



Military Brat Defence Academy

Current Affairs Related to 18 July 2026

- ◆ To safeguard the interests of the domestic steel industry, the Government of India has extended the anti-dumping duty on seamless tubes, pipes, and hollow profiles of iron, alloy, or non-alloy steel imported from China until January 27, 2027. This decision was notified by the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance. The duty applies to products falling under Customs Tariff Heading 7304 with an outer diameter not exceeding 395.6 mm. The move aims to prevent injury to the Indian steel industry caused by imports at unfair prices.
- ◆ The path to transforming India into a developed nation lies not through the skyscrapers of metropolitan cities, but through the country's villages and farmlands. National progress remains incomplete until small and marginal farmers achieve economic prosperity. With this vision, the Government of India, global foundations, and corporate giants have jointly launched an unprecedented movement named 'Pragati'. Launched by Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan, this ambitious mission aims to groom 20,000 new agri-entrepreneurs in rural areas across the country.
- ◆ In the space race, merely launching a rocket into space is no longer sufficient; safely landing it back on Earth has become the ultimate game-changer. Elon Musk's SpaceX has established undisputed dominance in the realm of space science through reusable rockets. However, China has now achieved a breakthrough in this arena that has captured the attention of space scientists and business experts worldwide. China recently achieved significant success in its rocket booster recovery technology. Through this technology, China is not only bolstering its space capabilities but is also preparing to drastically reduce the exorbitant costs associated with space missions.
- ◆ The West Bengal government has proposed a plan to develop two dolphin parks in the state; one site is proposed along the banks of the Hooghly River, and the other in the Contai (Kanthi) region of East Medinipur district. The primary objective of this initiative is to conserve rare aquatic species like the Ganges River Dolphin, promote eco-friendly tourism, and strengthen efforts to reduce river pollution. This plan is considered a significant step towards striking a balance between the conservation of the river ecosystem and sustainable development.
- ◆ The Government of India has notified the procedure for quota-based customs duty concessions on passenger cars and commercial vehicles imported from the United Kingdom under the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. This initiative aims to boost trade between the two nations and strengthen economic cooperation in the automobile sector. The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement is a bilateral trade pact designed to make the trade of goods and services between the two countries simpler and more competitive. In the automobile sector, India will phase-wise reduce the import duty on vehicles from the UK from approximately 110 percent to 10 percent.
- ◆ A Centre of Excellence on Human-Wildlife Conflict was inaugurated at the Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) campus—an institute under the Wildlife Institute of India—in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, with the aim of promoting scientific and effective management of human-wildlife conflict. Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav and Union Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh were present on the occasion. This centre will serve as a premier national hub for research, policy formulation, and modern technology-based management to address human-wildlife conflict across the country.
- ◆ Indian Potash Limited and Jain Irrigation Systems Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Indian Potash Limited corporate office in New Delhi to promote water conservation and modern irrigation techniques in agriculture. Under this agreement, drip irrigation systems will be promoted for sugarcane cultivation in Gujarat. The project encompasses activities such as surveying, designing, equipment supply, installation, farmer training, and on-farm demonstrations. Drip irrigation, also known as trickle irrigation, is a modern micro-irrigation technique.
- ◆ The Government of India launched an AI-powered smart warehousing system at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the initiative. Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya was also present on the occasion.



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National & International Current Affairs

1. When is Nelson Mandela International Day observed annually?

- (A) 17 July (B) 18 July
(C) 19 July (D) 20 July

(B) Nelson Mandela International Day is observed annually on July 18 by the United Nations to commemorate the birthday of the former South African President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Nelson Mandela. The decision to observe this day annually was taken to mark his 92nd birthday on July 18, 2010.

2. Where will the 16th edition of Aero India 2027—Asia's largest air show—be held?

- (A) Bengaluru (B) Chennai
(C) Mumbai (D) Kolkata

(A) Aero India 2027 will be the 16th edition of one of Asia's largest aerospace and defense exhibitions. This prestigious event will be held at the Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru, Karnataka. This biennial air show provides a significant opportunity to showcase the capabilities of India's defense and aerospace sectors on a global platform.

3. How many crore ABHA numbers have recently been generated under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission?

- (A) 53.90 crore (B) 70.80 crore
(C) 93.95 crore (D) 99.99 crore

(C) India's national digital health program, the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, has achieved a significant milestone in the field of digital health services. Under this mission, more than 93.95 crore Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) numbers have been generated, while over 105 crore digital health records have been linked to these accounts.

4. Which country, along with India, has recently set a target to double trade by 2030?

- (A) Canada (B) New Zealand
(C) Australia (D) China

(B) India and New Zealand have embarked on a new chapter of cooperation by elevating their bilateral relations to the level of a strategic partnership. During high-level talks between the Prime Ministers of both countries—Narendra Modi and Christopher Luxon—an agreement was reached to enhance cooperation in several key sectors, including trade, investment, agriculture, education, skill development, innovation, clean energy, and sports.

5. Rainwater harvesting systems will recently be installed in how many 'CM-Sree' schools in Delhi?

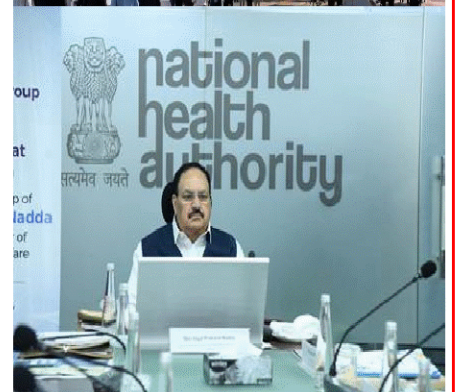
- (A) 25 (B) 40
(C) 50 (D) 75

(D) The Delhi government signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to install rainwater harvesting systems in 75 'CM-Sree' schools. The parties involved in this agreement are the Directorate of Education, Indraprastha Gas Limited, and the NGO 'Ehsaas'. This project will be implemented under the Central Government's 'Catch the Rain' campaign, which aims to promote water conservation and improve groundwater levels.



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL

NELSON MANDELA DAY





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6. Which state government has recently launched a cashless medical scheme named 'Guru Dakshina' for teachers?
- (A) Rajasthan (B) Uttar Pradesh
(C) Haryana (D) Madhya Pradesh
- (B) Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government launched the 'Chief Minister's Teacher Cashless Medical Scheme' under the brand name 'Guru Dakshina' for the state's teachers and non-teaching staff. Under this scheme, eligible teachers and their dependents will receive cashless medical treatment worth up to 5 lakh annually at empanelled hospitals.
7. Which major Indian port has recently become the second to achieve an 18-meter draft capacity?
- (A) Kamarajar Port (B) Paradip Port
(C) Kolkata Port (D) None of these
- (A) Recently, the Tamil Nadu-based Kamarajar Port became the second major Indian port—after Visakhapatnam—to achieve an operational draft of 18 meters. Thanks to the ₹440 crore 'Capital Dredging Phase II' project, it is now capable of handling fully loaded Capesize vessels.
8. A uranium deal has recently been signed between India and which country?
- (A) Singapore (B) Germany
(C) Australia (D) Indonesia
- (C) Under a historic agreement recently signed between India and Australia, Australia will supply uranium to India for its civil nuclear energy programs. This partnership with Australia—which holds approximately 32% of the world's uranium reserves—will help India achieve its target of generating 100 gigawatts of nuclear power by the year 2047.
9. Where did ISRO recently conduct a successful test of the Gaganyaan parachute airdrop?
- (A) Odisha (B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Rajasthan (D) None of these
- (B) Recently, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully tested the parachute system for the Gaganyaan mission at the drop zone of the Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE) in Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh. This was the Integrated Main Parachute Airdrop Test-05, aimed at ensuring the safe landing of the crew module.
10. Which IIT has recently developed the country's largest landslide warning system?
- (A) IIT Mandi (B) IIT Bombay
(C) IIT Madras (D) IIT Kanpur
- (A) Recently, IIT Mandi developed the country's most comprehensive landslide early warning system for the Indian Himalayan region. This system provides accurate daily landslide forecasts by analyzing terrain sensitivity and satellite rainfall data. The primary objective of this technology is to minimize disasters and the loss of life and property in the Himalayan region during the monsoon season.

