

CURRENT AFFAIRS : INDIA AND THE WORLD

WINTER OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS

Beijing chosen to host 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics

31 July 2015

Thomas Bach, the President of International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that Beijing will host the 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. Chinese capital was chosen ahead of Almaty, Kazakhshtan at the 128th IOC session in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

With this, Beijing became the first city to host both the Summer Olympics and Winter Olympics. It hosted Summer Olympics in 2008.



RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARD

Ramon Magsaysay Awardees for the year 2015

29 July 2015

The Board of Trustees of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation announced the Ramon Magsaysay awardees for the year 2015.

Among the five awardees who will be conferred with the Asia's Nobel Prize, there are two Indians, namely Sanjiv Chaturvedi and Anshu Gupta.

Sanjiv Chaturvedi : He was awarded for Emergent Leadership for his role in investigating corruption in public office. He is an Indian Forest Service officer and currently the deputy secretary of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). He also served as a Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) at AIIMS during 2012-14.

Anshu Gupta : He founded *Goonj* in 1999, which is a non-governmental organisation based in Delhi and works in 21 states across India in disaster relief, humanitarian aid and community development.

The awards will be presented on 31 August 2015 at Manila, Philippines.



Sanjiv Chaturvedi

Anshu Gupta

MOST POPULOUS NATION

India to become most Populous Nation by 2022

29 July 2015

United Nations released the report titled **World Population Prospects : The 2015 Revision** at the UN Headquarters in New York.

According to the report, India will surpass China to become the most populous nation in the world by 2022. In the forecast issued by UN in 2013 India was expected to surpass China's population by 2028.

TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft launched Windows 10 Operating System

29 July 2015

Microsoft Corporation launched a free version of Windows 10 Enterprise edition for 190 countries. The free-trial will be available for 90-day to check out the new Operating System (OS).

The free edition provides a chance to test-drive the new Operating System before deciding if one really wants to upgrade from Windows 7 or 8.1. This operating system will be available for free to Windows 7 and 8.1 users who reserved the copy. This upgrade will be available free for one year.



NATURE CONSERVATION

Punjab Government to create Beas Belt near Harike Patan as habitat for Gharials

28 July 2015

Punjab Government announced that it is trying to make Beas Belt, near Harike Patan as a habitat of *Gharials (Gavialis gangeticus)*. For this purpose, in initial phase 15 Gharials will be released in the Beas belt in February-March 2016.

The Gharials will be released in the area by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWFN), an NGO near Karmowal village which has ample water bodies with sand banks. Thus, the area will be suitable for being developed as habitat for the species.

INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY

International Tiger Day observed across the world

29 July 2015

International Tiger Day was observed across the world on 29 July 2015. The day is observed every year since 2010 to promote the protection and expansion of the wild tiger habitats and to gain support through awareness for tiger conservation.

In last 100 years, world has lost 97 per cent of all wild tigers. The tiger count has fallen from 1,00,000 in 1913 to 3,274 in 2013 to 3,200 in 2014.

Tigers lost 93 per cent of their natural habitat due to the expansion of cities and agriculture by humans. Besides, human-wildlife conflict and climate change also has been responsible for decline in tiger population and loss of habitat.



WORLD HEPATITIS DAY

World Hepatitis Day observed with theme 'Prevent Hepatitis. Act Now'.

28 July 2015

World Hepatitis Day was observed across the world on 28 July 2015 with the theme **Prevent hepatitis. Act now**. The day acts as a significant global platform for raising awareness about hepatitis and influence real change in disease prevention, testing and treatment.

The observance of the day in 2015 focuses particularly on Hepatitis B and C. These two combined cause approximately 80 per cent of all liver cancer deaths and kill close to 1.4 million people every year.

NATIONAL LOSS

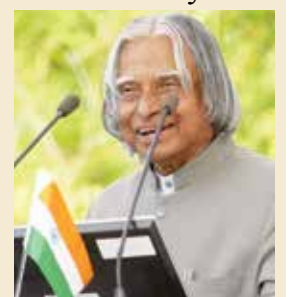
Former Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam passed away

27 July 2015

Former Indian President Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen (APJ) Abdul Kalam passed away on 27 July 2015 following his collapse during a lecture in the Indian Institute of Management, Shillong. He was 83. He was also known as the **Missile Man of India**.

Considered as the People's President, Dr. Kalam became the 11th President of the country and occupied the post between 2002 and 2007 during the NDA government headed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Even after taking the charge of President of India, he used to teach science to the youths of India.

Kalam was one of India's most eminent scientists and had the unique honour of receiving honorary doctorates from 30 universities and institutions.



TIGER POPULATION

Rapid decline in Tiger Population between 2004 and 2015

28 July 2015

Bangladesh's part of Sundarbans forest witnessed a rapid decline in the tiger population between 2004 and 2015. This was revealed by the Tiger Census 2015 in the fourth week of July 2015.

As per the Tiger Census 2015, the number of tigers in Bangladesh part of the Sundarbans declined sharply from 440 in 2004 to 106 in 2015. Sunderbans in Bangladesh are spread over 6097 sq km and are the only natural habitat of the country.

KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS

16th Anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas observed across the country

26 July 2015

The 16th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas was observed across the nation on 26 July 2015. On this day in 1999 Indian Army defeated Pakistan Army in the Kargil War.

The observance of the day in 2015 was marked with paying tribute to Kargil War heroes by laying a wreath at Amar Jawan Jyoti in Delhi by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar and three service chiefs – Army chief General Dalbir Singh Suhag, Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha and Navy chief Admiral RK Dhowan.



DISCOVERY

Earth-like exoplanet Kepler 452b discovered

23 July 2015

Earth-like exoplanet Kepler 452b was discovered by Kepler Mission. The discovery of it was made public during the NASA press conference on 23 July 2015. It resides in a year-long orbit in the habitable zone of a Sun-like star in the constellation of Cygnus some 1400 light-years away.

The planet is a near-twin of Earth orbiting Sunlike Star and is estimated to 1.6 times (60 per cent) larger than Earth. It is likely rocky and could have a mass of anywhere between one to five times that of our own planet.

In addition to Kepler 452b, the Kepler Mission also discovered 11 yet-to-be-confirmed candidate planets that appear to be small, rocky and potentially suitable for life.

YOUNG SPORTS STAR

Shubham Jaglan won Junior Golf event 2015

22 July 2015

10 years old Shubham Jaglan won the IJGA World Stars of Junior Golf event in Las Vegas. Jaglan is the son of a milkman from rural Haryana, India.

He shot a three round score of 106 winning by a five-stroke margin, ahead of two Americans Justin Dang and Sihan Sandhu and Thailand's Pongsapak Laopakdee for the Boys 9-10 years category title.

He also scripted a brilliant one-stroke win at the Junior World Golf Championships that was held at Welk Resort Fountain Course in California.



WORLD'S LARGEST FLOWER

World's largest flower Amorphophallus Titanum bloomed at Jindai Botanical Gardens

27 July 2015

World's largest flower **Amorphophallus Titanum** bloomed for the first time in 5 years in the fourth week of July 2015 at The Jindai Botanical Gardens in Tokyo, Japan.

The flower Titan arum measuring 2 metres (6.5 feet) in height rarely flowers and is notoriously difficult to propagate.

It is commonly called the corpse flower because it smells like rotting meat that helps attract pollinators such as beetles and flies.



ROAD EXPEDITION

First All Women Trans Continental road expedition from Delhi to London

23 July 2015

First All Women Trans Continental Road Expedition from Delhi to London was flagged off on 23 July 2015. The expedition started from Major Dhyanchand Stadium of New Delhi.

The three female participants, namely Nidhi Tiwari, Rashmi Koppa and Soumaya Goel, will reach United Kingdom in 55 days. During the journey, they will cover a distance of 15,000 kms via Myanmar, China, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium and France.

This all women team will be travelling in one vehicle without any backup vehicle and the journey will be sponsored by Mahindra First Choice Wheels Limited.



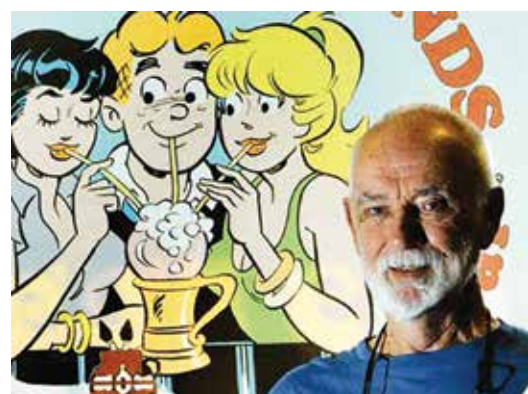
DEMISE

Cartoonist Tom Moore died

20 July 2015

Cartoonist Tom Moore, who gave life to the cartoon character Archie, died on 20 July 2015 after battling with lung cancer in El Paso, Texas. He was 86. Moore was famously known for drawing the cartoon character Archie Andrews and his friends on and off from 1953 until he retired in the late 1980s.

Moore began drawing cartoons while serving in the US Navy during the Korean War. After the war, Moore attended a school in New York for cartoonists. He studied under Tarzan comic strip illustrator Burne Hogarth.



POWER GENERATION

India ranked 12th in terms of Power Generation from Nuclear Source

22 July 2015

With the total power generation from nuclear reactors at 5308 MWe, India is ranked 12th in the world in terms of power generation from nuclear sources.

This was revealed by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Atomic Energy and Space in a reply to an unstarred question in Lok Sabha on 22 July 2015, though the data with respect to this was published by Power Reactor Information System (PRIS) of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in May 2015.

NATIONAL BROADCASTING DAY

National Broadcasting Day observed across the country

23 July 2015

National Broadcasting Day was observed on 23 July 2015 across the country. It is on this day in 1927, the Indian Broadcasting Company started radio broadcasting from Bombay station.

To mark the day, All India Radio (AIR) organized a symposium on the subject Creation of New India and Broadcasting Medium in New Delhi.

WORLD'S FIRST MALARIA VACCINE

Mosquirix, World's First Malaria Vaccine

24 July 2015

The world's first malaria vaccine called Mosquirix got approval from European Medicines Agency (EMA).

The vaccine was licensed for use on babies aged between 6 weeks and 17 months in Africa, which is at the highest risk of the mosquito-borne disease.

The vaccine developed by British drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline in partnership with the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative, would be the first licensed human vaccine against a parasitic disease and could help prevent millions of cases of malaria.

NEW FISH SPECIES DISCOVERED

New Fish Species named Puntius Dolichocheilus discovered in Kerala

22 July 2015

A new species of cyprinid fish – Puntius Dolichocheilus was discovered from a small water stream in Alappuzha district's Kayamkulam city of Kerala.

Puntius Dolichocheilus that is found in small and shallow water channels has been included in the fish family Cyprinidae. These fishes are edible and can be utilised as ornamental fish.

The fish was discovered, named and described by Mathews Plamoottil, head of the department of zoology, Baby John Memorial Government College, near Kollam city.



India's 1st indigenously designed and developed High Thrust Cryogenic Rocket Engine tested

16 July 2015

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully tested India's first indigenously designed and developed High Thrust Cryogenic Rocket Engine generating a nominal thrust of 19 tonnes at ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri.

The rocket was tested for duration of 800 seconds, which is approximately 25% more than the engine burn duration in flight.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Nelson Mandela International Day observed

18 July 2015

Nelson Mandela International Day was observed across the world on 18 July 2015 to honour the former South African President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nelson Mandela (1918-2013).

PLANT SPECIES DISCOVERED

2 New Plant Species Discovered in Western Ghats

20 July 2015

A team of researchers led by CN Sunil reported discovery of two new plant species – **Vellithumpa (silver flower)** and **Eriocaulon manoharanii**. These plants were discovered from the Pooyamkutti-Adamalayar and Neriamangalam forest regions of Western Ghats in Kerala.



MICROCHIP WITH STEM CELLS

Scientists created Mini Heart on Microchip with Stem Cells

18 July 2015

Scientists belonging to the University of California of the USA conducted a research that led to the development of mini heart (Cardiac Microphysiological System) on a microchip using human stem cells. The study was led by Indian-origin scientist Anurag Mathur.

The Cardiac Microphysiological System, which is hardly the width of a human hair, is expected to replace non-human animal models that are used in drug discovery and development process.

KUTCHI NEW YEAR

Kutchi New Year observed in Kutch

18 July 2015

Kutchi New Year of Kutchi community in the Kutch region in Gujarat was observed on 18 July 2015. Kutchi community observes this New Year on the second day of **shukla paksha** or waxing phase of moon in **Ashada** month – **Ashadhi Beej** or **Dwitiya**.



Remnants of India's one of the Oldest Ports discovered in Goa

15 July 2015

A team of scientists from Goa based National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) discovered the remnants of a historically important port on Goa's Zuari river which is expected to be amongst the oldest signs of human trade on the central west coast.

The Port is supposed to have existed between 1000AD to 3500 AD which makes it India's oldest ports. The researchers are also of the opinion that they may discover a dockyard similar in structure to Lothal dockyard in Gujarat which was discovered by Archeological Survey of India (ASI) in 1954.

NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT COMPETITION

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Churachandpur of Manipur won 18th National Youth Parliament Competition

15 July 2015

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) of Churachandpur in Manipur won the 18th National Youth Parliament Competition for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas.

JNV Churachandpur emerged winner from a list of 64 JNVs spread across 8 regions of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti in the country.

WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY

World Youth Skills Day observed globally

15 July 2015

The World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) was observed globally for the first ever time. The day was observed under the theme **Youth Skills for Work and Life** in the post-2015 agenda. The theme is in line with the upcoming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

Professor Kamal Bawa, an Indian-origin scientist, elected to Royal Society of London

July 2015

Prominent Indian-origin scientist Professor Kamal Bawa was in news in the first week of July 2015 as

he was elected, along with other two Indian-origin scientists, to the Royal Society of London. Other two scientists were – Ajay Sood and John Kuriayn.

The three scientists were elected for life to the society through a peer review process on the basis of excellence in science.



ECOLOGY

New Species of Butterfly Discovered

10 July 2015

A new species of tiny butterfly species called Banded Tit (*Hypolycaena Narada*) discovered in the green forests of the Changlang district in Arunachal Pradesh. The discovery



of Banded Tit was announced by Dr. Yogesh, State Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife and Biodiversity, in Itanagar on 10 July 2015.

India's First Railway-line built under PPP Model inaugurated in Gujarat

14 July 2015

Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhu inaugurated the broad-gauge railway-line between Gandhidham and Tuna-Tekra Port in Gujarat by flagging off a goods train.

The rail line is India's first railway-line built with private sector participation under Non-Government Railway (NGR) Policy 2012 of Indian Railways.

The rail line has been built at a cost of approx 185 crore rupees for M/s Kandla Port Trust (KPT) to bring about better and faster rail connectivity to Port of Tuna & Tekra.

EARTHQUAKE WARNING SYSTEM

India's 1st Earthquake Warning System successfully installed in Uttarakhand

10 July 2015

An Earthquake Warning System (EWS) was successfully installed in Dehradun, Uttarakhand in the first week of July 2015. With this, Uttarakhand became the first Indian state to install a system that can detect earthquakes and disseminate warnings.

The system was designed and manufactured by Italian firm Space Dynamics which has already installed this system in Japan, Italy and US. The system will issue warnings 1-40 seconds before the occurrence of earthquakes of magnitude 5 or more.

COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT

Indian Army dedicated *Perna Sthal* at Hussainiwala to the Nation

8 July 2015

Indian Army dedicated the monument named *Perna Sthal* at Hussainiwala to the nation. The commemorative monument was built to honour the sacrifice of soldiers of India.

The newly constructed *Perna Sthal* is located at the gateway of the memorial to Shaheed Bhagat Singh at Hussainiwala, a village in Ferozpur district of Punjab, India, where Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were cremated on 23 March 1931.

AILMENT DUE TO HEAVY BAGS

58 Per Cent School Kids suffer from Orthopaedic Ailment due to Heavy Bags

3 July 2015

A committee appointed by the Maharashtra government submitted its 12 pages report to the Bombay High Court on 3 July 2015. The report says that over 58 per cent of students below 10 years of age who carry heavy school bags are suffering from orthopaedic ailments in Maharashtra.

The division bench of Justice VM Kanade and Justice Colabawala was informed that the report has been accepted by the Maharashtra Government.

OPERATION SHIVA

Army launched Operation Shiva to secure Amarnath Yatra

2 July 2015

In order to provide security to those devotees taking part in the 59 days long annual Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, Indian Army in first week of July 2015 launched Operation Shiva. The Yatra started on 2 July 2015.

The operation was launched on the basis of intelligence report suggesting that a group of 15 terrorists are likely to attempt a strike.

Healthy Mind and Body

To keep our brain and body working well, we should eat a balanced diet. For this, we need to add a variety of fruits, vegetables and grains in our daily food intake. Exercise is also very important to become active. It reduces our stress and helps the heart, bones and other organs stay strong and healthy. We should spend at least an hour in doing physical activities every day.

We should find out the ways to make ourselves happy. Our happiness could be in reading novels, playing piano, watching movies, listening to good music or participating in public functions or social activities.

Make a chart and create your own healthy-living plan. Refer to it every day as a reminder that you can choose to live your best life. Say "YES" to a healthy lifestyle and "NO" to an unhealthy lifestyle.



Unhealthy behaviours I want to change

1. _____	4. _____
2. _____	5. _____
3. _____	6. _____

My favourite physical activities

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

My favourite healthy foods

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

My favourite healthy ways to have fun

1. _____	4. _____
2. _____	5. _____
3. _____	6. _____

ART & CRAFT ZONE

Follow the steps and draw the cartoon characters. Make them attractive with colour pencils.

Step 1

Step 2

Let's make a chair using ice cream sticks of various sizes.

Step 1

Bring some ice cream sticks, glue and a cutter.

Step 2

Cut the sticks short very carefully as shown.

Step 3

Now start pasting them in the form of a chair.

Step 4

Make the back of the chair.

Step 5

Make legs of the chair as shown.

MATERIAL YOU NEED

- Ice cream Sticks

Give final touch to the chair by pasting ice cream sticks to form its seat. You can colour it using poster colours of various shades.