



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 11, 2026

NATIONAL

Centre of Excellence for Human Wildlife Conflict Management Inaugurated

- The Centre of Excellence on Human-Wildlife Conflict was inaugurated on 10 July 2026.
- It has been established at the WII-SACON campus in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- The centre will function as a national hub for human-wildlife conflict management.
- It will support research, innovation, policy formulation, and capacity building.
- The centre will develop scientific solutions for conflict prevention and mitigation.
- Advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), satellite mapping, and predictive analytics will be used.
- The National Human-Wildlife Conflict Portal was launched during the inauguration.
- The portal will improve data collection, monitoring, and evidence-based decision-making.
- A report on the status and challenges of human-wildlife conflict in India was also released.
- The initiative aims to ensure wildlife conservation while safeguarding human lives and livelihoods.

STATE

Delhi Introduces Pink Saheli Smart Card for Free Bus Travel

- The Delhi Government will introduce the Pink Saheli Smart Card from 1 August 2026.
- The card will replace the existing paper-based pink ticket system.
- Women travelling on DTC and DIMTS (Cluster) buses must use the smart card.
- Passengers must tap the card on the electronic card reader while boarding.
- Women without the card will need to purchase a regular ticket.
- The initiative aims to digitise the free bus travel scheme.
- It will reduce paper usage and improve environmental sustainability.
- The system will enhance transparency, efficiency, and ticket verification.
- It is also designed to prevent misuse of the free travel scheme.
- The government has established 50 registration centres across Delhi for issuing the cards.

DEFENSE

Indian Air Force Retains Third Rank in Global Airpower

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) retained 3rd position in the WDMMA 2026 Global Air Power Rankings.
- It remained ahead of China's People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) for the fifth consecutive year.
- Only the United States Air Force and Russian Air Force ranked above the IAF.
- The rankings are based on the True Value Rating (TVR) methodology.
- The IAF operates around 1,716 military aircraft.
- Its fleet includes 542 fighters and 498 helicopters.
- It also has 282 transport aircraft and 374 trainer aircraft.
- The force possesses 20 special mission aircraft.

- The ranking reflects strong operational readiness, modernization, and indigenous capabilities.
- The IAF still faces shortages in fighter squadrons, AWACS, and aerial refuelling aircraft.

INS Mahendragiri Joins Indian Navy Eastern Fleet Successfully

- INS Mahendragiri (F38) joined the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet on 11 July 2026.
- It is the sixth and final stealth frigate under Project 17A.
- The warship was commissioned at Visakhapatnam.
- It was designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau.
- The vessel was built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai.
- The frigate has over 75% indigenous content.
- It features advanced stealth, automation, and network-centric warfare capabilities.
- INS Mahendragiri is equipped for anti-air, anti-surface, anti-submarine, and electronic warfare.
- It will also undertake maritime security, surveillance, HADR, and search & rescue operations.
- The induction strengthens India's Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative in defence manufacturing.

SCHEMES

UP Mahila Udyam Nidhi Yojana Boosts Women Entrepreneurship and Finance

- UP Mahila Udyam Nidhi Yojana 2026 supports women entrepreneurs in Uttar Pradesh.
- The scheme offers loans from ₹50,000 to ₹10 lakh.
- Loans are available at an interest rate of around 4%.
- Loans up to ₹2 lakh do not require collateral.
- Eligible applicants must be women aged 18-60 years.
- Applicants must be permanent residents of Uttar Pradesh.
- Annual family income should be below ₹3 lakh.

- An Aadhaar-linked bank account is mandatory.
- Priority is given to SHG members, widows, women with disabilities, and minority women.
- Applications can be submitted online or through district UP Mahila Nidhi offices.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Population Day 2026

- World Population Day is observed every year on 11 July.
- It raises awareness about population and development issues.
- The day was established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989.
- It originated from the Five Billion Day milestone of 11 July 1987.
- The 2026 theme is “Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people: today and in the future.”
- It promotes reproductive health and family planning.
- The observance encourages gender equality and women’s empowerment.
- It highlights the importance of quality education and healthcare.
- Governments organize awareness campaigns and educational programmes.
- The day supports inclusive and sustainable development worldwide.

