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History of 16th July

- ◆ **1981** : India had conducted nuclear tests.
- ◆ **622** : The Muslim era began in 622 AD and from that day Prophet Muhammad started his journey from Mecca to Medina.
- ◆ **1856** : Remarriage of Hindu widows received legal recognition.
- ◆ **1969** : Aldrin became the first person to reach the Moon on the Apollo 11 spacecraft and a photo of his first steps on the Moon was broadcast.
- ◆ **2002** : Attacks were announced in Paraguay.

Current Affairs Related to 16th July 2024

- ◆ Punjab National Bank has introduced Security Ring security feature in view of the increasing incidents of cyber fraud. This optional mechanism provides an additional guarantee of protection against criminals, aimed at reducing potential financial losses for Internet and mobile banking users. Safety Ring allows customers to set daily remote limits for term deposits, particularly for online close or overdraft facilities.
- ◆ Azerbaijan Army soldiers have arrived in Kazakhstan to participate in the Birlestyk 2024 operational tactical command staff exercise. This joint military exercise, which will be conducted from July 11 to July 17. Will take place at the Omasha training ground and Cape Tokamak in the Caspian Sea. The exercises are part of a collaborative effort between the defense ministries of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- ◆ Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation has signed an MoU aimed at enhancing farming opportunities among rural, tribal and farming communities in India. This assistance aims to empower marginalized states by harnessing CSIR's technological innovations and MSSRF's on-the-ground reach.
- ◆ Taking a significant step into the investment landscape, ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched ICICI Prudential Oil & Gas ETF. This pioneering product is India's first exchange traded fund exclusively focused on the oil and gas sector. The fund is designed to track the performance of Recovery Oil & Gas TRAI, acting as a barometer for listed companies operating in this important economic sector.
- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India has expanded the scope of remittances to International Financial Services Center under the Liberalized Remittance Scheme.
- ◆ Uttar Pradesh government has secured more than 154 defense manufacturing deals worth Rs 25000 crore, which is an important step in enhancing India's defense production capabilities. This is part of the first Uttar Pradesh Defense Industrial Project, which is spread across Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Aligarh, Chitrakoot and Agra districts. This project will create 40,000 new jobs and 1700 hectares of land has been acquired for industrial development.
- ◆ India-Taiwan Consumer Protection Agreement for organic products has come into force. This was announced at the 9th Working Group on Indian-Taiwan Trade meeting held in New Delhi. This historic agreement is likely to boost trade in organic products between the two countries. Under the agreement, organic products from India can be exported to Taiwan after confirming the National Program for Organic Production and being certified by a competent authority in India.
- ◆ Four public sector banks including Canara Bank, Bharatiya Bank, Bank of India and Exim Bank have collectively paid a dividend of Rs 6481 crore to the government for the financial year 2023-2024. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman received the dividend from the managing directors and CEOs of each bank.
- ◆ India TV's Manager and Editor in Chief Rajat Sharma has been elected President of the News Broadcasters and Digital Association, the largest organization of news channels. NBDA is the largest association of news broadcasters in India, representing a powerful consortium of the country's most influential news networks. Its membership includes a variety of media outlets ranging from traditional television broadcasters to cutting edge digital platforms.
- ◆ The Financial Inclusion Index of the Reserve Bank of India increased to 64.2 in March this year. The state of financial inclusion across the country has seen an increase in all folds of the home loan index.

National & International Current Affairs

1. Recently, which day has the Central Government declared Constitution Murder Day?

- (A) 16th June (B) 20th June
(C) 25th June (D) 30th June

(C) Remembering the Emergency, the Central Government has decided to celebrate 25th June every year as Constitution Killing Day. A notification in this regard has been issued by the Central Government. Emergency was imposed in the country on 28 June 1975. The purpose of this decision is to honor the struggle of millions of people who fought to revive democracy despite facing countless tortures and oppression from the dictatorial government.



India to Observe 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' on June 25

2. Recently which state government will provide bus pass facility to students up to 150 km?

- (A) Maharashtra (B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Gujarat (D) Haryana

(D) Recently Haryana Government has given a gift to the students. Now bus passes will be issued for students up to 150 km. Transport Minister Aseem Gopal said that concessional bus passes will be issued to all the students studying in such schools, colleges and institutions located in the state. Earlier, passes were issued to students only up to a distance of 60 km.

हरियाणा के छात्रों को 150 किमी तक मिलेगी फ्री बस पास की सुविधा



3. Which state has recently become the first state to prepare a road safety action plan?

- (A) Rajasthan (B) Karnataka
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Kerala

(A) Rajasthan will be the first state in India to have a ten-year action plan specifically designed to improve road safety. Aiming to reduce traffic accidents by 50% by 2030, the plan was endorsed by Deputy Chief Minister Premchand Bairwa in July 2023. Under the 100-day plan of the BJP government, this scheme is being implemented by the Road Safety Cell in the Transport Department.



4. Who has recently joined wellness brand HooP as an investor and brand ambassador?

- (A) PV Sindhu (B) Alia Bhatt
(C) Smriti Mandhana (D) Priyanka Chopra

(A) Olympic medalist and veteran badminton player PV Sindhu has taken an important step in the business world. She has announced a new role as an investor and brand ambassador for Gurgaon-based wellness brand Hoop. The announcement marks a new milestone in Sindhu's career, reflecting her growing mindset and interest in brand building beyond the badminton court.



5. Recently, India and which country have set a target of taking the trade to 100 billion dollars by the year 2030?

- (A) Bangladesh (B) Austria
(C) Russia (D) Sri Lanka

(C) India and Russia agreed to take mutual trade to more than US\$ 100 billion by 2030. This goal will be achieved by promoting investment, using national currencies for mutual trade, and increasing cooperation in sectors ranging from energy to agriculture and infrastructure. In a joint statement issued after the 22nd annual biennial summit between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Moscow, both sides reiterated their commitment to enhance the special and privileged strategic partnership.



6. Recently the 16th Finance Commission has constituted an Advisory Council ?

- (A) Prateek Gupta (B) PK Srivastava
(C) Dr. Poonam Gupta (D) None of these

(C) Recently the 19th Finance Commission has constituted an advisory council. The committee includes Dr. K. Srivastava, Neelkanth Mishra, Dr. Poonam Gupta, Pranjul Bhandari and Rahul Bajoria. Whereas Dr. Poonam Gupta has been made the convenor of the advisory council. The Finance Ministry said in a statement that it would advise the Commission on the terms of reference and other relevant matters.

7. Recently he has been appointed as the principal advisor for the Tuberculosis Eradication Program.

- (A) Sheel Nagu (B) Dr. Soumya Swaminathan
(C) Dr. Arpit Chopra (D) None of these

(B) Recently, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan has been appointed as the Principal Advisor in the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme. She will provide technical advice on the overall strategy to achieve the goals of this programme. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan was made the consultant to MoHFW for NTEP.

8. How many new biosphere reserves have been designated by UNESCO recently?

- (A) 11 (B) 12
(C) 13 (D) 14

(A) UNESCO recently approved the designation of 11 new biosphere reserves in 11 countries, including, for the first time, two transboundary biosphere reserves in Belgium and the Gambia. Other new biosphere reserves are located in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Italy, Mongolia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Slovenia and Spain.

9. In which state is the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve, which was in discussion recently?

- (A) Odisha (B) Maharashtra
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Madhya Pradesh

(D) Madhya Pradesh, home to the largest number of tigers in the country, has got a new protected area for tigers named Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve. The Madhya Pradesh government has unveiled the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve, becoming the seventh tiger reserve in the state and 54th in India. Madhya Pradesh increased the figure of Tiger State in the 2022 census.

10. Where was the second BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' meeting held recently?

- (A) Bangkok (B) New Delhi
(C) Colombo (D) None of these

(B) The meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Conference of BIMSTEC was held in New Delhi. The event was presided over by Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Tharaka Balasuriya reached Delhi for this conference. The Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement saying that in the conference, the Foreign Ministers of BIMSTEC discussed increasing mutual cooperation, security, connectivity, trade and investment as well as increasing people-to-people contacts of the member countries.

