

Daily Current Affairs

23 July 2025

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Daily Current Affairs Quiz 23 July 2026

Q1. According to the NITI Aayog Roadmap for Building India as a Leading Bioeconomy Powerhouse by 2035, India's bioeconomy is targeted to reach what value by 2035?

- (a) USD 250 billion
- (b) USD 500 billion
- (c) USD 691 billion
- (d) USD 1 trillion

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, NITI Aayog launched the "Roadmap for Building India as a Leading Bioeconomy Powerhouse by 2035".
- The roadmap aims to expand India's bioeconomy to USD 691 billion by 2035 and USD 2.6 trillion by 2047.
- It also seeks to generate over 30 million high-value jobs and position India among the top three global biotechnology powers.

Information Booster:

- The roadmap was developed by the NITI Frontier Tech Hub (NITI-FTH) in consultation with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE), industry, academia, and other stakeholders.
- It recommends the launch of six National BioMissions:
 - GeneIndia
 - AgriBio 2.0
 - BioX Foundry
 - One Health Grid
 - Marine Biotechnology
 - BioPharmaNext
- It proposes a ₹50,000 crore BioEconomy Growth Fund (2026–2035) under the existing ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) framework.
- The roadmap also recommends creating institutions such as:
 - Empowered Committee on National BioMissions
 - National BioData Council
 - BioEconomy Investment and Policy Forum
 - BioIP and Innovation Evaluation Agency

Additional Knowledge:

- The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) functions under the Ministry of Science & Technology and promotes biotechnology research and innovation in India.
- The proposed BioEconomy Growth Fund will support biomanufacturing, advanced therapeutics, synthetic biology, fermentation platforms, biomaterials, diagnostics, and commercialisation of biotechnology innovations.
- The bioeconomy encompasses economic activities based on the sustainable use of biological resources for producing food, energy, materials, healthcare products, and industrial applications.

Q2. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the FIFA World Cup 2026?

1. Spain won their second FIFA World Cup title by defeating Argentina 1–0 after extra time in the final.
2. The 2026 FIFA World Cup was jointly hosted by the United States, Mexico, and Canada.
3. The tournament featured an expanded 48-team format with 104 matches.
4. Rodri won the Golden Ball, while Kylian Mbappé won the Golden Boot with 10 goals.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans.(d)

Sol. Answer

- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Solution

Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct because Spain national football team defeated Argentina national football team 1–0 after extra time to win their second FIFA World Cup title. The winning goal was scored by Ferran Torres in the 106th minute.
- Statement 2 is correct as the tournament was co-hosted by United States, Mexico, and Canada across 16 host cities.
- Statement 3 is correct because the 2026 edition introduced an expanded 48-team format, featuring 12 groups, a Round of 32, and 104 matches.
- Statement 4 is correct since Rodri received the Golden Ball, while Kylian Mbappé won his second consecutive Golden Boot with 10 goals.

Information Booster

- Edition: 23rd FIFA World Cup
- Duration: 11 June – 19 July 2026
- Final Venue: MetLife Stadium
- Host Countries:
 - United States (11 host cities)
 - Mexico (3 host cities)
 - Canada (2 host cities)

Major Awards

Award	Winner
Golden Ball	Rodri (Spain)
Golden Boot	Kylian Mbappé (France) – 10 goals
Silver Ball	Lionel Messi (Argentina)

Additional Knowledge

- Lionel Messi became:
 - The oldest outfield player (39 years) to start a FIFA World Cup final.
 - The first player to start three FIFA World Cup finals.
 - He finished the tournament with 8 goals and 4 assists.

- Unai Simón set a FIFA World Cup record by keeping 7 clean sheets in 8 matches, conceding only one goal throughout the tournament.
- The 2026 FIFA World Cup was the first edition to feature 48 teams, replacing the previous 32-team format.

Q3. In July 2026, the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM) signed an MoU with which organisation to join the National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC)?

- (a) CSIR–Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI)
- (b) CSIR–National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR)
- (c) National Informatics Centre (NIC)
- (d) Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CSIR–National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR).
- The MoU enables CGPDTM to become a member of the National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC).
- The agreement aims to strengthen research, innovation, and intellectual property administration.

Information Booster:

- Under the MoU, CGPDTM will gain access to the NKRC digital knowledge platform, which provides:
 - International scientific journals
 - E-books
 - Patent databases
 - Bibliographic databases
 - Other scholarly resources
- NKRC is managed by CSIR-NIScPR.
- It currently serves 82 member institutions, including organisations under:
 - CSIR
 - Department of Science & Technology (DST)
 - Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)

Additional Knowledge:

- CGPDTM is the office responsible for the administration of patents, designs, trademarks, and geographical indications in India under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- CSIR-NIScPR is a constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and promotes science communication, policy research, and knowledge dissemination.
- The National Knowledge Resource Consortium (NKRC) provides cost-effective access to global scientific knowledge resources through national-level licensing arrangements.

Q4. What is the name of the official mascot unveiled for the BWF World Championships 2026?

- (a) Shuttle
- (b) Peacko
- (c) Garuda
- (d) Smash

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- On 18 July 2026, Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya unveiled 'Peacko' as the official mascot for the BWF World Championships 2026.
- The mascot was unveiled in New Delhi along with the championship anthem.
- Peacko is inspired by the Indian Peafowl (Peacock) and symbolises the spirit and unity of Indian badminton.

Information Booster:

- The mascot and anthem were unveiled in the presence of Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, President of the Badminton Association of India (BAI).
- The official anthem features India's 16-member World Championships contingent, including:
 - P. V. Sindhu
 - Lakshya Sen
 - Satwiksairaj Rankireddy
 - Chirag Shetty
 - Ayush Shetty
 - Unnati Hooda
 - Gayatri Gopichand
 - Treesa Jolly
- The 30th BWF World Championships will be held from 17–23 August 2026 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi, with participation from 400+ players representing over 50 countries.

Additional Knowledge:

- The Badminton Association of India (BAI) was established in 1934 and is headquartered in New Delhi.
- BAI is the national governing body responsible for the promotion and regulation of badminton in India.
- The Badminton World Federation (BWF) is the international governing body for badminton and is headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Q5. In July 2026, who was appointed as the additional Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC)?

- (a) Sanjay Kumar Jain
- (b) Rahul Himalian
- (c) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- (d) Satish Kumar

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, the Ministry of Railways (MoR) appointed Rahul Himalian as the additional Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of IRCTC following the resignation of Sanjay Kumar Jain.
- His appointment became effective from 20 July 2026.
- He continues to serve as Director (Tourism & Marketing) of IRCTC.

Information Booster:

- Rahul Himalian is a 1999-batch Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer.
- He has over 26 years of experience in Indian Railways and IRCTC.
- Since 16 February 2024, he has served as a Whole-Time Functional Director on the IRCTC Board.
- He oversees:
 - Tourism
 - Information Technology
 - Human Resource Development
 - Infrastructure
 - Administration
 - Rajbhasha
- He was awarded the President's Gold Medal for being the Best All-Round Student.

Additional Knowledge:

- IRCTC (Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited) was established in 1999.
- It is a Schedule 'A' Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Railways.
- IRCTC is headquartered in New Delhi and provides online railway ticketing, catering, tourism, and hospitality services across India.

Q6. Which film won the Best Feature Film award at the 72nd National Film Awards (2024) announced in July 2026?

- (a) Kalki 2898 AD
- (b) Chandu Champion
- (c) Article 370
- (d) Amaran

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- The 72nd National Film Awards for the year 2024 were announced in July 2026.
- Article 370, directed by Aditya Suhas Jambhale, won the Best Feature Film award.
- The film also received awards for Best Actress and Best Music Direction.

Information Booster:

- Best Feature Film: *Article 370*
- Best Actor (Joint Winners):
 - Mammooty (*Bramayugam*)
 - Kartik Aaryan (*Chandu Champion*)
- Best Actress: Yami Gautam (*Article 370*) – her first National Film Award.

- Best Direction: Rajkumar Periyasamy (*Amaran*)
- Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment: *Kalki 2898 AD*
- Best Debut Film of a Director: Randeep Hooda (*Swatantrya Veer Savarkar*)

Additional Knowledge:

- The National Film Awards are among India's highest film honours and are administered by the Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF) under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.
- Mammooty won his fourth National Film Award with this recognition.
- Winners in the acting categories receive the Rajat Kamal (Silver Lotus Award) along with a cash prize of ₹2 lakh.

Q7. The newly discovered damselfly species 'Lestes paloti', reported in July 2026, was discovered in which biodiversity hotspot?

- (a) Eastern Himalayas
- (b) Sundarbans
- (c) Western Ghats
- (d) Aravalli Hills

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, Indian odonatologists discovered a new species of spreadwing damselfly named *Lestes paloti* in the Western Ghats of Kerala.
- The species belongs to the Lestidae family under the order Odonata.
- The discovery was published in the International Journal of Odonatology.

Information Booster:

- *Lestes paloti* was named in honour of Dr. Muhamed Jafer Palot of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Kozhikode.
- The species has been recorded in six districts of Kerala:
- Kannur
- Kozhikode
- Wayanad
- Malappuram
- Palakkad
- Ernakulam
- It prefers scrub vegetation around homesteads and laterite hillocks, often away from visible water bodies.
- It appears brown during the dry season and bluish during the monsoon.
- The discovery resolved a long-standing misidentification with *Lestes nodalis*.

Additional Knowledge:

- This is the first new *Lestes* species discovered in the Western Ghats in 97 years.
- The discovery increased Kerala's odonate (dragonflies and damselflies) species count to 192.
- The Western Ghats is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's eight "hottest hotspots" of biological diversity, known for its high level of endemic flora and fauna.

Q8. In July 2026, the National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) announced the establishment of two Centres of Excellence (CoEs) for semiconductor skilling in which two cities?

- (a) Bengaluru and Hyderabad
- (b) Chennai and Pune
- (c) Ahmedabad and Guwahati
- (d) Noida and Mohali

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, the National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) announced that it will establish two Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in Ahmedabad (Gujarat) and Guwahati (Assam).
- The initiative aims to strengthen India's semiconductor ecosystem through specialised skill development.
- It supports the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0, approved with an outlay of ₹1.28 lakh crore.

Information Booster:

- The CoEs will provide training in:
 - Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT)
 - Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) technologies.
- NIELIT has partnered with:
 - Tata Electronics
 - Infineon
 - Semiconductor Complex Limited (SCL), Mohali
- The institute will introduce B.Tech, M.Tech, and Diploma programmes in semiconductor technology.
- Under the India AI Mission, NIELIT has:
 - Established 28 AI Labs
 - Launched 42 AI-focused programmes
 - Trained over 20,000 individuals, particularly in Tier-II and Tier-III cities.

Additional Knowledge:

- NIELIT was established in 1994 as the Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC) Society and was renamed NIELIT in 2011.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi and functions under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- OSAT and ATMP are key segments of the semiconductor manufacturing value chain, involving chip assembly, testing, marking, and packaging before final deployment.

Q9. Who won the Women's Singles title at the Japan Open 2026 (BWF Super 750)?

- (a) Akane Yamaguchi
- (b) An Se-young
- (c) P. V. Sindhu
- (d) Chen Yufei

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- P. V. Sindhu won the Women's Singles title at the Japan Open 2026, held in Tokyo, Japan, from 14–19 July 2026.
- In the final, she defeated Akane Yamaguchi of Japan 21-17, 21-17.
- This was Sindhu's maiden Japan Open women's singles title.

Information Booster:

- The Japan Open 2026 was the 43rd edition of the tournament.
- It was a BWF Super 750 event held at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium, Tokyo.
- Men's Singles: Christo Popov (France) defeated Koki Watanabe (Japan).
- Men's Doubles: Fajar Alfian & Muhammad Shohibul Fikri (Indonesia).
- Women's Doubles: Kim Hye-jeong & Kong Hee-yong (South Korea).
- Mixed Doubles: Feng Yanzhe & Huang Dongping (China).

Additional Knowledge:

- P. V. Sindhu is a two-time Olympic medallist, having won silver at Rio 2016 and bronze at Tokyo 2020.
- The Badminton World Federation (BWF) categorises its World Tour events into levels such as Super 1000, Super 750, Super 500, and Super 300.
- The Japan Open is one of the most prestigious tournaments on the BWF World Tour.

Q10. In July 2026, India's first and deepest two 1,000-metre geothermal wells were commissioned at which location?

- (a) Manikaran, Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Tattapani, Chhattisgarh
- (c) Puga Valley, Ladakh
- (d) Bakreshwar, West Bengal

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

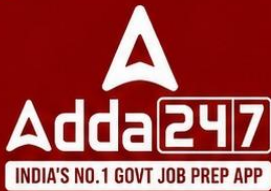
- In July 2026, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh V.K. Saxena commissioned India's first and deepest two 1,000-metre geothermal wells at Puga Valley, Ladakh.
- The project is being executed by the ONGC Energy Centre.
- These wells are a key component of India's first 1 MW demonstration-scale geothermal power project.

Information Booster:

- The geothermal wells are located at an altitude of over 14,000 feet above sea level.
- The project will support the development of a 1 MW Pilot Geothermal Power Plant at Puga Valley.
- The wells reached a maximum temperature of 135°C at a depth of 400 metres.
- The project will help evaluate:
 - Geothermal reservoir characteristics
 - Fluid behaviour
 - Thermal profiles
 - Energy conversion mechanisms
 - Commercial viability of geothermal resources

Additional Knowledge:

- Geothermal energy is a renewable source of energy obtained from the natural heat of the Earth's interior.
- Puga Valley in Ladakh is one of India's most promising geothermal energy sites due to its abundant hot springs and geothermal activity.
- The successful pilot project is expected to pave the way for the commercial development of geothermal energy in India, especially in the Himalayan region.

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