

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 26, 2023

NATIONAL

- **On July 25, the Union cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi - cleared the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023**
 - ✓ The bill seeks to hand over control of the national capital's bureaucratic machinery to the Centre
 - ✓ The legislation will replace the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, promulgated by the President on May 19
 - ✓ The bill is expected to be tabled in the ongoing Monsoon session of Parliament to replace the ordinance
 - ✓ On May 19, the Union government had promulgated the Ordinance to set up a National Capital Civil Service Authority for transfer and posting of Group A officers in Delhi.
 - ✓ On May 11, the Supreme Court granted control over services in Delhi (excluding police, public order, and land) to the elected government led by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
 - ✓ Prior to the apex court's verdict on May 11, the transfer and postings of all officers in the Delhi government were under the executive control of the Lieutenant Governor.
 - ✓ Ordinances are issued by the President on the Cabinet's recommendation when Parliament is not in session, and they must be replaced by a law within six weeks of the commencement of the next session.

- **On July 25, the Rajya Sabha - passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2022**
 - ✓ The Bill aims to include the Dhanuhar, Dhanuwar, Kisan, Saunra, Saonra and Binjhia communities of Chhattisgarh in the list of scheduled tribes
 - ✓ It was passed in the Lok Sabha in December through a voice note.

- ✓ The Bill also seeks to formalise Bhuinya, Bhuiyan and Bhuyan as synonyms of the Bhardia Bhumia community and includes three Devanagari versions of the name of the Pando community
 - ✓ The bill, which will benefit around 72,000 people in Chhattisgarh, was moved by tribal affairs minister Arjun Munda
 - ✓ It amends the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, with respect to its application to Chhattisgarh
- **On July 25, Lok Sabha - passed two bills- The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2022 and the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022**
- ✓ The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2021 seeks to promote commercialisation of Indian medicine systems and cultivation of wild medicinal plants and foreign investment in the sector
 - ✓ According to Union environment minister Bhupendra Yadav, this bill intends to promote ease of doing business and research, cooperation and innovation.
 - ✓ The Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill seeks to strengthen cooperatives by making their functioning more transparent, introducing a system of regular elections and banning the appointment of related persons
 - ✓ The bill seeks to establish a 'Cooperative Election Authority' to introduce electoral reforms in the sector.
 - ✓ It will consist of a chairperson, vice-chairperson and members not exceeding three to be appointed by the Centre.
- **On July 25, ITC Limited, one of India's leading multi-business enterprises - released a special postal stamp on millets, in collaboration with the Department of Post, Ministry of Communication, in New Delhi**



- ✓ The exclusive postal stamp was released as part of ITC's 'Mission Millets' initiative commemorating the International Year of Millets
- ✓ The launch celebrates the Shree Anna and the nationwide efforts to raise awareness on millets

- ✓ The exclusive stamp on millets was released by Kailash Choudhary, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
- ✓ The event also witnessed the launch of ITC's initiative to encourage consumers to become millet advocates through its limited-edition digital collectible stamps.
- ✓ ITC has developed a range of millet-based products in traditional and modern formats
- ✓ Earlier this year, ITC launched its Mission Millets initiative to bring millets to the mainstream
- ✓ India is the largest producer of millets in the world.

- **The Union health ministry - is planning to launch 'Ayushman Bhav' programme to ensure optimum delivery of all state-run health schemes to every intended beneficiary**
- ✓ Ayushman Apke Dwar 3.0, Ayushman Sabha, Ayushman Mela and Ayushman Gram are some of the activities planned under the programme
- ✓ Under the Ayushman Apke Dwar 3.0, an intensive drive will begin from August 1 to ensure full saturation of the programme
 - ✓ Ayushman Apke Dwar 1 and 2 drives have been conducted successfully earlier
- ✓ Ayushman Sabha will be a village-level campaign led by the village health, sanitation and nutrition committee to ensure the benefits of all the health schemes of the central and state governments reach the intended beneficiaries
- ✓ The next pillar of Ayushman Bhav programme -- Ayushman Mela -- will be held at the level of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs).
 - ✓ As part of it, medical camps will also be organised at medical colleges at community health centre level.
- ✓ The fourth pillar Ayushman gram seeks to achieve 100% coverage of PMJAY card distribution, ABHA id generation, immunisation coverage, NCD screening, among others.

- **On July 24, the government - introduced two health bills - the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 and the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha.**
- ✓ The National Dental Commission Bill seeks to repeal the Dentists Act, 1948 and proposes to set up National Dental Commission (NMC) to regulate dental education and the profession in the country.
 - ✓ It also aims to make dental education affordable and make quality oral healthcare accessible.
- ✓ The proposed NMC will replace the current Dental Council of India which currently regulates dental education and the profession of dentistry throughout the country.
 - ✓ The panel will comprise a chairperson, seven ex-officio members, and 22 part-time members appointed by the central government.

- ✓ The Bill was introduced by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.
- ✓ The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 aims at setting up National Nursing and Midwifery Commission (NNMC) and to repeal the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.
 - ✓ The Bill provides for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by nursing and midwifery professionals, assessment of institutions, maintenance of a national register as well as state registers.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On July 25, Union Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia - inaugurated the 5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit 2023 at Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh**



- ✓ Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan was also present during the event
- ✓ The event was jointly organised by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pawan Hans Ltd., and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).
- ✓ The objective of the Summit includes enhancing the scope of the UDAN regional connectivity scheme through helicopters & small aircrafts in remote and hilly terrains.
- ✓ The event's theme is "Reaching the Last Mile: Regional Connectivity through Helicopters & Small Aircraft".

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) - has issued a warning about a new internet ransomware virus named 'Akira.'**
- ✓ This computer malware is primarily targeting Windows and Linux-based systems

- ✓ As per the advisory, the ransomware group behind Akira is known for stealing vital personal information from victims and encrypting their data, leading to extortion of money.
- ✓ This ransomware group has also utilised tools such as AnyDesk, WinRAR, and PCHunter during intrusions
- ✓ The ransomware encrypts files found in various hard drive folders, excluding the ProgramData, Recycle Bin, Boot, System Volume Information, and Windows folders.
- ✓ If the victim refuses to pay, the group threatens to release their data on the dark web.
- ✓ Ransomware is a computer malware that infects and blocks users from using their own data and system, which are given back against a pay-off.

ECONOMY

- **On July 25, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) - raised India's gross domestic growth projection for 2023-24.**

Leading The Pack

GROWTH PROJECTION (%)		
	2023	2024
World	3.0	3.0
US	1.8	1.0
Euro area	0.9	1.5
UK	0.4	1.0
China	5.2	4.5
India*	6.1	6.3
Brazil	2.1	1.2
South Africa	0.3	1.7

India retains fastest growing major economy tag

*Data for FY24, FY25, Source: IMF

- ✓ In its latest update to the World Economic Outlook (WEO), the IMF has projected a growth rate of 6.1% in 2023, a 0.2 percentage point upward revision compared with the April projection
- ✓ In April, the IMF had cut India's GDP growth forecast for 2023-24 to 5.9% from 6.1%, citing heightened global uncertainty.
- ✓ The latest update to the WEO retained the GDP growth forecast for 2024-25 at 6.3%.
- ✓ The estimate helps India retain the fastest growing major economy tag for this fiscal year and the next.
- ✓ The IMF's projection is lower than the Reserve Bank of India's estimate of 6.5%.
- ✓ The World Bank estimates growth at 6.3% and the Asian Development Bank at 6.4%.

- ✓ The forecast for China is unchanged at 5. 2% for 2023 and 4. 5% for 2024, while the global growth will slow down from last year's 3. 5% to 3% this year and the next

