



Military Brat Defence Academy

Current Affairs Related to 30 July 2026

- ◆ **The scope of digital payments in India is continuously expanding, and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is now working to make offline UPI payments even easier.** Under the proposed system, 'Tap-to-Pay' transactions based on NFC (Near Field Communication) technology will be possible even if neither the customer's nor the merchant's device has internet access. This initiative is considered particularly useful for areas with weak networks or frequent connectivity disruptions. The new system will utilize NFC technology.
- ◆ **A live-fire naval drill conducted by China in a maritime area claimed by Japan as part of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) has reignited discussions regarding maritime tensions in East Asia.** The exercise took place near Okinotorishima, which Japan regards as its southernmost island. According to Japan, the activity occurred within its claimed EEZ, whereas China has long questioned the maritime status of Okinotorishima. This incident is not merely a military exercise but a sensitive issue involving maritime boundaries, international law, and the regional balance of power.
- ◆ **Artificial Intelligence has put forward a new claim regarding the 'Jacobian Conjecture,' a long-standing and difficult problem in mathematics.** Proposed in 1939, the conjecture posited that polynomial maps satisfying certain conditions would always possess a polynomial inverse; however, an AI-assisted result has now presented a counter-example suggesting the conjecture is incorrect. This problem relates to algebraic geometry and polynomial mapping. Simply put, the question is: if the Jacobian determinant of a polynomial map maintains a non-zero constant value everywhere, can its inverse also be expressed as a polynomial?
- ◆ **During President Droupadi Murmu's visit to North Macedonia, India and North Macedonia agreed to enhance cooperation in the fields of trade, technology, tourism, talent exchange, and health.** This was the first bilateral visit by an Indian President to North Macedonia since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1995; consequently, it is viewed as a significant diplomatic milestone in the relationship between the two nations. Bilateral trade between the two countries stood at approximately US\$ 133 million in 2025.
- ◆ **Work is underway on a new approach regarding cooking fuel alternatives in India.** The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is formulating a policy to promote the wider use of ethanol for domestic and commercial cooking. Under this plan, the concept of dispensing kiosks—resembling "ethanol ATMs"—has emerged, allowing consumers to purchase ethanol in canisters. While this initiative is currently in its nascent stage, its objective is to expand energy options and reduce reliance on LPG. These ethanol ATMs would essentially be kiosks installed at fuel retail outlets.
- ◆ **Five new species of Graphis—a significant group of lichen-forming fungi—have been discovered in the Western Ghats.** This discovery is considered crucial for India's biodiversity, given that the Western Ghats are already recognized as one of the world's richest biodiversity hotspots. The study was conducted by scientists at the Pune-based Agharkar Research Institute, an autonomous institution under the Department of Science and Technology. Lichens are composite organisms in which a fungal component and a photosynthetic component (typically algae or cyanobacteria) co-exist.
- ◆ **The United States has approved a 30-year civil nuclear cooperation agreement with Saudi Arabia.** This agreement establishes a legal framework for peaceful nuclear cooperation between the two nations and is expected to enable US companies to play a pivotal role in developing Saudi Arabia's nuclear infrastructure. This arrangement falls under the purview of "Section 123" of the US Atomic Energy Act of 1954. For this reason, it is commonly referred to as the '123 Agreement'. Such agreements can cover provisions related to civil nuclear reactors, fuel supply, technical cooperation, and safety standards.
- ◆ **Giving fresh momentum to trade ties between India and Nepal, the first direct commercial freight train from Kolkata Port arrived at the Biratnagar Customs Yard in eastern Nepal.** This historic rail service was operated under the revised India-Nepal Rail Services Agreement.



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National & International Current Affairs

1. When is International Day of Friendship celebrated annually?

- (A) 28 July (B) 29 July
(C) 30 July (D) 31 July

(C) International Day of Friendship was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2011 with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures, and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities. The resolution emphasizes involving young people—as future leaders—in community activities.

2. In which state will India's first AI-powered bird sanctuary be established?

- (A) Rajasthan (B) Maharashtra
(C) Andhra Pradesh (D) None of these

(B) The Maharashtra government will develop India's first AI-based bird sanctuary at the Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary in Mumbai. Named 'Bhandup Bird Park,' the project has received administrative approval for 45 crore from the District Planning Committee's special fund.

3. Which country will recently set a new record for biodiversity on college campuses?

- (A) Kazakhstan (B) Australia
(C) France (D) India

(D) A national initiative for 'Campus Biodiversity Registers' has been launched for higher education institutions in India, aiming to systematically document the plants, birds, insects, and other organisms found on college and university campuses. This initiative is expected to give a new direction to biodiversity conservation and nature-based studies at the local level.

4. In which state has Raghu Vamsi Aerospace Group recently announced the establishment of an integrated superalloy manufacturing facility worth 600 crore?

- (A) Maharashtra (B) Manipur
(C) Telangana (D) Goa

(C) Raghu Vamsi Aerospace Group has recently announced the establishment of an integrated superalloy manufacturing facility worth 600 crore in Telangana. This project will be among the select few plants in India where nickel-based superalloys will be produced in an integrated manner. This move is considered significant for strengthening the domestic supply chain for aerospace and defense manufacturing.

5. Which state government has recently approved a 10% reservation for 'Agniveers' in direct recruitment for Class-III posts?

- (A) Jharkhand (B) Chhattisgarh
(C) Rajasthan (D) Andhra Pradesh

(B) The Chhattisgarh government has recently approved a 10% reservation for Agniveers in direct recruitment for select Class-III services in the state. This decision was taken during a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai. Additionally, the state approved the 'Chhattisgarh Reservation of Vacancies in Class-III Civil Services for Agniveer Soldiers Rules, 2026'.





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6. In which state was the 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Suyog Platform' recently launched to connect youth with sports and skills?

- (A) Gujarat (B) Punjab
(C) Haryana (D) Rajasthan

(D) Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma launched the 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Suyog Platform' to connect youth with opportunities in sports, skill development, leadership, and employment. It has been initiated as a pilot project in the Bagru Assembly constituency and Baran district. Youth can register online on the 'Suyog' portal to join competitions and clubs.



7. Who recently won the title of Mrs. India 2026?

- (A) Akanksha Chaudhary (B) Priya Garg
(C) Nandini Gupta (D) None of these

(A) Recently, Akanksha Chaudhary—a resident of Ajmer, Rajasthan, and mother to a seven-month-old son—won the prestigious Mrs. India 2026 title. Following her victory, her key message was that women's dreams do not end after marriage or motherhood; rather, it marks a new beginning in their lives.



8. Where was a statue of Mahatma Gandhi recently unveiled at the Skopje Museum?

- (A) Greece (B) Serbia
(C) Macedonia (D) None of these

(C) Recently, a statue of Mahatma Gandhi was unveiled at the City Museum in Skopje, the capital of North Macedonia. The unveiling was jointly performed by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, and the President of North Macedonia, Gordana Siljanovska-Davkova.



9. What rank has India recently achieved in terms of the electrification of its broad-gauge railway network?

- (A) First (B) Second
(C) Third (D) Fourth

(B) Recently, India ranked second in the world—after Switzerland—in the electrification of its broad-gauge railway network. India has electrified 99.6% of its broad-gauge network, a figure significantly higher than that of countries like China (82%), Japan (64%), and France (60%).



10. Where did DRDO recently conduct the first successful flight test of the long-range surface-to-air missile 'Kusha'?

- (A) Assam (B) Odisha
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Andhra Pradesh

(B) Recently, DRDO conducted the first successful flight test of the long-range surface-to-air missile 'Kusha' from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha. The Kusha missile system is capable of neutralizing fighter aircraft, missiles, UAVs, and other major aerial threats at long ranges and varying altitudes.

