

THE DAILY GK DOSE

UK Appoints Kanishka Narayan as First AI Minister



- The appointment reflects the UK's focus on AI governance and innovation.
- Father of Artificial Intelligence is John McCarthy, coined the term in 1956.
- Capital of the UK: London, Currency: Pound Sterling (£).

Chhattisgarh First to Adopt Risk-Based Business Approval System



- The system aims to improve the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB).
- The Chhattisgarh Assembly passed the Ease of Doing Business Act, 2026 to revamp the state's regulatory system.
- Capital of Chhattisgarh: Raipur. Governor: Ramen Deka. Chief Minister: Vishnu Deo Sai.

India Approves Its First Dengue Vaccine – QDenga



- India approved Takeda's TAK-003 (Qdenga), its first dengue vaccine, for people aged 4–60 years.
- It was developed by Takeda Pharmaceuticals (Japan).
- The vaccine protects against all four dengue virus serotypes (DENV-1 to DENV-4). Dengue is transmitted by the Aedes aegypti mosquito.

Sudheer Kumar Singh Appointed Director in Defence Department



- The Department of Defence functions under the Ministry of Defence.
- The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. India has three armed services—Army, Navy, and Air Force.
- The Ministry of Defence was established in 1947. HQ: New Delhi.

Andy Burnham Becomes UK's New Prime Minister

- The Prime Minister is the Head of Government.
- The UK follows a parliamentary system. The Indian Parliament consists of the President, Lok Sabha, and Rajya Sabha, whereas the UK Parliament consists of the Monarch, House of Commons, and House of Lords.
- Capital: London. Currency: Pound Sterling (£).

James Gray to Receive Career Pardo Award

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CONVERSATION
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- The award is presented at the Locarno Film Festival.
- The festival is held annually in Locarno, Switzerland for screenings in Piazza Grande.
- The Golden Leopard (Pardo d'Oro) is its highest honour. Currency of Switzerland: Swiss Franc (CHF).

India Clinches Gold & Silver at Menuires Chess



- Indian GM Rohith Krishna won the gold medal. Indian GM Raja Rithvik secured the silver medal.
- The event was held at the Menuires International Chess Championship in France.

- Chess is governed globally by FIDE. FIDE was founded in 1924. HQ: Lausanne, Switzerland. President: Arkady Dvorkovich.

L-G VK Saxena Commissions India's First 2 Geothermal Wells in Ladakh



- India's First Geothermal Wells in Puga Valley, Ladakh
- Geothermal energy uses heat from beneath the Earth's surface.
- India's geothermal potential-spread across 381 hot springs and 10 geothermal provinces including Ladakh(Puga valley), Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh.

MAJOR DESERTS AND THEIR LOCATIONS

Sahara Desert – Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mali.

Antarctic Desert – continent of Antarctica.

Thar Desert – India and Pakistan.

Gobi Desert – Mongolia and China.

Atacama Desert – Chile.

Kalahari Desert – Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

21-07-2026 / TUESDAY

On 21 July 1947, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the National Flag (Tiranga), which became the official flag of independent India on 15 August 1947.