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## Current Affairs

01 July, 2025

Saudi Deputy Minister receives Ambassador of Myanmar



### 1. Saudi Deputy Minister receives Ambassador of Myanmar

- **Diplomatic Meeting:** The Saudi Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs received the Ambassador of Myanmar as part of ongoing diplomatic engagements between the two countries.
- **Bilateral Relations:** The meeting focused on strengthening bilateral ties, especially in areas such as trade, investment, and regional cooperation.
- **Regional Stability:** Both sides discussed regional developments and emphasized the importance of stability and peaceful dialogue in Southeast Asia.
- **Humanitarian Concerns:** Issues related to humanitarian aid and the situation of displaced populations, especially the Rohingya crisis, were reportedly raised.
- **Commitment to Dialogue:** The meeting reaffirmed both countries' commitment to maintaining constructive dialogue and enhancing mutual understanding through diplomatic channels.



#### Foot notes:

##### About Myanmar-

- **Capital:** Naypyidaw
- **Currency:** Myanmar Kyat
- **Official language:** Burmese

## 2. Commodore Kartik Srimal received the YSM for distinguished leadership

- **Prestigious Award for Distinguished Leadership:** Commodore Srimal was awarded the YudhSeva Medal for “distinguished service of a high order” as the Fleet Operations Officer of the Indian Navy’s Western Fleet
- **Role in Operation Sankalp:** He played a central role in Operation Sankalp—launched in December 2023—which encompassed anti-piracy, anti-drone, and anti-missile protection throughout the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, North Arabian Sea, and areas off Somalia
- **Exceptional Operational Planning:** The award citation highlighted his “pragmatic, bold and decisive planning,” particularly during complex maritime operations in a volatile environment
- **Operational Command Timeline:** He assumed the post of Fleet Operations Officer for the Western Fleet on December 18, 2023, and led operations for over five months across a region spanning approximately 51 lakh km<sup>2</sup>



## 3. India’s First Wooden Gurdwara Opens in Fazilka, Symbol of Devotion and Design

- **Historic First of Its Kind:** This is the first fully wooden Gurdwara in India, located within the Fazilka Police Lines in Punjab. It’s gaining attention for its unique structure and spiritual appeal
- **Built with Imported Wood & Cost:** Constructed using high-quality pine/deodar wood imported from Finland, the build covered an area of approximately 80×160 ft and cost around ₹50 lakh
- **Inspiration from Hemkunt Sahib:** The design draws influence from Sikh shrine architecture, particularly Himachal’s Hemkunt Sahib, and features a magnificent wooden truss roof and sturdy pillars
- **Natural Insulation & Ambiance:** Wooden construction provides natural insulation suitable for Fazilka’s extreme seasonal temperatures. Warm yellow interior lighting enhances the serene and spiritual atmosphere
- **Initiated by SSP Bhupinder Singh Sidhu:** The project was spearheaded by then SSP Fazilka, Bhupinder Singh Sidhu. Local philanthropists, police officers, and workers rallied to raise funds and complete the structure within four months



## 4. Reliance Infra & Coastal Mechanics Launch Defence MRO Hub

- **Strategic Partnership:** Reliance Infrastructure's defence arm, Reliance Defence, has entered a strategic joint venture with U.S.-based Coastal Mechanics Inc. (CMI), a U.S. Department of Defense-authorized contractor, to establish a military-focused MRO hub in Nagpur's MIHAN SEZ
- **First Defence-Dedicated MRO in Nagpur:** This will be Nagpur's third MRO facility, but the first one exclusively catering to military aircraft and systems, signaling a major step in strengthening India's defence maintenance infrastructure .
- **₹500 crore Investment, 200 Jobs:** With an initial investment of around ₹500 crore, the hub is expected to create approximately 200 direct jobs and serve as a long-term centre for lifecycle management of defence assets
- **Targeting Legacy IAF Fleets:** The facility will support life-cycle extension and upgrade services for over 200 legacy assets, including 100+ Jaguars, 100+ MiG-29s, Apache helicopters, and L-70 anti-aircraft guns, aligning with India's move from asset replacement to performance-based logistics



#### Foot notes: About Reliance-

- **Presidents:** Mukesh Ambani, Jyoti Deshpande
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1957

#### 5. Ons Jabeur retires from Wimbledon match

- **First-Round Exit:** Former two-time Wimbledon finalist Ons Jabeur retired during her first-round match at Wimbledon 2025 against Bulgaria's Viktoriya Tomova. Tomova had won the first set in a tiebreak and was leading 2-0 in the second when Jabeur withdrew
- **Medical Timeout & Breathing Struggle:** Jabeur appeared uncomfortable in the scorching heat, needed a medical timeout in the first set, and was visibly distressed—at one point crying into a towel. She cited breathing difficulties and asthma complications





- **Heatwave Conditions:** Temperatures hit around 32–34 °C at Wimbledon on June 30, prompting the All England Club to activate its warm-weather policy. The oppressive heat exacerbated her struggles
- **Impact on Confidence & Form:** Currently ranked around No. 59, Jabeur admitted the retirement “doesn’t help” her confidence amid a particularly challenging season, marred by prior breathing issues at the Australian Open and lingering injuries

## 6. Air Marshal S Sivakumar assumes charge as Air Officer-in-Charge Administration

- **Formal Assumption of Charge:** Air Marshal S. Sivakumar took over as AOA at Air HQ in New Delhi on 1 July 2025, succeeding in managing all administration-related functions of the Indian Air Force
- **Distinguished Service Record:** Commissioned into the Administration branch of the IAF in June 1990, he brings over 35 years of service, holding an MBA in HRM (Pondicherry University) and an MPhil in Defence & Strategic Studies (Osmania University)
- **Key Command & Staff Appointments:** He has held a range of significant roles such as Senior Air Traffic Control Officer, Chief Administrative Officer of a premier flying station, Air Officer Commanding of an Equipment Depot, Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Works), and Director General (Administration) at Air HQ
- **International Mission Experience:** Air Marshal Sivakumar represented the IAF in a United Nations mission in Congo, demonstrating his operational versatility
- **Decorated Officer:** He is a recipient of the VishishtSeva Medal (VSM), awarded for distinguished service of a high order



## 7. Rear Admiral V Ganapathy Takes Command of MILIT Pune

- **Assumed Command on 30 June 2025:** Rear Admiral V. Ganapathy officially took charge as Commandant of the Military Institute of Technology (MILIT), Pune on 30 June 2025, at the institute under the Integrated Defence Staff, Ministry of Defence
- **Flag Officer with Diverse Experience:** He is a Flag Officer of the Indian Navy with extensive operational,



staff, and instructional assignments, recognized for his operational insight and institutional leadership

- **Impressive Academic Credentials:** Rear Admiral Ganapathy is an alumnus of the College of Defence Management, Defence Services Staff College, and National Defence College.
- **Leadership in a Time of Technological Evolution:** His appointment coincides with the Indian Armed Forces' drive toward rapid technological transformation and greater jointness across Army, Navy, and Air Force operations .
- **Mandate of MILIT Pune:** As Commandant, he leads a premier tri-services technical institute that trains mid-career officers from all three services and friendly foreign armed forces in niche domains such as cyber, AI, aerospace, and systems integration.

## 8. Engineer Amelia Busby receives Nautilus Cadet Award

- **Award & Recipient:** Amilia Busby, a marine engineer and recent cadet, was honored with the 2025 Bevis Minter Award—Nautilus International's Cadet award recognizing exceptional determination and resilience among Merchant Navy cadets
- **Tribute to Bevis Minter:** The award commemorates Bevis Minter, a former Nautilus Chairman, and celebrates cadets who have successfully overcome significant personal or professional obstacles in their maritime journey
- **Recognition of Resilience:** Nautilus highlighted Amilia's "determination and resilience", framing her achievement as emblematic of the highest standards of the new generation of seafarers
- **Professional Background:** Amilia completed a 3-year cadetship, earning an HND in Marine Engineering, and now holds her Engineer's Officer of the Watch (EOOW) Certificate of Competency (Unlimited)



## 9. GST Day observed on 01st July

- **Commemorates GST Implementation:** GST Day marks the anniversary of the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India, which was officially rolled out on 1st July 2017, unifying multiple indirect taxes under one system.



- **Major Tax Reform in India:** The GST is considered India's biggest tax reform since Independence, replacing various central and state taxes like VAT, excise duty, service tax, etc., with a single, unified tax structure.
- **Celebrated by Government Bodies:** The Ministry of Finance, CBIC (Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs), and GST Council commemorate this day with events, discussions, and awards to honor top-performing GST officers and contributors.
- **Highlights of 2025 Observance:** In 2025, the government highlighted record GST collections, better compliance rates, and new tech-driven initiatives like AI-based GST fraud detection, e-invoicing expansion, and GST 2.0 roadmap.

#### 10. Shefali Jariwala passed away due to heart attack

- **Cause of Death:** Shefali suffered a cardiac arrest, which is different from a heart attack. Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart suddenly stops beating properly, whereas a heart attack happens when the blood flow to the heart is blocked.
- **Hospitalization:** She was rushed to Bellevue Multispeciality Hospital in Mumbai by her husband Parag Tyagi, but was declared dead on arrival. Her body was later taken to Cooper Hospital for further procedures.
- **Investigation:** There's no indication of foul play, and her friend Pooja Ghai revealed that Parag Tyagi was questioned by the police as part of the routine investigation.
- **Tributes:** Several celebrities, including Aly Goni, Rajiv Adatia, and Divyanka Tripathi, paid their condolences on social media, mourning her sudden demise.



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