

July 31, 2026

DAILY MASTER CURRENT AFFAIRS

IBPS PO/Clerk | SBI PO/Clerk | RBI Grade B | NABARD

Comprehensive Daily Digest & Quick Revision

1. Banking & Economy Current Affairs

HDFC Bank Market Cap Milestone: HDFC Bank crossed the historic ₹20 trillion market capitalization mark on July 30, 2026, solidifying its position as India's most valued lender amidst strong retail credit growth.

IMF Raises GDP Forecast: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its July 2026 update raised India's GDP growth forecast for FY27 to 7.4%, attributing the revision to resilient domestic consumption and sustained capital expenditure.

Retail Inflation Cools: Retail inflation (CPI) for the previous month cooled down to 4.2%, well within the RBI's tolerance band of 2-6%, primarily due to a sharp decline in food and vegetable prices.

2. National & International News

First AI-Powered Smart City: The Government of Karnataka inaugurated India's first fully AI-powered Smart City framework in Mysuru, integrating traffic management, water supply, and emergency services into a unified predictive AI grid.

BRICS Summit 2026: The 18th BRICS Summit concluded in Kazan, Russia, where member nations agreed on a new framework for cross-border trade settlements using local currencies to reduce dependency on the US Dollar.

Operation 'Sagar Maitri': The Indian Navy launched Operation 'Sagar Maitri' in the Indian Ocean Region, delivering critical medical supplies and disaster relief equipment to island nations affected by recent maritime cyclones.



3. RBI, SEBI, and IRDAI Updates

Regulatory Directives

- **RBI 'Digital Rupee Offline':** The RBI successfully piloted the 'Digital Rupee Offline' feature, enabling e-₹ transactions in areas with limited or no internet connectivity via secure near-field communication (NFC) protocols.
- **SEBI ESG Disclosures:** SEBI issued a mandate requiring the top 2,000 listed companies by market capitalization to submit mandatory Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) assurance reports starting October 2026.
- **IRDAI Standardised Cyber Insurance:** IRDAI has directed all general insurers to offer a standard cyber liability insurance product for individuals, addressing the rising surge of digital financial frauds.

4. Government Schemes

PM Solar Krishi Expansion: The Ministry of Agriculture announced the expansion of the 'PM Solar Krishi' initiative, aiming to provide subsidised solar water pumps to an additional 5 million farmers over the next two years.

Mahila Samman Savings Certificate Extension: The popular Mahila Samman Savings Certificate scheme has been extended by the Finance Ministry until March 2028, maintaining the attractive fixed interest rate of 7.5% per annum.

5. Appointments & Resignations

- **Sanjeev Sanyal:** Appointed as the Chairman of the newly constituted 17th Finance Commission of India.
- **Rajesh Kumar:** Took charge as the new Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Punjab National Bank (PNB).



6. Awards & Honours

Sahitya Akademi Award 2026: Renowned author Meena Kandasamy was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award for her outstanding contribution to contemporary Indian English literature.

Global Banker of the Year: Shaktikanta Das, Governor of the RBI, was honored as the 'Global Central Banker of the Year 2026' by The Banker magazine for adeptly navigating inflationary pressures.

7. Important Days

World Ranger Day (July 31): Commemorated annually to celebrate the work rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage. The 2026 theme is "Protecting Biodiversity: Our Shared Future."

8. Reports & Indices

NITI Aayog Health Index 2026: Kerala retained its position as the top-performing state in the NITI Aayog's comprehensive Health Index, followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

Global Innovation Index 2026: India climbed two spots to rank 38th in the Global Innovation Index published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).



9. Daily MCQs for Practice (Top 15)

Q1. Which bank crossed the ₹20 trillion market capitalization mark in July 2026?

- a. a) SBI
- b. b) ICICI Bank
- c. c) HDFC Bank
- d. d) Axis Bank

Answer: c) HDFC Bank

Q2. What is India's GDP growth forecast for FY27 as revised by the IMF in July 2026?

- a. a) 7.0%
- b. b) 7.2%
- c. c) 7.4%
- d. d) 7.6%

Answer: c) 7.4%

Q3. Which state inaugurated India's first fully AI-powered Smart City framework?

- a. a) Maharashtra
- b. b) Karnataka
- c. c) Gujarat
- d. d) Telangana

Answer: b) Karnataka



Q4. Where was the 18th BRICS Summit 2026 held?

- a. a) Beijing, Russia
- b. b) Kazan, Russia
- c. c) New Delhi, India
- d. d) Pretoria, South Africa

Answer: b) Kazan, Russia

Q5. Which new feature was piloted by the RBI for e-₹ transactions without internet connectivity?

- a. a) Digital Rupee Connect
- b. b) Digital Rupee Offline
- c. c) e-Rupee Lite
- d. d) e-Rupee Direct

Answer: b) Digital Rupee Offline

Q6. SEBI has mandated ESG assurance reports for the top how many listed companies starting October 2026?

- a. a) Top 500
- b. b) Top 1,000
- c. c) Top 2,000
- d. d) Top 5,000

Answer: c) Top 2,000



Q7. The 'PM Solar Krishi' initiative aims to provide solar water pumps to an additional how many farmers?

- a. a) 2 million
- b. b) 3 million
- c. c) 5 million
- d. d) 10 million

Answer: c) 5 million

Q8. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the 17th Finance Commission of India?

- a. a) N.K. Singh
- b. b) Arvind Panagariya
- c. c) Sanjeev Sanyal
- d. d) V. Anantha Nageswaran

Answer: c) Sanjeev Sanyal

Q9. Who took charge as the new MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB)?

- a. a) Atul Kumar Goel
- b. b) Rajesh Kumar
- c. c) A.S. Rajeev
- d. d) Soma Sankara Prasad

Answer: b) Rajesh Kumar



Q10. Who was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award 2026 for contemporary Indian English literature?

- a. a) Arundhati Roy
- b. b) Chetan Bhagat
- c. c) Amitav Ghosh
- d. d) Meena Kandasamy

Answer: d) Meena Kandasamy

Q11. On which date is World Ranger Day observed globally?

- a. a) July 29
- b. b) July 30
- c. c) July 31
- d. d) August 1

Answer: c) July 31

Q12. What was the theme for World Ranger Day 2026?

- a. a) Rangers Lead the Way
- b. b) Protecting Biodiversity: Our Shared Future
- c. c) Nature's Guardians
- d. d) Conservation For All

Answer: b) Protecting Biodiversity: Our Shared Future

Q13. Which state emerged as the top performer in the NITI Aayog Health Index 2026?

- a. a) Tamil Nadu
- b. b) Kerala
- c. c) Gujarat
- d. d) Maharashtra

Answer: b) Kerala



Q14. What is India's rank in the Global Innovation Index 2026?

- a. a) 40th
- b. b) 39th
- c. c) 38th
- d. d) 37th

Answer: c) 38th

Q15. Who was honored as the 'Global Central Banker of the Year 2026' by The Banker magazine?

- a. a) Urjit Patel
- b. b) Jerome Powell
- c. c) Christine Lagarde
- d. d) Shaktikanta Das

Answer: d) Shaktikanta Das

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- 1. Economy Targets & Data:** HDFC Bank hits ₹20 trillion market cap; IMF raises India's FY27 GDP forecast to 7.4%; CPI retail inflation cools to 4.2%.
- 2. Regulatory Moves:** RBI pilots 'Digital Rupee Offline' via NFC; SEBI mandates ESG assurance for top 2,000 listed companies by Oct 2026; IRDAI issues rules for standard cyber liability insurance.
- 3. Major Schemes:** 'PM Solar Krishi' expanded to 5 million farmers; Mahila Samman Savings Certificate extended to March 2028 (7.5% interest).
- 4. National & International Events:** Karnataka launches India's first AI-powered Smart City in Mysuru; 18th BRICS Summit held in Kazan, Russia; Indian Navy launches disaster relief Operation 'Sagar Maitri'.
- 5. Key Appointments:** Sanjeev Sanyal (Chairman, 17th Finance Commission); Rajesh Kumar (MD & CEO, Punjab National Bank).
- 6. Awards & Rankings:** RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das named 'Global Central Banker of the Year 2026'; Meena Kandasamy wins Sahitya Akademi Award; Kerala tops NITI Aayog Health Index; India ranks 38th in Global Innovation Index.
- 7. Important Days:** July 31 is World Ranger Day (Theme: "Protecting Biodiversity: Our Shared Future").

