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Today in History on 29 July

➤ 1567: James VI is crowned King of Scotland.

In 1567, James VI was crowned King of Scotland. He was the son of Mary, Queen of Scotland, and Lord Darnley. After his mother abdicated the throne, James VI was crowned King of Scotland in 1567, when he was only 13 months old. In the early years of James VI's reign, Scotland was ruled by regents until he became an adult.



➤ 1876: Science Organization was established in India.

In 1876, the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS) was established in Calcutta, now Kolkata, by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar. It is recognized as the oldest science association in India, dedicated to the advancement of fundamental research in basic sciences. The association was established at 210 Bowbazar Street, Calcutta. IACS was intended to be a

"solely native and purely national" institution for cultivating science in all its departments.



➤ 1941: During World War II, Japan lands its troops on the southern coast of the region in an attempt to take over China and India.

In 1941, during World War II, Japan lands its troops on the coast of Southeast Asia in an attempt to take over China and India. The attack began in Malaya (Malaysia) on December 8, when Japanese troops landed in Singora and Pattani in Thailand. Later, they also attacked Kota Bharu in northern Malaya.





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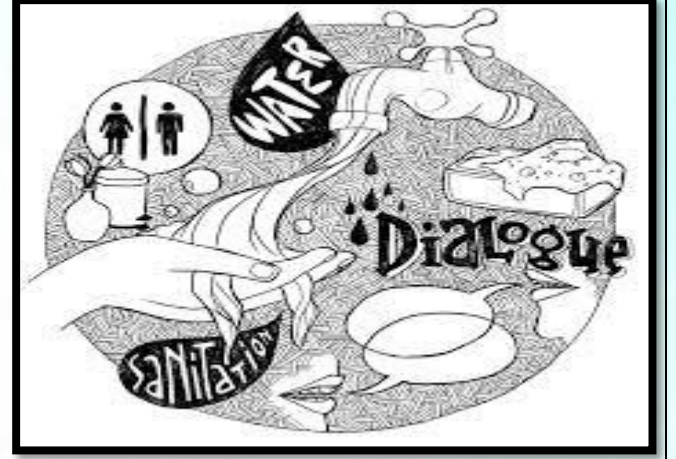
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➤ 1949: British Broadcasting Corporation begins broadcasting on radio.

In 1949 the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) begins broadcasting on radio. It began in 1932 as the Empire Service, but in 1949 it was renamed the BBC World Service. By the start of the 21st century, the service was broadcasting to around 120 million people worldwide in more than 40 languages.

Subsequently, the UN Human Rights Council also reaffirmed this recognition in September 2010.



BBC RADIO

Important NEWS on 29 July

➤ 2010: UN Human Rights Council passes resolution making clean water a human right.

In 2010, the UN Human Rights Council passed a resolution recognizing the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right. In this resolution, the UN clearly stated that the right to water and sanitation is essential to the full enjoyment of life and all human rights. This resolution was passed by the UN General Assembly on July 28, 2010, and is known as Resolution 64/292.

➤ India & Maldives Celebrate 60 Years of Friendship With Stunning Stamp Release

On July, 2025, India and the Maldives celebrated the 60th anniversary of their diplomatic relations with the release of commemorative stamps. The stamps, unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of the Maldives Dr Mohamed Muizzu, beautifully depict the shared maritime heritage between the two nations. This symbolic gesture not only commemorates a significant diplomatic milestone but also highlights the cultural, economic, and maritime ties binding the two Indian Ocean neighbors.





➤ PM Modi's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Gift to King Charles III – Strengthening Green Diplomacy

During his UK visit in July 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented a tree sapling to King Charles III at Sandringham Estate, Norfolk. The gesture was part of India's environmental initiative 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam', aimed at promoting tree plantation in honour of mothers. This symbolic act also reflected shared environmental values and growing Indo-UK cooperation.



➤ India Extends ₹4,850 Crore Line of Credit to Maldives – Strengthening Bilateral Ties

In a significant diplomatic and economic gesture, India extended a ₹4,850 crore line of credit (LoC) to the Maldives during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Malé in July 2025. This development, along with the initiation of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks and bilateral investment treaty discussions, marks a pivotal step in revitalizing India-Maldives relations under the Neighbourhood First and MAHASAGAR vision.



➤ France to Recognise Palestinian State: A Diplomatic Shift in the Middle East

In a major foreign policy move, France has announced it will officially recognise the State of Palestine in September 2025. This will make it the first G7 country to do so. The declaration, made by President Emmanuel Macron, signals a significant change in Europe's stance on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and comes amid continuing violence in Gaza.



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➤ Prof Uma Kanjilal Appointed as First Woman Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU

Prof Uma Kanjilal's appointment as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) marks a historic moment in the evolution of distance education in India. With over three decades of experience in Open and Distance Learning (ODL), digital education, and academic leadership, her elevation to this prestigious post reflects India's growing emphasis on inclusive, tech-driven higher education.



➤ Tanvi & Vennala Smash Records – India's Golden Badminton Moment

Indian badminton continues its upward trajectory with a historic breakthrough at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships 2025, as Tanvi Sharma and Vennala Kalagotla became the first-ever Indian duo to secure two medals in women's singles in a single edition of the tournament. This remarkable feat has etched their names into the annals of Indian badminton history and showcases the emerging strength of India's junior women shuttlers on the Asian stage.



➤ Thiran Scheme 2025

The Tamil Nadu School Education Department has launched the Thiran initiative (Targeted Help for Improving Remediation and Academic Nurturing) to bridge learning gaps among students of Classes VI to IX. The scheme aims to improve the students' proficiency in English, Tamil, and Mathematics. It will be implemented during school hours in government schools.





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Current affairs MCQS on 29 July

Q.1. Recently, which country topped the passport rankings once again in the Henley Passport Index, 2025?

- A. America
- B. Britain
- C. Singapore
- D. Japan

Answer: C. Singapore

The 2025 edition of the Henley Passport Index has highlighted a dynamic shift in global mobility trends, with Singapore once again emerging as the world's most powerful passport. The index, which ranks passports based on the number of destinations accessible by passport holders without a prior visa, shows how diplomatic relations, regional alliances and global cooperation continue to influence freedom of travel.





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Q.2. Where was the rare Long-billed Bush Warbler bird seen after 46 years?

- A. Ladakh
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Lakshadweep
- D. Himachal Pradesh

Answer: A. Ladakh

Recently, a team of ornithologists confirmed the sighting of the Long-billed Bush Warbler in India for the first time in 46 years in the Suru Valley of Ladakh. The Long-billed Bush Warbler is scientifically known as Locustella major. It is a medium-sized songbird with a long tail and a long beak, measuring about 15-17 cm in length. It is found in the Central Asian mountains, including parts of India, China, Pakistan and Tajikistan. Its habitat includes grassy slopes, high terraced fields and forest edges at an altitude of 2400-3600 m. It is listed as a near-threatened bird in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Q.3. Recently, the second round of talks on the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and which country was held in New Delhi?

- A. Australia
- B. Japan
- C. New Zealand
- D. Finland

Answer: C. New Zealand

The second round of talks on the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) concluded successfully in the national capital. The talks emphasized on the common objective of strengthening bilateral trade and economic partnership. The third round of talks will be held in New Zealand in September. According to the Commerce Ministry, virtual meetings will also continue to maintain the momentum gained in the second round.

Q.4. Recently, the Atal Pension Scheme (APY) of the Government of India has achieved an important

milestone by crossing which number of total gross enrollment?

- A. 05 crore
- B. 08 crore
- C. 10 crore
- D. 12 crore

Answer: B. 08 crore

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has achieved a significant milestone by adding 39 lakh new members in the current financial year itself, taking the total number of members to over 8 crore. It is a flagship social security scheme of the Government of India which is administered by PFRDA.

Q.5. Recently, which country has announced that it will recognize the Palestinian State in the United Nations General Assembly?

- A. France
- B. China
- C. Britain
- D. Russia

Answer: A. France

French President Emmanuel Macron has said that France will officially recognise the Palestinian state at the United Nations General Assembly meeting in September. In his social media post, the French President said that this decision to recognise the State of Palestine has been taken in line with France's historic commitment to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Q.6. Who has been appointed as the President of United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCI) recently?

- A. Divya Deshmukh
- B. Ajay Seth
- C. Vaishali Nigam Sinha
- D. None of these

Answer: C. Vaishali Nigam Sinha

Vaishali Nigam Sinha, co-founder and president (sustainability) of ReNew, has been elected as the chair of the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCI) for the term 2025-27. This is the





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first time in more than two decades that a leader from India's private sector has been appointed to the position—a position traditionally held by representatives of large public sector enterprises such as ONGC.

Q.7. Recently Indian chess player Divya Deshmukh has become the first Indian to reach the final of FIDE Women's World Cup 2025.

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fourth

Answer: A. First

In Chess, India's Divya Deshmukh defeated China's Tan Zhongyi in the second game of the semi-finals of the FIDE Women's World Cup 2025 in Batumi, Georgia to book her place in the final. The Indian chess star won the semi-final with white pieces after drawing the first game, defeating her opponent 1.5-0.5. With this win, Deshmukh also booked her place in the Candidates Tournament to be held in 2026 and also achieved her first Grand Master norm. The 19-year-old Deshmukh also became the first Indian to reach the final of the FIDE Women's World Cup.

Q.8. According to the recent Global Approval Rating Report, who is the most popular democratic leader with 75% approval rating?

- A. Donald Trump
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Xi Jinping
- D. Xavier Melei

Answer: B. Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Modi is at the top in the 'Democratic Global Leader Approval Rating'. He has got 75% approval rating. South Korean President Lee Jae Myung is in second place. Jae Myung has got 75% approval rating. President Donald Trump has not got a rating below 5. These figures have been released by US-based business intelligence firm Morning Consult.

Q.9. According to the Election Commission, how many voters of Bihar have been covered under the SIR process so far?

- A. 95.86%
- B. 97.86%
- C. 99.86%
- D. 100%

Answer: C. 99.86%

The Bihar Election Commission has announced that 99.8 per cent of voters have been covered under the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) campaign in the state. According to the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), forms of over 7.23 crore voters have been received and digitised. Their names will be published on August 1, 2025. The remaining forms and reports received from Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are also expected to be completed by the same date.

Q.10. Where has DRDO recently successfully tested UAV-launched Precision Guided Missile (ULPGM)-V3?

- A. Pokhran, Rajasthan
- B. Balasore, Odisha
- C. Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- D. Chandipur, Odisha

Answer: C. Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

Recently, DRDO successfully test fired ULPGM-V3 (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launched Precision Guided Missile) in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh. As announced by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the test was conducted at the National Open Area Range. This missile is also called ULM-ER (Extended Range) and is launched from a drone or UAV. It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in collaboration with Defence Capital Procurement Partners (DCPPs), MSMEs and start-ups.

Q.11. Recently, Narendra Modi has become the second longest-serving Prime Minister of India, leaving behind which PM?

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru





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B. Atal Bihari Vajpayee
C. Indira Gandhi
D. Rajiv Gandhi

Answer: C. Indira Gandhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday became the second longest-serving Prime Minister of India, breaking the record of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He will complete 4,078 consecutive days. Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister for 4,077 consecutive days since January.

Q.12. Recently, which state has launched 'Krishi Samridhi' scheme with an investment of Rs 25000 crore in 5 years to empower farmers?

A. Karnataka
B. Maharashtra
C. Kerala
D. Telangana

Answer: B. Maharashtra

The Maharashtra government has approved the Samridhi Yojana to make farmers economically strong and to promote climate change-friendly nutrient farming. This scheme will be implemented with an investment of Rs 25,000 crore in the next 5 years, which will benefit millions of farmers in the state. Giving information about the scheme, Agriculture Minister Manikrao Kokate said that this scheme is being given as a special gift to the farmers on the birthday of the Chief Minister Janhit and part-time beneficiaries.

Q.13. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 60th Independence Day of which country as the chief guest?

A. Britain
B. Bhutan
C. Sri Lanka
D. Maldives

Answer: D. Maldives

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the 60th anniversary celebrations of Maldives' Independence Day as the 'Chief Guest' during his visit to Male. This is the first time an Indian Prime

Minister is attending the Independence Day celebrations in Maldives. Prime Minister Modi is also the first foreign leader of the Head of State or Head of Government level to be hosted by President Muizzu.

Q.14. Recently, the TRACERS mission has been launched by whom to protect the Earth's magnetic field from solar storms?

A. NASA
B. ISRO
C. JAXA
D. Roscosmos

Answer: A. NASA

NASA has launched the TRACERS (Tandem Reconnection and Cusp Electrodynamics Reconnaissance Satellites) mission to better understand how Earth's magnetic field protects the planet from solar storms and space weather. The mission aims to study magnetic reconnection—a process in which the Sun's magnetic field interacts with Earth's magnetic shield, producing an energy burst that can affect satellites, the power grid and communications.

Q.15. Where was the Maritime Financing Summit 2025 organized recently?

A. Hyderabad
B. Chennai
C. Bhopal
D. New Delhi

Answer: D. New Delhi

The Maritime Financing Summit 2025, organised by the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, was held in New Delhi. The summit was part of the Government of India's Maritime Amrit Ka Vision 2047, which aims to strengthen the country's port infrastructure, stimulate the domestic shipbuilding industry and establish India as one of the world's top maritime nations by 2047.





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