



# Military Brat Defence Academy

## Current Affairs Related to 27 July 2026

- ◆ **The Government of India intends to expand the use of ethanol beyond just petrol blending;** it is currently formulating a policy framework to utilize it as a domestic cooking fuel. This initiative by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas comes at a time when the country's ethanol production capacity has increased, whereas a significant portion of LPG requirements still relies on imports. The proposal is linked to energy security, reducing the import bill, and expanding the use of alternative clean fuels. If this model moves forward, ethanol-based stoves and refill systems could emerge as a new option for domestic energy consumption.
- ◆ **The Supreme Court has taken a significant step towards standardizing post-retirement** benefits for retired High Court judges and former Chief Justices. The Court has directed the Central Government to constitute a committee within two weeks to formulate uniform guidelines applicable across the country. This matter addresses the disparities observed among states regarding security and other facilities provided to retired High Court judges. The issue came before the Court in the form of a question: why do post-retirement benefits for former judges vary from state to state?
- ◆ **An unusual yet inspiring literary story has emerged from China: Wang Jibing, a food delivery rider and poet from Jiangsu province,** has won the poetry category of the Lu Xun Literary Prize. He received this honor for his poetry collection, Moving Bricks. This achievement is garnering attention because Wang Jibing's writing is directly rooted in the life he leads during his daily job. The Lu Xun Literary Prize is considered one of China's premier literary honors; it was established in 1996 in memory of the Chinese writer Lu Xun.
- ◆ **As a significant initiative to strengthen grassroots democracy, a national study report on the subject of "low participation in Gram Sabhas across states and Union Territories"** will be released in New Delhi. This report has been prepared by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) for the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The objective of the study is to evaluate citizen participation, awareness, and the effectiveness of local governance systems in Gram Sabhas across the country. This report offers useful suggestions to make rural local self-governance more participatory and accountable.
- ◆ **To enhance the operational efficiency of the Supreme Court and reduce the burden of pending cases,** the government has introduced a significant bill concerning the judiciary in the Lok Sabha. The Supreme Court (Amendment) Bill, 2026, proposes increasing the sanctioned strength of judges in the apex court from 33 to 37. Including the Chief Justice, the total strength of the Supreme Court would rise to 38. This bill seeks to amend the Supreme Court Act, 1956. Currently, 34 posts are sanctioned in the Supreme Court, comprising 33 judges and one Chief Justice.
- ◆ **China's ban on the export of several critical minerals—specifically rare earth elements and rare metals—to Japan** has sparked new concerns regarding supply chains in East Asia. This measure came into effect in January 2026 and could impact sectors such as defense, automobiles, electronics, and aerospace. The decision is viewed not merely as a trade issue but as a strategic move, as it is linked to escalating diplomatic tensions between Japan and China. Rare earth elements are considered the backbone of modern industries.
- ◆ **The discovery of over 1,000 artifacts from the Noyyal riverbed in Vellalur, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu),** has shed new light on the region's ancient history. Excavations conducted by the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology have unearthed remains dating back to the early historic and historic periods. Some of the artifacts are estimated to date from the 1st century BCE to the 3rd century CE. This discovery goes beyond a mere collection of scattered objects; it suggests that Vellalur was once a thriving settlement and a hub of commercial activity. Evidence of an ancient settlement spanning approximately 100 acres was found during the first phase of excavation, further enhancing the site's archaeological significance.
- ◆ **The Government of India launched the 'Suman Roadmap 2030' with the aim of strengthening maternal and newborn health services.** Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Jagat Prakash Nadda unveiled this strategic framework during the 16th conference of the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare held in New Delhi. This roadmap has been formulated in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030 and aims to bring about a significant reduction in maternal and infant mortality rates in the country.



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## National & International Current Affairs

**1. Who will be awarded the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award?**

- (A) Ajit Doval (B) Amit Shah  
(C) Dharmendra Pradhan (D) None of the above

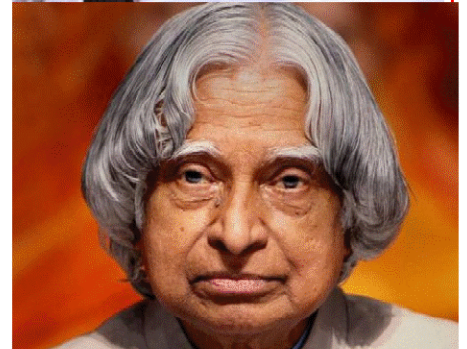
**(A)** This honor will be conferred on August 1, 2026, in Pune, on the occasion of Lokmanya Tilak's 106th death anniversary. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval has been selected for the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award for the year 2026. He is being awarded this prize for his outstanding contribution to India's national security and counter-terrorism efforts.



**2. When is the memorial day of APJ Abdul Kalam observed every year?**

- (A) 25 July (B) 26 July  
(C) 27 July (D) 28 July

**(C)** As an aerospace scientist, Kalam made significant contributions to India's space research through his work with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Dr. Kalam passed away due to cardiac arrest on July 27, 2015, while delivering a lecture at IIM Shillong.



**3. Where will the 14th South Asian Games be organized?**

- (A) India (B) Pakistan  
(C) Sri Lanka (D) Bangladesh

**(B)** Pakistan will host the 14th South Asian Games in Lahore, Islamabad, and Faisalabad. More than 3,500 athletes from eight South Asian countries will participate in 27 sports disciplines. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has approved 11 billion for the preparations.



**4. In which state will the world's largest yogurt-making plant be established?**

- (A) West Bengal (B) Gujarat  
(C) Punjab (D) Haryana

**(A)** The world's largest yogurt-making plant is being established in Howrah, West Bengal. Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone for this Amul Bengal Dairy project, worth ₹700 crore. More than 1.25 lakh milk producers in the state, including over 30,000 women.



**5. In which state was a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) recently signed to establish a UAE food cluster?**

- (A) Kerala (B) Bihar  
(C) Andhra Pradesh (D) Karnataka

**(C)** The Andhra Pradesh government and the UAE recently signed a historic agreement to establish a food cluster in the state. This agreement will provide a major boost to food processing, investment, and exports. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and UAE Minister Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri were present on the occasion.





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6. Where has 'Operation Vidhi Palak' recently been launched to educate students and youth about cyber fraud and laws regarding women's safety?

- (A) Gujarat (B) Rajasthan  
(C) Odisha (D) Bihar

(D) Recently, the Bihar Police launched the 'Operation Vidhi Palak Yuvak' campaign to raise awareness among students and youth about crimes against women, cyber fraud, and relevant legal provisions.

7. In which state has the Earth's second-oldest orbicular rock recently been discovered?

- (A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Rajasthan  
(C) Himachal Pradesh (D) Arunachal Pradesh

(A) Recently, scientists discovered a rare orbicular granite rock, approximately 2.56 billion years old, near Kutavali village in the Pichhore region of Shivpuri district, Madhya Pradesh. It is considered the second-oldest known orbicular rock of its kind in the world, a fact confirmed by uranium-lead zircon dating.

8. Whom has the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet recently approved for appointment as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog?

- (A) Nishant Nath (B) Prakash Desai  
(C) Anurag Jain (D) None of these

(C) Recently, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Anurag Jain, a senior IAS officer of the 1989 batch (Madhya Pradesh cadre), as the new Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog. His tenure will be effective for two years from the date of assuming office or until further orders.

9. In which state has the Indian Army recently launched 'Operation Jal Rahat' to assist with flood relief operations?

- (A) Goa (B) Assam  
(C) Kerala (D) Rajasthan

(B) The Indian Army has launched 'Operation Jal Rahat' in Assam to tackle the crisis caused by heavy rains and severe flooding and to assist citizens. This campaign is primarily being conducted to safely evacuate people stranded in the floods, provide medical assistance, and deliver relief materials.

10. Where was INS Malvan recently inducted into the Indian Navy?

- (A) Karwar (B) Mumbai  
(C) Goa (D) Kochi

(A) The indigenous Mahe-class anti-submarine warfare ship, INS Malvan, was recently inducted into the Indian Navy at the Karwar naval base in Karnataka. It has been constructed by Cochin Shipyard Limited using over 80% indigenous technology. The vessel is capable of detecting, tracking, and destroying enemy submarines in shallow waters and coastal areas.

