

CURRENT AFFAIRS OF JULY 2016

Awards

The violinist from Andhra Pradesh who has become the first female violinist to be awarded the Sangeetha Kalanidhi Award of the Madras Music Academy for the year 2016 – **A Kanyakumari**

The Gujarati writer, poet and critic who has been conferred the 51st Jnanpith Award by the President Shri Pranab Mukherjee – **Raghuveer Chaudhari**

The first woman captain in the Indian Merchant Navy and master of oil products tanker Sampurna Swarajya who has been chosen to be awarded the 2016 International Maritime Organization Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea for her role in the rescue of seven fishermen in the Bay of Bengal – **Captain Radhika Menon**

The South African writer, filmmaker and photographer who has been awarded the prestigious Caine Prize 2016 for his short story Memories We Lost – **Lidudumalingani Mqombothi**

Defence

The joint military training exercise by the armies of India and Thailand conducted from 15 Jul to 29 Jul at Krabi, Thailand was named – **Exercise Maitree**

The exercise conducted by Mathura based 1 Corps to seamlessly effect crossings on river obstacle on the banks of Yamuna was code named – **Megh Prahar**

The Indian Navy's sailboat which returned to its home port after successful completion of voyage to Mauritius by India's first all-women crew – **INS Mhadei**

The operation launched by the Indian Air Force to airlift 600 Indians in 2 C-17 Globemaster aircraft from war-torn South Sudan is named – **Operation Sankat Mochan**

The Marine Commandos (MARCOS) base commissioned by Admiral Sunil Lanba at Visakhapatnam is named – **INS Karna**

India's first Integrated Defence Communication Network launched by the Central Govt to enable the army, air force, navy and the Special Forces Command to share situational awareness for a faster decision-making process has been developed by – **HCL Infosystems**

The biennial international maritime exercise comprised of nations with an interest in the Pacific Rim region being conducted from the Hawaiian Islands and Pearl Harbour in the Pacific Ocean is named – **RIMPAC 2016**

The squadron into which the indigenously built Light Combat Aircraft Tejas has been inducted in the Indian Air Force has been named – **Flying Daggers (45 Squadron)**

Sports

The kabaddi team which has won the Men's Pro Kabaddi League Season 4 (2016) defeating Jaipur Pink Panthers in the finals – **Patna Pirates**

The kabaddi team which has won the Women's Pro Kabaddi League 2016 defeating Fire Birds in the finals – **Storm Queens**

The athlete from Haryana who has become the first Indian athlete to win a gold medal at any world event by winning the gold medal in javelin throw at U-20 World Championships in Bydgoszcz, Poland(He has also become the first Indian athlete to creat a world record) – **Neeraj Chopra**

The former Indian hockey player, (Arjuna award - 1981 and Padma Shri - 1986) who passed away on 20 July 2016 – **Mohammed Shahid**

The squash player who has won the 73rd National Squash Championship men's title defeating Harinderpal Singh Sandhu in the finals – **Saurav Ghosal**

The squash player who has won the 73rd National Squash Championship women's title defeating Joshna Chinappa in the finals – **Dipika Pallikal**

The Indian boxer who has become the WBO Asia Pacific Super Middleweight champion defeating Australian Kerry Hope at Thyagraj Sports complex in New Delhi – **Vijender Singh**

The captain of Pakistan's cricket team who has become has become the oldest captain to score a century surpassing Sri Lankan captain Somachandra de Silva's record of 1984 – **Misbah-ul-Haq**

The Indian gymnast who has been named a 'World Class Gymnast' by the Federation Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) becoming the first Indian gymnast to receive the award – **Dipa Karmakar**

The Indian badminton pair which has won the Canada Open Grand Prix Badminton Men's Doubles title defeating Adrian Liu and Toby Ng of Canada in the finals at Calgary (Canada) – **Manu Attri and Sumeeth Reddy**

The Indian badminton player who has won the Canada Open Grand Prix Badminton Men's Singles title defeating Lee Hyun Il of Korea in the finals at Calgary (Canada) – **B Sai Praneeth**

Persons

The tabla maestro of the Benaras gharana who passed away on 28 July 2016 – **Lachhu Maharaj**

The Indian artist, recipient of Padma Vibhushan and Fellowship of Lalit Kala Akademi who passed away on 23 July 2016 – **Syed Hyder Raja**

The Director General of UIDAI who has now been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of UIDAI – **Ajay Bhushan Pandey**

The Indian model and actor who has become the first Asian to win the Mr World title in a pageant by the Miss World organisation in Southport, UK – **Rohit Khandelwal**

The new Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh who has succeeded Nabam Tuki becoming currently the youngest Chief Minister in the country – **Pema Khandu**

The eminent writer and author of books The Glass Palace, The Hungry Tide, Sea of Poppies, River of Smoke etc. who has been chosen to be the Writer In-Residence from July 10 to 14 at the Rashtrapathi Bhavan, New Delhi – **Amitav Ghosh**

The committee appointed by the Central Govt to tackle the shortage of pulses in India (to suggest ways to control the rising prices of pulses and hike in their MSP) is headed by – **Arvind Subramanian**

The new Prime Minister of United Kingdom who has taken over from David Cameron who resigned following the European Union membership referendum of 2016 – **Theresa May**

The Iranian film director, screenwriter, photographer and film producer who passed away on 04 July 2016 – **Abbas Kiarostami**

The American writer and futurist and well-known author of best seller Future Shock who passed away on 27 June 2016 – **Alvin Toffler**

Places

The stations between which India's First Green Train Corridor free from human waste discharge from trains was inaugurated by the Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu – **Rameswaram and Manamadurai**

The place in Uttar Pradesh at which the Union Cabinet has given its approval for establishment of new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) – **Gorakhpur**

The nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu at which the second reactor with a capacity of 1000 MWe attained criticality – **Kudankulam**

The city in which India's first commercial dispute resolution centre and commercial court was inaugurated by Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh – **Raipur**

Miscellaneous

The High Court at which India's first e-court (paperless court) or formally known as Integrated Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project has been opened – **Hyderabad High Court**

The state which has become the first in the country to set up a Happiness Department to ensure happiness in the lives of common people – **Madhya Pradesh**

The state which has announced a 14.5 per cent tax on pizzas, burgers, sandwiches and tacos sold through branded outlets – **Kerala**

The place in New Delhi where the world's largest Charkha (9 ft wide, 17 ft tall and 30 ft long) was inaugurated Shri Kalraj Mishra, Union Minister for MSME – **Terminal 3 of IGI Airport**

The NASA spacecraft launched on August 5, 2011 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station which has entered the orbit of planet Jupiter – **Juno**

The social media banking platform launched by State Bank of India for Facebook and Twitter users to enable them to access a host of banking services on their Facebook or Twitter at their own convenience is named – **SBI Mingle**

The teacher education portal launched by the Union Govt with a vision to strengthen District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) and bring quality teachers into the Indian school education system is named – **Parishikshak**

Important Days of July

World Hepatitis Day: 28 July 2016

Established by : World Health Organisation

Theme: Elimination

First Observed in: 2008

World Population Day: 11 July 2016

Established by : United Nations Development Programme

Theme: Investing in Teenage Girls

First Observed in: 1989

World Youth Skills Day: 15 July 2016

Established by : UNESCO

Theme: Skills Development to Improve Youth Employment

First Observed in: 2015

Revised Dates under Income Declaration Scheme

- (i) a minimum amount of 25% of the tax, surcharge and penalty to be paid by 30.11.2016;
- (ii) a further amount of 25% of the tax, surcharge and penalty to be paid by 31.3.2017; and

(iii) the balance amount to be paid on or before 30.9.2017.

30.11.2016: A minimum amount of 25% of tax, surcharge and penalty to be paid

31.03.2017: A further amount of 25% of tax, surcharge and penalty to be paid

30.09.2017: Balance amount to be paid

TRI-NETRA

Ministry of Railways, Railway Board has initiated a proposal to install TRI-NETRA systems on locomotives for enhancing the vision of Locomotive Pilots in inclement weather.

TRI-NETRA stands for - Terrain imaging for diesel dRivers INfra-red, Enhanced optIcal & Radar Assisted system.

TRI-NETRA system shall be made up of high-resolution optical video camera, high sensitivity infra-red video camera and additionally a radar-based terrain mapping system. These three components of the system shall act as three eyes (Tri-Netra) of the Locomotive Pilot.

TRI-NETRA is designed to see the terrain ahead of the running locomotive during inclement weather by combining the images captured by the three sub-systems and to create a composite video image which shall be displayed in front of the Loco Pilot on a computer monitor.

Recognition of Indigenous breeds by NBAGR

The ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal recently recognised nine new breeds of livestock and poultry. The following is the list

Animal	Breed	Home tract
Cattle	Badri	Uttarakhand
Goat	Teressa	Andaman and Nicobar Is.
Goat	Kodi Adu	Tamil Nadu
Sheep	Chevaadu	Tamil Nadu
Sheep	Kendrapada	Odisha
Pig	Tenyi Vo	Nagaland
Pig	Nicobari	A & N Is.
Pig	Doom	Assam
Chicken	Kaunayen	Manipur

Mahasweta Devi

Born: 14 Jan 1926 - Died : 28 Jul 2016.

Bengali fiction writer and social activist.

Notable works: Hajar Churashir Maa, Rudali, and Aranyer Adhikar

Awards – Sahitya Akademi Award (Bengali) - 1979; Padma Shri for Social Work in 1986; Jnanpith Award – the highest literary award in 1996; Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1997 for Journalism, Literature, and the Creative Communication Arts; Padma Vibhushan in 2006; SAARC Literary Award in 2007; Banga Bibhushan – the highest civilian award from the Government of West Bengal in 2011

Magsaysay Awards 2016 - Winners

Bezwada Wilson - One of the founders and National Convenor of the Safai Karmachari Andolan (SKA), an Indian human rights organization that has been campaigning for the eradication of manual scavenging.

Conchita Carpio Morales - Ombudsman of Philippines

Domfet Dhuafa - Philanthropic organisation of Indonesia

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers - A system of despatching Japanese volunteers to various countries for work in different fields.

Thodur Madabusi Krishna - Carnatic music vocalist.

Vientiane Rescue - A team of volunteers dedicating to save road accident victims in Lao, Vietnam.

National Tourism Awards 2014-15

Best State/UT for comprehensive development of tourism

1. Madhya Pradesh 2. Gujarat 3. Karnataka

Best Maintained and Disabled Friendly Monument: Monuments of Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh

Best Heritage City: Warangal

Best Tourist Friendly Railway Station: Sawai Madhopur Rly Station, Rajasthan

Best Airport: Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai

Indian Companies in Fortune Global 500 list

Rank	Company	Rank	Company
161	Indian Oil Corp	358	Bharat Petroleum
215	Reliance Industries	367	Hindustan Petroleum
226	Tata Motors	423	Rajesh Exports
232	State Bank of India		

UNESCO World Heritage Sites - New Inscriptions

The UNESCO recently included 21 sites in its World Heritage Site list of which 12 are cultural sites, 6 are natural sites and 3 are mixed sites. Of the 21 sites 3 sites are in India.

Nalanda Mahavihara, Bihar

It comprises the archaeological remains of a monastic and scholastic institution dating from the 3rd century BCE to the 13th century CE. It includes stupas, shrines, viharas (residential and educational buildings) and important art works in stucco, stone and metal.

Architectural Work of Le Corbusier

The architectural works of well-known architect Le Corbusier in Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan and Switzerland

The Capitol Complex in Chandigarh designed by Le Corbusier has been included in World Heritage Site list.

Khangchendzonga National Park

Located in Sikkim the park includes a unique diversity of plains, valleys, lakes, glaciers and spectacular, snow-capped mountains covered with ancient forests, including the world's third highest peak, Mount Khangchendzonga.

SWAYAM Prabha-Educational Contents through DTH

The Union Government has approved a project to launch the 'SWAYAM Prabha'-a project for operationalising 32 Direct to Home (DTH) Television Channels for providing high quality educational content to all teachers, students and citizens across the country interested in lifelong learning. There will be new content of four hours every day, which would be telecast six times a day allowing the student to choose the time of his/her convenience.

The main features of SWAYAM Prabha would be as under:-

Curriculum based course contents covering diverse disciplines such as arts, science, commerce, performing arts, social sciences and humanities subjects, engineering, technology, law, medicine, agriculture etc.

Covers all level of education: School education, undergraduate, postgraduate, engineering, out of school children, vocational courses and teacher training.

The 32 channels are proposed to be launched before September 2016. Initially the programmes will be in English but with the passage of time the programmes will be launched in regional languages also.

Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF)

Launched by: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India

Fortnight: July 11 to July 23

Highlights of the programme

ASHA workers to visit all households with children below five years of age for pre-positioning the ORS and explaining its benefits.

All health facilities to have ORS corners which shall continuously demonstrate the way to prepare the ORS mixture. These corners will also administer ORS and Zinc to children who are in need of these during diarrhoea.

The combination of ORS and Zinc has been found to be the most cost-effective intervention to prevent deaths due to diarrhea and has been recognised as one of the best practices globally.

There are about 10 crore children below five years of age across the country. The target is to cover all the under-5 children.

23 national monitors to assess the efficacy of the activities.

Logistic Performance Index 2016

Released by: **World Bank**

No of countries: 160

The Logistics Performance Index is an interactive benchmarking tool created to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics and what they can do to improve their performance.

Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score
1.	Germany	4.23	27.	China	3.66
2.	Luxembourg	4.22	35.	India	3.42
3.	Sweden	4.20	68.	Pakistan	2.92
4.	Netherlands	4.19	87.	Bangladesh	2.66
5.	Singapore	4.14			

UEFA EURO 2016

Venue : France

Mascot : Super Victor (a child superhero in French kit)

Opening song : "This One's for You" by David Guetta

Closing song : "Free Your Mind" by Maya Lavelle

Winners : Portugal

Runners up : France

Winner of the Player of the Tournament and the Golden Boot Award: Antoine Griezmann (France)

Silver Boot Award : Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)

Wimbledon 2016

Title	Winner	Runner-up
Gentlemen's Singles	Andy Murray (U.K.)	Milas Raonic (Canada)
Ladies' Singles	Serena Williams* (U.S.A.)	Angelique Kerber (Germany)
Gentlemen's Doubles	Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut (France)	Julien Benneteau and Edouard Roger-Vasseli (France)
Ladies' Doubles	Serena Williams and Venus Williams (U.S.A.)	Tímea Babos (Hungary) and Yaroslava Shvedova (Kazakhstan)
Mixed Doubles	Henri Kontinen (Finland) and Heather Watson (U.K.)	Robert Farah (Columbia) and Anna-Lena Gronefeld (Germany)

*Serena Williams won her 22nd Grand Slam title equalling Steffi Graf's record

Networked Readiness Index 2016

Released by: **World Economic Forum** as a part of Global Information Technology Report 2016

No of countries: **139**

The Networked Readiness Index represents a key tool in assessing countries' preparedness to reap the benefits of emerging technologies and capitalize on the opportunities presented by the digital transformation and beyond.

Rank	Country	Rank	Country
1.	Singapore	59.	China
2.	Finland	63.	Sri Lanka
3.	Sweden	87.	Bhutan
4.	Norway	91.	India
5.	United States	110.	Pakistan
		112.	Bangladesh
		59.	China

Books in News

Who moved my interest rate by Duvvuri Subba Rao (former RBI Governor)

The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable by Amitav Ghosh

Current Affairs Questions

1. Which country observes its Independence Day on 04 July?

- a. Canada b. U.S.A. c. France d. Sri Lanka

2. Exercise Maitree is a joint military exercise conducted by the armies of India and –
- a. Thailand b. Indonesia c. Bangladesh d. Mauritius
3. Which of the following gives Bidhan Chandra Roy awards?
- a. Medical Council of India b. West Bengal
- c. Union Ministry of Health d. Indian Council of Medical Research
4. Which city has been awarded the Best Heritage City award in the National Tourism Awards 2014-15 given recently?
- a. Jaipur b. Aurangabad c. Lucknow d. Warangal
5. Which country won the UEFA EURO 2016 football tournament held in France recently?
- a. France b. Brazil c. Portugal d. Argentina
6. Rodrigo Duterte recently took over as the President of which of the following countries?
- a. Philippines b. Indonesia c. Malaysia d. Vietnam
7. Who is the author of the book “Who moved my interest rate?”
- a. Raghuram Rajan b. D. Subba Rao c. Natwar Singh d. P Chidambaram
8. Recently, the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in The Hague, Netherlands, ruled that China's claims of historical rights over South China Sea (SCS) has no legal basis. Which country had initiated the case against China?
- a. Japan b. Indonesia c. Philippines d. Vietnam
9. Which state recently imposed 14.5% tax on pizzas, burgers, sandwiches etc. being sold from branded outlets?
- a. Goa b. Tamil Nadu c. Kerala d. Punjab
10. Rajendra Agricultural University has been renamed Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University. In which state is the university located?
- a. Delhi b. Maharashtra c. Jharkhand d. Bihar
11. Syed Hyder Raja who passed away recently was a well known –
- a. Actor b. Novelist c. Social activist d. Painter
12. Which team recently won the Men’s Pro Kabaddi League tournament season 4?
- a. Jaipur Pink Panthers b. Patna Pirates c. Puneri Paltan d. Dabang Delhi

13. Which city of France witnessed a terror strike in which at least 84 people were killed by an attacker driving a lorry through a crowd?

- a. Paris b. Lyon c. Nice d. Nantes

14. Capitol Complex designed by Le Corbusier was recently designated the status of World Heritage Site recently. In which city is the complex located?

- a. Chandigarh b. Bengaluru c. Shimla d. Darjeeling

15. Which company is the developer of the recently popular game Pokemon Go?

- a. Game Freak b. Niantic c. Maxis d. Rovio

16. The famous Hindi film Rudali was based on a short story by a well-known author who passed away recently. Name the author.

- a. Ashapura Devi b. Amrita Pritam c. Mahasweta Devi d. Pratibha Ray

17. Petrapole Integrated Check Post is located on India's border with which country?

- a. Bangladesh b. Bhutan c. Myanmar d. Nepal

18. Which Indian company figures at the top (among Indian companies) in the Fortune Global 500 list released recently?

- a. Reliance Industries b. Tata Motors c. State Bank of India d. Indian Oil Corporation

19. Who of following Indians associated with Safai Karamchari Andolan has been awarded the Magsaysay Award 2016?

- a. T.M. Krishna b. Bezwada Wilson c. Swami Agnivesh d. Paul Diwakar

20. Who of the following is the first Indian cricket captain to score a double century in a test match outside India?

- a. Virat Kohli b. Sachin Tendulkar c. MS Dhoni d. Sunil Gavaskar

21. Kendrapada, which was recognised as an indigenous breed by ICAR – National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal is a breed of

- a. Goat b. Cattle c. Sheep d. Pig

22. Which of the following companies recently acquired the fashion portal Jabong?

- a. Craftsvilla b. Snapdeal c. Amazon d. Flipkart

23. Serena Williams win at the Wimbledon was her 22nd Grand Slam title. Whose record has she equaled by winning this title?

a. Steffi Graf b. Martina Navratilova c. Monica Seles d. Chris Evert Llyod

24. Which of the following has chosen murrel (channa striatus) as its state fish?

a. West Bengal b. Odisha c. Telangana d. Kerala

25. Neeraj Chopra became the first Indian to win a gold medal at any world event at the U-20 World Championships in Poland. In which event did he win the medal?

a. 100 m dash b. Javelin throw c. Discus throw d. Long jump

Answers

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (c) 6. (a) 7. (b) 8. (c) 9. (c) 10. (d) 11. (d) 12. (b) 13. (c)
14. (a) 15. (b) 16. (c) 17. (a) 18. (d) 19. (b) 20. (a) 21. (c) 22. (d) 23. (a) 24. (c) 25. (b)

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