

UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · [UJIYARI.COM](https://ujiyari.com)**DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS**

Current Affairs Today, July 16, 2026

16 July 2026

REPORTS & SCHEMES**GS2****GS3**

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[in linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)**ALSO FROM THE CREATOR****BharatNotes**Free UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**bharatnotes.com →**ADVERTISE****Advertise with Ujiyari**

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)



Current Affairs Today, July 16, 2026

16 July 2026 · 4 min read ·

Source: ujjyari.com — researched, fact-checked & UPSC-mapped

 **Every fact web-verified against primary sources** (<https://ujjyari.com/how-we-verify/>)

A roundup of the key current affairs for July 16, 2026, covering the items not taken up as separate deep-dive articles.

INDIA SWEEPS FIVE GOLDS AT THE INTERNATIONAL PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

All five Indian students won gold at the 56th International Physics Olympiad.

Key Points

- At the **56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO 2026)**, held in **Bucaramanga, Colombia**, all **five** members of the Indian team won **gold medals**, placing India as **joint World No. 1** alongside countries such as China, among **more than 80 nations** and around **380 students**.
- The team was trained by the **Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE)**, a unit of the **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)** under the **Department of Atomic Energy**.

FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

Event: 56th International Physics Olympiad, Bucaramanga, Colombia.

India: five students, five golds, joint World No. 1.

Trainer: HBCSE (TIFR, Department of Atomic Energy).

RETAIL INFLATION RISES TO 4.38 PER CENT IN JUNE

CPI retail inflation crossed the RBI's 4 per cent target for the first time in over a year.

Key Points

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** retail inflation rose to **4.38 per cent** in **June 2026**, up from **3.93 per cent** in May, breaching the **Reserve Bank of India's 4 per cent** target for the first time in over a year.
- The **Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI)** stood at about **5.32 per cent**, with rural inflation (**4.74 per cent**) higher than urban (**3.92 per cent**); vegetables such as ginger and tomato saw sharp year-on-year rises. The RBI's inflation-targeting band is **4 per cent plus or minus 2 per cent**.

★ FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

CPI June 2026: 4.38 per cent (up from 3.93 per cent in May).

RBI target: 4 per cent, band of plus or minus 2 per cent.

Data source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

CABINET CLEARS TWO ELEVATED CORRIDORS FOR VARANASI

The Cabinet approved two elevated corridors to decongest (<https://ujjayanti.com/vocab/decongest/>) Varanasi.

Key Points

- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved two elevated corridors in Varanasi at a cost of about **Rs 25,446 crore**: a **Varuna River Elevated Corridor** (about **43.2 km**) and a **Ganga River Elevated Corridor** (about **46.0 km**).
- Both projects will be built by the **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** under the **Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM)**, in which the government pays about **40 per cent** as construction support and the balance as annuities, to ease congestion in the temple city of Kashi.

★ FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

Projects: Varuna (about 43.2 km) and Ganga (about 46.0 km) elevated corridors, Varanasi.

Cost: about Rs 25,446 crore; agency NHAI.

Model: Hybrid Annuity Model (about 40 per cent government support plus annuities).

RAJIV KUMAR NAMED HDFC BANK CHAIRMAN

The RBI approved Rajiv Kumar as part-time chairman of HDFC Bank.

Key Points

- The **Reserve Bank of India** approved **Rajiv Kumar**, a former **Finance Secretary** and the **25th Chief Election Commissioner** of India, as the **part-time (non-executive) Chairman** of **HDFC Bank** for a term of **three years**, effective **July 15, 2026**.
- A **1984-batch IAS officer**, he is known for banking and non-performing-asset reforms during his tenure in the finance ministry and earlier chaired the **Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)**.

★ FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

Person: Rajiv Kumar, former Finance Secretary and 25th Chief Election Commissioner.

Role: part-time Chairman, HDFC Bank (three-year term).

Approval: Reserve Bank of India.

WORLD SNAKE DAY

July 16 is observed as World Snake Day.

Key Points

- **World Snake Day**, observed on **July 16**, promotes awareness about snakes and their role in ecosystems as natural pest controllers, and about conservation and safe response to snakebite.
- India records a heavy **snakebite** burden; the “**Big Four**” species responsible for most bites are the **common krait, Indian cobra, Russell’s viper and saw-scaled viper**. Snakes are protected under schedules of the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**, and snakebite envenoming is recognised as a neglected tropical disease.

★ FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

Day: World Snake Day, July 16.

Big Four: common krait, Indian cobra, Russell’s viper, saw-scaled viper.

Law: Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

UPSC RELEVANCE

These items span GS Paper 2 (governance, constitutional and [statutory](https://ujjayanti.com/vocab/statutory/) bodies) and GS Paper 3 (economy, infrastructure, science and technology, environment). Revise them as quick prelims pointers alongside the day’s deep-dive articles.

FACTS CORNER

Ujiyari Current Affairs - ujiyari.com · Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

★ FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGE PEDIA

IPhO 2026: India won five golds, joint World No. 1; trained by HBCSE (TIFR).

CPI June 2026: 4.38 per cent, first breach of the RBI's 4 per cent target in over a year.

Varanasi corridors: Varuna and Ganga elevated corridors, about Rs 25,446 crore, NHAI under HAM.

Rajiv Kumar: part-time Chairman of HDFC Bank; former Finance Secretary and 25th CEC.

World Snake Day: July 16; India's "Big Four" venomous snakes; Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Sources: Press Information Bureau (<https://pib.gov.in>), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (<https://mospi.gov.in>), National Highways Authority of India (<https://nhai.gov.in>)

Source: Current Affairs Today, July 16, 2026 — Ujiyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

RELATED EDITORIALS

THE HINDU

[Credible Statistics for Evidence-Based Governance](#)

29 Jun

THE HINDU

[MSMEs Need Credit and Formalisation. Not Just a Day.](#)

27 Jun

INDIAN EXPRESS

[West Bengal's Children Need Eggs in Their Mid-Day Meal, Not Ideology.](#)

26 Jun

INDIAN EXPRESS

[India Can Attract FDI. The Harder Task Is Retaining It](#)

25 Jun

RELATED KEY TERMS

Ujjayari Current Affairs · ujjayari.com · Free Daily Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

KEY TERM

[Anganwadi](#)

A government-run village-level child care and mother care centre under...

KEY TERM

[Annapurna Bhandar Scheme](#)

West Bengal's revamped women's cash-transfer scheme that began...

KEY TERM

[Atal Bhujal Yojana](#)

₹6,000 crore World Bank-assisted central scheme (2020-25, extended)...

KEY TERM

[Bharat-VISTAAR](#)

AI-driven multilingual digital public infrastructure for farmers,...

Ujiyari Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · ~~Free Daily~~ Current Affairs for UPSC & State PCS

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[in linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari →](#)<https://ujiyari.com/daily/2026/07/16/current-affairs-today/>

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing → \[bharatnotes.com\]\(https://bharatnotes.com\)](#)

📌 OPPORTUNITY

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

Ideal for: Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · bharatnotes.com