantly improve air connectivity in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR).
- The project aims to address the growing demand for aviation infrastructure while overcoming land constraints in one of India's most densely populated regions.
- An offshore airport is an airport constructed entirely over the sea, either on an artificial island or on specially designed offshore platforms. Unlike conventional airports built on land, offshore airports utilize marine areas, making them an ideal solution for coastal cities facing land shortages.
- Mumbai is one of India's busiest metropolitan cities, with limited availability of land for large infrastructure projects. Rapid urbanization and increasing passenger traffic have created the need for additional airport capacity beyond existing facilities.



VB-G RAM G Act 2025 Comes into Force

- The Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025 will come into force in India from 1st of July 2026. This act introduced the strengthened framework for rural employment and livelihood security.
- The landmark legislation increases the statutory wage employment guarantee from 100 days to 125 days for every eligible rural household and placing greater emphasis on durable asset creation, sustainable development and transparent governance.
- The VB-G RAM G Act, 2025 is the new rural employment framework, which is aimed at enhancing the livelihood security, creating productive community assets and strengthening village economies.
- Guaranteed wage employment increased from 100 days to 125 days for every eligible rural household.
- Greater focus on durable community asset creation.
- Priority to water conservation, natural resource management, agriculture and allied activities.
- Strengthening of the rural infrastructure and village development.
- Enhanced participation of the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to promote women's empowerment.
- Technology-enabled implementation for greater transparency and accountability.
- Increased convergence with other flagship rural development program.



Ravi Agrawal Reappointed as CBDT Chairman

- The central government of has reappointed Ravi Agrawal as the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). His tenure was extended for another six months and will be effective from 1st of July 2026.
- This decision was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) and it extends the tenure till December 31, 2026, or until any further orders.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is the apex policy making body for direct taxes in India. It functions under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance and it administers the powers from the Income-tax Act, 1961.
- CBDT is responsible for formulating direct tax policies, improving tax administration, ensuring effective tax collection, combating tax evasion and also implementing the reforms that enhances the transparency and taxpayer services.



Odisha Approves Deep Sea Fishing Mission

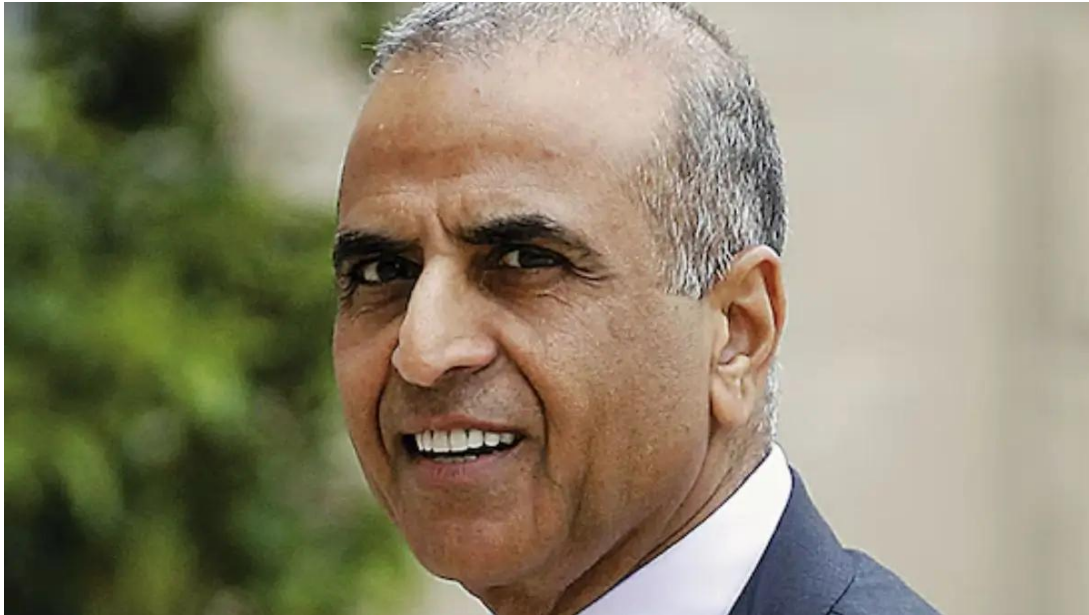
- Odisha Cabinet approved the Deep Sea Fishing Mission on 1 July 2026. The mission is a flagship initiative of the Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department under the administrative control of the Odisha government.
- The mission will run for 10 years, from 2026 to 2036. The estimated investment is ₹2,295.45 crore to ₹2,295.46 crore, and some references describe it as over ₹2,000 crore.

- The mission will be implemented in phases through central and state funding, beneficiary participation, institutional finance, and Public-Private Partnerships.
- The mission covers sustainable deep-sea fishing, marine fisheries infrastructure, seafood exports, and coastal livelihoods. It targets an additional two lakh metric tonnes of marine fish production annually by 2036.
- It also targets more than 50,000 jobs by 2036 and marine exports of around ₹5,000 crore annually by 2036.
- A dedicated Blue Economy Hub, or B-Hub, will function as the knowledge, innovation, and coordination centre for the mission. The term blue economy refers to the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic activity, fisheries, transport, and marine-based livelihoods.



2026 USISPF Leadership Award

- Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises has been honored with the 2026 Leadership Award by the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF).
- He recognized for his outstanding contribution to strengthening economic ties between the India and North America. This award was presented during the IX USISPF Annual Leadership Summit which was held in Washington, D.C.
- USISPF has recognized Sunil Bharti Mittal for his leadership in transforming the India's telecommunications landscape through Bharti Enterprises.
- The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) is a non-profit organisation that is dedicated to strengthening the strategic, economic and commercial ties between India and the United States.



International Booker Prize Renamed

- In 2027, the **International Booker Prize** will officially to be renamed as the **Bukhman International Booker Prize** after a decade-long funding agreement with **Bukhman Philanthropies**.
- Alongside the new name, the annual award money will also double to £100,000, making it as one of the richest international literary prizes.
- The major highlight of the announcement is the increase in the award's prize money. From 2027 onwards, the winner will receive £100,000 (which is approximately ₹1.28 crore).
- Books which are eligible for the 2027 Booker Prize must,
- Be novels or short story collections.
- Be translated into the English language.
- Be published in the United Kingdom or Ireland between 1 May 2026 and 30 April 2027.



Gujarat Sets Up Semiconductor Training Hub at IIT Gandhinagar

- Project SAMARTH, or the Silicon and Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Research and Training Hub, is being established at IIT Gandhinagar in Gujarat with a total budget of ₹190 crore.
- Work on the training facility began on 2 March 2026, and the centre is linked to semiconductor manufacturing, research, and skill development.
- SAMARTH is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, the Department of Science and Technology of the Gujarat government, and IIT Gandhinagar. The project name expands to Silicon and Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Research and Training Hub.
- The centre is designed to train technicians, operators, and engineers for semiconductor manufacturing plants. It also aims to support indigenous research and development, develop niche devices and processes, and create process tools.
- The facility is intended to make engineering students fab-ready through practical exposure to semiconductor manufacturing systems.
- Over five years, the SAMARTH centre aims to train 10,000 people. The planned trainees include 5,600 undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD students, 1,500 technicians, and 1,000 participants in short-term certificate courses.
- IIT Gandhinagar is also preparing to sign MoUs with engineering colleges across Gujarat. The training is planned to be offered at nominal costs.

- L&T Semiconductor Technologies partnered with IIT Gandhinagar on 30 August 2024 for research, development, and training. The company is associated with the SAMARTH initiative through collaboration on semiconductor-related capacity building.



Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee 125th Birth Anniversary

- On 6th of July 2026 India commemorates the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, he was one of the India's most distinguished political leaders, educationists and nationalists.
- He was remembered for his dedication to national unity, democratic values, and public service and his contributions continues to inspire generations.
- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was born on July 6th, 1901 in Calcutta (now Kolkata, West Bengal) and will celebrate his 125th birthday in 2026.
- In 1947, the first Union Cabinet of Independent India was led by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and included Dr. Mookerjee.
- He opposed separate constitutional systems and became widely identified with the slogan:
- "One country, no two constitutions, no two leaders, no two emblems."



Global Passport Index 2026

- India's passport has ranked at 125th out of a total of 197 countries in the Global Passport Index 2026, which was published by Global Citizen Solutions. India slipped one position compared to the last year, and India's overall passport has reached a score of 45.1, which is the highest in the last 5 years.
- This ranking shows mix picture, as India has improved in areas such as quality of life and investment potential but limited global travel mobility impacts the overall position.
- Compared to passport rankings that focus solely on visa-free travel, the Global Passport Index uses a broader assessment based on three key pillars,
- Enhanced Mobility (50%)
- Quality of Living (25%)
- Investment Opportunities (25%)

Rank	Country Name
1	Sweden
2	Switzerland
3	Finland
4	Germany

5	Denmark
5	Netherlands
6	Ireland
7	United Kingdom
8	Norway
9	Singapore

- According to the latest rankings,
- India – 125th
- Nepal – 164th
- Bangladesh – 166th
- Pakistan – 188th



PM Modi Receives Indonesia's Highest Honour

- Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi has been conferred with the '**Bintang Adipurna**', it is the highest civilian award of Indonesia, by the President of Indonesia **Mr. Prabowo Subianto** during his official tour in Jakarta on 7th of July 2026.

- This honour shows Mr. Modi's contribution towards strengthening relations between India and Indonesia and highlights the deep strategic partnership between the two nations.
- The award is intended for people with the following achievements,
 - International peace and stable relation with Indonesia.
 - Promoting friendship between Indonesia and other countries.
 - Enhancing bilateral relationship with Indonesia.
 - Strengthening relations with Indonesia.
- **Trade and Investment**
 - Both nations are further enhancing their trade relationship while fostering investment in the manufacturing, energy, infrastructure, and digital sectors.
- **Digital Cooperation**
 - Measures are taken to promote digital payments and financial technologies, especially focusing on the discussion of UPI integration.
- **Critical Minerals**
 - India and Indonesia are considering collaboration in the critical minerals domain to strengthen the use of clean energy and advanced manufacturing technologies.
- **Maritime Security**
 - Both parties implement mutual agreements regarding the security of maritime navigation.
- **Cultural and Civilizations Relations**
 - There has been a close cultural relationship between India and Indonesia for centuries under the influence of trade, religion, language, and civilization, thus giving rise to strong relations between the two states.



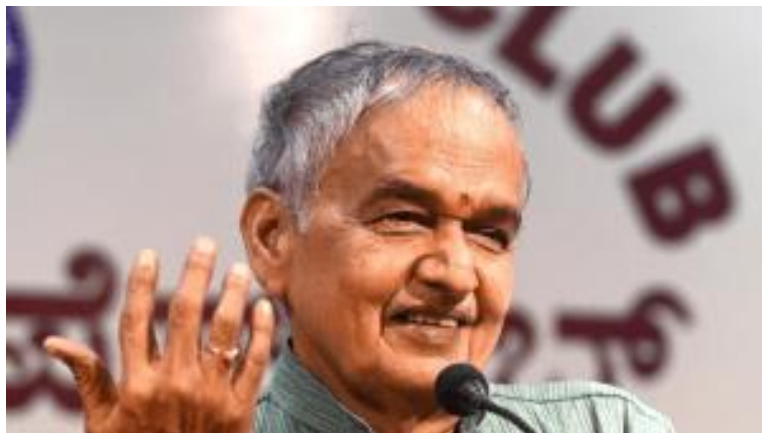
Australia Clinch ICC Women's T20 World Cup

- The most successful team of Women's T20 cricket world cup history, Australia defeated host **nation England** by seven wickets in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 final at the historic Lord's Cricket Ground on 5th of July 2026.
- England has posted 150 runs total on the board, and in the 2nd innings, Australia's clinical performance led by Mooney's unbeaten 64 and an explosive 48 runs from Phoebe Litchfield and sealed a victory in just 17.1 overs.



Girish Bharadwaj, Bridge Man of India, Dies at 76

- Girish Bharadwaj, a Padma Shri awardee known as the “Bridge Man of India”, died at the age of 76 on 7 July 2026 in a private hospital in Sullia in Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka.
- He was a mechanical engineering graduate from PES College of Engineering in Mandya and had been receiving treatment for a heart-related ailment at KVG Hospital.
- The Government of India conferred the Padma Shri on Girish Bharadwaj in 2017 for contributions to rural infrastructure and social work. He is survived by two sons and a daughter, and his wife Usha had predeceased him.
- The Padma Shri is the fourth-highest civilian award in India.
- Suspension bridges use cables or chains to support the bridge deck.
- PES College of Engineering is located in Mandya, Karnataka.
- Payaswini is a river in Dakshina Kannada district.



PM Modi Visits UNESCO World Heritage Prambanan Temple

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid visit to iconic Prambanan Temple Complex in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 8th of July, 2026, it reaffirms centuries old cultural and civilizational ties between India and Indonesia.
- This visit was marked by the unveiling of a plaque, which launched the ASI-led conservation and restoration project at the UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- This restoration initiative follows the understanding reached during the Honorable President Prabowo Subianto’s State Visit to India in the year 2025,

when both countries agreed to explore India's assistance into preserving the historic temples.

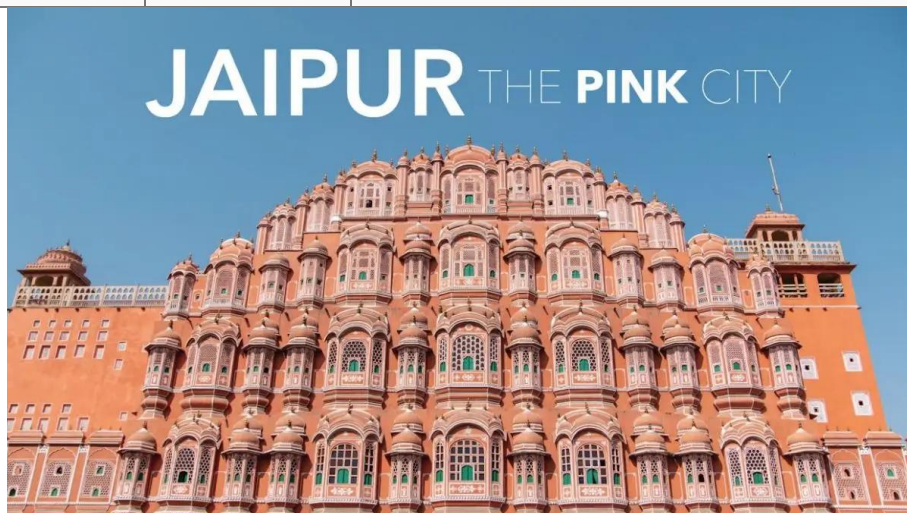
- It was constructed during the 9th century by the Sanjaya Dynasty. This temple was built to honor the Hindu Trimurti,
- Lord Shiva
- Lord Vishnu
- Lord Brahma
- To recognize its outstanding cultural and architectural value, UNESCO has designated Prambanan as a World Heritage Site in 1991.
- Recognizing its outstanding cultural and architectural value, UNESCO designated Prambanan as a World Heritage Site in 1991.



World's Happiest Cities in Happy City Index 2026

- Jaipur made a remarkable global achievement, as the city became the only Indian city to be included in the top 10 in the Happy City Index 2026, and it ranked 6th globally. Jaipur was acknowledged for the quality of life, rich heritage, good governance, and developing urban infrastructure.
- As per the latest report of the Happy City Index 2026, which recognises cities for their governance, health, environment, mobility, economy, and overall well-being. By the way, Jaipur is the only Indian city in the list, with London being the number one-ranked city in the world.

Rank	City	Country
1	London	United Kingdom
2	New York City	United States
3	Paris	France
4	Tokyo	Japan
5	Madrid	Spain
6	Jaipur	India
7	Rome	Italy
8	Dubai	United Arab Emirates
9	Berlin	Germany
10	Barcelona	Spain



Geneva to Host Global AI Summit in 2027

- Switzerland will host a global AI summit in Geneva on June 21-22, 2027. The summit is linked to international discussions on artificial intelligence

governance, trustworthy AI, and multilateral cooperation among governments, international organisations, scientists, businesses, and civil society.

- The Geneva summit is planned as a platform for stable and effective processes for global discussions on AI governance. Its stated themes include the responsible, safe, and human-centred use of artificial intelligence, along with broader questions on prosperity, progress, and public welfare.
- The host city announcement was made during the AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva on July 8, 2026. Federal Councillor Albert Rosti confirmed Switzerland's role as host during the opening address of that event.
- The Geneva AI Summit 2027 follows earlier editions held in Bletchley Park in 2023, Seoul in 2024, Paris in 2025, and New Delhi in 2026. The United Arab Emirates is scheduled to host a future AI summit in 2028.



Gujarat Unveils Data Centre Policy 2026-29

- Gujarat launched its first Data Centre Policy 2026-29 on 9 July 2026 in Gandhinagar. The policy targets investment of ₹6 lakh crore and a data centre capacity of 7.5 GW. It covers hyperscale data centres, cloud infrastructure, and AI-powered digital services.
- The policy seeks to position Gujarat as a destination for digital infrastructure projects. It provides a framework for data centre development, project approvals, power access, and water supply. The Department of Science and Technology serves as the nodal agency for implementation and clearances.
- The policy includes capital subsidy, interest subsidy, and a power tariff subsidy of ₹1 per unit for 20 years. It also provides 100% reimbursement of SGST and

electricity duty for 20 years, stamp duty exemption, and assistance for desalination plants.

- Data centre operators must source at least 51% of their electricity from renewable energy. This requirement is part of the policy's sustainability conditions for large digital infrastructure facilities. Dholera Special Investment Region has been identified as a primary hub for hyperscale data centres.
- The region receives an exclusive 2.5% capital subsidy on eligible investments under the policy. Two new cable landing stations have also been planned in Gujarat. Cable landing stations are coastal facilities where submarine communication cables connect to terrestrial networks.



DoT's Samriddh Gram Wins WSIS Prize 2026

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) of India has secured the prestigious WSIS Prize 2026 for its flagship Samriddh Gram: Integrated Phygital Service Delivery Model which is enabled by the Bharat Net initiative.
- This award was presented during the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2026 in Geneva under Action Line C6 – Enabling Environment.
- Samriddh Gram is the Department of Telecommunications flagship rural digital transformation initiative which is built on the BharatNet broadband network.
- This project was declared the Global Winner under Action Line C6 – Enabling Environment, it is one of the categories of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prizes 2026.

- Samridhi Kendras function as the comprehensive village-level digital service centers, it offering multiple citizen-centric services, such as,
- Healthcare Services
- Education and Skill Development
- Agriculture Support
- Financial Inclusion and Governance



Sourav Ganguly Joins ICC Hall of Fame

- The former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly was inducted into the prestigious ICC Hall of Fame. He became the 12th Indian cricketer to receive one of the world's cricket big honour.
- He is known for transforming Indian cricket with his leadership style, aggressive approach. Now he joins an elite group of legends that includes MS Dhoni, Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev, and Anil Kumble.
- The ICC Hall of Fame is one of the highest individual honours in world cricket. it is established by the International Cricket Council (ICC), and it recognises former players who have made exceptional contributions to the game by outstanding performances, leadership, and lasting influence.



Sahitya Akademi Award-Winning Writer Poomani Dies

- Renowned Tamil novelist and short-story writer **Poomani** passed away on **12 July 2026** at the age of 79. He was widely respected for portraying rural society, marginalized communities, and social realities through his literary works.
- **Literary Contribution**
- Poomani's writings reflected the everyday lives of farmers, labourers, and socially disadvantaged communities in Tamil Nadu. His realistic storytelling earned him recognition as one of the leading voices in modern Tamil literature.
- **Major Achievement**
- He received the **Sahitya Akademi Award** in **2014** for his acclaimed novel **Agnyaadi**, one of India's highest literary honours.
- **Other Notable Work**
- His novel **Vekkai** was adapted into the successful Tamil film **Asuran** (2019), directed by **Vetrimaaran** and starring **Dhanush**, bringing his work to a wider audience.
- **About Sahitya Akademi**
- India's National Academy of Letters.

- Functions under the Ministry of Culture.
- Presents annual literary awards in **24 recognised Indian languages**.
- **Conclusion**
- Poomani's writings remain an enduring contribution to Indian literature, highlighting social justice, rural life, and human dignity.



Spain Clinches FIFA World Cup 2026 Title

- Spain emerged as the **champions of the FIFA World Cup 2026**, securing their **second FIFA World Cup title** after defeating **Argentina** in a thrilling final. The victory marked a historic achievement for Spanish football, ending a long wait since the country's maiden World Cup triumph in **2010**.
- The final witnessed an intense contest between two football powerhouses. Spain displayed excellent teamwork, tactical discipline, and attacking football to overcome the defending champions. Their consistent performances throughout the tournament highlighted the depth of their squad and the success of their youth development system.
- Spain's journey to the title was marked by impressive victories over several strong opponents. The team's balanced combination of experienced players and emerging young stars played a crucial role in their success. Their disciplined defence and effective midfield control proved decisive throughout the tournament.
- The FIFA World Cup 2026 was jointly hosted by **the United States, Canada, and Mexico**, making it the first tournament to be organized by three nations. It also featured **48 teams** for the first time in World Cup history, expanding the competition and increasing global participation.

- Spain's triumph further strengthens its position among the world's most successful football nations and adds another prestigious chapter to the country's sporting history.
- **Key Highlights**

Particular	Details
Tournament	FIFA World Cup 2026
Champion	Spain
Runner-up	Argentina
Host Nations	United States, Canada & Mexico
Edition	23rd FIFA World Cup
Special Feature	First World Cup with 48 participating teams
Spain's World Cup Titles 2 (2010 & 2026)	



PV Sindhu Wins Japan Open 2026 Women's Singles Title

- Indian badminton star **PV Sindhu** captured the **Japan Open 2026 Women's Singles title**, adding another prestigious achievement to her remarkable international career. The victory reaffirmed her position as one of India's greatest badminton players and marked an important milestone in the 2026 BWF World Tour season.
- Sindhu delivered outstanding performances throughout the tournament, defeating several higher-ranked opponents with her powerful smashes, excellent court coverage, and tactical brilliance. Her consistency and

determination enabled her to secure the championship after an impressive final performance.

- The Japan Open is one of the most prestigious tournaments on the **Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour**, attracting top-ranked players from across the world. Winning the title enhances Sindhu's international ranking and boosts India's reputation in world badminton.
- PV Sindhu has consistently brought laurels to India with her achievements, including **Olympic medals, World Championship titles, Commonwealth Games medals**, and numerous BWF titles. Her latest success further inspires young badminton players across the country.
- **Key Highlights**

Particular	Details
Tournament	Japan Open 2026
Sport	Badminton
Category	Women's Singles
Champion	PV Sindhu (India)
Organized By	Badminton World Federation (BWF)
Significance	Major BWF World Tour Title



Madhya Pradesh Approves Uniform Civil Code Bill

- The **Madhya Pradesh Cabinet** has approved the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill**, becoming one of the states to take a significant step toward implementing a common legal framework for personal civil matters.
- The proposed legislation seeks to establish **uniform laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, succession, maintenance, and adoption**, irrespective of

religion or community. The objective is to promote equality before the law while ensuring greater legal uniformity across different sections of society.

- Following cabinet approval, the Bill will undergo the necessary legislative process before becoming law. The initiative has generated widespread public and legal discussion regarding its constitutional, social, and administrative implications.
- The concept of a **Uniform Civil Code** is mentioned in **Article 44** of the **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs)** in the Constitution of India. It encourages the State to work towards securing a common civil code for all citizens.



France Passes Law Banning Social Media for Children Under 15

- France has approved a landmark law that prohibits **children below the age of 15** from accessing social media platforms. The legislation, scheduled to come into effect from **January 2027**, is aimed at protecting children from the harmful effects of excessive social media usage.
- **Purpose of the Law**
- The new law seeks to create a safer digital environment for children by limiting their exposure to inappropriate online content and reducing risks associated with internet use.
- **Major Provisions**
- The legislation requires social media companies to implement **age verification systems** before allowing users to create accounts. This measure is intended to ensure that children below the prescribed age cannot access social networking platforms without meeting the legal requirements.
- **Objectives**
- The law aims to:

- Protect the mental health of children.
- Reduce exposure to harmful online content.
- Minimise cyberbullying and online exploitation.
- Improve the overall digital safety of minors.
- **International Perspective**
- With this legislation, **France becomes the second country after Australia** to introduce a nationwide age restriction on social media access. Australia had earlier implemented a similar restriction for users below **16 years of age**, although authorities later reported that many underage users continued accessing social media platforms.
- **Key Points for Exams**
- **Country:** France
- **Effective from:** January 2027
- **Age limit:** Under 15 years
- **Major provision:** Mandatory age verification by platforms
- **Second country after:** Australia



India's First AI-Powered Bird Sanctuary to Come Up in Maharashtra

- Maharashtra is set to establish **India's first AI-powered bird sanctuary** at the **Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS)**. The initiative represents an important step in combining artificial intelligence with wildlife conservation while promoting eco-tourism and scientific research.
- **Project Overview**
- The Maharashtra Government has approved an **Eco-Nature Park** with an estimated cost of **₹45 crore**. A key feature of the project will be the country's

first **AI-based bird detection and monitoring centre**, designed to improve bird conservation through advanced technology.

- **About Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary**
- The **Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary** is situated along the eastern coastline of **Mumbai and Navi Mumbai**. Declared a protected sanctuary in **2015–16**, it is recognised as **India's first flamingo sanctuary** and one of the country's most important coastal wetlands.
- **AI-Based Conservation**
- Unlike traditional bird surveys that rely mainly on field observations, the new AI-powered system will provide continuous monitoring and scientific data collection.
- The project will include:
 - AI-enabled cameras across the sanctuary.
 - Automatic identification of bird species.
 - Tracking of migratory birds.
 - Scientific data collection for future research.
 - Interactive displays to educate visitors.
- **Significance**
- The project is expected to strengthen biodiversity conservation, improve wildlife monitoring, and promote sustainable tourism by integrating modern technology with environmental protection.
- **Key Points for Exams**
- **State:** Maharashtra
- **Location:** Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary
- **Project Cost:** ₹45 crore
- **Special Feature:** India's first AI-based bird detection and monitoring centre
- **Declared Sanctuary:** 2015–16



NSA Ajit Doval to Receive Prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026

- National Security Advisor **Ajit Doval** has been selected for the **Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026** in recognition of his outstanding contribution to strengthening India's national security framework.
- **Key Highlights**
- The announcement was made on **21 July 2026** by the **Tilak Smarak Trust**.
- The award ceremony will be held on **1 August 2026** in **Pune**.
- The award will be presented by **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**.
- The Trust recognised Ajit Doval for:
 - Strengthening India's national security framework.
 - Leading strategic security initiatives.
 - Improving coordination among intelligence agencies.
 - Contributions to counterterrorism.
 - Protecting India's strategic interests.



India To Host Intl Type 1 Diabetes Summit 2026

- India will host the **International Type 1 Diabetes Summit 2026** in **Jodhpur, Rajasthan**, from **30 July to 1 August 2026**. The summit was announced in New Delhi and is being organised through the joint efforts of **The Friends of Mewar, Breakthrough T1D**, and the **William J. Clinton Foundation**.
- The three-day conference will bring together leading endocrinologists, healthcare professionals, researchers, policymakers, and patient advocates from **India, the United States, and Australia** to discuss advancements in the treatment and management of Type 1 diabetes.
- **Focus Areas**
- The summit will focus on improving access to insulin, promoting equitable healthcare, encouraging the adoption of diabetes technology, addressing mental health challenges associated with the disease, and exploring digital innovations in diabetes care.
- The event is also associated with the recognition of **Type 1 diabetes in children** within India's national health policy framework, emphasizing better diagnosis, treatment, and long-term disease management.
- At the conclusion of the summit, the organisers are expected to announce the host city for the **2027 International Type 1 Diabetes Summit**.
- **Key Points**
- **Venue:** Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- **Dates:** 30 July–1 August 2026
- **Organisers:** The Friends of Mewar, Breakthrough T1D, William J. Clinton Foundation

- **Focus:** Insulin access, diabetes technology, mental health, digital healthcare
- **Participants:** India, United States, and Australia.



Viswanathan Anand Becomes FIDE Interim President

- Five-time World Chess Champion **Viswanathan Anand** has assumed the role of **Interim President of the International Chess Federation (FIDE)** on **24 July 2026**. He took over the responsibilities after **Arkady Dvorkovich** temporarily suspended his duties following sanctions imposed by the **European Union** and **Switzerland**.
- FIDE, officially known by its French name **Fédération Internationale des Échecs**, is the global governing body responsible for regulating international chess competitions, maintaining player ratings, and organising World Championship events.
- Viswanathan Anand was elected **FIDE Deputy President** in **August 2022** and has played a significant role in promoting chess globally. Following his appointment as Interim President, Anand announced that he would not seek re-election for the Deputy President's position and would continue supporting the organisation's leadership during the upcoming FIDE elections in **Samarkand**.
- His appointment marks an important moment for Indian chess, reflecting India's growing influence in the international chess community.
- **Key Points**
 - **Interim President:** Viswanathan Anand
 - **Organisation:** International Chess Federation (FIDE)
 - **Date of Appointment:** 24 July 2026
 - **Previous President:** Arkady Dvorkovich
 - **Deputy President Since:** August 2022
 - **Significance:** Strengthens India's global presence in international chess administration.



Anahat Singh Becomes First Indian To Win World Junior Squash Championships

- Indian squash player **Anahat Singh** scripted history by becoming the **first Indian** to win the **World Junior Squash Championship**. Her remarkable achievement marks a landmark moment for Indian squash and demonstrates the country's rising standards in international racket sports.
- Throughout the tournament, Anahat displayed exceptional skill, speed, and mental strength while overcoming several highly ranked opponents. Her victory reflects years of disciplined training and showcases India's growing presence in global squash competitions.
- The historic title is expected to encourage greater participation in squash among young athletes and inspire the next generation of Indian players.
- **Significance**
- Anahat's success is not only a personal milestone but also a major achievement for Indian sports. It demonstrates India's ability to compete successfully in disciplines beyond traditional sports and enhances the country's reputation in international squash.
- **Key Points**
- **Athlete:** Anahat Singh
- **Sport:** Squash
- **Achievement:** First Indian to win the World Junior Squash Championship
- **Significance:** Historic achievement for Indian squash



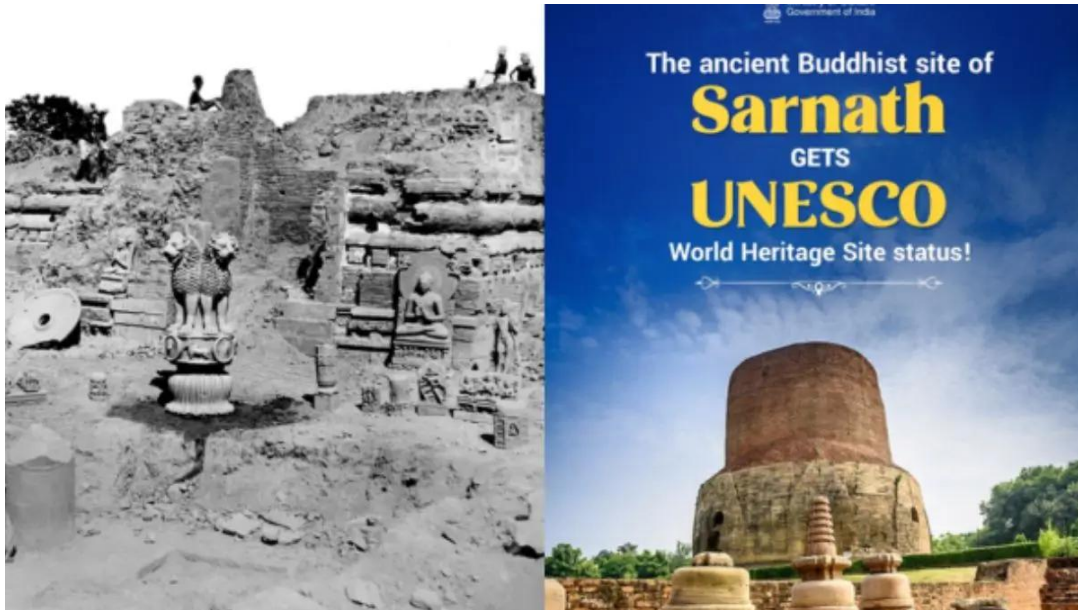
Esha Singh Wins Gold in 25m Pistol

- Indian shooter **Esha Singh** won the **gold medal** in the **Women's 25-metre Pistol** event at the **ISSF World Cup**, delivering another outstanding performance for India in international shooting.
- Esha remained calm under pressure and displayed remarkable precision throughout the competition to secure the top position. Her victory reflects India's consistent excellence in shooting and the country's strong talent pool in precision sports.
- The medal further strengthens India's reputation as one of the leading nations in international shooting competitions and adds to the country's preparations for future global events, including the Olympic Games.
- **Key Points**
- **Athlete:** Esha Singh
- **Sport:** Shooting
- **Event:** ISSF World Cup
- **Discipline:** Women's 25m Pistol
- **Achievement:** Gold Medal



Sarnath Inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List

- **Sarnath**, one of the most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage sites in India, has been inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**, marking an important milestone in the preservation of India's cultural and spiritual heritage.
- Located near **Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh**, Sarnath is revered as the place where **Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon** after attaining enlightenment. This event, known as the **Dhammacakkappavattana (Turning of the Wheel of Dharma)**, marks the beginning of the spread of Buddhism.
- Sarnath is home to several important archaeological monuments, including the **Dhamek Stupa**, **Chaukhandi Stupa**, the remains of ancient monasteries, and the famous **Ashokan Pillar**, whose Lion Capital serves as the **National Emblem of India**.
- The UNESCO inscription recognizes Sarnath's outstanding universal value and highlights the importance of preserving its historical, archaeological, and religious significance for future generations.
- **Significance**
- The inclusion of Sarnath on the UNESCO World Heritage List is expected to enhance international recognition, promote heritage tourism, encourage conservation efforts, and strengthen India's cultural diplomacy.
- **Key Points**
- **Site:** Sarnath
- **State:** Uttar Pradesh
- **Recognition:** UNESCO World Heritage List
- **Importance:** Place of Buddha's First Sermon
- **Major Monument:** Dhamek Stupa
- **National Symbol:** Ashokan Lion Capital originated from Sarnath



Venezuela Formally Withdraws from the ICC

- Venezuela has officially informed the **United Nations** of its decision to withdraw from the **Rome Statute**, the treaty that established the **International Criminal Court (ICC)**. The announcement represents a significant development in the country's foreign policy and its engagement with international judicial institutions.
- **Background**
- The decision was announced by **Foreign Minister Felix Plasencia**, who stated that the withdrawal was based on concerns regarding the functioning of the ICC.
- The Venezuelan government argued that the court has displayed a geographical imbalance by focusing disproportionately on countries in **Africa** and **Latin America**.
- **About the ICC**
- The **International Criminal Court** was established under the **Rome Statute**, which came into force in **2002**.
- **Headquarters:** The Hague, Netherlands
- **Purpose:** To prosecute individuals accused of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression.
- **Significance**
- The withdrawal may affect Venezuela's future cooperation with the ICC and has renewed international debate regarding the court's effectiveness, impartiality, and jurisdiction.
- **Key Points**

- Country: Venezuela
- Treaty: Rome Statute
- Institution: International Criminal Court (ICC)
- Headquarters: The Hague, Netherlands
- Rome Statute Effective: 2002



Ajinkya Rahane Announces Retirement

- Former Indian captain **Ajinkya Rahane** has announced his retirement from international cricket, bringing an end to a distinguished career that spanned all formats of the game.
- **Career Highlights**
- Rahane represented India with distinction in Tests, One-Day Internationals, and T20 Internationals. Known for his calm leadership and dependable batting, he played several memorable innings in overseas conditions and captained India in important international matches.
- While announcing his retirement, Rahane thanked the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**, the **Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA)**, his family, teammates, and his wife for their constant support throughout his cricketing journey.
- **Significance**
- Rahane's retirement marks the conclusion of an important chapter in Indian cricket. His contributions as both a batsman and leader will continue to inspire future generations of cricketers.
- **Key Points**
- **Player:** Ajinkya Rahane

- **State:** Maharashtra
- **Role:** Former India Captain
- **Acknowledged:** BCCI, MCA, family, teammates



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which state has received approval to develop India's first offshore airport?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Tamil Nadu
- C) Kerala
- D) **Maharashtra**

Answer: D) Maharashtra

2. Under the VB-G RAM (Gramin) Act, 2025, the guaranteed wage employment for eligible rural households has been increased to:

- A) 100 days
- B) 110 days
- C) 120 days
- D) **125 days**

Answer: D) 125 days

3. The Central Government has extended the tenure of Ravi Agrawal as the Chairman of which organization?

- A) Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)
- B) Finance Commission
- C) **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**
- D) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Answer: C) Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

4. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) functions under which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) **Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)**

Answer: D) Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)

5. Odisha's Deep Sea Fishing Mission aims to create more than how many jobs by 2036?

- A) 20,000
- B) 35,000
- C) **50,000**
- D) 1,00,000

Answer: C) 50,000

6. Sunil Bharti Mittal received the 2026 Leadership Award from which organization?

- A) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- B) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- C) **US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)**
- D) World Economic Forum (WEF)

Answer: C) US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)

Explanation: Sunil Bharti Mittal was honoured by the **USISPF** for strengthening economic and commercial relations between India and North America.

7. The 2026 USISPF Leadership Award was presented during which event?

- A) India-US Business Summit
- B) G20 Business Forum
- C) India Investment Forum
- D) **IX USISPF Annual Leadership Summit**

Answer: D) IX USISPF Annual Leadership Summit

Explanation: The award was presented during the **9th USISPF Annual Leadership Summit** held in **Washington, D.C.**

8. From 2027, the International Booker Prize will be renamed as the:

- A) Global Booker Prize
- B) International Literary Prize
- C) Commonwealth Booker Prize
- D) **Bukhman International Booker Prize**

Answer: D) Bukhman International Booker Prize

Explanation: Following a long-term funding agreement with **Bukhman Philanthropies**, the award will be known as the **Bukhman International Booker Prize** from 2027.

9. What will the prize money be for the renamed International Booker Prize from 2027?

- A) £50,000
- B) £75,000
- C) **£100,000**
- D) £150,000

Answer: C) £100,000

Explanation: The prize money will double to **£100,000**, making it one of the world's richest awards for translated literature.

10. India observed the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on which date in 2026?

- A) 5 July
- B) 6 July
- C) 7 July
- D) 8 July

Answer: B) 6 July

Explanation: India commemorated the **125th birth anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on 6 July 2026**. He was born on **6 July 1901** in Calcutta (now Kolkata).

11. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee served in the first Union Cabinet headed by whom?

- A) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- B) Lal Bahadur Shastri

- C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- D) Rajendra Prasad

Answer: C) Jawaharlal Nehru

Explanation: After Independence, Dr. Mookerjee became a member of the first Union Cabinet led by **Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru**.

12. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with which of the following highest civilian awards of Indonesia?

- A) Bintang Mahaputera
- B) Bintang Adipurna
- C) Bintang Republik Indonesia
- D) Bintang Jasa

Answer: B) Bintang Adipurna

13. Australia defeated which country to win the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026?

- A) India
- B) South Africa
- C) England
- D) New Zealand

Answer: C) England

Explanation: Australia defeated **host nation England** by **seven wickets** in the final played at **Lord's Cricket Ground** on **5 July 2026**.

14. Girish Bharadwaj, popularly known as the "Bridge Man of India," was honoured with which civilian award?

- A. Padma Vibhushan
- B. Padma Bhushan
- C. Bharat Ratna
- D. **Padma Shri**

Answer: D. Padma Shri

15. Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited which UNESCO World Heritage Site in Indonesia on 8 July 2026?

- A) Borobudur Temple
- B) Tanah Lot Temple
- C) **Prambanan Temple Complex**
- D) Besakih Temple

Answer: C) Prambanan Temple Complex

Explanation: PM Narendra Modi visited the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Prambanan Temple Complex in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and launched an ASI-led conservation and restoration project.

16. Prambanan Temple was built during the 9th century by which dynasty?

- A) Sailendra Dynasty
- B) **Sanjaya Dynasty**
- C) Majapahit Dynasty
- D) Mataram Dynasty

Answer: B) Sanjaya Dynasty

17. Which former Indian captain became the 12th Indian cricketer to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame?

- A) Virat Kohli
- B) Kapil Dev
- C) Sourav Ganguly
- D) Rohit Sharma

Answer: C) Sourav Ganguly

18. Renowned Tamil writer Poomani received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2014 for which novel?

- A) Vekkai
- B) Agnyaadi
- C) Karisal
- D) Piragu

Answer: B) Agnyaadi

19. Which of Poomani's novels was adapted into the 2019 Tamil film 'Asuran'?

- A) Agnyaadi
- B) Vekkai
- C) Piragu
- D) Naivedhyam

Answer: B) Vekkai

20. What is the name of the official mascot unveiled for the 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship 2026?

- A. Shera
- B. Gajraj
- C. Mayur
- D. Udaan

Answer: C. Mayur

21. Which country won the FIFA World Cup 2026 title?

- A) Argentina
- B) France
- C) Spain
- D) Brazil

Answer: C) Spain

22. The FIFA World Cup 2026 was jointly hosted by which three countries?

- A) USA, Canada and Mexico
- B) USA, Brazil and Mexico
- C) England, Canada and USA
- D) Spain, Portugal and Morocco

Answer: A) USA, Canada and Mexico

23. Which Indian badminton player won the Japan Open 2026 Women's Singles title?

- A) Saina Nehwal
- B) PV Sindhu
- C) Malvika Bansod
- D) Ashmita Chaliha

Answer: B) PV Sindhu

24. France became the second country after _____ to introduce a nationwide age limit on social media.

- A) Germany
- B) Canada
- C) United Kingdom
- D) Australia

Answer: D

25. India's first AI-powered bird sanctuary is being developed at:

- A) Keoladeo National Park
- B) Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary
- C) Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary
- D) Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary

Answer: D

26. The International Type 1 Diabetes Summit 2026 will be held in:

- A) Jaipur
- B) Udaipur
- C) Jodhpur
- D) Bhopal

Answer: C) Jodhpur

27. Which of the following organizations is one of the organisers of the International Type 1 Diabetes Summit 2026?

- A) UNICEF
- B) WHO
- C) Breakthrough T1D
- D) UNESCO

Answer: C) Breakthrough T1D

28. Viswanathan Anand assumed the role of Interim President of:

- A) International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- B) International Cricket Council (ICC)
- C) World Chess Championship Committee
- D) International Chess Federation (FIDE)

Answer: D) International Chess Federation (FIDE)

29. Esha Singh won the gold medal at the ISSF World Cup in which event?

- A) Women's 10m Air Pistol
- B) Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions
- C) Mixed Team Air Pistol
- D) Women's 25m Pistol

Answer: D) Women's 25m Pistol

30. Sarnath has been inscribed on which prestigious international list?

- A) UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Network
- B) UNESCO Memory of the World Register
- C) Ramsar List of Wetlands
- D) UNESCO World Heritage List

Answer: D) UNESCO World Heritage List