EDUTOUCH COACHING INSTITUTE

(A Unit of Edutouch Welfare Foundation, Registered Under Govt. of India) সরকারি চাকরির প্রস্তুতির এক নির্ভর্যোগ্য প্রতিষ্ঠান

Weekly Current Affairs - 15th - 21st July' 2025

National affairs

- 1. Jagdeep Dhankhar has resigned from the post of Vice President citing health reasons. He has sent his resignation letter to President Droupadi Murmu.
- 2. Kerala's Arjunkal Police Station becomes India's first police station to get IS/ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System Certification.
- 3. India's first AI Campus opens in Andhra Pradesh.
- 4. Traditional Behdienkhlam dance festival celebrated in Meghalaya.
- 5. Yakten village in Sikkim gets recognition as India's first Digital Nomad Village. (Yakten village in Sikkim's Pakyong district has been officially declared as India's first digital nomad village under the Nomad Sikkim initiative.
- 6. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated India's first Aqua Tech Park at Bagibari in Sonapur. The park will help fish farmers learn about new technologies like aquaponics, biofloc and ornamental fish breeding. The initiative aims to increase fish production in the state and increase farmers' income.
- 7. Twelve historic Maratha forts have recently been declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Spread across the states of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, the selected sites include Salher, Shivneri, Lohagarh, Khanderi, Raigad, Rajgarh, Pratapgarh, Subarnadurg, Panhala, Vijaydurg and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, and Jinji Fort in Tamil Nadu. Spanning the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries, this remarkable network of twelve forts reflects the strategic military vision and architectural prowess of the Maratha Empire. (India has 44 sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List.)
- 8. India will host the first-ever International Manuscript Heritage Conference in the world.
- 9. The conference will be held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 11 to 13 September 2025. This first-ever conference on manuscript heritage will be held in a hybrid mode over three days, commemorating Swami Vivekananda's historic speech at the World Parliament of Religions on September 11, 1893.
- 10. Uttarakhand to plant over 5 lakh saplings during Harela Utsav. Harela Utsav is celebrated primarily in the Indian state of Uttarakhand. It is a traditional festival rooted in the agricultural heritage of the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand. The festival marks the beginning of the monsoon season and the cycle of sowing seeds during the Hindu month of Shravan.
- 11. Indian Broadcasting Corporation Prasar Bharati has signed an MoU with the Handball Association of India. The two organizations will work to promote the game of handball in India.
- 12. President Droupadi Murmu recently nominated four members to the Rajya Sabha. They are Ujjwal Nikam, former Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla, social activist and educationist C Sadanandan Master and eminent historian Dr Meenakshi Jain. (Ujjwal Nikam was the prosecutor in the trial of 26/11 terrorist Ajmal Kasab.)
- 13. India has launched the world's first Traditional Knowledge Digital Library. The platform includes systems like Ayurveda, Siddha and Sowa-Rigpa, and aims to preserve ancient health practices and support future research. India has created an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered library for traditional medicine systems. The World Health Organization has supported India's move to digitize ancient health knowledge.
- 14. Evidence of a 4,000-year-old civilization has been found in Maski town in Karnataka's Raichur district.
- 15. 75th Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendra (PMDK) was inaugurated in Badaun, Uttar Pradesh.
- 16. Gujarat has taken the top spot in India in processed potato production.
- 17. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated India's second longest Cable-Stayed Sigandur Bridge over the Saravati river in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- 18. Maharashtra has given the status of animal husbandry and poultry farming as agricultural sectors.
- 19. The Tamil Nadu government has appointed four IAS officers as official spokespersons.

International affairs

- 1. The new Prime Minister of Ukraine is 39-year-old Yulia Svirydenko. She is an economist and experienced technocrat who has been serving as the First Deputy Prime Minister since 2021.
- 2. Recently, India signed Long-Term Fertilizer Supply Agreements with Saudi Arabia.
- 3. Recently, Cambodia's 'Khmer Rouge Torture Sites' were granted UNESCO Heritage status.
- 4. A military exercise called Talisman Sabre 2025 is being organized in Australia. 18 countries including India have participated in this military exercise.
- 5. America has developed the Patriot Air Defense Missile System.
- 6. China has started construction of the world's largest dam on the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Tsangpo in Chinese) river near India.
- 7. Israel successfully launched an Advanced Communication Satellite named 'Dror-1'.
- 8. Union Minister Giriraj Singh inaugurated the India Trend Fair 2025 in Tokyo, Japan.

Appointment

- 1. Aditya Birla Group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla has been appointed as a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF).
- 2. Vodafone Idea Chief Operating Officer Abhijit Kishor has been re-elected as COAI Chairperson. COAI stands for Cellular Operators Association of India. (It is a private trade association and advocacy group focused on the Indian telecommunications industry. COAI was established in 1995).
- 3. Dr. Abhijat Seth has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the National Medical Commission (NMC).
- 4. Senior IPS officer Sonali Mishra has been appointed as the first woman Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).
- 5. Asim Kumar Ghosh has been appointed as the new Governor of Haryana.
- 6. Former Union Minister Pushpapati Ashok Gajapati Raju has been appointed as the new Governor of Goa.
- 7. Former Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta has been appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh.
- 8. R. Doraiswamy has taken charge as the MD and CEO of LIC.
- 9. Hemant Rupani has been appointed as the new CEO of Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Pvt. Ltd.
- 10. Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat has been appointed as the interim MD and CEO of Karnataka Bank.
- 11. Sanjay Kaul, a 2001 batch Kerala cadre IAS officer, has been appointed as the new MD and CEO of GIFT City in Gujarat. (GIFT City = Gujarat International Finance Tec-City).
- 12. Manish Chopra, former executive of Shein India, has been appointed as the new CEO of Sabyasachi Couture luxury fashion house.
- **13.** Ajay Kumar Srivastava has taken charge as the Director (Engineering and R&D) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Award

- 1. The 2025 United Nations Population Award was won by Varsha Deshpande, founder of Dalit Mahila Vikas Mandal. She received this award for her efforts in promoting gender equality and reproductive rights.
- 2. Former Chief Justice Kalyan Shrestha was awarded the 'Hem Bahadur Malla Award 2080'.
- 3. Sudanese-Scottish writer Leila Aboulela won the 2025 PEN Pinter Prize.
- 4. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan was honored with the Kalinga Ratna Award 2024.
- 5. Vijaya Nayak received the literary award 'Sarla Samman'.
- Indian women's hockey forward Deepika Shehrabat won the Polygrass Magic Skill Award 2024-25 for her spectacular solo goal against the currently world number one team Netherlands in the FIH Hockey Pro League.
- 7. Ahmedabad was named the cleanest city in the One-Million Population category in the Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 Awards.

Day/Theme

- 1. World Youth Skills Day is observed on 15 July; the 2025 theme is "Youth empowerment through AI and digital skills".
- 2. World International Day of Justice is observed on 17 July.
- 3. International Nelson Mandela Day is observed on 18 July; the 2025 theme is "It's still in our hands to combat poverty and inequity".
- 4. International Chess Day is observed on 20 July. This day is observed to commemorate the founding of FIDE in Paris, France on 20 July 1924 and to recognize its role in governing chess worldwide. The main objective of this day is to promote chess as an inclusive and educational activity. [FIDE (Fédération Internationale des Échecs) is headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland.]

Sports

- 1. India to host ISSF World Cup 2027 and ISSF Junior World Championships 2028.
- 2. Chhattisgarh sprinter Animesh Kujur sets new national record by clocking 10.18 seconds in 100m.
- 3. 23-year-old chess player Harikrishnan from Chennai becomes India's 87th Grandmaster.
- 4. Italy and Netherlands qualify for ICC T20 World Cup 2026. Italy has qualified for the tournament for the first time. The tournament will be jointly hosted by India and Sri Lanka in 2026.
- 5. MI New York beat Washington Freedom to win its second MLC title.
- 6. South Africa's Aiden Markram won the ICC Men's Player of the Month Award for June 2025. West Indies' Hayley Hews won the ICC Women's Player of the Month Award.
- 7. Jharkhand won the 15th Hockey India Sub Junior Women National Championship 2025 by defeating Odisha.
- 8. Current President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Roger Binny turns 70 on July 19, and there is uncertainty about his continued tenure due to the age limit specified in the BCCI constitution.
- 9. West Indies all-rounder Andre Russell recently announced his retirement from international cricket.

Project/ Services

- 1. The Assam government has launched the Gajamitra project to stop the increasing human-elephant conflict.
- 2. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), an agency under the Union Ministry of Power, has launched the ADEETIE (Assistance in Deploying Energy Efficient Technologies in Industries & Establishments) project to increase industrial competitiveness, employment and climate action.
- 3. Gujarat has become the first state in India to launch the Tribal Genome Sequencing Project to improve healthcare for tribal communities in the state.

Trade & Finance

- 1. Nvidia becomes world's first \$4 trillion company.
- 2. India's UPI payments, handling 640 million transactions daily, surpasses Visa to become the number one payment processor. UPI powers 85% of digital payments in India and 60% of digital payments globally, with UPI currently serving seven countries.

Miscellaneous

- India ranks eighth in the Global Tourism Economies 2024-25 list, with the US at the top. The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) released this report.
- 2. According to the data released for the first half of 2025, Byrnihat in Meghalaya is the most polluted city in India, followed by Delhi at the second place.
- 3. A new butterfly species named Zographetus Mathewi has been discovered in the Western Ghats of Kerala.
- 4. The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has discovered 8 new species of microscopic parasitic wasps in West Bengal.
- 5. According to the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) Global Liveability Index 2026, Copenhagen, Denmark has topped the list of the world's most liveable cities in 2025. Damascus, Syria, is at the bottom of the list.
- 6. India is ranked sixth in the medal tally at the 57th International Chemistry Olympiad 2025, winning a total of 4 medals, including 2 gold and 2 silver. The competition was held in Dubai from 5 to 14 July.
- 7. The Indian capital Delhi has been ranked as the most affordable student city in the world in the QS Best Student Cities Rankings 2026.
- 8. Mumbai is ranked 98th in the QS Best Student Cities Ranking 2026; South Korea's capital Seoul is at the top.
- 9. Adit Policha and Kaibalya Vohra, founders of Zepto, an online grocery delivery company, have topped the Hurun India U30 2025 list.

Obituary

- 1. Veteran Telugu actor Kota Srinivasa Rao passed away recently at the age of 83.
- 2. Former Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari passed away recently at the age of 82.
- 3. Former Kerala Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan passed away recently at the age of 101. (He was the Chief Minister from 2006 to 2011).
- 4. The world's oldest marathon runner, Fauja Singh, passed away recently at the age of 114. He was also known as Turban Tornado, Running Baba, Sikh Superman.

