

# THIRD WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



**JULY 2024** 

**JULY 15-21** 

- 1. Which organization recently released 'Digital Economy Report 2024'?
- A. World Bank
- B. UN Trade and Development ☑
- C. International Monetary Fund
- D. UN Development Programme

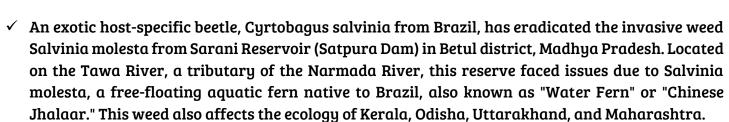


- ✓ The UN Trade and Development recently released the Digital Economy Report 2024. It emphasizes the need for sustainable digitalization strategies. Internet users grew from 1 billion in 2005 to 5.4 billion in 2023. The ICT sector's global GHG emissions were 1.5-3.2% in 2020. Digital-related waste surged 30% from 2010 to 2022, reaching 10.5 million tonnes. Data centers consumed 460 terawatts hours in 2022, expected to double by 2026. Critical mineral demand may surge by 500% by 2050.
- ✓ Recommendations include adopting circular economy models, enforcing environmental standards, investing in renewable energy, and promoting sustainable business models.
  - 2. Umlingla Pass is located in which state/UT?
  - A. Uttarakhand
  - B. Ladakh 🗹
  - C. Sikkim
  - D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ NewSpace Research and Technologies successfully tested a 100-kg Max Take Off Weight (MTOW) UAV at Umling La Pass. Located at 19,024 ft. in Eastern Ladakh along the Ladakh Range, Unming La Pass is the highest motorable road in the world, constructed by the Border Road Organization under Project Himank. The road enhances connectivity to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and improves local connectivity in the Chisumle-Demchok sector to Leh, boosting tourism. Other significant passes in Ladakh include Khardung La, Chang La, and Tanglang La.
  - 3. What is 'Salvinia molesta'?
  - A. Invasive weed 

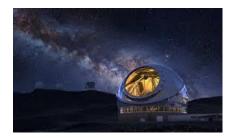
    ✓
  - B. Asteroid
  - C. Earth observation satellite
  - D. Al Tool





- 4. Recently, Indian scientists have developed an open-source tool to generate an infrared star catalogue for which telescope?
- A. Himalayan Chandra Telescope
- B. Thirty Meter Telescope 

  ☑
- C. Cassegrain Telescope
- D. GROWTH-India Telescope



- ✓ Indian scientists have developed an open-source tool to generate an infrared star catalogue for the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT). This international project aims to revolutionize our understanding of the universe as the world's most advanced optical and infrared observatory. Key features include a 30-meter segmented primary mirror composed of 492 hexagonal segments, making it the largest in the Northern Hemisphere.
  - 5. Recently, where was the NATO Summit 2024 held?
  - A. Washington D.C.
  - B. London
  - C. Paris
  - D. Sydney



- ✓ The recent NATO summit in Washington, D.C., extensively discussed Ukraine's potential membership. The alliance also considered providing at least €40 billion (\$43.28 billion) in military aid to Ukraine over the next year. NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance comprising 32 member states.
  - 6. Bhoj Wetland is located in which state?
  - A. Tamil Nadu

  - C. Kerala
  - D. Himachal Pradesh



✓ Bhoj Wetland in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh is at risk of being delisted from the Ramsar Convention's list of Wetlands of International Importance due to potential ecological damage. Concerns have been raised about proposed road construction impacting the wetland's catchment area. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat has requested clarification from India, marking the first step in the delisting process. India's Environment Ministry, the nodal authority for wetlands, will assess whether the construction will alter the wetland's ecological character.

- 7. What is 'Squalus hima'?
- A. A new species of dogfish shark discovered from southwest coast of India ☑
- B. A novel type of coral reefs found in Arabian Sea
- C. An endangered frog species found in eastern ghats
- D. A newly discovered species of spider found in northeastern region



- ✓ Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India discovered a new deep-water dogfish shark species, Squalus hima, off Kerala's southwest coast. This genus, known as spurdogs, features smooth dorsal fin spines, a small mouth, and no body spots. Squalus hima is distinct from other species in vertebrae count, teeth count, and fin structure. Exploited for liver oil rich in squalene, it's crucial for pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.
  - 8. Which state won the 'Best State in Horticulture Award 2024' in the Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024?
  - A. Assam
  - B. Arunachal Pradesh
  - C. Nagaland
  - D. Sikkim



- ✓ Nagaland won the 'Best State in Horticulture Award 2024' for innovative horticulture programs benefiting many farmers and rural people. Women Resource Development and Horticulture Minister Salhoutuonuo Kruse received the award in New Delhi. The state's horticulture sector enhanced livelihoods, created jobs, ensured nutritional security, and achieved GI registration for three crops. Nagaland formed 13 farmers' producer companies and certified 6,800 hectares organically, earning national recognition.
  - 9. Dengue (break-bone fever) is transmitted by which type of mosquitoes?
  - A. Anopheles mosquitoes

  - C. Culex mosquitoes
  - D. Culiseta mosquitoes



✓ The High Court of Karnataka took suo motu cognizance of the dengue rise across the state. Dengue, a mosquito-borne viral infection common in tropical and subtropical areas, is spread by Aedes mosquitoes. While many infections are mild, severe cases can cause dengue hemorrhagic fever, leading to rapid breathing, vomiting, and bleeding gums. With 400 million infections annually, treatment focuses on supportive care, as no specific medicine exists.

### 10. Technology Development Fund scheme is a programme of which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence **☑**



- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) sanctioned seven new private sector projects under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme. Established to promote self-reliance in defence technology under the 'Make in India' initiative, the TDF is a Ministry of Defence program executed by DRDO. It supports MSMEs and startups, providing up to 90% funding for projects costing up to INR 50 crore.
  - 11. What is the main purpose of the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)?
  - A. To increase foreign direct investment in India
  - B. To simplify and streamline the process of remitting funds outside India ☑
  - C. To encourage foreign tourists to visit India
  - D. To control the flow of foreign currency into India



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Accounts (FCA) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) at GIFT City, Gujarat, under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).
- ✓ Introduced in 2004, LRS simplifies remitting funds outside India, allowing residents, including minors, to remit up to USD 250,000 per financial year. This excludes corporates and trusts, and covers any permissible current or capital account transactions.
  - 12. Which organization recently released the 'World Population Prospects Report 2024'?
  - A. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) ☑
  - B. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



- C. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- D. World Bank
- ✓ The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) recently released the World Population Prospects Report, projecting the global population to peak at 10.3 billion by the mid-2080s, up from 8.2 billion in 2024. Key findings include a current fertility rate of 2.25 births per woman and a life expectancy of 73.3 years. India's population is expected to peak in the early 2060s.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS 5

- 1. Which country will host the 28<sup>th</sup> Malabar naval exercise in October, in collaboration with the United States, Japan, and Australia?
- A. India 🗹
- B. China
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Myanmar



- ✓ India will host the 28<sup>th</sup> Malabar naval exercise in October, partnering with the United States, Japan, and Australia. The exercise aims to enhance military coordination and interoperability, focusing on advanced anti-submarine warfare and strategic naval maneuvers. It highlights India's strategic role in the Indo-Pacific region, emphasizing the importance of collaborative defense efforts among these nations.
  - 2. What is the primary objective of Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) initiative?
  - A. Increasing telecom services in urban areas
  - B. Enhancing telecom networks in remote and rural areas 

    ✓
  - C. Enhancing digital literacy in tribal areas
  - D. Providing school kit to children in flood prone areas



- ✓ The Department of Telecommunications has proposed draft rules to implement the Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), aiming to enhance telecom connectivity in rural areas. The DBN will replace the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), which was created to provide affordable telecom services in remote regions using a 5% Universal Service Levy on telecom operators' revenue. Established under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, the DBN seeks to expand networks in underserved areas where private companies may not invest.
  - 3. Recently, who has been conferred with the "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour), the highest civilian award of France?
  - A. Koppu Sadashiva Murthy
  - B. Roshni Nadar Malhotra 🗹
  - C. Pushp Kumar Joshi
  - D. Alok Ohrie



✓ Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chairperson of HCLTech, was awarded France's highest civilian honor, the "Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur," for her significant contributions to business and sustainability, as well as enhancing economic relations between France and India. The honor was presented by the French Ambassador to India, acknowledging her exceptional leadership and influence in international business and diplomacy.

- 4. Ariane 6 rocket was developed by which space agency?
- A. ISRO
- B. NASA
- C. ESA 🗹
- D. JAXA



- ✓ Europe's Ariane 6 rocket successfully launched satellites into orbit after a four-year delay. Developed by the European Space Agency (ESA) and Arianespace, this heavy-lift launch vehicle offers a cost-effective and flexible solution for commercial and government missions, utilizing both liquid and solid propellant engines. The ESA, established in 1975 and headquartered in Paris, coordinates space activities among member states and collaborates on projects like the International Space Station and the Rosetta mission.
  - 5. What is the primary objective of the 'eSwasthya Dham portal'?
  - A. To book accommodation for pilgrims
  - B. To monitor the health parameters of Char Dham Yatra pilgrims ☑
  - C. To provide travel guides for pilgrims
  - D. To facilitate payment for pilgrimage services



- ✓ The eSwasthya Dham portal, integrated with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), monitors the health parameters of pilgrims undertaking the Char Dham Yatra, which includes Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath. This initiative ensures a smooth pilgrimage experience, allowing pilgrims to create a 14-digit Ayushman Bharat Health Account number. Each site holds religious significance: Yamunotri is dedicated to Goddess Yamuna, Gangotri to Goddess Ganga, Kedarnath to Lord Shiva, and Badrinath to Lord Vishnu.
  - 6. Where is the world's largest Ramayan temple being constructed?
  - A. Tamil Nadu
  - B. Bihar 2
  - C. Kerala
  - D. Himachal Pradesh



✓ The world's largest Ramayan temple is being built in East Champaran, Bihar. It will be three times larger than the Ram Temple in Ayodhya and taller than Angkor Wat in Cambodia. The temple features a 33-foot tall shivling, made of black granite from Mamallapuram, and includes 22 smaller temples dedicated to key deities from the Ramayana. The main shikhar rises to 270 feet, with architectural inspiration drawn from notable temples in India and Cambodia.

7. Which day is observed as 'World Malala' Day every year?

A. July.12 ☑

B. July.13

C. July.14

D. July.15



✓ World Malala Day, celebrated on July 12th, honors Malala Yousafzai's advocacy for women's and children's rights. Born on July 12, 1997, in Pakistan, Malala survived a Taliban assassination attempt in 2012. She gained global recognition, speaking at the UN on her 16th birthday, being named one of TIME's most influential people in 2013, and winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014. She continues her education and activism from Birmingham.

8. Recently, who won the bronze medal in the Shotgun Junior World Cup in Italy?

A. Manu Bhaker

B. Anjali Bhagwat

C. Sabeera Haris

D. Nandita Das



- ✓ India's Sabeera Haris won the bronze medal in the women's trap event at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Italy, shooting 29 out of 40 targets. Carey Garrison of the US took gold with 40 out of 50 targets, and Italy's Sofia Gori earned silver with 39 hits. Indian shooters Bhavya Tripathi and Rajkuwar Ingle finished 26th and 33rd, respectively.
  - 9. Recently, which organization has approved \$1.5 billion loan to India to develop the country's low-carbon energy sector?

A. World Bank 🗹

B. IMF

C. ADB



D. NATO

✓ The World Bank approved a \$1.5 billion loan to India for developing its low-carbon energy sector, following a similar loan in 2023. The low-carbon energy sector includes fuels like hydrogen and biofuels, which emit less carbon than fossil fuels. India aims for net-zero carbon emissions by 2070, supported by initiatives like the National Green Hydrogen Mission, which uses renewable energy for hydrogen production.

10. Jimmy Anderson, who recently announced his retirement from international cricket, belongs to which country?

- A. Australia
- B. South Africa
- C. England
- D. Ireland



✓ James Anderson, one of cricket's greats, retired from international cricket on July 12, 2024, after England defeated the West Indies by an innings and 114 runs at Lord's. Anderson, a right-arm fast bowler, debuted in 2002-03 and retired as the highest wicket-taker among fast bowlers with 704 wickets in 188 Test matches. He played 21 years, becoming the second-most capped Test player after Sachin Tendulkar.

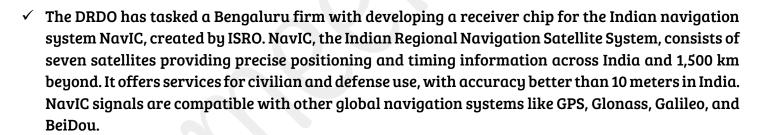
11. NavIC, formerly known as the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), developed by which organization?

A. ISRO 🗹

B. DRDO

C. HAL

D. BHEL



12. Recently, which organization announced Rs 750 crore 'Agri SURE' fund to promote innovation in agriculture?

- A. NABARD 🗹
- B. ICAR
- C. NITI Aayog
- D. Ministry of Agriculture



NABARD recently announced the Agri-SURE fund to support start-ups and rural enterprises in agriculture. The ₹750 crore fund, with contributions from NABARD, the Ministry of Agriculture, and other institutions, will back 85 agri start-ups with investments up to ₹25 crore each. Agri-SURE focuses on innovation, technology, enhancing the value chain, creating rural linkages, generating employment, and supporting Farmers Producer Organisations. NABVENTURES will manage the fund.

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- 1. Shigella infection is an intestinal infection caused by which agent?
- A. Virus
- B. Fungus
- C. Bacteria 2
- D. Protozoa



- ✓ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has partnered with an Indian manufacturer to produce a breakthrough vaccine for shigella infection, an intestinal disease caused by Shigella bacteria. Shigella causes symptoms like diarrhea, stomach pain, fever, and nausea. Highly contagious, it primarily affects children under five. No vaccine currently exists. Shigella causes about 125 million diarrheal cases and 160,000 deaths annually.
  - 2. Which institution recently released the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) India Index 2023-24?
  - A. NABARD
  - B. NITI Aayog 

    ☑
  - C. Ministry of Jal Shakti
  - D. SEBI



- ✓ NITI Aayog has released the 4th edition of the SDG India Index 2023-24, assessing progress across 113 indicators for all States and Union Territories (UTs). India's composite score improved from 66 in 2020-21 to 71 in 2023-24, with significant advancements in Goals 1, 8, and 13. Thirty-two States and UTs are classified as front-runners, while Uttarakhand and Kerala topped the list with scores of 79. Chandigarh is the leading Union Territory.
  - 3. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, recently seen in news due to vulture conservation, is located in which district?
  - A. Erode ☑
  - B. Coimbatore
  - C. Tenkasi
  - D. Kanyakumari



✓ A recent study reveals a lack of awareness regarding vulture conservation in the key habitats of Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve in Erode district of Tamil Nadu. Established in 2013, Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve connects with Mudumalai and Bandipur Tiger Reserves and features diverse forests. It is home to notable wildlife, including elephants, tigers, and sloth bears. Key concerns for the reserve include sandalwood smuggling and poaching, which threaten its ecological balance and conservation efforts. 4. Recently, the government has decided to observe which day as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' every year?

A. June.25 ☑

B. June.26

C. July.25

D. July.26



- ✓ The government will observe June 25 as 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' to commemorate the 1975 Emergency imposed by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This period saw widespread suspension of fundamental rights, detention of opposition leaders, and press censorship. The 38th Amendment Act made emergency declarations immune to judicial review, a provision later revoked by the 44th Amendment in 1978. The day honors those who suffered during this tumultuous time in Indian history.
  - 5. Recently, which country secured their 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive Copa America championship by defeating Colombia?

A. Argentina 🗹

B. Peru

C. Venezuela

D. Chile



- ✓ Argentina won their 16th Copa America title by defeating Colombia 1-0 in the final, held at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami. The tournament, hosted by the USA for the second time, featured 16 teams. Lautaro Martinez scored the winning goal in extra time. This victory marked Argentina's consecutive Copa America win and added to their 2022 FIFA World Cup triumph.
  - 6. Who won the men's single title at the 2024 Wimbledon Tennis Championships?

A. Roger Federer

B. Novak Djokovic

C. Carlos Alcaraz ☑

D. Max Purcell



✓ Carlos Alcaraz of Spain and Barbora Krejcikova of Czech Republic won the men's and women's singles titles at the 2024 Wimbledon Tennis Championships. Alcaraz secured his second consecutive Wimbledon title by defeating Novak Djokovic, while Krejcikova won her first Wimbledon title. The tournament, held from 1-14 July 2024, is the third Grand Slam event of the year and the only one played on natural grass.

7. Recently, Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli has become Prime Minister of which country?

- A. Nepal ☑
- B. Bhutan
- C. Myanmar
- D. Bangladesh



✓ Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli (K P Sharma Oli) was sworn in as Prime Minister of Nepal for the fourth time on 15 July 2024 by President Ram Chandra Paudel. Oli leads a coalition government after the fall of Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda's government. Per Nepal's constitution, the new government must seek a vote of confidence from the lower house within 30 days. Oli's previous terms were in 2015-2016, 2018-2021, and 2021.

8. India will host the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in which state from November 20-24, 2024?

A. Kerala

B. Maharashtra

WORLD AUDIO VISUA
ENTERTAINMENT SUI
Come, soil with us

C. Gujarat

D. Goa ☑

20th - 24th NOVEMBER 2024

- ✓ India will host the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa from 20-24 November 2024. The announcement was made by Union Minister Ashwani Vaishnaw, with Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Minister Dr L Murugan present.
- ✓ Vaishnaw emphasized the government's commitment to supporting the media and entertainment sector and aims to make India a global content creation hub through supportive policies and strong intellectual property rights.
  - 9. Which state's natural farming model won the 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity?
  - A. Tamil Nadu
  - B. Sikkim
  - C. Andhra Pradesh 🗹
  - D. Kerala



✓ The Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) initiative, launched by
Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) in 2016, has won the 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity.
Awarded by Portugal-based Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, the prize honors contributions to
global food security, climate resilience, and ecosystem protection. APCNF shares the €1 million
prize with soil scientist Rattan Lal and Egypt-based SEKEM. Selected from 181 nominations, the
award jury was chaired by former German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

10. Recently, Union Home Minister inaugurated 'PM College of Excellence' in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Colleges of Excellence in 55 districts of Madhya Pradesh. He congratulated the state for being the first to implement Prime Minister Narendra Modi's New Education Policy (NEP).
- ✓ He highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for India to excel globally by 2047, emphasizing the New Education Policy (NEP) introduced in 2020. Shah praised Madhya Pradesh as the first state to implement the NEP and its initiative to translate engineering and medical curriculums into the local language, aiding many students.
  - 11. Mahabodhi Temple Complex is located in which state?
  - A. Bihar 2
  - B. Odisha
  - C. West Bengal
  - D. Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ A geospatial analysis using satellite images and ground surveys revealed "huge architectural wealth" buried in the Mahabodhi temple complex in Bodh Gaya, Bihar. The Mahabodhi Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2002, marks the Buddha's Enlightenment spot. Built by Emperor Asoka in the 3rd century B.C., the current structure dates to the 5th-6th centuries and is a key example of early brick architecture and sculptural reliefs.
  - 12. The Asur community primarily resides in which state?
  - A. Tamil Nadu
  - B. Jharkhand
  - C. Odisha
  - D. Kerala



✓ The Asur community, a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG), resides in the Netarhat plateau region of Gumla, Jharkhand. They will soon receive benefits under the Forest Rights Act. The Asurs, with a population of around 23,000 as per the 2011 census, are traditionally ironsmelters and now primarily cultivators. They speak the Asur language, part of the Munda family.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS 5

- 1. What is the primary objective of the NASA's CHAPEA mission?
- A. To test new Mars rover designs
- B. To simulate year-long stays on the surface of Mars ☑
- C. To develop new space suits
- D. To test solar panel efficiency on Mars



- ✓ NASA's CHAPEA project simulates year-long Mars missions to assess food systems and human health. After a year in the 1,700 sq ft Mars Dune Alpha habitat at Johnson Space Center, a crew emerged. CHAPEA missions involve four crew members living in a 3D-printed structure that mimics a realistic Mars habitat. The data collected will aid future space missions, focusing on physical and behavioral health patterns.
  - 2. Kharchi Puja is celebrated in which state?
  - A. Assam
  - B. Nagaland
  - C. Tripura
  - D. Sikkim



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India recently extended wishes for Kharchi Puja, a key festival in Tripura celebrated in July-August on the eighth day of the new moon. The festival, meaning "cleansing of sins," involves the worship of fourteen deities by the Royal priest, Chantai. Held at the Chaturdasha Devata temple in old Agartala, the seven-day festival includes bathing the deities' heads in the Saidra river and returning them to the temple.
  - 3. Which day is observed as 'World Youth Skills Day' every year?
  - A. July.15 ☑
  - B. July.16
  - C. August.15
  - D. August.16



✓ World Youth Skills Day, observed on July 15th, was established by the UN in 2014. It emphasizes the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship. The 2024 theme, "Youth Skills for Peace and Development," highlights the vital role of youth in promoting peace and driving sustainable development. This day serves as a global platform to raise awareness about youth skill development.

- 4. Vibrant Village Programme comes under which ministry?
- A. Ministry of Home Affairs ☑
- B. Ministry of External Affairs
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ Union Home Minister reviewed the implementation of the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP), approved in 2023 for the development of villages along the northern border in Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and Ladakh. This centrally sponsored scheme, led by the Ministry of Home Affairs, focuses on skill development, livelihood generation, tourism, and financial inclusion. The program aims to enhance border security through increased community participation in border management.
  - 5. Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?
  - A. Rajasthan
  - B. Telangana 🗹
  - C. Assam
  - D. Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ The Manjeera Wildlife Sanctuary in Telangana is being studied to potentially become the state's first Ramsar site. Located in the Medak district, it was originally a crocodile sanctuary and now hosts over 70 bird species, including the vulnerable mugger crocodile. Following the Manjeera River, the man-made reservoir supports irrigation and drinking water for Hyderabad and Secunderabad.
  - 6. Recently, which country has been chosen to host UN Climate Fund Board?
  - A. Malaysia
  - B. Philippines ☑
  - C. Indonesia
  - D. India



✓ The Philippines has been selected to host the board of the "Loss and Damage" fund, a significant step in aiding communities affected by climate change. This decision arose during UN talks focused on financial support for nations impacted by global warming. The World Bank will temporarily oversee the fund for four years. The Philippines aims to enhance global climate policy discussions, given its vulnerability to natural disasters.

7. Which organization recently awarded Captain Abhilash Rawat and his crew of oil tanker 'Marlin Luanda for Exceptional Bravery in Red Sea Mission?

- A. World Meteorological Organization
- B. International Maritime Organisation 

  ☑
- C. World Bank
- D. UNEP



- ✓ Captain Avhilash Rawat and his crew from the oil tanker Marlin Luanda have received the 2024 International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea.
- ✓ They were recognized for their determination during a rescue mission in the Red Sea, where they encountered a serious fire after an anti-ship missile strike, allegedly from Iranian-backed Houthi rebels. The award highlights the skill and bravery of Indian seafarers, as noted by India's Directorate General of Shipping.
  - 8. Recently, Prime Minister of India inaugurated Indian Newspaper Society (INS) Towers in which city?
  - A. Mumbai 🗹
  - B. Bhopal
  - C. Chandigarh
  - D. Patna



- ✓ Prime Minister recently inaugurated the INS Towers in Mumbai, marking a significant development for the Indian Newspaper Society (INS), which originated in 1927 and was established as the Indian & Eastern Newspaper Society in 1939. The INS serves as a central organization for the press in India and Asia, focusing on protecting press freedom and authenticating circulation figures for newspapers and periodicals. Its members include owners and publishers of print media.
  - 9. Recently, India signed an agreement with which country to implement four Community Development Projects?
  - A. Marshall Islands 🗹
- B. Solomon Islands
- C. Papua New Guinea
- D. New Zealand
- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar emphasized the long-standing friendly relations between India and the Marshall Islands during the MoU signing for Four Community Development Projects. He highlighted India's responsibility to support Pacific Islands in sustainable development, addressing climate change, natural disasters, poverty alleviation, and healthcare. Dr Jaishankar affirmed that the Pacific Islands are significant ocean countries and valued India's partnership with them.

10. Which ministry is hosting the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum?

- A. Ministry of External Affairs
- B. Ministry of Home Affairs
- C. Ministry of Culture ☑
- D. Ministry of Defence



- ✓ India is hosting the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting for the first time from July 21-31, 2024, in New Delhi. The Ministry of Culture is organizing the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum, themed "World Heritage in the 21st Century". The forum, held at the Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute of Archaeology, will see 50 young professionals globally presenting to enhance their skills in heritage protection and sustainable development.
  - 11. Recently, which research institute has been launched the 'One-Scientist-One Product' program?
  - A. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) ☑
  - B. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)
  - C. National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG)
  - D. Institute of Economic Growth



- ✓ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched its 'One Scientist-One Product' programme on July 16, enhancing research in agriculture and animal husbandry. During its 96th foundation day celebration in Delhi, ICAR announced 323 new crop varieties, including 289 climate-resilient and 27 bio-fortified types. The programme was inaugurated by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
  - 12. Recently, which Indian city created a world record by planting 11 lakh saplings in a day?
  - A. Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
  - B. Indore, Madhya Pradesh 🗹
  - C. Kozhikode, Kerala
  - D. Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh



✓ The Madhya Pradesh government set a new Guinness World Record by planting over 11 lakh saplings in one day in Indore. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav received the certificate from the Guinness Book of Records team. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also participated in the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 5. Indore, India's cleanest city, will see 51 lakh saplings planted under this drive.

# **IMPORTANT LINKS**

## **TNPSC Current Affairs**

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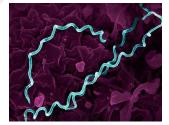
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CURRENT AFFAIRS 5

- 1. National Geophysical Research Institute is located in which city?
- A. Chennai
- B. Hyderabad ☑
- C. Mumbai
- D. Kolkata



- ✓ Scientists from the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) have discovered evidence highlighting the ancient connection between the Indian subcontinent and Antarctica. Established in 1961, NGRI, based in Hyderabad, is part of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The institute conducts research in geodynamics, earthquake hazards, and natural resources to inform sustainable geo-resource use and improve resilience to natural hazards.
  - 2. Syphilis disease is caused by which agent?
  - A. Virus
  - B. Bacteria 2
  - C. Fungi
  - D. Protozoa



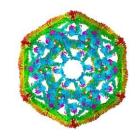
- ✓ Improved testing by the Mumbai AIDS Control Society (MDACS) has identified over 6,000 syphilis cases between 2018-19 and 2022-23. Syphilis, caused by the Treponema pallidum bacterium, is a sexually transmitted infection that can remain symptomless for years but may reactivate. It spreads through sexual contact and can affect unborn babies. Symptoms include painless sores and skin rashes. Treatable with antibiotics, penicillin is the most common medication, especially effective in early stages.
  - 3. What is the primary objective of e-FAST India initiative?
  - A. Increase road infrastructure

  - C. Promote electric vehicles for personal use
  - D. Enhance fuel efficiency in trucks



✓ NITI Aayog has launched the 'NITI GearShift Challenge' under the e-FAST India initiative, aimed at decarbonizing road-based freight transportation in India to meet 2070 net zero commitments. Launched in September 2022, e-FAST promotes cleaner freight solutions through national and international collaborations, supporting pilot programs and technology integration. The initiative fosters discussions among stakeholders, including government bodies and logistics providers, to enhance the adoption of electric technologies in the freight sector, backed by 12 knowledge partners.

- 4. What are 'Chaperones'?
- A. Critical Minerals
- B. They are group of proteins **☑**
- C. These are invasive plants
- D. Newly discovered species of marine animals



- Researchers at the SN Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences are using a Covalent Magnetic Tweezer (CMT) to investigate protein molecules and the role of chaperones in their folding. Chaperones, group of proteins, crucial for preventing misfolding and aggregation, assist in proper protein formation, particularly under stress. Major human chaperones include HSP70 and HSP90. Misfolded proteins can lead to diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and congenital cataracts, highlighting the importance of chaperones in cellular function.
  - 5. Which INS has been adjudged the Best Ship of the Eastern Fleet at the annual 'Fleet Awards Function-2024'?
  - A. INS Delhi 🗹
  - B. INS Karanj
  - C. INS Shakti
  - D. INS Vagir



- ✓ At the annual 'Fleet Awards Function-2024' in Visakhapatnam on July 14, INS Delhi was recognized as the Best Ship of the Eastern Fleet for its operational achievements over the past year. INS Kavaratti received the award for Best Ship in the Corvettes/OPVs/LSTs category. Additionally, INS Shivalik, INS Sumedha, and INS Sumitra were acknowledged as the most spirited ships of the Sunrise Fleet for their performance in various challenging missions.
  - 6. Which organization recently released the 'Navigating New Horizons: A Global Foresight' report?
  - A. United Nations Environment Programme ☑
  - B. United Nations Development Programme
  - C. World Bank
  - D. International Monetary Fund



- ✓ The UNEP's report "Navigating New Horizons" identifies critical global shifts exacerbating the triple planetary crisis of pollution, biodiversity loss, and climate change.
- ✓ It highlights the interconnectedness of today's global polycrisis, which includes wars, extreme weather, and pandemics, driven by globalization. Key issues addressed include changing human-environment relationships, resource scarcity impacting global security, technological innovations like AI, increased risks from autonomous weapons, mass displacement of 1.5% of the population, and rising eco-anxiety.

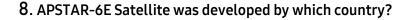
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7. Which institute recently unveiled plans to use technology to enhance India's chess capabilities?

- A. IIT Kanpur
- B. IIT Madras ☑
- C. IIT Mandi
- D. IIT Ahmedabad



✓ The IIT Madras Centre of Excellence in Sports Science and Analytics (CESSA) announced plans to leverage technology to enhance India's chess capabilities. This initiative aims to boost fan engagement, provide anti-cheating solutions, and enhance chess training programs. It includes launching new courses on NPTEL and future sports education programs.



- A. India
- B. China 2
- C. Japan
- D. Russia



- ✓ China's APSTAR-6E satellite has commenced operations after successful technical reviews in orbit and Hong Kong. Developed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, it is China's first all-electric propulsion communication satellite, launched on January 13, 2023. The satellite, designed to last 15 years, provides high-capacity broadband services across Southeast Asia.
  - 9. Recently, the Serum Institute of India and Oxford University have launched a 'high efficacy' malaria vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, in which country?
  - A. Mali
  - B. Ivory Coast ☑
  - C. Ghana
  - D. Nigeria



✓ Ivory Coast is the first country to deploy the R21 malaria vaccine developed by the Serum Institute of India and Oxford University. Authorized by multiple African countries, the vaccine aims to initially immunize 250,000 children, with plans to reach millions more with Gavi's support. Recommended by WHO for children under five, the vaccine targets a disease responsible for over 600,000 deaths annually, predominantly in Africa.

10. What is the primary purpose of the 'NERACE' web portal, recently launched in Shillong?

A. To promote tourism in the Northeast

B. To connect the farming community and buyers in the Northeastern region 

✓

- C. To provide educational resources for students
- D. To support local art and crafts
- ✓ Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia launched the North East Region Agri Commodity E-Connect (NERACE) web portal and app in Shillong to benefit Northeastern farmers and buyers. NERACE supports products like spices, fruits, and vegetables, providing farmers with larger markets and better pricing. The platform supports seven languages and aims to connect producers, buyers, and service providers globally.
  - 11. Recently, the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated "Maitree Udyan" as a symbol of friendship in which country?
  - A. Vietnam
  - B. Australia
  - C. Mauritius
  - D. Singapore



- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar inaugurated the India-Mauritius Maitree Udyan in Port Louis on July 16, 2024. He planted a tree alongside Mauritius Foreign Minister Maneesh Gobin. During his two-day visit, Dr. Jaishankar met with Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth, visited the India-assisted Civil Service College project.
  - 12. What is the name of the weight-loss drug recently approved by India's drug regulator?
  - A. Tirzepatide ☑
  - B. Pyrazinamide
  - C. Niacinamide
  - D. Atovaquone



✓ India's drug regulator has approved tirzepatide, a weight-loss drug. Both tirzepatide and semaglutide, FDA-approved, are polypeptides that boost GLP-1 and, in tirzepatide's case, GIP, regulating weight and glucose levels. They target neurons and brain mechanisms to induce satiety, suitable for those with a BMI over 27 and related health conditions. Side effects include nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain.

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# **IMPORTANT LINKS**

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