

WEEKLY GK NOTES- 21st to 27th JULY

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1) Air India A321's APU Catches Fire at Delhi During Disembarkation

On July 22, 2025, Air India's Airbus A321 (flight AI 315) from Hong Kong suffered a fire in its auxiliary power unit (APU), a small jet-engine located in the tail used to power onboard systems when the aircraft is parked shortly after landing and while passengers were disembarking at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport. The APU automatically shut down as designed, ensuring that all around 170 passengers and crew exited safely with no injuries reported. The aircraft sustained minor damage, has been grounded pending investigation, and the incident has been reported to the DGCA. Initial assessments point toward a possible maintenance-related fault. In aviation, although rare, APU fires can result from internal seal failures or oil leaks; previous global incidents, like those at Heathrow and Paris CDG, involved smoke or emergency evacuation events tied to APU malfunctions

2) U.S. to Withdraw from UNESCO for Third Time, Citing "Woke" Agenda & Anti-Israel Bias

On July 22, 2025, the U.S. State Department announced the Trump administration's decision to withdraw from UNESCO, citing concerns over anti-Israel bias and its alignment with divisive "woke" policies, including DEI and pro-Palestinian initiatives. This will mark the third U.S. withdrawal (1983 under Reagan, 2017 under Trump, and now again), after a brief return in 2023 under the Biden administration aimed at countering growing Chinese influence within the organisation. The exit is set to take effect on December 31, 2026, though the U.S. will remain a member until then and currently contributes around 8% of UNESCO's budget. The U.S. specifically criticised UNESCO's "anti-racism toolkit," recent gender initiatives, and its recognition of Palestinian-related heritage sites. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay expressed deep regret, noting that reforms and diversified funding have reduced reliance on U.S. contributions, and reaffirmed the organisation's ongoing work in Holocaust education, AI ethics, and cultural preservation

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3) France Urges Israel to Open Gaza to International Press Amid Worsening Crisis

On July 22, French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot called on Israel to allow entry for foreign journalists and press outlets into Gaza, warning that the ongoing conflict, now entering its 21st month, has created a dire humanitarian crisis coupled with increasing hunger and civilian suffering. He argued that independent reporting is essential for global accountability. Concurrently, the AFP news agency appealed for safe evacuation and protection for its journalists and freelancers still operating from Gaza under severe risk

4) Iran Reaffirms Uranium Enrichment Program Despite U.S.–Israeli Strikes

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, speaking ahead of diplomatic talks in Istanbul scheduled for July 25, reaffirmed Iran's commitment to its nuclear enrichment program, even after U.S. and Israeli attacks caused significant damage to key facilities. He stressed that enrichment is a matter of national pride and scientific achievement and asserted that Iran will not abandon the program, although it remains open to dialogue mediated by Europe. According to U.S. assessments, damage from the strikes may delay Iran's program by up to two years

5) India Cabinet Approves India-UK Free Trade Agreement, to Be Signed in London on July 24

On July 22, 2025, India's Union Cabinet approved the long-awaited India-UK Free Trade Agreement, officially titled the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), paving the way for its formal signing in London on July 24, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit alongside Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal. Negotiations, triggered in 2022 and concluded in May 2025, cover goods, services, intellectual property, government procurement and innovation. The agreement eliminates tariffs on virtually 99% of Indian exports such as textiles, garments, footwear, gems, jewellery and agricultural products, while UK imports—like whisky, gin, cars, electronics and salmon will see average tariffs reduced from 15% to around 3%, and specific levies (e.g. whisky duty) halved to between 75% and 40% over ten years. Industry leaders, especially in Rajasthan, Punjab and other manufacturing hubs, have hailed the pact as transformational, expecting a sharp boost in exports, competitiveness and long-term economic ties. However, analysts warn of short-term revenue impacts, with projected customs duties losses of about ₹4,060 crore in the first year, expected to widen over the next decade unless countered with fiscal

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measures. The deal remains subject to ratification by the UK Parliament and may take several months to enter into force due to Britain's wider legislative process

6) Japanese Prime Minister Ishiba Denies Resignation Rumours Amid U.S. Trade Pact

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba denied media reports on July 22, claiming he plans to resign after the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's crushing defeat in the recent upper house election. He described the resignation rumours as "completely unfounded," emphasising that there had been "no discussion of his resignation at all" and underlining his commitment to steering through a critical U.S. trade agreement. Reuters had earlier reported that he was expected to resign by August in response to mounting political pressure, but sources close to Ishiba said he awaited the August 1 deadline tied to signing a "massive" trade deal with the U.S., under which Tokyo would impose a 15% reciprocal tariff on its exports to America and invest \$550 billion in U.S. industries. Ishiba said he shared a strong sense of crisis with former prime ministers and intended to see the trade pact take effect before considering any leadership change.

7) WHO Issues Global Alarm Over Rising Chikungunya Epidemic Risk

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has released a global alert regarding the resurgence of the mosquito-borne chikungunya virus, warning that current patterns mirror those preceding the major 2004–2005 epidemic that affected nearly half a million people. With major outbreaks already underway in Indian Ocean islands, including La Réunion, Mayotte, and Mauritius, the virus is now spreading into parts of Africa, South Asia (including India), Southeast Asia, and Europe. WHO technical lead Diana Rojas Alvarez highlighted that 5.6 billion people in 119 countries now live in areas at risk. Experts are urging governments to ramp up mosquito control, surveillance, and public awareness, emphasising that while chikungunya is seldom fatal, it can cause debilitating symptoms like prolonged joint pain and even long-term disability.

8) Debris Confirms Crash of Missing Russian An-24 Passenger Plane near Tynda

Debris from the missing Antonov An-24 passenger aircraft has been located in Russia's remote Amur region, confirming it crashed approximately 15 km south of Tynda, near the Chinese border. Operated by Angara Airlines, the nearly 50-year-old twin-engine turboprop disappeared from radar mid-approach with around 48–49 people onboard, including 43 passengers (five children)

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and six crew members, according to regional Governor Vasily Orlov and emergency services. The fuselage was found completely burnt and destroyed, and no survivors were located. The accident underscores risks associated with operating ageing aircraft in Russia's sparsely populated far east, characterised by harsh weather and limited access.

9) Thailand Launches F-16 Airstrikes on Cambodian Military Targets Amid Border Conflict, Civilian Killed

In response to escalating tension over a disputed border, the Royal Thai Air Force deployed F-16 fighter jets to bomb Cambodian military positions along the frontier. Thai authorities reported at least two civilian deaths and widespread damage, with Cambodia accusing Thailand of targeting civilian zones. Thailand also cited multiple casualties caused by Cambodian artillery shelling into its territory, including deaths in schools and hospitals. Hundreds of thousands of residents from both sides have been evacuated amid heavy fighting. Thailand declared martial law in affected districts, while both nations accused each other of initiating hostilities. After five days of violence resulting in more than 30 fatalities, mostly civilians, leaders from Thailand and Cambodia agreed to a ceasefire on July 28, brokered by ASEAN's Malaysian chair with diplomatic interventions from the U.S. and China. Former U.S. President Trump reportedly played a role by threatening trade sanctions if the conflict continued.

10) International News Agencies Urge Israel to Allow Press Access to Gaza Amid Crisis

A coalition of international media agencies, including AFP, AP, Reuters and BBC, has issued a joint plea urging Israel to permit journalists free access in and out of Gaza. Citing dire humanitarian conditions, extreme shortages, and rising threats to freelance reporters on the ground, the agencies warned that journalists are now experiencing the same starvation and deprivation as the people they cover. The statement emphasised the essential role of the independent press for global accountability and urged that food aid access also be expanded.

11) Brazil Poised to Join South Africa's ICJ Genocide Case Against Israel

Brazil has announced it is in the final stages of formally joining South Africa's genocide lawsuit against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ). The application centres on allegations that Israel's military operations in Gaza since 2023 constitute violations of the 1948 Genocide

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Convention, including indiscriminate strikes on civilians, hospitals, schools and refugee shelters. Brazil's Foreign Ministry cited "deep indignation" over recurring atrocities and described the use of starvation as a weapon of war. The move adds to broader support from nations such as Turkey, Spain, and Ireland, and marks a significant escalation in international legal pressure on Israel.

12) India and the UK Sign Landmark Free Trade Agreement in London, July 24, 2025

Under the historic agreement signed on July 24, 2025, India and the United Kingdom inaugurated a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA), symbolising the most economically significant post-Brexit pact for Britain and one of India's most ambitious trade deals to date. The deal grants zero-duty access on nearly 99% of Indian exports to the UK across sectors such as textiles, leather, gems & jewellery, auto components, and marine products. In return, India will cut average tariffs on UK goods from 15% to about 3%, with specific items such as Scotch whisky duties immediately halved from 150% to 75%, tapering to 40% over ten years. Car import duties will fall under a phased quota regime—from over 100% to 10%—allowing gradual liberalisation while protecting domestic manufacturers. The agreement also opens access for UK suppliers to India's public procurement market (about 40,000 federal tenders worth nearly £38 billion annually) and includes facilitated rules for movement of professionals, social security exemption for Indian workers in the UK, and no mandate for data exclusivity or patent term extensions—safeguarding India's generic pharma sector. Forecasts suggest the FTA could boost bilateral trade by £25.5 billion (US\$34 billion) annually by 2040 and increase UK GDP by around £4.8 billion per year, while opening abundant opportunities for MSMEs, particularly in Rajasthan's gems, jewellery and textile industries. The agreement is pending parliamentary ratification in both countries, with implementation expected within the next year

13) Sri Lanka Supreme Court Orders \$1 Billion Compensation for X-Press Pearl Maritime Disaster

Sri Lanka's Supreme Court has mandated that the owners, operators, and agents of MV X-Press Pearl pay US\$1 billion in interim damages to the government, in what is regarded as the country's worst marine environmental disaster. The court applied the "polluter pays" principle and directed the creation of a compensation commission chaired by a retired Supreme Court justice. The

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compensation must be paid within one year and will fund the restoration of severely affected ecosystems and fishing communities.

14) U.S. Lifts Sanctions on Myanmar Junta Allies After Praises from Military Chief

The U.S. Treasury lifted sanctions on several individuals and companies linked to Myanmar's ruling junta shortly after junta leader Min Aung Hlaing praised former President Trump and sought tariff and sanctions relief. The move comes amid strategic recalibrations linked to Myanmar's rare-earth mineral reserves, prompting criticism from Human Rights Watch as signalling a dangerous softening of Washington's stance toward the regime. U.S. officials insisted the sanction reversals were not tied to that endorsement.

15) India Grants ₹4,850 Crore Line of Credit to Maldives; Free Trade Talks Launched

During a two-day visit to the Maldives beginning July 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a ₹4,850 crore (approximately US\$565 million) Line of Credit aimed at infrastructure and development projects, including defence, healthcare, fisheries, and digital connectivity. The visit also marked the formal initiation of negotiations for a bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries, accompanied by six MoUs covering sectors such as UPI digital payments, tourism, climate, and investment cooperation. The diplomatic outreach signals a significant reset in Indo-Maldives relations amid regional geopolitical competition.

16) Cambodia Appeals for Immediate Ceasefire After Deadly Clashes With Thailand

Following intense two-day border fighting involving air strikes, artillery and ground troops, Cambodia has called for an "immediate ceasefire", making the appeal after an emergency UN Security Council session, and urging diplomacy over escalation.

17) Iran Conducts "Frank" Nuclear Talks with UK, Germany & France in Istanbul

Iranian officials held extensive and "frank" nuclear negotiations in Istanbul with counterparts from the UK, Germany and France, focusing on uranium enrichment and resuming cooperation with UN nuclear inspectors. The meeting occurred amid threats of sanctions if Iran fails to commit to compliance.

18) Massive Protests in Malaysia Demand PM Anwar Ibrahim's Resignation

More than 18,000 protesters marched in Kuala Lumpur, wearing black “Turun Anwar” (Step Down Anwar) t-shirts, demanding Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim’s resignation over rising living costs and unfulfilled reforms. Though Anwar announced cash handouts and fuel subsidies earlier this week, demonstrators appeared unconvinced, underscoring deep public discontent.

NATIONAL NEWS

19) Bombay High Court Acquits All 12 in 2006 Mumbai Train Attack Case

The Bombay High Court, in a landmark July 21, 2025 judgment, overturned the 2015 conviction of 12 men, including five previously sentenced to death and seven serving life imprisonment, for the deadly 7/11 Mumbai local train bombings, which killed 189 people and injured over 800. The bench, composed of Justices Anil Kilor and Shyam Chandak, ruled that the prosecution had "utterly failed" to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt. Citing serious investigative lapses, the court dismissed key evidence, including confessions deemed coerced and unreliable, untrustworthy witness testimonies, and flawed forensics and custodial chain of evidence. The 671-page verdict called the case a “deceptive closure” that undermined public trust, directing the immediate release of the 11 surviving accused (one died in custody in 2021)

20) Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar Resigns Citing Health Reasons

On July 21, 2025, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar tendered his resignation, stating that he wishes to “prioritise health care and follow medical advice”. At 74, Dhankhar became the third Vice President in India’s history to resign mid-term. In his letter to President Droupadi Murmu, he expressed gratitude for a harmonious working relationship and support from the Prime Minister and Parliament. His departure creates an immediate vacancy in the Vice President’s office, with the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha expected to assume responsibilities until a successor is elected. According to constitutional norms under Article 67(a), an electoral college composed of both Houses of Parliament will soon begin the process to elect the next Vice President

21) Air India Completes DGCA-Ordered Fuel-Switch Lock Checks on Boeing Fleet

In response to the fatal Air India Flight AI 171 crash in June, DGCA mandated inspections of fuel control switch (FCS) locking mechanisms across Air India's Boeing aircraft. Investigators had found that in AI 171, the fuel switches had inadvertently moved to the "cutoff" position seconds before the engines lost thrust. Following that directive, Air India completed precautionary checks on all 33 Boeing 787 Dreamliners and 75 737s operated by Air India Express. No defects or lock failures were detected in any aircraft. This review aligned with recommendations from India's AAIB and FAA guidelines

22) Indian Passport Climbs Eight Places in Henley Index to 77th Rank; Now Visa-Free Access to 59 Countries

Indian passport holders recorded their biggest-ever jump in the Henley Passport Index 2025, moving from 85th to 77th place, after gaining visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 59 countries despite only two new destinations being added to the list during this period. This year's surge marks the largest gain of any country in the index's most recent release, signalling an improvement in global mobility for Indians and reflecting India's expanding diplomatic outreach and bilateral agreements. Among newly added destinations are Sri Lanka and the Philippines, while popular visa-free countries include Malaysia, Thailand, Maldives, Indonesia, Bhutan and Nepal. The index underscores how travel empowerment aligns with India's evolving global stature, even as it continues to lag behind passports from high-income nations in overall ranking and access

23) NOIDA Granted Income-Tax Exemption under Section 10(46A) of the Income-Tax Act, Effective AY 2024–25

NOIDA, the New Okhla Industrial Development Authority, has been officially notified as tax-free under Section 10(46A) via CBDT Notification No. 116/2025, effective from Assessment Year 2024–25. The exemption covers income from non-commercial public utility services such as rent, fees, and government grants, but does not extend to commercial or profit-oriented activities, which remain fully taxable. The status remains valid as long as NOIDA continues its statutory public-purpose functions and maintains distinct records separating exempt from taxable income, failing which the exemption may be revoked.

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24) ED Books Myntra and Directors in Rs 1,654-Crore FEMA Violation Case

On July 23, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) filed a FEMA case under Section 16(3) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act against Myntra Designs Pvt Ltd, its sister companies, and company directors. The probe alleges that Myntra raised approximately Rs 1,654 crore in FDI by positioning its operations as "wholesale cash-and-carry", a model that permits 100% FDI under Indian law while actually engaging in multi-brand retail trade. The investigation claims Myntra diverted most goods to its related entity, Vector E-Commerce Pvt Ltd, which then sold directly to consumers, effectively circumventing foreign direct investment caps in retail. The ED's registration of the case signals serious regulatory scrutiny of Myntra's adherence to FDI guidelines.

25) MoRTH to Introduce FASTag Annual Toll Pass Nationwide from August 15

India's Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) is rolling out a new FASTag Annual Pass starting August 15, 2025, exclusively for non-commercial private vehicles such as cars, vans, and jeeps. Priced at ₹3,000, the pass allows up to 200 toll plaza crossings or usage for one year, whichever is earlier. Aimed at frequent highway commuters, the pass will enable digital, prepaid access to 88+ National Highway toll plazas (NHAI-operated), simplifying payments and potentially saving users around ₹7,000 annually compared to individual toll charges. Activation will be available through the Rajmarg Yatra app or official MoRTH/NHAI websites, and no paperwork is required.

26) Over 61 Lakh Voters Likely to Be Dropped from Bihar's Draft Roll, ECI Warns

Ahead of the August 1 publication of Bihar's draft electoral roll, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has reported that over 61 lakh names are set to be excluded in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR). According to the ECI, this includes approximately 7 lakh individuals who did not submit forms, 21.6 lakh deceased voters, 31.5 lakh who have relocated, 7 lakh with duplicate registrations, and 1 lakh untraceable electors. While the ECI insists the exercise aims to maintain a clean and accurate list, the Supreme Court has urged the Commission to accept Aadhaar and voter ID as valid proofs amid concerns over disenfranchisement and constitutional rights. Citizens

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now have until September 1 to file claims or objections if they believe they have been wrongly excluded.

27) Independence Day Security Tightens: Chinese Surveillance Gear Banned at Red Fort

In the wake of *Operation Sindoor*, India has ordered a complete ban on Chinese-made surveillance equipment, including CCTV cameras, drones, and radar systems, at Delhi's Red Fort ahead of the upcoming Independence Day celebrations. The Defence Ministry took control of the site on July 15, and all vendors have been directed not to install any equipment "Made in China." The move aims to mitigate potential data-security risks while boosting aerial monitoring with anti-drone radars and multilayered protections for Prime Minister Modi's address.

28) Central Government Clarifies: 30 Days Earned Leave Plus Half-Pay, Casual & Restricted Leave Available for Elder-Care

Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh, in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha on July 24, reaffirmed that under the Central Civil Services (Leave) Rules, 1972, central government employees are entitled to 30 days Earned Leave, 20 days Half-Pay Leave, 8 days Casual Leave and 2 days Restricted Holiday per year, and these can be availed for any personal reason, including the care of elderly parents

29) Narendra Modi Becomes India's Second-Longest Serving Prime Minister, Breaking Indira Gandhi's Record

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 25, 2025, completed 4,078 consecutive days in office, surpassing Indira Gandhi's previous record of 4,077 uninterrupted days between January 24, 1966, and March 24, 1977. With this milestone, Modi has become the second-longest serving Prime Minister in India's history, trailing only the nation's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, whose continuous tenure spanned over 16 years. Modi's achievement is all the more notable as he is the first and only non-Congress prime minister to secure three consecutive full terms (2014, 2019, 2024), and the longest-serving PM from a non-Hindi speaking state.

30) President's Rule in Manipur Extended for Six Months, Effective August 13, 2025

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The Union government has formally extended President's Rule in Manipur for an additional six-month period, commencing August 13, 2025, and continuing until February 13, 2026. The resolution, introduced by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Parliament and approved by the Lok Sabha and admitted in the Rajya Sabha, reaffirms the Central Proclamation issued under Article 356 of the Constitution on February 13, 2025. The imposition followed Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's resignation and the BJP's inability to form a consensus government amid prolonged ethnic violence and administrative collapse in the state. The Manipur Legislative Assembly remains under suspended animation, with its tenure intact until 2027. Critics, including the opposition Congress, have condemned the extension as undermining democratic values and the will of the people, calling it a failure of the ruling party to resolve the crisis politically. Meanwhile, security operations have intensified amid ongoing unrest and militant activity.

31) Consensual Sex Among Adolescents 16–18 Should Not Be Criminalised, Supreme Court Urged

Senior advocate and amicus curiae Indira Jaising submitted to the Supreme Court that the POCSO Act's current framework wrongly criminalises consensual relationships between adolescents aged 16 and 18, infringing on their constitutional right to autonomy. She argued that Section 2(d) of the Act should not interpret such consensual romantic relationships as sexual offences. Meanwhile, the Centre maintained in court that the age of consent must remain at 18 years, asserting that any change would dilute child protection and open the door to misuse.

32) Yogi Adityanath Announces ₹2 Lakh Aid for UP Victims of Haridwar Stampede

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed deep sorrow over the devastating stampede near Haridwar's Mansa Devi Temple that claimed six lives, including four pilgrims from UP, and injured many others. In response, CM Yogi announced an ex-gratia payment of ₹2 lakh for the families of each deceased UP resident. Officials have also been instructed to coordinate with Uttarakhand authorities to ensure the timely repatriation of the victims' bodies.

33) Kolhapuri Chappals Get QR Code Protection Amid Prada Cultural Appropriation Row

In light of controversy surrounding Prada's sandal designs resembling GI-tagged Kolhapuri chappals, authorities have now introduced QR-coded verification on authentic Kolhapuri footwear.

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Each pair will feature a unique QR code to confirm its origin and safeguard artisans from counterfeit imitations, reinforcing craft identity amid global scrutiny.

34) India Issues Travel Advisory for Seven Conflict-Hit Countries

The Ministry of External Affairs has issued urgent travel advisories for Indian nationals advising caution or avoidance when travelling to Yemen, Cambodia, Myanmar, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Lebanon and Bangladesh due to ongoing civil wars, border disputes, terrorism risks, and political instability. Indians are urged to stay in close contact with Indian embassies and avoid high-risk zones.

SPORTS

35) Asia Cup 2025 Confirmed in UAE, Hybrid Model From Sept 9–28

Asian Cricket Council President Mohsin Naqvi confirmed that the Asia Cup 2025 will be played in a hybrid format in the United Arab Emirates from September 9 to 28, featuring India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, UAE, Hong Kong, and Oman in a T20 tournament ahead of the ICC T20 World Cup 2026. As the officially designated host, India will finalise the match schedule, including a potential India-Pakistan marquee match likely in the group stage, Super Four, and possibly final.

36) Shubman Gill Joins Elite 700-Run Club in Test Series

Indian captain Shubman Gill became only the third Indian batsman after Sunil Gavaskar and Yashasvi Jaiswal to amass 700+ runs in a single Test series, compiling a commanding total of 722 runs across multiple centuries against England in England. He also became the first Asian batter to achieve this feat on English soil.

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Weekly Quiz (21st July – 27th July)

1. Which part of the Air India A321 caught fire during disembarkation at Delhi?
 - a) Engine nacelle
 - b) Cargo hold
 - c) Auxiliary Power Unit (APU)
 - d) Wing tank
2. Why is the U.S. withdrawing from UNESCO for the third time?
 - a) Budgetary constraints
 - b) Anti-Israel bias and “woke” agenda
 - c) Non-compliance with AI ethics
 - d) Protest against Palestinian recognition
3. Which two countries signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) on July 24, 2025?
 - a) India–France
 - b) India–UK
 - c) India–EU
 - d) India–Australia
4. Which Prime Minister denied resignation rumours amid a major U.S. trade pact?
 - a) Fumio Kishida
 - b) Shigeru Ishiba
 - c) Han Duck-soo
 - d) Lee Hsien Loong
5. Which country was sanctioned by the EU over refinery ties to Russia?
 - a) Saudi Arabia
 - b) Iran
 - c) India
 - d) Venezuela

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6. Which virus did the WHO issue a global alert for in July 2025?
 - a) Dengue
 - b) Chikungunya
 - c) Zika
 - d) Nipah
7. What did the Bombay High Court rule in the 2006 Mumbai train bombings case?
 - a) Upheld convictions
 - b) Death penalties upheld
 - c) Acquitted all accused
 - d) Ordered retrial
8. What rank did the Indian passport achieve in the 2025 Henley Index?
 - a) 77th
 - b) 85th
 - c) 72nd
 - d) 80th
9. How much Line of Credit did India extend to the Maldives in July 2025?
 - a) ₹5,500 crore
 - b) ₹4,850 crore
 - c) ₹6,000 crore
 - d) ₹3,750 crore
10. Which High Court was approached for decriminalising consensual sex among adolescents (16-18)?
 - a) Bombay HC
 - b) Madras HC
 - c) Supreme Court of India
 - d) Allahabad HC
11. Which landmark did PM Narendra Modi achieve on July 25, 2025?
 - a) First PM to win three consecutive terms
 - b) Surpassed Indira Gandhi's tenure as second-longest serving PM

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- c) First PM from a Hindi-speaking state to serve 10 years
 - d) Longest serving non-BJP PM
12. What new verification is being added to Kolhapuri chappals?
- a) RFID tags
 - b) DNA embossing
 - c) QR code labels
 - d) Blockchain certification
13. Which country is set to join South Africa's ICJ genocide case against Israel?
- a) Brazil
 - b) Malaysia
 - c) Ireland
 - d) Spain
14. What major move did Thailand undertake in its conflict with Cambodia?
- a) Imposed naval blockade
 - b) Deployed F-16 airstrikes
 - c) Economic sanctions
 - d) Seized Cambodian embassy assets
15. Where will the Asia Cup 2025 be hosted?
- a) India
 - b) Sri Lanka
 - c) UAE
 - d) Bangladesh
16. Which cricketer joined the elite 700-run club in a single Test series in England?
- a) Virat Kohli
 - b) Rohit Sharma
 - c) Shubman Gill
 - d) Rishabh Pant

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17. What new toll facility is MoRTH launching from August 15, 2025?
- a) FASTag Monthly Subscription
 - b) Highway Priority Pass
 - c) FASTag Annual Toll Pass
 - d) Free Toll Access Card
18. Which company was booked for ₹1,654 crore FEMA violation?
- a) Flipkart
 - b) Amazon India
 - c) Myntra
 - d) Meesho
19. Which country lifted sanctions on Myanmar junta-linked entities?
- a) UK
 - b) USA
 - c) EU
 - d) Japan
20. Who resigned as India's Vice President citing health reasons?
- a) Venkaiah Naidu
 - b) Jagdeep Dhankhar
 - c) Harivansh Narayan Singh
 - d) Bhairon Singh Shekhawat

Answer Key

- 1. c (Auxiliary Power Unit – APU)
- 2. b (Anti-Israel bias and “woke” agenda)
- 3. b (India–UK)
- 4. b (Shigeru Ishiba)
- 5. c (India – Vadinar Refinery)

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6. b (Chikungunya)
7. c (Acquitted all accused)
8. a (77th)
9. b (₹4,850 crore)
10. c (Supreme Court of India)
11. b (Second-longest serving PM after Nehru)
12. c (QR code labels)
13. a (Brazil)
14. b (Deployed F-16 airstrikes)
15. c (UAE)
16. c (Shubman Gill)
17. c (FASTag Annual Toll Pass)
18. c (Myntra)
19. b (USA)
20. b (Jagdeep Dhankhar)

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