

Section 1: International News

Q1. The 3rd India–European Union (EU) Trade and Technology Council (TTC) meeting was held in July 2026 in which city?

- [A] New Delhi, India
- [B] Brussels, Belgium
- [C] Paris, France
- [D] Berlin, Germany

Answer: [B] Brussels, Belgium

Detailed Explanation:

The third India–EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) meeting took place in Brussels, Belgium. Both sides reviewed progress under working groups covering strategic technologies, digital governance, clean energy, and trade resilience. A major highlight was formal discussions allowing India to associate with the €93.5 billion **Horizon Europe** research and innovation programme.

Q2. Which campaign theme was launched by India at the UN Headquarters in New York for its candidacy for a Non-Permanent Seat on the UN Security Council (UNSC) for the 2028–29 term?

- [A] VASUDHAIVA: Global Unity and Trust
- [B] SHANTI: Securing Holistic Advancement through Norms, Trust and Integrity
- [C] VIKAS: Growth, Sustainability and Peace
- [D] SATYA: Transparency and Universal Peace

Answer: [B] SHANTI: Securing Holistic Advancement through Norms, Trust and Integrity

Detailed Explanation:

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar officially launched India's campaign for a non-

permanent seat on the UNSC for 2028–29. The campaign is anchored by the theme **"SHANTI"**, which emphasizes India's commitment to reformed multilateralism, international law, equitable growth, and global peace.

Q3. According to the United Nations' first Independent International Scientific Assessment on Artificial Intelligence (July 2026), which country holds approximately 75% of global AI compute capacity?

- [A] China
- [B] United States of America
- [C] United Kingdom
- [D] Japan

Answer: [B] United States of America

Detailed Explanation:

The UN's landmark report highlighted severe global concentration in AI infrastructure. The United States leads globally with **75% of compute capacity** and 59 major AI models, followed by China (15% compute capacity and 35 models). The rest of the world accounts for only 10% of global compute capacity combined.

Section 2: National News

Q4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for key development projects worth over ₹4,700 crore in Chandigarh, primarily covering which sectors?

- [A] Defence, Space, and Atomic Energy
- [B] Healthcare, Education, and Road Infrastructure
- [C] Agriculture, Irrigation, and Rural Electrification
- [D] Aviation and Port Development

Answer: [B] Healthcare, Education, and Road Infrastructure

Detailed Explanation:

The development package worth ₹4,700+ crore was dedicated to civic enhancement, modernizing healthcare infrastructure, upgrading school and higher education facilities, and expanding road networks in Chandigarh and surrounding regions.

Q5. President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated 'Saushrutam 2026', an international seminar focused on Ayurvedic surgery, at which institution?

- [A] Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi
- [B] All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi
- [C] National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur
- [D] Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar

Answer: [B] All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi

Detailed Explanation:

President Murmu inaugurated 'Saushrutam 2026' at AIIA, New Delhi, on the occasion of Sushruta Jayanti. The seminar commemorated Acharya Sushruta ("Father of Surgery") and aimed to blend traditional Ayurvedic surgical procedures (Shalya Tantra) with modern surgical technologies.

Q6. Which Ministry launched the 'e-VSP Portal' in July 2026 to facilitate digitized access to legal publications and statutory notifications?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Law and Justice
- [C] Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- [D] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Answer: [B] Ministry of Law and Justice

Detailed Explanation:

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Law and Justice, Arjun Ram Meghwal, launched the 'e-VSP Portal' (e-Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan) to provide public and legal practitioners digital access to legal documents, central acts, and translated legal texts in regional languages.

Section 3: Economics & Banking

Q7. What is the total financial outlay approved by the Union Cabinet for the "Semicon 2.0" programme?

- [A] ₹76,000 crore
- [B] ₹1,00,000 crore
- [C] ₹1,27,500 crore
- [D] ₹1,50,000 crore

Answer: [C] ₹1,27,500 crore

Detailed Explanation:

Building upon Semicon 1.0 (₹76,000 crore), the Union Cabinet approved **Semicon 2.0** with a total budget of **₹1,27,500 crore**. The scheme focuses on scaling up fabrication plants (fabs), supporting compound semiconductors, raw material supply chains, and advanced chip packaging.

Q8. The Ministry of Electronics and IT introduced the "MPMS" scheme to replace the PLI for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (2020–2026). What does MPMS stand for?

- [A] Manufacturing and Production Management Scheme
- [B] Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme
- [C] Macro-Electronics Promotion and Modernisation Scheme
- [D] Modified Electronics Promotion Scheme

Answer: [B] Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme

Detailed Explanation:

The **Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS)** succeeded the original PLI scheme with an outlay of ₹62,500 crore running from FY27 to FY31. Its objective is to deepen domestic value addition, promote local component manufacturing, and build indigenous brands beyond basic assembly.

Q9. National Statistics Office (NSO) under MoSPI launched the trial "Index of Services Production (ISP)". What is the main objective of this index?

- [A] Measuring export taxes on service industries
- [B] High-frequency monthly tracking of services-sector output to complement the IIP
- [C] Measuring employment trends in the gig economy
- [D] Assessing foreign direct investment (FDI) in non-banking financial services

Answer: [B] High-frequency monthly tracking of services-sector output to complement the IIP

Detailed Explanation:

The **Index of Services Production (ISP)** serves as India's first official high-frequency macroeconomic monthly indicator dedicated to calculating service sector output. It acts as a direct counterpart to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

Q10. In July 2026, which logistics firm's subsidiary received RBI approval to operate as a Type-II Non-Banking Financial Company - Non-Deposit Taking (NBFC-ND)?

- [A] Blue Dart Express

- [B] Delhivery (Delhivery Financial Services)
- [C] Mahindra Logistics
- [D] Ekart Financials

Answer: [B] Delhivery (Delhivery Financial Services)

Detailed Explanation:

Delhivery Financial Services Private Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of supply-chain firm Delhivery Ltd., received its Certificate of Registration (CoR) from the RBI to operate as a Type-II NBFC-ND, enabling supply-chain financing for MSMEs and vendors.

Q11. Which state secured the top position in NITI Aayog's Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Karnataka

Answer: [C] Maharashtra

Detailed Explanation:

Maharashtra secured 1st place in NITI Aayog's Investment Friendliness Index (IFI) 2026, while Gujarat ranked 2nd. The index evaluates states across eight core pillars including business ecosystem, single-window clearances, logistics ease, and environmental compliance.

Section 4: Sports

Q12. India hosted the GO-BRICS Energy-o-thon 2026, recognized as the world's 1st BRICS nations hackathon focusing on energy innovation, in which Indian city?

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] Bengaluru
- [C] Pune

- [D] Ahmedabad

Answer: [B] Bengaluru

Detailed Explanation:

As part of India's BRICS Chairship 2026, the **GO-BRICS Energy-o-thon 2026** was organized in Bengaluru, Karnataka, bringing together tech innovators across member nations to address energy transition and smart grid efficiency.

Q13. Carlos Alcaraz won his 3rd consecutive Wimbledon Men's Singles Title in July 2026. Which country does he represent?

- [A] Italy
- [B] Spain
- [C] Argentina
- [D] Serbia

Answer: [B] Spain

Detailed Explanation:

Spanish tennis sensation Carlos Alcaraz secured his 3rd consecutive Wimbledon Men's Singles crown at the All England Club, defeating his opponent in straight sets.

Section 5: Appointments & Resignations

Q14. Whom did the Parliament of Ukraine (Verkhovna Rada) approve as the country's new Prime Minister in July 2026?

- [A] Denys Shmyhal
- [B] Mykhailo Fedorov
- [C] Serhii Koretskyi
- [D] Rustem Umerov

Answer: [B] Mykhailo Fedorov

Detailed Explanation:

Mykhailo Fedorov, former Minister of Digital Transformation, was approved by Ukraine's parliament as the new Prime Minister following

a cabinet restructuring aimed at boosting tech-driven defence and post-war reconstruction strategies.

Section 6: Awards & Honors

Q15. Moozhikkal Pankajakshi, who passed away in July 2026, was a Padma Shri recipient known for preserving which rare traditional performing art form?

- [A] Koodiyattam
- [B] Nokkuvidya Pavakkali (Puppetry)
- [C] Tholpavakoothu
- [D] Chakyar Koothu

Answer: [B] Nokkuvidya Pavakkali (Puppetry)

Detailed Explanation:

Moozhikkal Pankajakshi was a master exponent of **Nokkuvidya Pavakkali**, a rare indigenous puppetry art form from Kerala where puppets are balanced on the upper lip using a stick. She was awarded the Padma Shri in 2020.

Q16. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways approved 25% capital subsidy under the Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS) for a new Greenfield Shipbuilding Cluster in which coastal city?

- [A] Kochi, Kerala
- [B] Porbandar, Gujarat
- [C] Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Mangaluru, Karnataka

Answer: [B] Porbandar, Gujarat

Detailed Explanation:

Under the Shipbuilding Development Scheme (SbDS), the Ministry approved a Greenfield Shipbuilding Cluster in **Porbandar** along with a modern Ship Repair Facility at **Vadinar, Gujarat**, supported by a 25% financial grant on eligible infrastructure investment.

Section 7: Defence & Security

Q17. The Indian Navy commissioned 'INS Malvan' in July 2026. What class of naval vessel is 'INS Malvan'?

- [A] Stealth Frigate
- [B] Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)
- [C] Nuclear Attack Submarine
- [D] Offshore Patrol Vessel

Answer: [B] Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)

Detailed Explanation:

INS Malvan is one of the indigenously designed Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Space Craft built to replace the Abhay-class corvettes, specialized for coastal anti-submarine operations, mine laying, and low-intensity maritime defense.

Q18. White Rabbit (WR) Technology was recently integrated by ISRO and NPL for which critical national defense and scientific requirement?

- [A] Sub-nanosecond synchronization of Indian Standard Time (IST) across critical infrastructure
- [B] Satellite-based quantum key distribution (QKD)
- [C] Radar tracking of hypersonic glide vehicles
- [D] Underwater acoustic communication

Answer: [A] Sub-nanosecond synchronization of Indian Standard Time (IST) across critical infrastructure

Detailed Explanation:

White Rabbit (WR) Technology, originally developed at CERN, is an ethernet-based protocol capable of sub-nanosecond timing

precision. India deployed it to sync power grids, defense radar systems, and financial networks directly to official IST.

Section 8: Government Schemes & Initiatives

Q19. What is the primary objective of the 'PARIVARTAN Scheme' highlighted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)?

- [A] Solarization of urban slum rooftops
- [B] Transforming municipal solid waste management and urban mobility infrastructure
- [C] Free internet connectivity across tier-3 towns
- [D] Heritage restoration of ancient temples

Answer: [B] Transforming municipal solid waste management and urban mobility infrastructure

Detailed Explanation:

The **PARIVARTAN Scheme** focuses on urban rejuvenation, transitioning cities toward 100% waste processing, electric public transport integration, and upgrading climate-resilient urban stormwater drainage.

Q20. Under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) for short-term agricultural loans through Kisan Credit Cards (KCC), what is the effective interest rate for prompt-repaying farmers?

- [A] 3%
- [B] 4%
- [C] 5%
- [D] 7%

Answer: [B] 4%

Detailed Explanation:

Under MISS, short-term crop loans up to ₹3 lakh are offered at a basic interest rate of 7% (with a 1.5% subvention to banks). Farmers who repay promptly receive an additional 3% Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI), bringing the effective interest rate down to 4%.

Q21. "BRICS CONNECT", an initiative launched by India during the 12th BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting in July 2026, focuses on:

- [A] Cross-border visa-free travel for gig workers
- [B] Technical cooperation, knowledge exchange, and digital capacity building among member nations
- [C] Unified pension scheme for BRICS diplomats
- [D] Cross-border cryptocurrency remittances for migrant labor

Answer: [B] Technical cooperation, knowledge exchange, and digital capacity building among member nations

Detailed Explanation:

India hosted the meeting in Hyderabad, Telangana, under its 2026 BRICS presidency and introduced **BRICS CONNECT** alongside the Guwahati Declaration to build digital skills and labor market resilience.

Section 9: Important Days, Anniversaries & Culture

Q22. 'World Day for International Justice' is observed globally on which date every year?

- [A] 15 July
- [B] 16 July
- [C] 17 July
- [D] 18 July

Answer: [C] 17 July

Detailed Explanation:

Observed on **17 July**, this day marks the historic adoption of the **Rome Statute in 1998**, the founding treaty that established the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Q23. Nelson Mandela International Day is celebrated annually on 18 July. What was the global theme for Nelson Mandela Day 2026?

- [A] "Climate, Food and Solidarity"
- [B] "It's in your hands: Combating Poverty and Inequality"
- [C] "Education for Peace and Equality"
- [D] "Freedom through Justice"

Answer: [B] "It's in your hands: Combating Poverty and Inequality"

Detailed Explanation:

Celebrated every 18 July on Nelson Mandela's birth anniversary, the day calls on individuals to dedicate 67 minutes of public service to address social inequalities and fight poverty worldwide.

Q24. "AI Appreciation Day" was observed globally on which date in July 2026?

- [A] 12 July
- [B] 14 July
- [C] 16 July
- [D] 18 July

Answer: [C] 16 July

Detailed Explanation:

AI Appreciation Day is celebrated on **July 16** to promote awareness, showcase positive contributions of artificial intelligence to healthcare and ethics, and support balanced AI regulation.

Section 10: Environment & Science & Tech

Q25. A new species of subterranean (groundwater-dwelling), eyeless fish named *Gitchak nakana* was discovered in a well in which state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Assam
- [C] Meghalaya
- [D] Nagaland

Answer: [B] Assam

Detailed Explanation:

Gitchak nakana is the first subterranean, aquifer-dwelling fish species recorded from Assam (Goalpara district). It exhibits complete troglomorphic traits—it is completely eyeless and pigmentless.

Q26. What is the IUCN Red List conservation status of the Asiatic Lion (*Panthera leo persica*), confined to Gujarat's Gir landscape?

- [A] Vulnerable
- [B] Endangered
- [C] Critically Endangered
- [D] Near Threatened

Answer: [B] Endangered

Detailed Explanation:

The Asiatic Lion is classified as **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List. It is protected under Schedule I of India's Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Q27. A new species of spreadwing damselfly named *Lestes paloti* was discovered in which Indian state in July 2026?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Goa

Answer: [B] Kerala

Detailed Explanation:

Researchers identified *Lestes paloti*, a new damselfly species named after odonatologist Muhamed Jafer Palot, in the Western Ghats region of Kerala.

Q28. What type of organism causes *Cyclospora* infection, recently highlighted in food safety alerts?

- [A] Bacterium
- [B] Single-celled microscopic parasite (*Cyclospora cayetanensis*)
- [C] RNA Virus
- [D] Fungus

Answer: [B] Single-celled microscopic parasite (*Cyclospora cayetanensis*)

Detailed Explanation:

Cyclospora cayetanensis is a protozoan parasite transmitted via the fecal-oral route through contaminated water or unwashed raw produce like leafy greens and berries. Proper cooking kills the parasite, whereas simple routine washing may not remove the resistant oocysts.

Section 11: Polity & Legal Affairs

Q29. In *Sabitri Dey v. Union of India* (2026), the Supreme Court ruled that Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) cannot make ex-parte citizenship declarations without proper procedure. Under which Order are FTs constituted?

- [A] Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950
- [B] Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964
- [C] Citizenship Act Order, 1955
- [D] Illegal Migrants Determination Act, 1983

Answer: [B] Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964

Detailed Explanation:

Foreigners Tribunals are quasi-judicial bodies constituted under the **Foreigners (Tribunals)**

Order, 1964, issued pursuant to Section 3 of the Foreigners Act, 1946. The Supreme Court ruled that revoking or denying citizenship carries severe constitutional consequences and requires procedural fairness.

Q30. India's 1st Artificial Intelligence (AI)-integrated vertical university campus was inaugurated by Zoho co-founder Sridhar Vembu at VISTAS in which city?

- [A] Bengaluru
- [B] Hyderabad
- [C] Chennai
- [D] Pune

Answer: [C] Chennai

Detailed Explanation:

Sridhar Vembu inaugurated the Thiruvananthapuram campus of VELS Institute of Science, Technology & Advanced Studies (VISTAS) in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**, establishing it as India's first AI-integrated vertical campus featuring smart classrooms and embedded AI tools across curricula.

