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Friday, 17 July 2026

1. Indian scientists recently developed a portable, self-powered and wearable sensor primarily for detecting which gas?

- (A) Carbon monoxide (B) Methane
(C) Hydrogen sulphide (D) Ammonia

2. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which state recorded the highest number of cyber fraud complaints during January–June 2026?

- (A) Maharashtra (B) Karnataka
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Gujarat

3. The 49th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC49) was held in which city?

- (A) Rome (B) Geneva
(C) Paris (D) Vienna

4. Who was awarded the 60th Jnanpith Award for the year 2025?

- (A) R. Vairamuthu (B) Jayakanthan
(C) P Murugan (D) Sivasankari

5. The 31st Divya Kala Mela, inaugurated by Union Minister Virendra Kumar on 14 July 2026, was organised at which city?

- (A) Guwahati (B) Patna
(C) Ahmedabad (D) Kolkata

6. What is the theme of World Youth Skills Day 2026?

- (A) Skills for a Digital Planet
(B) Skills for a Shared Future
(C) Youth Skills for Green Growth
(D) Future Jobs and Future Skills

7. India will host the 5th BIMSTEC National Security Advisers' Meeting in July 2026 at which place?

- (A) New Delhi (B) Kolkata
(C) Mumbai (D) Bengaluru

8. The Election Commission of India has added a new declaration in which form for new voter registration?

- (A) Form 1 (B) Form 6
(C) Form 8 (D) Form 10

9. NABARD launched which entrepreneurship development programme on its 45th Foundation Day?

- (A) Gramodyam (B) Rural Shakti
(C) Gram Vikas (D) Yuva Udyam

10. Recently deceased Tamil writer Poomani was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2014 for which of his novels?

- (A) Vekkai (B) Asuran
(C) Karuvelam (D) Agnyaadi

1-{D} - 2-{C} - 3-{B} - 4-{A} - 5-{D} - 6-{B} - 7-{A} - 8-{B} - 9-{A} - 10-{D}

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Friday, 17 July 2026

Nawabs of Bengal

Murshid Quli Khan (1713–1727)

- The first truly independent Nawab of Bengal.
- Shifted the capital from Dhaka to Murshidabad.
- Introduced the Ijara system (revenue farming system).

Shujauddin (1727–1739)

- Son-in-law of Murshid Quli Khan.
- Bengal remained prosperous and stable during his rule.

Sarfaraz Khan (1739–1740)

- Son of Shujauddin.
- Faced succession disputes; defeated by Alivardi Khan in 1740.

Alivardi Khan (1740–1756)

- A strong and capable ruler.
- Successfully resisted continuous Maratha invasions.
- Implemented important administrative reforms.

Siraj-ud-Daula (1756–1757)

- Grandson of Alivardi Khan.
- Captured Calcutta → associated with the Black Hole Tragedy.
- Battle of Plassey (1757) → decisive victory for the British.

Mir Jafar (1757–1760)

- Supported the British in the Battle of Plassey.
- Installed as a puppet Nawab by the British.

Mir Qasim (1760–1763)

- Son-in-law of Mir Jafar.
- Came into conflict with the British → abolished their trade privileges.
- His actions became a major cause of the Battle of Buxar (1764).

Mir Jafar – Second Term (1763–1765)

- Reinstalled by the British.
- British strengthened political control over Bengal during his rule.

Nizam-ud-Daula (1765–1766)

- Son of Mir Jafar.
- In 1765, the British obtained Diwani rights (Revenue rights) through the Treaty of Allahabad.

Saif-ud-Daula (1766–1770)

- A puppet ruler under British influence, with no real power.
- The Great Bengal Famine (1770) occurred during his period.

Mubarak-ud-Daula (1770–1775)

- The last nominal Nawab of Bengal.
- Administration was completely under British control.



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Friday, 17 July 2026

1. India Launches UNSC Campaign 2028-29 With SHANTI Vision. In context to the same tell us, How many affirmative (YES) votes are required out of 15 to pass a basic resolution in the UNSC?

- (A) 5 votes (B) 7 votes
(C) 9 votes (D) 11 votes

2. CeNS Bengaluru Develops Ultra-Sensitive Wearable Ammonia Sensor. In context to the same tell us, What is the name of the industrial process used to produce Ammonia on a large scale?

- (A) Haber Process (B) Ostwald Process
(C) Contact Process (D) Bessemer Process

3. Dhruva Space Secures ₹60 Crore From Antariksh Venture Fund. In context to the same tell us, What is the name of India's first privately developed rocket, which was successfully launched in 2022?

- (A) Agnibaan (B) Kalam-100
(C) Vikram-S (D) Prarambh

4. Two New Solitary Bee Species Discovered In Arunachal Pradesh. In context to the same tell us, Which bee species is famously known as the "Western Honey Bee" and is used worldwide for commercial beekeeping?

- (A) Apis dorsata (B) Apis cerana
(C) Apis florea (D) Apis mellifera

5. Delhi Unveils Mayur Mascot for 2026 Commonwealth Table Tennis. In context to the same tell us, what was the original name of the Commonwealth Games when they first started?

- (A) British Empire Games
(B) British Friendly Games
(C) World Unity Games
(D) International Trophy Games

6. Turning Pests into Progress: Periyar Tiger Reserve Uses Invasive Species Fight to Boost Local Livelihoods.

With reference to the terrain and rivers of Periyar Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

- (1) Kottamala is the highest peak of this reserve.
(2) The area is drained by two major rivers, namely Periyar and Pamba.
(3) The Mullaperiyar Dam is located outside the boundaries of the PTR.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) (D) None of the above

7. Genetic Jump Caught on Camera: Scientists Watch RNA Intron Leap from Predator to Prey.

With reference to the structure of genes and RNA transcripts, consider the following statements:

- (1) Introns are the coding sections of an RNA transcript that are directly translated into a protein.
(2) Exons are the sections of DNA or RNA that contain the codes for making proteins.
(3) Introns are also referred to as intervening sequences.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) (D) None of the above

8. Global Standards, Indian Leadership: India Achieves Major Milestones at 49th Codex Alimentarius Commission in Geneva.

With reference to the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), consider the following statements:

- (1) It was established jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in May 1963.
(2) The core objective of the commission is protecting consumer health and ensuring fair practices in the food trade.

(3) India was one of the founding members of the commission, joining it in the launch year of 1963.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) (D) None of the above

1-{C} - 2-{A} - 3-{C} - 4-{D} - 5-{A} - 6-{B} - 7-{C} 8-{B}

TOPIC OF THE DAY

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Friday, 17 July 2026

President of India has appointed Justice Sudhir Singh

Why in News?

The **President of India** has appointed **Justice Sudhir Singh** as the **Acting Chief Justice of the Patna High Court**, and the notification was issued by the **Union Ministry of Law and Justice**.



Expository: -

Key Points

- Justice Sudhir Singh has been appointed as the **Acting Chief Justice of the Patna High Court** by the President of India.
- The appointment has been made under **Article 223 of the Constitution**, which provides for the appointment of an **Acting Chief Justice** when the office of the Chief Justice is vacant or the Chief Justice is unable to perform official duties.
- He succeeds **Chief Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai**, who retired on **11 July 2026** after serving as the Chief Justice for about one month.
- Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai** was the **second woman Chief Justice** in the history of the Patna High Court and assumed office as its **48th Chief Justice on 2 June 2026**.
- Justice Sudhir Singh was appointed as a **Judge of the Patna High Court on 15 April 2015** and became a **Permanent Judge on 15 April 2016**.
- His father, **Justice N. P. Singh**, served as a **Judge of the Supreme Court of India** and was also the **Chairman of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal**.
- Justice Sudhir Singh completed his schooling at **Vikash Vidyalaya, Ranchi**, studied law at **Patna University**, and enrolled as an **Advocate in 1991**.

Patna High Court

- The **Patna High Court** was established on **3 February 1916**.
- The High Court started functioning in **1916** with **one Chief Justice and six puisne judges**.
- The **first Chief Justice** of the Patna High Court was **Sir Edward Maynard Des Champs Chamier**.
- The High Court building was inaugurated by **Viceroy Sir Charles Hardinge**.
- In **2000**, the **Ranchi Circuit Bench** was separated to form the **Jharkhand High Court** under the **Bihar Reorganisation Act, 2000**.

Important Constitutional Articles Related to High Courts

- Article 214:** Provides that there shall be a **High Court for each State**.
- Article 215:** Declares every High Court as a **Court of Record** with the power to punish for contempt.
- Article 216:** Provides for the **constitution of a High Court**, consisting of a Chief Justice and other judges.
- Article 217:** Deals with the **appointment, qualifications, tenure, and conditions of service of High Court judges**.

MAP OF THE DAY - BHARAT

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Friday, 17 July 2026



BILIGIRI RANGASWAMY TEMPLE (BRT) TIGER RESERVE (KARNATAKA)



LOCATION

- The BRT Tiger Reserve is located in the Chamrajnagar district of Karnataka.
- It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- Lies between 11°40' N to 12°30' N latitude and 76°40' E to 77°30' E longitude.
- Positioned in the southern part of Karnataka.



★ IMPORTANCE

- It was the first Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, notified in the year 2011.
- Important for conservation of wildlife and habitat protection.
- Forms the core area of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- Significant for biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism.



GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

- Total Area:** 574.82 sq. km
- Altitude:** 600 to 1,775 meters above mean sea level
- Topography:** Hilly, undulating terrain, plateaus and valleys
- Major Rivers:** Kaveri, Kapini (a tributary of Kaveri)
- Forest Type:** Moist deciduous forests, dry deciduous forests, shola forests, scrub forests and grasslands
- Climate:** Tropical with cool winters and moderate rainfall



FLORA & FAUNA

MAJOR MAMMALS:

Tiger, Elephant, Leopard, Gaur (Indian Bison), Sambar, Chital, Wild Dog (Dhole), Sloth Bear, Barking Deer, Nilgiri Tahr, Indian Pangolin, etc.

BIRDS:

Malabar Trogon, Great Hornbill, Serpent Eagle, Nilgiri Flycatcher, Indian Pitta, etc.

REPTILES:

King Cobra, Monitor Lizard, Python, Rat Snake, etc.

OTHER FAUNA:

Butterflies, dragonflies and rich insect diversity.



LOCATION MAP



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Named after the famous Biligiri Ranganatha Swamy Temple situated in the reserve.
- Home to over 600 species of higher plants.
- Elephant Corridor:** Important for migration of elephants between BRT and Nilgiri forests.
- Rich in medicinal plants and endemic species.
- Supports local tribal communities and promotes eco-development.



IMPORTANT FACTS

- Year of Notification:** 2011
- Declared as Tiger Reserve under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- Part of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- Falls under Project Elephant.
- Notified as:**
 - Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple (Karnataka) Tiger Reserve
 - Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (Tamil Nadu)
 - Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala)
- Together form the Nilgiri Landscape.



EXAM RELATED POINTS

- First Tiger Reserve in Karnataka:** BRT Tiger Reserve
- Year of Notification:** 2011
- District:** Chamrajnagar
- Core Area of:** Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- Major Rivers:** Kaveri, Kapini
- Important Fauna:** Tiger, Elephant, Gaur, Leopard, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear
- Major River (Tributary):** Kapini (of Kaveri)
- Total Area:** 574.82 sq. km



DID YOU KNOW?

The BRT Tiger Reserve is one of the most biologically diverse regions in the Western Ghats and plays a vital role in maintaining the ecological balance of South India.



MAP OF THE DAY - WORLD

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Friday, 17 July 2026

CHABAHAR PORT (IRAN)

1. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

- Located in the Sistan-Baluchestan Province of Iran.
- Situated on the coast of the Gulf of Oman.
- Provides direct access to the Arabian Sea.
- Approximately 170 km west of Gwadar Port (Pakistan).
- Coordinates: 25.291° N, 60.637° E (approx.)



2. IMPORTANCE FOR INDIA

- Provides access to Afghanistan by bypassing Pakistan.
- Acts as a gateway to Central Asia and Russia.
- A key hub in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).
- Enhances energy security and diversifies trade routes.
- Strengthens India's strategic presence in West Asia.
- Supports India's connectivity and regional influence.

3. FACTS FOR EXAMINATION

- India has developed the Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Chabahar Port.
- Chabahar is Iran's only oceanic port.
- It provides strategic balance to Gwadar Port (China-Pakistan project).
- It is a symbol of India-Iran cooperation.
- Frequently asked topic in UPSC, State PCS and other competitive examinations.

4. FACTS TO REMEMBER

- Country : Iran
- Water Body : Gulf of Oman
- Nearest Port : Gwadar Port (Pakistan)
- Key Project / Corridor : International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)
- Countries Involved : India – Iran – Afghanistan (Russia & Central Asia connected)
- Developed By : India (Shahid Beheshti Terminal)
- Operator (India's Part) : India Ports Global Limited (IPGL)
- Agreement Signed : May 2016 (India – Iran Chabahar Agreement)
- Distance from Gwadar : Approximately 170 km (west)

MAP LEGEND



Chabahar Port (Iran)



Gwadar Port (Pakistan)

--- INSTC Route
(International North-South
Transport Corridor)

--- Sea Route to India



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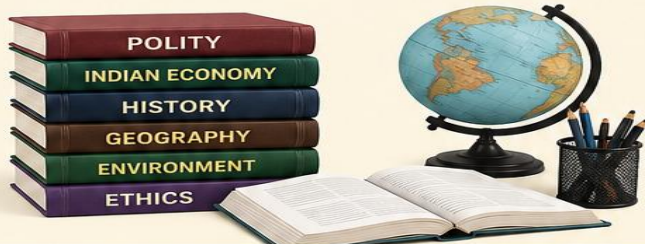
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