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National News

Politics and Government

Vice-Presidential Election: The nomination process for the Vice-Presidential election is underway. The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate, C. P. Radhakrishnan, is set to file his nomination. The Opposition's INDIA bloc has named former Supreme Court judge B. Sudershan Reddy as their candidate. The election is scheduled for September 9th.

Parliamentary Proceedings: The Parliament is active with several bills being considered. A bill to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act has been passed by the Rajya Sabha, giving leaseholders more flexibility. Additionally, Union Home Minister Amit Shah is expected to introduce three bills in the Lok Sabha, including the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

Infrastructure Projects: The government has approved the development of a new Green Field Airport in Kota-Bundi, Rajasthan, with an estimated cost of ₹1,507 crore. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the Aunta-Simaria project in Gaya, Bihar, on August 22, which includes a 2-km Ganga bridge to improve connectivity.

Defence: The Cabinet Committee on Security has approved the procurement of 97 LCA Mark 1A fighter jets for the Indian Air Force at a cost of ₹62,000 crore. These indigenous jets will be manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Disasters and Weather

Heavy Monsoon Rains: The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for extremely heavy rainfall in Gujarat, Goa, and coastal Maharashtra. Torrential rains have already battered Maharashtra, leading to floods, submerged roads, and the death of at least 10 people. In Mumbai, monorail services were affected, and over 500 passengers were rescued from two stranded trains. Schools and colleges have been closed in parts of the city.

Floods: Flooding has also been reported in other states, including Telangana and Karnataka, where heavy rains have disrupted normal life and caused damage to crops and infrastructure.

Other Key Developments

India-China Relations: National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi co-chaired the 24th round of the Special Representatives' Dialogue on the Boundary Question in New Delhi. Both nations have agreed to take measures to improve relations, including reopening border trade and resuming direct flights.

South-Central Railway: In a historic first for the South-Central Railway (SCR), five key departments—Operations, Commercial, Finance, Security, and Medical—are now being led by women officers.

Tribute: Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary.

Technological Advancement: India Post has launched "IT 2.0 – Advanced Postal Technology," a nationwide digital





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transformation initiative to modernize its services.

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MCQS

1: Who has been named the Vice-Presidential candidate by the Opposition's INDIA bloc?

- A) C. P. Radhakrishnan
- B) B. Sudershan Reddy
- C) Ram Nath Kovind
- D) M. Venkaiah Naidu

Answer: B) B. Sudershan Reddy

The INDIA bloc has nominated former Supreme Court judge B. Sudershan Reddy as their candidate for the Vice-Presidential election.

2: What is the estimated cost of the new Green Field Airport approved for development in Kota-Bundi, Rajasthan?

- A) ₹507 crore
- B) ₹1,007 crore
- C) ₹1,507 crore
- D) ₹2,007 crore

Answer: C) ₹1,507 crore

The government has approved a new Green Field Airport in Kota-Bundi with an estimated cost of ₹1,507 crore.

3: What is the total cost approved for the procurement of 97 LCA Mark 1A fighter jets for the Indian Air Force?

- A) ₹20,000 crore
- B) ₹45,000 crore
- C) ₹62,000 crore
- D) ₹80,000 crore

Answer: C) ₹62,000 crore

The Cabinet Committee on Security has approved the procurement of 97 LCA Mark 1A fighter jets at a cost of ₹62,000 crore.





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4: Which Indian states have been issued a red alert for extremely heavy rainfall by the IMD?

- A) Rajasthan and Punjab
- B) Gujarat, Goa, and coastal Maharashtra
- C) Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh
- D) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

Answer: B) Gujarat, Goa, and coastal Maharashtra

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for extremely heavy rainfall in Gujarat, Goa, and coastal Maharashtra.

5: What new digital transformation initiative has India Post launched to modernize its services?

- A) Digital Post 1.0
- B) e-Post Office Network
- C) IT 2.0 – Advanced Postal Technology
- D) Smart Mail Service

Answer: C) IT 2.0 – Advanced Postal Technology
India Post has launched "IT 2.0 – Advanced Postal Technology," a new nationwide initiative to modernize its services.

6: In a historic first, which key departments of the South-Central Railway (SCR) are now being led by women officers?

- A) Public Relations and Catering
- B) Operations, Commercial, Finance, Security, and Medical
- C) Engineering and Human Resources
- D) Signaling and Telecommunications

Answer: B) Operations, Commercial, Finance, Security, and Medical

For the first time in SCR history, women officers are leading five key departments: Operations, Commercial, Finance, Security, and Medical.

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