

Highlights of 22 July 2026 Current Affairs

- The **Ministry of Coal** signed a technical cooperation agreement with Germany's development agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The initiative focuses on scientific mine closure, environmental restoration, and long-term community development.
- Maharashtra approved a **₹45 crore Eco-Nature Park** project at the **Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS)**, introducing India's first AI-powered bird sanctuary experience.
- The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) and the Government of Meghalaya jointly launched **Mission Golden Spice** (*Integrated Lakadong Turmeric Value Chain Enhancement Project*) in New Delhi to scale up processing, export capabilities, and farmer remuneration for GI-tagged Lakadong turmeric.
- France became the first European Union country to pass landmark legislation **banning social media access** for children under the age of 15.
- Kanishka Narayan has been appointed as the United Kingdom's first dedicated Minister for Artificial Intelligence, with the portfolio elevated to cabinet-level status by Prime Minister Andy Burnham.
- **EnKash** has introduced India's first UPI-enabled meal card, allowing corporate employees to pay for food and groceries directly from their meal benefit balance using UPI QR codes.
- India's fertiliser exports expanded by **52%** from FY24 to FY26, growing from roughly 0.31 million tonnes (317,515 tonnes) to nearly 0.48 million tonnes (479,737 tonnes).
- Global real assets investment manager **Hines** appointed **Amit Diwan** as the Head of Asia-Pacific and the Middle East to oversee unified operations across both high-growth regions.
- Paras Semiconductors Private Limited (a subsidiary of Paras Defence & Space Technologies) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the MP State Electronics Development Corporation (MPSeDC) to construct a **₹6,200 crore greenfield semiconductor OSAT facility** in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Indian Navy hosted **Operation Southern Readiness 26-2** at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi. The four-day multinational training event (20–23 July 2026) marked the first time this Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) exercise was held on Indian soil.
- The **Mukhyamantri Ayushman Arogya Yojana (MAAY)**—formerly known as the *Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana*—is Rajasthan's premier universal health protection scheme, offering one of the highest state-sponsored health coverages in India.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) transferred three indigenous biomedical technologies to domestic pharmaceutical partners. Executed on **21 July 2026**, the agreements fall under ICMR's **Medical Innovations Patent Mitra** initiative to bridge publicly funded academic research with commercial manufacturing.
- Researchers from the **MACS Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune**—an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST)—have discovered five new species of lichen-forming fungi in the Western Ghats. Published in the scientific journal *Mycological Progress*, the study represents the **first**

comprehensive molecular phylogenetic research on the genus *Allographa* in the Western Ghats.

- A reported **AI-assisted breakthrough by Harvard and Anthropic mathematician Levent Alpöge** challenges the 1939 Jacobian Conjecture, a long-standing open problem in algebraic geometry. Using the AI model Claude Fable 5, researchers identified a counterexample—a polynomial map with a constant non-zero Jacobian determinant that lacks a polynomial inverse—which was subsequently verified using SymPy and Lean. If confirmed through peer review, the discovery marks a major milestone for AI in solving complex mathematical problems and formal proof verification.
- **Finnie**, a Glaswegian unicorn, serves as the official mascot for the **Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games**.
Designed in collaboration with 76 local schoolchildren—known as the "Mascot Makers"—the character combines national symbols, Glasgow's history, and local humor.
- Indian Grandmasters **S. Rohith Krishna** (Tamil Nadu) and **Raja Rithvik R** (Telangana) secured a 1-2 podium finish for India at the **1st Menuires International Chess Championship 2026** held in Les Menières, French Alps.

Static GK – 22 July 2026

Entity	Details
Coal Minister	Shri G. Kishan Reddy
Maharashtra Chief Minister	Devendra Fadnavis
Maharashtra Capital	Mumbai
Maharashtra Governor	Jishnu Dev Varma
Meghalaya Chief Minister	Conrad K. Sangma
Meghalaya Governor	Chandrashekhar H. Vijayashankar
France President	Emmanuel Macron

Entity	Details
France Capital	Paris
France Currency	Euro
Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister	Mohan Yadav
Madhya Pradesh Governor	Mangubhai C. Patel
Madhya Pradesh Capital	Bhopal
Chief of Naval Staff	Admiral Krishna Swaminathan (27 th & current)
Rajasthan Chief Minister	Bhajan Lal Sharma
Rajasthan Governor	Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade
Rajasthan Capital	Jaipur
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister	C. Joseph Vijay
Tamil Nadu Governor	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
Tamil Nadu Capital	Chennai