

Daily Current Affairs

24 July 2025

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Daily Current Affairs Quiz 24 July 2026

Q1. In July 2026, the Government of India increased the windfall tax (Special Additional Excise Duty - SAED) on the exports of which two petroleum products?

- (a) Petrol and LPG
- (b) Diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF)
- (c) Kerosene and LPG
- (d) Petrol and Naphtha

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, the Government of India (GoI) increased the Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED), also known as the windfall tax, on the exports of diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF).
- At the same time, it reduced the export duty on petrol.
- The revised rates came into effect from 16 July 2026.

Information Booster:

- Diesel export duty: Increased from ₹8.5/litre to ₹15.5/litre.
- ATF export duty: Increased from ₹7.5/litre to ₹14.5/litre.
- Petrol export duty: Reduced from ₹4/litre to ₹2.5/litre.
- The export duty on diesel and ATF was first imposed on 27 March 2026 amid escalating tensions in West Asia, and the rates have been revised every fortnight.

Additional Knowledge:

- A windfall tax is a tax imposed on companies that earn unexpectedly high profits due to external factors such as geopolitical conflicts or sharp increases in global commodity prices.
- The objective of the tax is to redistribute extraordinary gains and generate additional government revenue.
- Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) is the specialised fuel used in aircraft powered by gas-turbine engines.

Q2. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Bharat Tex 2026?

1. The 3rd edition of Bharat Tex was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, from 14–17 July 2026.
2. The event was inaugurated by Giriraj Singh.
3. During the event, the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) collaborated with European Apparel and Textile Confederation to establish the EU–India Textile and Apparel Dialogue (TAD).
4. Bharat Tex 2026 generated business enquiries worth about USD 2.8 billion and textile investment commitments worth ₹14,300 crore.

- (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 the 3rd edition of Bharat Tex was held at Bharat Mandapam from 14–17 July 2026.
- Statement 2 is correct as the event was inaugurated by Giriraj Singh.
- Statement 3 is correct because Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) partnered with European Apparel and Textile Confederation to launch the EU–India Textile and Apparel Dialogue (TAD).
- Statement 4 is correct since the event generated business enquiries worth about USD 2.8 billion and textile investment commitments worth ₹14,300 crore.

Information Booster

- Event: Bharat Tex 2026 (3rd Edition)
- Venue: Bharat Mandapam
- Duration: 14–17 July 2026
- Organising Ministry: Ministry of Textiles

Major Outcomes

- Business enquiries: USD 2.8 billion
- Investment commitments: ₹14,300 crore
- More than 30 MoUs signed by participating states.

Major State-wise Investment Commitments

- Andhra Pradesh – ₹4,100 crore
- Karnataka – ₹2,821 crore
- Bihar – ₹1,476 crore
- Maharashtra – ₹1,095 crore

Additional Knowledge

- The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) organised the CITI Textile Sustainability Awards 2026, recognising excellence across seven sustainability focus areas.
- The EU–India Textile and Apparel Dialogue (TAD) was established to support the implementation of the proposed India–EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in the textile and apparel sector.
- Bharat Tex is India's flagship global textile event, showcasing the country's strengths across the entire textile value chain, from raw materials to technical textiles, apparel, machinery, innovation, and sustainability.

Q3. Who was selected for the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026 in recognition of his contribution to India's national security?

- (a) Rajnath Singh
- (b) Ajit Doval
- (c) Anil Chauhan
- (d) Manoj Pande

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval was selected for the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2026.
- He was chosen for his outstanding contribution to strengthening India's national security, counter-terrorism, and border security.
- The announcement was made by Dr. Rohit Tilak, President of the Lokmanya Tilak Trust.

Information Booster:

- The award will be presented by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on 1 August 2026 in Pune, Maharashtra.
- The ceremony marks the 106th death anniversary of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- The Lokmanya Tilak National Award:
- Was instituted in 1983.
- Is presented annually by the Lokmanya Tilak Trust.
- Includes a memento, citation, and cash prize of ₹1 lakh.
- S. M. Joshi was the first recipient of the award.

Additional Knowledge:

- Ajit Doval is a 1968-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Kerala cadre and is India's longest-serving National Security Advisor.
- He has played a key role in major national security operations, including Operation Black Thunder and the Balakot air strike.
- Previous recipients of the Lokmanya Tilak National Award include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Dr. Manmohan Singh, Dr. Pranab Mukherjee, and Sharad Pawar.

Q4. In July 2026, India became the ____ member to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS).

- (a) 118th
- (b) 120th
- (c) 123rd
- (d) 125th

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- On 20 July 2026, India became the 123rd member to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS) by depositing its Instrument of Acceptance.
- The instrument was handed over by Rajesh Agrawal, Secretary, Department of Commerce, to WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.
- India's accession reinforces its commitment to sustainable fisheries and marine resource conservation.

Information Booster:

- The WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (AFS) was:
- Adopted at the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC12) held in Geneva, Switzerland, in June 2022.

- Entered into force on 15 September 2025.
- It is the first WTO agreement with an environmental sustainability objective.
- The Agreement prohibits subsidies that contribute to:
 - Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing
 - Overfishing of depleted fish stocks
 - Other harmful fishing practices

Additional Knowledge:

- The Agreement aims to protect traditional and small-scale fishers by curbing harmful subsidies to large industrial fishing fleets.
- It also enhances India's credibility as a responsible seafood exporter in international markets.
- The World Trade Organization (WTO) was established on 1 January 1995 and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Q5. Who was sworn in as the 59th Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK) in July 2026?

- (a) Keir Starmer
- (b) Boris Johnson
- (c) Andy Burnham
- (d) Rishi Sunak

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, Andy Burnham became the 59th Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK) after Keir Starmer resigned from the post.
- He was invited by King Charles III at Buckingham Palace to form a new government in the traditional ceremony known as "kissing hands."
- Andy Burnham secured nearly 55% of the vote in the Labour leadership election and subsequently assumed office as Prime Minister.

Information Booster:

- Andy Burnham joined the Labour Party at the age of 15.
- He was elected as the Member of Parliament (MP) for Leigh in 2001.
- He previously served as:
 - Chief Secretary to the Treasury
 - Culture Secretary
 - Health Secretary
- He served as the first Mayor of Greater Manchester from 2017 to 2026, where he introduced the Bee Network by bringing local bus services under public control.

Additional Knowledge:

- The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom is appointed by the British monarch, currently King Charles III, and serves as the head of the UK Government.
- The ceremony known as "kissing hands" is the constitutional process through which the monarch formally appoints a new Prime Minister.

Q6. In July 2026, Union Minister Amit Shah inaugurated 'Shabdlok', India's first immersive language museum, in which city?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Bengaluru

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, Union Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the first phase of 'Shabdlok (The Museum of Word)', India's first immersive language museum, at the National Library campus in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- The museum has been developed at a cost of ₹41 crore within Belvedere House.
- It aims to showcase India's rich linguistic and literary heritage through immersive technologies.

Information Booster:

- The first phase includes 2,282 sq. m. of exhibition space.
- The museum has nine galleries showcasing nearly 380 Indian languages, including:
 - 121 languages recorded in Census 2011
 - Several historical languages that are no longer spoken.
- It uses advanced technologies such as:
 - Digital displays
 - Holograms
 - Motion sensors
 - Audio-Visual (AV) installations
 - Augmented Reality (AR)
 - Virtual Reality (VR)
 - Interactive exhibits
- The museum has been developed by the National Library under the Ministry of Culture.

Additional Knowledge:

- The National Library, located in Kolkata, is India's largest library by collection volume.
- It was established in 1953 under the Change of Name Act, 1948, evolving from the Imperial Library (1891) and the Calcutta Public Library (1836).
- Future phases of Shabdlok will include ground-floor galleries, a souvenir shop, a café, and façade projection mapping.

Q7. In July 2026, India approved its first dengue vaccine, QDenga (TAK-003), for the prevention of dengue in which age group?

- (a) 1 to 18 years
- (b) 4 to 60 years
- (c) 18 to 65 years
- (d) Above 12 years only

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, India approved its first dengue vaccine, QDENG (TAK-003), after receiving market authorisation from the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI).
- The vaccine has been approved for the prevention of dengue in individuals aged 4 to 60 years.
- It is marketed by Takeda Biopharmaceuticals India Private Limited under the New Drugs and Clinical Trials (NDCT) Rules, 2019.

Information Booster:

- QDENG (TAK-003) is a live-attenuated tetravalent dengue vaccine.
- It provides protection against all four dengue virus serotypes:
 - DENV-1
 - DENV-2
 - DENV-3
 - DENV-4
- The vaccine is administered as two subcutaneous doses of 0.5 mL, given three months apart.
- It has received World Health Organization (WHO) prequalification, making it eligible for procurement by agencies such as UNICEF and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

Additional Knowledge:

- The approval was supported by Takeda's global clinical programme, including 19 Phase I–III clinical trials involving over 28,000 participants.
- The Phase III TIDES (DEN-301) trial enrolled more than 20,000 participants across eight countries, along with the DEN-302 Phase III trial conducted in India.
- Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral disease transmitted primarily by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, and India accounts for nearly one-third of the global dengue burden.

Q8. Which country will host the 14th edition of the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games scheduled to be held in March 2027?

- (a) India
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Sri Lanka

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In March 2027, Pakistan will host the 14th edition of the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games.
- The Games are scheduled to be held from 23 March to 31 March 2027.
- This will be the third time Pakistan has hosted the event, after 1989 and 2004.

Information Booster:

- Host Cities:
- Islamabad

- Faisalabad
- Lahore
- The event is expected to feature around 3,500 athletes.
- Eight South Asian countries will participate in the Games.

Additional Knowledge:

- The South Asian Federation (SAF) Games, now known as the South Asian Games (SAG), were established on 26 November 1981 in New Delhi.
- The Games aim to promote friendship, goodwill, and sporting cooperation among the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).
- The eight SAARC member countries are:
 - Afghanistan
 - Bangladesh
 - Bhutan
 - India
 - Maldives
 - Nepal
 - Pakistan
 - Sri Lanka

Q9. The 45th edition of Exercise Pitch Black 2026, in which the Indian Air Force (IAF) participated, was hosted by which country's air force?

- (a) United States Air Force (USAF)
- (b) Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)
- (c) Royal Air Force (RAF), United Kingdom
- (d) Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF)

Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, the Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in the 45th edition of Exercise Pitch Black 2026, hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).
- The exercise is being conducted at RAAF Base Darwin in northern Australia from 20 July to 7 August 2026.
- Exercise Pitch Black is the RAAF's premier biennial multinational air combat exercise.

Information Booster:

- The exercise involves air forces from 20 countries, including: United States, France , Germany, Spain , Japan , South Korea
- The IAF deployed over 120 Air Warriors, including pilots, flight test engineers, technicians, air traffic controllers, and subject-matter experts.
- India's aircraft deployment included:
 - 4 Rafale fighter aircraft

- 2 C-17 Globemaster III strategic airlifters
 - 1 IL-78 MKI air-to-air refuelling aircraft
 - The 44th edition of Exercise Pitch Black was held from 12 July to 2 August 2024 at RAAF Base Darwin.
- Additional Knowledge:
- Rafale is a 4.5-generation multirole fighter aircraft capable of air superiority, precision strike, and reconnaissance missions.
 - The C-17 Globemaster III is used for strategic airlift of troops, heavy equipment, and humanitarian relief operations.
 - The IL-78 MKI enhances the operational range and endurance of fighter aircraft through mid-air refuelling.

Q10. In July 2026, the United States delivered the 21st MH-60R Seahawk helicopter to which Indian armed force?

- (a) Indian Army
- (b) Indian Air Force
- (c) Indian Navy
- (d) Indian Coast Guard

Ans.(c)

Sol. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- In July 2026, the United States delivered the 21st MH-60R Seahawk multi-role maritime helicopter to the Indian Navy at Kochi, Kerala.
- The delivery strengthens the India–USA defence partnership and enhances India's maritime security capabilities.
- The helicopters improve the Indian Navy's operational readiness and anti-submarine warfare capabilities in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Information Booster:

- India signed a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) agreement with the United States in February 2020.
- The deal involves the procurement of 24 MH-60R Seahawk helicopters at a cost of USD 2.6 billion.
- As of July 2026:
 - 21 helicopters have been delivered.
 - 2 helicopters are scheduled for delivery.
 - 1 helicopter remains pending.
- The MH-60R "Romeo" Seahawk, manufactured by Lockheed Martin Corporation, is capable of:
 - Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW)
 - Anti-Surface Warfare (ASuW)
 - Maritime surveillance
 - Intelligence gathering
 - Search and Rescue (SAR)
 - Medical evacuation

- Vertical replenishment
- Shipborne operations

Additional Knowledge:

- The MH-60R Seahawk is the maritime variant of the Black Hawk helicopter and is designed for all-weather, multi-role naval operations.
- The helicopters are replacing the Indian Navy's ageing Sea King fleet.
- The acquisition significantly enhances India's maritime surveillance and interoperability with the United States Navy in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).


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