



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

28 July 2020

## Today's Important News

India amongst biggest suppliers of Tiger body parts in the world.

### 1. The World Health Organization is observed on 28th July every year as “World Hepatitis Day”.

- The day is celebrated to enhance awareness of viral hepatitis, an inflammation of the liver that causes a range of health problems, including liver cancer.
- This year’s theme is “Hepatitis-free future,” with a strong focus on preventing hepatitis B among mothers and newborns.
- The date of 28 July was chosen because it is the birthday of Nobel-prize winning scientist Dr Baruch Blumberg, who discovered the hepatitis B virus (HBV) and developed a diagnostic test and vaccine for the virus. There are five main strains of the hepatitis virus – A, B, C, D and E. Together, hepatitis B and C are the most common cause of deaths, with 1.3 million lives lost each year.



#### Foot Notes:

About WHO:

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

**Founded:** 7 April 1948

**Director-General:** Tedros Adhanom

## 2. U.N. report flags Islamic State threat in Karnataka, Kerala

- The United Nations report recently warned that there is significant increase in ISIS terrorists in Kerala and Karnataka. The report was titled “Report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team concerning ISIS”
- The report says that Al-Qaida, that has 150-200 militants from India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Myanmar is planning to attack Indian Subcontinent. The Al-Qaida in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) operates under Taliban. It is mainly rooted in the Nimruz, Kandahar and Helmand provinces of Afghanistan.
- The Islamic State is also known as ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) or Daesh. It is Sunni Jihadist group that seized large swathes of territory in eastern Syria since 2014. In 2019, the group claimed to have established a new province in India called the IS Indian affiliate (Hind Wilayah).



### Foot Notes:

#### About United Nation:

**Secretary general:** António Guterres

**Headquarters:** New York, United States

**Founded:** 24 October 1945

## 3. India amongst biggest suppliers of Tiger body parts in the world

- According to the recently released United Nations World Wildlife Crime Report, India and Thailand are the two main countries which are the suppliers of the illegal tiger products in the world.
- The report said that India and Thailand are the main source countries which were traced in the shipments seized in international trade of tiger parts.
- It also said that the shipments traced to both the countries accounted for 82 percent of the total whole tiger equivalents seized in the world in the same period.



- The most valuable body part of the tigers is their bones which are the most sought after parts of their body. The medicines made of the bones of the tiger are used to heal bone, joint and ligament injuries.

**Foot Notes:**

**About Thailand:**

**Capital:** Bangkok

**Currency:** Thai baht

**King:** Maha Vajiralongkorn

**4. DRDO launches 'Dare to Dream 2.0' contest to promote innovators on 5th death anniversary of Kalam**

- The Defence Research Development Organization launched an innovative contest "Dare to Dream". The contest was launched on the death anniversary of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- The Dare to Dream is an open challenge that promotes innovators and start ups in the country. It is launched to boost emerging technologies. The challenge promotes individuals and start ups for innovation in aerospace technologies.
- The award money for the winners is up to Rs 10 lakhs. The contest was launched by Defence Minister Raj Nath Singh.



**Foot Notes:**

**About DRDO:**

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Motto:** बलस्यमूलंविज्ञानम्; "Strength's Origin is in Science"

**Founded:** 1958

**Chairman:** G. Satheesh Reddy

**5. Somalia's Deputy PM Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid says appointed as acting Prime Minister**

- President of Somalia, Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed appointed Deputy Prime Minister Mahdi Mohammed



Gulaid as the interim Prime Minister of Somalia following the impeachment of Hassan Ali Khaire, the previous Prime Minister of Somalia.

- Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid practiced law in Somaliland and served as the legal advisor for the Second Electoral Commission.
- He worked with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the national program office for the Rule of Law, Security and Governance programs. He took office as the Deputy Prime Minister in March 2017.

**Foot Notes:**

**About Somalia:**

**President:** Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed

**Capital:** Mogadishu

**Currency:** Somali Shilling

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**6. Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched “Mausam” app for weather forecasts**

- On 27th July 2020, in the event of 14th Foundation day of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Earth Sciences launched the mobile app “Mausam” designed and developed by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)’s Digital Agriculture & Youth (DAY) team, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune and the India Meteorological Department (IMD).



- India has the best weather service in the world for disaster management with accurate warnings on tropical cyclones, heat waves and floods.

**Foot Notes:**

**About Ministry of Earth Sciences:**

**Founded:** 2006

**Headquarters:** Prithvi Bhavan, Lodi Road New Delhi

**Minister responsible:** Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Y. S. Chowdary (Minister of State).

**7. Dr. S Jaishankar authored book named "The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World"**

- The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World, a book authored by External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar, argues about the standards of India in the global order. The book was published under the HarperCollins India publications. The book centers about the three burdens that India's foreign policy carries.
- He insisted that India should not only visualise its interest but also try to communicate effectively.
- The e-version of the book is available on Amazon.



**Foot Notes:**

**About the Author Dr. S. Jaishankar:**

i. Dr. S. Jaishankar is currently the External Affairs Minister of India (Preceded by SushmaSwaraj)

ii. He served as the 31st Foreign Secretary from 2015 to 2018.

iii. He served as the Ambassador to the United States of America from 2013 to 2015, to China from 2009 to 2013 and to the Czech Republic from 2000 to 2004.

iv. He also served as the High Commissioner to Singapore from the year 2007 to 2009

v. He served as a president of the Tata Sons Private Limited.

**About the book:**

i. Three burdens, partition, delayed economic reforms and prolonged exercise of the nuclear option were listed in the book.

**About HarperCollins India:**

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Founded:** 1991

**CEO:** Ananth Padmanabhan

## 8. Cotton Corporation of India looks to boost cotton exports to Bangladesh, Vietnam

- The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is trying to boost exports of the fibre crop. A memorandum of understanding is being worked out to export 1.5-2 million bales (of 170 kilograms each) of cotton to Bangladesh while the state-run CCI will also set up its own warehouse in Vietnam to boost cotton exports.
- The CCI has so far procured 12.1 million bales of cotton. Along with its agent Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation, CCI was able to sell 900,000 bales of cotton this season.



### Foot Notes:

#### About Bangladesh:

**Capital:** Dhaka

**Currency:** Bangladeshi tak

**Prime minister:** Sheikh Hasina

#### About CCI(Cotton Corporation Of India Limited):

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

**Founded:** 31 July 1970

**Chairman & Managing director:** P Alli Rani

## 9. Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi assumes Charge as commandant of INA

- Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi, AVSM, NM assumed charge as the Commandant, Indian Naval Academy (INA).
- Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, AVSM, NM handed over charge as the Commandant, Indian Naval Academy (INA) after a successful tenure of over 13 months.



- Under the Flag Officer's leadership, on 12 November 2019, INA was bestowed with the President's Colour for rendering 50 years of yeoman service in shaping Naval leaders for Indian Navy, Coast Guard and Friendly Foreign Countries.
- Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, the erstwhile College of Naval warfare, Karanja and the prestigious National Defence College, New Delhi.
- He served as the Commandant, Naval Academy, and Commanding Officer, INS Mandovi, Goa during 2007-2009.

**Foot Notes:**

**Chief of the Naval Staff:** Admiral Karambir Singh.

**10. Two-Time Oscar Winner, Olivia de Havilland passed away at the age of 104**

- She was born on 1st July 1916, in Tokyo, Japan. On March 13, 1946, Olivia won an Oscar award for the movie 'To Each His Own' under the category Best supporting actress.
- Again in the year 1949, she won the second Oscar award for the movie 'The Heiress'.
- In the year 2008, Olivia was honoured with, National Medal of Arts and France's Legion of Honor (Légion d'honneur) award after two years.



**Foot Notes:**

**About Japan:**

**Capital:** Tokyo

**Currency:** Japanese yen

**Prime minister:** Shinzō Abe

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