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DAILY DOSE

CURRENT AFFAIRS – 04/07/2026

1. Advanced Therapeutic Products (ATPs)

Recent - Central Government amended the Drugs Rules, 1945, to include Advanced Therapeutic Products (ATPs) under the Central License Approving Authority (CLAA) framework.

CLAA establishes a dual licensing mechanism by both Central and State regulators, with final approval from the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).

Key Domains: ATPs include gene therapies, cell-derived products and xenografts.

Gene therapeutic products use gene replacement or gene editing (CRISPR-Cas9) to cure genetic defects (e.g., haemophilia and sickle cell anaemia).

Cell- or stem cell-derived products include regenerative therapies and CAR-T cell therapies for blood cancers like leukaemias and lymphomas.

Xenografts are medical products derived from animal tissues, including porcine heart valves used to replace human organs or tissues.

Regulatory Bodies: CDSCO grants clinical trial and marketing approvals, while the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) oversees genetic manipulation and biosafety standards.

2. Gulf of Aden

Recent - INS Trikanth thwarted a piracy attempt against the India-bound merchant vessel MV Golden Arsenal in the Gulf of Aden.

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INS Triakand is a Talwar-class stealth guided-missile frigate built in Russia for the Indian Navy.

Gulf of Aden is a deep-water gulf between Yemen (north) and Somalia (south in the Horn of Africa). It connects Red Sea to the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean via the Bab el-Mandeb Strait (Gate of Tears).

Key Ports: Aden in Yemen, Djibouti City in Djibouti, and Berbera in Somalia.

3. Madak Padarth Nishedh Asoochna Kendra (MANAS)

Recent - AI-powered helpline (1933) and digital platform launched by Ministry of Home Affairs for anonymous drug-crime reporting and 24×7 deaddiction counselling.

It operates under the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in collaboration with the Digital India Corporation (DIC), covering both law enforcement and public health aspects.

Calls for addiction support are transferred to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) helpline 14446.

4. Changi Naval Base

INS Udaygiri (stealth frigate), INS Kavaratti (anti-submarine warfare corvette), and INS Shakti (fleet tanker) of the Eastern Fleet arrived at Changi Naval Base, Singapore, following a PASSEX exercise with the Royal Thai Navy.

Changi Naval Base, at the eastern tip of Singapore, sits at the chokepoint between the Strait of Malacca and the South China Sea. Indian Navy ships may refuel, restock, and rearm at the Base under the 2017 Bilateral Agreement for Navy Cooperation, extending India's reach into the Indo-Pacific.

5. Ati Vishisht Seva Medal

The President of India conferred Vice Admiral K. Srinivas has been conferred the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM).

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The AVSM is one of India's highest peacetime military decorations, awarded for distinguished service of an exceptional order.

The award was instituted on 26 January 1960 and it is a peacetime equivalent of Uttam Yuddh Seva Medal, which is a Wartime Distinguished Service decoration.

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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS (04/07/2026)

Q1. ATPs:

- 1 Gene therapies
- 2 CDSCO approves trials/marketing
- 3 DBT oversees biosafety.

A)1&2 B)2&3 C)1,2,3 D)1

Q2. Gulf of Aden:

- 1 Between Yemen & Somalia
- 2 Connects Red Sea to Arabian Sea via Bab el-Mandeb
- 3 INS Trikand is Talwar-class.

A)1&2 B)2&3 C)1,2,3 D)1

Q3. MANAS:

- 1 AI helpline 1933
- 2 Under NCB with DIC
- 3 MoSJE helpline 14446.

A)1&2 B)2&3 C)1&3 D)1,2,3

Q4. Changi Naval Base:

- 1 Singapore
- 2 Near Strait of Malacca & South China Sea
- 3 2017 agreement enables logistics.

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A)1&2 B)2&3 C)1,2,3 D)1

Q5. AVSM:

1 Peacetime decoration

2 Instituted 26 Jan 1960

3 Equivalent of Uttam Yuddh Seva Medal.

A)1&2 B)2&3 C)1&3 D)1,2,3

Answers

Q1 Answer: C. Explanation: All statements are correct.

Q2 Answer: C. Explanation: All statements are correct.

Q3 Answer: D. Explanation: All statements are correct.

Q4 Answer: C. Explanation: All statements are correct.

Q5 Answer: D. Explanation: All statements are correct.