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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

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Wednesday, 29 July 2026

1. Who won the gold medal in the women's 25m pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2026 held in Hangzhou, China?

- (A) Manu Bhaker (B) Rahi Sarnobat
(C) Esha Singh (D) Abhidnya Patil

2. Which camel breed, also known as White Camel, was recently classified as endangered due to a sharp population decline?

- (A) Kachchhi Camel (B) Jaisalmeri Camel
(C) Malvi Camel (D) Bikaneri Camel

3. Which state launched the Cyber Financial Fraud e-Zero FIR service on 27 July 2026?

- (A) Maharashtra (B) Gujarat
(C) Karnataka (D) Rajasthan

4. Which of the following is a gaseous fertiliser containing about 82% nitrogen and recently approved by the Government of India for agricultural use for three years?

- (A) Ammonium sulphate
(B) Calcium cyanamide
(C) Ammonium nitrate
(D) Anhydrous ammonia

5. Which Raising Day was observed by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on 27 July 2026?

- (A) 72th (B) 78th
(C) 85th (D) 88th

6. Which space agency proposed the PRAXIS mission in July 2026 for the direct study of Saturn's ring particles?

- (A) NASA (B) ISRO
(C) ESA (D) JAXA

7. The newly discovered freshwater shrimp species Caridina sharmai was recorded from which river in Uttar Pradesh in July 2026?

- (A) Ghaghara River (B) Gomti River
(C) Betwa River (D) Ken River

8. Who won the women's singles title at the World Junior Squash Championships 2026?

- (A) Anahat Singh
(B) Joshna Chinappa
(C) Dipika Pallikal
(D) Ruqayya Salem

9. Mount Olympus, which was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in July 2026, is located in which country?

- (A) Italy (B) Greece
(C) Turkey (D) Albania

10. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the high-powered task force on NTA examination reforms in 2026?

- (A) Nandan Nilekani (B) S. Somanath
(C) Tapan Deka (D) V. Kamakoti

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

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Wednesday, 29 July 2026



IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS & ORGANIZATIONS



• Related to Art, Culture, History & Heritage of India •

1 Asiatic Society (1784)

- **Founder** : Sir William Jones
- **Headquarters** : Kolkata
- **Purpose** : Study of India's history, culture, and literature



7 Sangeet Natak Akademi (1953)

- India's National Academy of Music, Dance, and Drama
- **Field** : Music, dance, and theatre



Sangeet
Natak
Akademi

2 Archaeological Survey of India – ASI (1861)

- **Founder** : Alexander Cunningham
- **Function** : Preservation of monuments and archaeological sites
- **Ministry** : Ministry of Culture



8 Lalit Kala Akademi (1954)

- **Function** : Promotion of painting, sculpture, and visual arts



Lalit Kala
Akademi

3 National Archives of India (1881)

- **Location** : New Delhi
- It is the main record repository of the Government of India.



9 Sahitya Akademi (1954)

- **Function** : Promotion of literature in 24 Indian languages
- Also confers the Sahitya Akademi Awards



SAHITYA AKADEMI

4 Central Secretariat Library (1891)

- One of the largest libraries for government officials in India.



10 National School of Drama – NSD (1959)

- Autonomous institution since 1975
- India's most prestigious theatre training institute
- **Location** : New Delhi



राष्ट्रीय नाट्य विद्यालय

5 Anthropological Survey of India (1945)

- **Location** : Kolkata
- **Function** : Study of human civilizations, tribes, and societies.



11 Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts – IGNCA (1987)

- **Function** : Preservation of arts, culture, crafts, and traditions
- **Activities** : Exhibitions, research, and cultural documentation



IGNCA

6 National Library, Kolkata (1948)

- India's largest library
- Holds more than 2.2 million books



Quick Facts

- ◆ **Oldest Institution** : Asiatic Society (1784)
- ◆ **Oldest Archaeological Body** : ASI (1861)
- ◆ **Oldest Cultural Academy** : Sangeet Natak Akademi (1953)
- ◆ **Largest Library in India** : National Library, Kolkata
- ◆ **Main Record Repository of Govt. of India** : National Archives of India

DAILY GENERAL AWARENESS QUIZ

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Wednesday, 29 July 2026

1. Sarnath Inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List. In context to the same tell us, Sarnath is located near the confluence of which two rivers?

- (A) The Ganges and the Son
- (B) The Yamuna and the Kali
- (C) The Ganges and the Varuna
- (D) The Betwa and the Chambal

2. WSF World Junior Squash Championships 2026 Begins. In context to the same tell us, who among the following is NOT associated with the sport of Squash?

- (A) Saurav Ghosal
- (B) Dipika Pallikal
- (C) Joshna Chinappa
- (D) Jwala Gutta

3. NSE Launches India's First Domestic Natural Gas Futures. In context to the same tell us, what is the primary component of Natural Gas?

- (A) Ethane
- (B) Methane
- (C) Propane
- (D) Butane

4. India Observes 27th Kargil Vijay Diwas. In context to the same tell us, what was the codename of the Indian Air Force operation launched to support the Indian Army during the 1999 Kargil Conflict?

- (A) Operation Safed Sagar
- (B) Operation Trident
- (C) Operation Meghdoot
- (D) Operation Parakram

5. Govt Mandates 20% Local Language Content for Private FM radio channels. In context to the same tell us, which frequency band range is standardly allocated for commercial FM radio broadcasting?

- (A) 530 kHz to 1700 kHz
- (B) 300 MHz to 3 GHz
- (C) 3 MHz to 30 MHz
- (D) 88 MHz to 108 MHz

6. Clashes at Delhi's 'Chalo Sansad' March Raise Crucial Questions Over Police Powers and Digital Liberty.

Consider the following statements regarding the Constitutional basis for the Right to Protest in India:

- (1) The word "protest" is explicitly defined under Part III of the Indian Constitution.
- (2) The right to protest is implicitly derived from

Article 19(1)(a) and Article 19(1)(b) of the Constitution. (3) The right to live with dignity under Article 21 encompasses the right to voice grievances against the State.

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. India Tweaks E-Commerce FDI Norms to Boost Outbound Trade: Allows Foreign Inventory Ownership strictly for Exports.

Consider the following statements regarding Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI):

- (1) FDI targets long-term capital appreciation and strategic management control, whereas FPI targets short-term financial returns.
- (2) According to official definitions, foreign investment equal to or exceeding 10% of the post-issue paid-up equity capital of a listed company is classified as FDI.
- (3) FPI involves direct creation of physical assets and infrastructure in the host country, whereas FDI is restricted to secondary market stock purchases.

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. Golden Start for India at 2026 Commonwealth Games: Mirabai Chanu Leads Weightlifting Medal Rush in Glasgow.

With reference to India's association with the Commonwealth, consider the following statements:

- (1) India is the largest member country of the Commonwealth by population.
- (2) India hosted the Commonwealth Games in 2010 in New Delhi.
- (3) Joining the Commonwealth required India to renounce its status as a Sovereign Democratic Republic.

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

TOPIC OF THE DAY

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Wednesday, 29 July 2026

Commonwealth Games

Why in News?

The **23rd Commonwealth Games** have commenced in **Glasgow, Scotland**, on **23 July 2026**. The quadrennial international multi-sport event brings together athletes representing **74 Commonwealth nations and territories** to compete across multiple **sporting disciplines**.

Expository: -

History of the Commonwealth Games

- The history of the Commonwealth Games is closely linked to the **London Declaration of April 1949**, which led to the formation of the **Commonwealth of Nations** with the objective of promoting cooperation, equality, and friendship among former British colonies. India became a member of the Commonwealth on **16 May 1949**, and independent India first participated in the Commonwealth Games in **1954**.

India's Early Achievements

- India's first-ever Commonwealth Games medal was won by **Rashid Anwar** in **1934** in wrestling. Independent India's first Commonwealth Games **gold medal** was won by the legendary sprinter **Milkha Singh** at the **1958 Cardiff Commonwealth Games**.

India's Absence from the Games

- India did not participate in the **1962 Commonwealth Games** due to the **Sino-Indian War**. It also boycotted the **1986 Edinburgh Commonwealth Games** along with several other countries in protest against **South Africa's apartheid policy**.

Changes in the Name of the Commonwealth Games

- The Games were first held in **1930** as the **British Empire Games**. From **1954 to 1966**, they were known as the **British Empire and Commonwealth Games**. Between **1970 and 1974**, they were called the **British Commonwealth Games**, and since **1978**, they have officially been known as the **Commonwealth Games**.

Major Controversies

- The Commonwealth Games have long faced criticism over their colonial legacy, alleged white dominance, and lack of equal representation. No African nation has hosted the Commonwealth Games to date, raising concerns about fairness and inclusiveness in the selection of host countries.

India's Performance

- Since **2002**, India has consistently finished among the **top five nations** in the Commonwealth Games medal standings.



commonwealth
games

GLASGOW 2026

- At the **2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games**, India recorded its best-ever performance by winning **101 medals** and finishing **second**.
- At the **2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games**, India secured **61 medals**, including **22 gold medals**, to finish **fourth** in the medal table.

Shooting and Other Sports

- Shooting** has been India's most successful sport at the Commonwealth Games, with a total of **135 medals**. **Jaspal Rana** holds the record for the highest number of Commonwealth Games medals by an Indian shooter, with **15 medals**. The removal of **shooting and archery** from the **2022 Games** significantly affected India's medal prospects and was strongly criticized by several Indian athletes.

Conclusion

- The Commonwealth Games remain one of the most important international sporting events for India. The country's performance has improved consistently over the years, and India should continue advocating for equal representation of all sports while promoting balanced sports development and a stronger sporting ecosystem.

MAP OF THE DAY - BHARAT

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Wednesday, 29 July 2026

SHEVACHALAM HILLS

Structure, Biodiversity and Significance

1 LOCATION

- Part of the Eastern Ghats.
- Located in the Tirupati district of Andhra Pradesh.
- Extends between Chittoor and Kadapa districts.
- Stretches for about 12 km in north-south direction.
- Important peaks – Venkatadri (~853 m) and Telaralla Penta (~1187 m).



2 BIOSPHERE RESERVE – KEY FACTS

Aspect	Details
Declared on	20 September 2010
Significance	First Biosphere Reserve of Andhra Pradesh
Program	Included in UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme
Notified Area	1985 (notified earlier as a Biosphere Reserve)



Man and the
Biosphere
Programme

3 FLORA



- Falls under Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest; some areas also have moist deciduous forests.
- More than 1,700 species of flowering plants (about 174 families) are found here.
- Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*):
 - Endemic species – found only in this region.
 - IUCN Red List Status – Endangered.
 - Listed in CITES Appendix-II.

4 FAUNA



- Slender Loris (*Loris lydekkerianus*):
 - Endemic to this region.
 - Threatened species.



- Monitor Lizard (*Varanus bengalensis*):
 - Indian Rock Python is also commonly found.

5 CULTURAL & RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE



SRI VENKATESWARA
NATIONAL PARK



- Famous for the Sri Venkateswara Temple (Tirumala Venkateswara Temple), one of the richest temples in the world.
- Sri Venkateswara National Park is also located in this region.
- Home to the Yanadi Tribe, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).
- Several ancient temples and inscriptions have been found here.

6 CONSERVATION ISSUES



Deforestation – mainly due to red sanders smuggling.



Illegal mining – causes soil erosion and water pollution.



Climate change – affects rainfall pattern and increases forest fires.



Joint Forest Management (JFM) – community participation is essential for conservation.

QUICK FACTS



Region
Eastern Ghats
(Andhra Pradesh)



District
Tirupati
District



Highest Peak
Telaralla Penta
(~1187 m)



Vegetation Type
Tropical Dry Deciduous
Forest



Biosphere Reserve
Declared on
20 Sept 2010



Unique Species
Red Sanders,
Slender Loris



Shevachalam Hills is a unique treasure of biodiversity, culture and spirituality.
Its conservation is vital for future generations.



MAP OF THE DAY - WORLD

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TYPES OF GRASSLANDS



Grasslands are ecosystems dominated by grasses, where grasses are the main vegetation and trees or shrubs are either absent or occur in small numbers.

Basis of Classification: Based on Climate, Rainfall, Temperature and Geographical Location

1 Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands (Tropical & Subtropical Grasslands)

- Annual rainfall: 90–150 cm.
- Found in areas with the wet and dry seasons during the year.
- Examples: Savanna – Africa, Venezuela, Brazil, India, Australia.
- Major regions: Africa, South America, India, Australia.



2 Savanna Grassland (Savanna Grassland)

- Most widespread grassland in the tropical region.
- Trees are scattered and found in small numbers.
- Grasses are tall and coarse.
- Regions: West and East Africa, South America, Australia.



3 Steppe Grassland (Steppe Grassland)

- Found in the semi-arid and sub-humid regions.
- Short and fine grasses are common.
- Fertile soil; suitable for agriculture and grazing.
- Regions: Central Asia, Europe, North America.



4 Prairie Grassland (Prairie Grassland)

- Found in the temperate region of North America.
- Very fertile soil.
- Tall grasses – ideal for farming.
- Regions: North America – Great Plains.



5 Pampas Grassland (Pampas Grassland)

- Found in Argentina, Uruguay and southern Brazil.
- Fertile soil and suitable for agriculture.
- Regions: Argentina, Uruguay and parts of South America.



6 Temperate Grasslands (Temperate Grasslands)

- Found in the mid-latitude regions.
- Major regions – Prairies (North America), Steppes (Eurasia), Pampas (South America).
- Examples: Prairies – USA, Steppes – Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan.
- Major regions: North America, Europe, Asia.



7 Flooded Grasslands (Flooded Grasslands)

- Flooded for some part of the year.
- Soil remains waterlogged during the rainy season.
- Major regions – Everglades (Florida, USA), Pantanal (Brazil, Bolivia & Paraguay)
- Examples: Okavango Delta (Africa).



8 Montane Grasslands (Montane Grasslands)

- Found in high altitude regions.
- Cold climate, thin soil and low temperature.
- Major region – Páramo of the Andes (South America).
- Found in the high mountains.



9 Tundra Grasslands (Tundra Grasslands)

- Found in polar regions.
- Soil is mostly permafrost (permanently frozen).
- Short grasses, mosses and lichens are common.
- Regions: Arctic regions of North America, Europe and Asia.



10 Desert & Xeric Grasslands (Desert & Xeric Grasslands)

- Found in arid and semi-arid regions.
- Very low rainfall; water scarcity.
- Grasses are sparse and drought resistant.
- Regions: Deserts of North America, Sahara.



CLASSIFICATION OF GRASSLANDS

1. Schimper (1898–1903)

- Meadow
- Grassland
- Steppe
- Savanna



2. Tansley & Chipp (1967)

- Savanna & Associated Grasslands
- Steppe & Prairie
- Desert Grasslands
- Semi-desert & Halophytic
- Alpine Meadows
- Forb Grasslands

3. Lackock (1979)

- Tropical Prairies
- Grasslands of the Temperate Zone
- Desert Grasslands
- Mediterranean Grasslands
- Alpine Grasslands
- Marshy Grasslands
- Arctic Grasslands

GRASSLANDS: REGION OF OCCURRENCE

Grassland Type	Major Regions
Savanna	Africa
Prairie	North America
Steppe	Europe, Russia, Kazakhstan
Pampas	Argentina, Uruguay, Southern Brazil
Llanos	Venezuela, Colombia
Veld	South Africa
Downs	Australia
Puszta	Hungary

★ IMPORTANT FACTS

- Grasslands have fertile soil.
- They are useful for agriculture and livestock rearing.
- These regions support a rich diversity of wildlife.
- They play an important role in the human economy.



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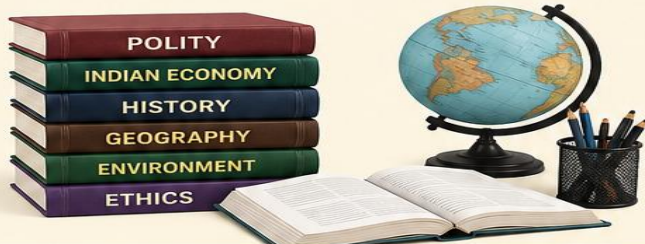
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