

Current Affairs: 25/26.07.2021

India Placed Among Top 10 Agricultural Produce Exporters of 2019: WTO Report



India has found place among the top 10 list of the countries exporting agricultural produce in the year 2019, according to a World Trade Organisation (WTO) report on trends in world agricultural trade in recent 25 years. The last such report was released in 1995, in which India was not in top 10. In the 2019 report, India has outclassed New Zealand to be ranked at **9th spot**.

India's share in the global agri exports was recorded to be 3.10%, with a sizable share in the export of rice, cotton, soya beans and meat.

Top Three Nations in the List

1. The European Union (EU) – 16.1% share (ranked 2nd in 1995)
2. The United States – 13.8% share (ranked first in 1995 with 22.2% share)
3. Brazil – 7.8% share (ranked third in 1995 with 4.8%)

Rudreswara Temple (Ramappa Temple) of Telangana inscribed as India's 39th UNESCO World Heritage List



The **Rudreswara Temple**, (also known as the Ramappa Temple) at Palampet, Mulugu district, near Warangal in **Telangana** has been inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage list, on July 25, 2021, during the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO. With this latest induction, there are **39** World Heritage Sites located in India. The Rudreswara temple was constructed in 1213 AD during the reign of the Kakatiya Empire.

- The iconic 13th century temple is also known as Ramappa temple, named after its architect, Ramappa
- The Rudreswara temple was the only nomination for the UNESCO World Heritage site tag for the year 2019 by Indian government.

UNESCO grants World Heritage Status to Madrid's Paseo del Prado and Retiro Park



The historic **Paseo del Prado boulevard and Retiro Park of Madrid, in Spain** has been granted the status of UNESCO World Heritage Sites on July 25, 2021. The wide tree-lined Paseo del Prado, in the centre of the Spanish capital, is home to prominent buildings such as the Prado Museum.

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The iconic Retiro Park, just adjoining with Paseo del Prado, is a 125-hectare green space, and one of the most visited attractions in Madrid's history.

Philippines becomes world's first country to approve genetically modified 'golden rice' for commercial production

The Philippines has become the first country in the world to get approval for the commercial production of genetically modified "golden rice", a variety of rice enriched with nutrients to help reduce childhood malnutrition. The Golden rice has been developed by the Department of Agriculture-Philippine Rice Research Institute (DA-PhilRice) in partnership with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), after spending nearly two decades.



It is named Golden Rice due to its bright yellow color. A cup of golden rice can give as much as 40 percent of vitamin A which is very essential for children aged six months to five years, to combat childhood blindness and save lives in the developing world. It is also the first genetically modified rice approved for commercial propagation in South and Southeast Asia.

Sweden Formally Joins The International Solar Alliance (ISA)

Leading European nation, Sweden has ratified the framework agreement for the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and its membership to officially join the Gurugram-based global platform, aimed at promoting renewable energy and sustainable development. Sweden formally joined ISA on 17 July 2021.



The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an initiative by the Government of India, for cooperation among countries to increase the use of solar energy in a safe, convenient, affordable, equitable and sustainable manner.

- The ISA was launched at the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) on November 30, 2015. It is the only international body with exclusive focus on Solar Energy with focus on delivering cleaner electricity to all by 2030.

NASA Selects SpaceX Falcon Heavy Rocket for Europa Clipper Mission to Jupiter

The US space agency NASA has selected California-based SpaceX to provide launch services for Earth's first mission to conduct detailed investigations of Jupiter's moon Europa. The mission called 'Europa Clipper mission' is scheduled to be launched in October 2024 on a Falcon Heavy rocket from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

- The main objective of this mission will be to:

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conduct a detailed survey of Europa to investigate whether the icy moon has conditions suitable for life, produce high-resolution images of Europa's surface, determine its composition, look for signs of recent or ongoing geological activity, measure the thickness of the moon's icy shell, search for subsurface lakes, determine the depth and salinity of Europa's ocean.

BS Yediyurappa Resigns as Chief Minister of Karnataka



Karnataka Chief Minister **BS Yediyurappa** has announced his resignation from the top post on July 26, 2021, when his government completed two years in the state, after being elected to power in 2019. The 78-year-old Yediyurappa, often called by his initials BSY, served as the 19th Chief Minister of Karnataka. He had served as the chief minister of Karnataka for four terms, and was the only chief minister to do so in Karnataka history.

Shiv Nadar steps down as MD of HCL Tech



Shiv Nadar, the founder of **HCL Technologies Ltd**, has stepped down as the Managing Director and Chief Strategy Officer of the company, with effect from July 19, 2021. The 76 year old Nadar, will however continue to guide the company in the capacity of Chairman Emeritus and Strategic Advisor to the board for five years. C. Vijayakumar, President and Chief Executive Officer, has been appointed as the new Managing Director for five years.

Priya Malik wins Gold at 2021 World Cadet Wrestling Championship



Indian Wrestler **Priya Malik** has won a **Gold Medal at the 2021 World Cadet Wrestling Championship** in Budapest, Hungary. Malik defeated Kseniya Patapovich 5-0 in the summit clash of women's 73kg weight category to win the yellow medal. The Indian team bagged as many as 13 medals, including 5 Golds at the Championship, to make the country proud.

Chinese Shooter Yang Qian Wins First Gold Medal of Tokyo Olympic Game



China's Yang Qian won the first gold medal of the **Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games** by winning **10m women's air rifle** event on July 24, 2021. The 21-year-old Yang won with an Olympic record score of 251.8. Russia's Anastasiia Galashina stood second with 251.1 and Switzerland's Nina Christen came third with a score of 230.6.

World Drowning Prevention Day: 25 July



World
Drowning
Prevention
Day 25 July

The **World Drowning Prevention Day**, is a United Nations recognised day, which is held on **25 July** every year. The year 2021 marks the inaugural celebration of the day. In April 2021, the UN passed a resolution, “UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/75/273 “Global drowning prevention”, to observe this day annually on 25 July. The World Health Organisation (WHO) will lead the preparations for World Drowning

Prevention Day.

Kargil Vijay Diwas : 26 July



Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated every year on **July 26** since the year 1999, to mark India’s victory over Pakistan in the Kargil conflict. The day is dedicated to our Kargil War’s Heroes and is named after the successful **Operation Vijay**. It is celebrated in view of Operation Vijay and Kargil War that ended on July 26, 1999. After this, India successfully took command of the high outposts which had been lost to Pakistan. ‘Operation Vijay’, was the code name given to India’s offensive against Pakistan to flush out the Pakistani infiltrators from the Indian territory in Kargil.

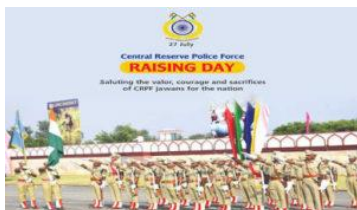
International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem: 26 July



The **International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem** (or World Mangrove Day) is celebrated annually on **26 July** to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as “a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem” and to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation

and uses. The day was adopted by the General Conference of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2015. It was on this day in 1998, that a Greenpeace activist Hayhow Daniel Nanoto, died of a heart attack during a massive protest to re-establish the mangrove wetlands in Muisne, Ecuador.

CRPF Observes 83rd Raising Day on 27 July



The **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**, observed its **83rd Raising Day on 27 July 2021**. CRPF is India’s largest Central Armed Police Force, under the authority of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Its headquarter is located in New Delhi. It came into existence as the Crown Representative’s Police on 27 July 1939. After Indian Independence, it became the Central Reserve Police Force on enactment of the CRPF Act on 28 December 1949.