

## **Weekly Current Affairs PDF August 27 to September 02 2023**

### **Current Affairs PDF- September 02, 2023**

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

##### **Indo-US task force set up to elevate electronics trade to \$100 bln in next decade**

- In a remarkable endeavor to strengthen trade relations between India and the United States within the electronics sector, the Indian Cellular & Electronics Association (ICEA) has established a dedicated task force. With a goal to elevate the current Indo-US electronics trade, currently at \$8 billion, to an ambitious \$100 billion within the next decade, this initiative follows collaborative efforts initiated after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the United States last month.
- **Ambitious Trade Target:** ICEA Chairman Pankaj Mohindroo emphasized that achieving this monumental goal would significantly bolster India's aspirations to become a global hub for innovation and manufacturing in the electronics sector.
- **Comprehensive Representation:** ICEA, serving as the apex industry body, represents the entire electronics ecosystem in India, including components, subassemblies, EMS (Electronic Manufacturing Services), and finished goods across various Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) verticals, such as mobile phones, consumer electronics, and IT hardware.
- The establishment of the Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) is a pivotal component of this initiative. It will facilitate cooperation in futuristic domains, including artificial intelligence, quantum computing, space exploration, semiconductors, and defense technology.

#### **NATIONAL**

##### **Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia Inaugurates Utkela Airport In Odisha With Maiden Flight**

- On August 31, 2023, Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, accompanied by Gen Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd), Minister of State for Civil Aviation, marked a significant milestone with the inauguration of Utkela Airport in Odisha. This development comes as part of the ambitious UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) scheme, aimed at enhancing regional air connectivity across India.
- The key highlight of this inauguration is the introduction of a direct flight route between Utkela and Bhubaneshwar. This air link promises to strengthen regional connectivity and stimulate economic growth within the region.
- Travel between Utkela and Bhubaneshwar will now be remarkably efficient, with the flight covering the distance in just one hour and twenty minutes. Minister Scindia emphasized that this improved connectivity would catalyze economic activities and create employment prospects in the area.

#### **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

##### **Aditya-L1: Significance behind name, objectives of India's first solar mission**

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to embark on a groundbreaking space mission, Aditya L-1, designed to unravel the mysteries of our closest star, the Sun. Scheduled for launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Saturday, September 2nd, at 11:50 am, this mission promises to shed light on the enigmatic solar processes that impact our planet and the wider cosmos.

- The “L1” in Aditya L-1 stands for Lagrange point 1, a celestial location nestled precisely between the Sun and Earth. Lagrange points are regions where the gravitational forces of two massive objects, in this case, the Sun and Earth, balance each other, allowing a spacecraft to essentially “hover” in place.

## APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

### Manish Desai assumes charge of Principal Director General PIB

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has made significant appointments, including the transfer of Manish Desai, the Central Bureau of Communications (CBC) chief, to lead the Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- Manish Desai, a distinguished officer of the Indian Information Service (IIS) since 1989, has taken on several critical roles in his career. He held the position of CBC chief, overseeing the government’s advertising and public communication arm. His responsibilities encompassed a broad spectrum of communication activities across various media platforms, including print, electronic, outdoor, transit, and new media.
- From November 2019 to January 2020, Manish Desai served as the Director General of the Registrar of Newspapers of India (RNI). Additionally, he has an impressive six-year tenure as the Additional Director General (ADG) of PIB from 2012 to 2018. He has also held the position of Director General of the West Zone PIB in Mumbai.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Coconut Day 2023: September 02

- Every year, World Coconut Day is celebrated on September 2. The day is celebrated to understand the benefits of this fruit and promote awareness. In India, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh are the main states that grow coconuts.
- Coconuts are one of the most loved fruits in India. The country produces a lot of coconut every year, and the flesh is used in a range of dishes across India. From making sweet dishes with coconut to using the coir to make ropes. Every bit of coconut can be used, and it is a highly nutritious food as well.
- The flesh of the coconut, also known as kernel, is an excellent fruit to consume. Loaded with benefits, coconuts are used in a range of dishes. Coconut milk and oil are also extracted from the fruit. Used both for cooking and nourishing the hair and face, coconut oil makes for a healthy alternative to other cooking oils. Coconut milk is a very important ingredient in a range of cuisines. Coconut water is a healthy beverage as well. Coconut coir is used for making ropes, rugs and doormats.

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

### Telangana CIO Dr. Shanta Thoutam honoured with World Innovation Award at BRICS

- Telangana’s Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) Shanta Thoutam has been presented with the World Innovation Award at the first BRICS Innovation Forum hosted at Moscow from August 27 to 29. The award is given for outstanding contribution to the Sustainable Development Goal-4 that ensures inclusive and equitable quality education and promotes lifelong opportunities for all. There were representations from more than 30 countries at the forum.

- The other two nominees in the category were Fernando Padula Novaes, Municipal Minister of Education of Sao Paulo in Brazil and Saif Al-Hiddabi, Undersecretary of Research and Innovation at Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation in Oman.
- Shanta Thoutam completed 7 years of her service in the innovation ecosystem of Telangana starting with the role of Vice President at T-Hub, then Officer on Special Duty (OSD) for State Handlooms and Textiles Department, and currently serving as the first woman CIO.
- With over 30 countries' representatives at the first-of-its-kind forum, Shanta Thoutam as one of the panelists in the Cloud City Conference enlightened about the various pathbreaking initiatives and achievements of the government of Telangana in the space of open data, digital innovation, and urban development.

## BANKING AND ECONOMY

### UPI crosses 10 billion transactions for the first time in August

- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in India has achieved a significant milestone by surpassing 10 billion monthly transactions in August. This achievement was confirmed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the Reserve Bank's non-profit agency. UPI has been a key driver of digital payments in India, and its rapid growth is noteworthy.
- In August, UPI recorded an impressive milestone of 10 billion monthly transactions, as confirmed by NPCI. This signifies the increasing popularity and adoption of digital payments in India.
- UPI's growth trajectory has been remarkable, with monthly transactions exceeding 10.24 billion by the end of August. This represents a significant increase from the 6.58 billion transactions recorded in August of the previous year, marking a growth rate of over 50% year-on-year.
- UPI's journey began in October 2019 when it crossed 1 billion monthly transactions for the first time. In less than four years, it has grown fourfold, showcasing its rapid adoption and acceptance in the Indian payment landscape.

### Moody's raises India's GDP growth estimates for 2023 to 6.7%

- Global rating agency Moody's Investor Service has revised its economic growth projection for India, providing a positive outlook for the year 2023. The agency has increased its forecast for India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth to 6.7 percent, up from the previous estimate of 5.5 percent. This adjustment is attributed to the notable performance in the second quarter, driven by robust expansion in services and capital expenditures, resulting in a 7.8 percent real GDP growth compared to the previous year.
- Initial Forecast: Moody's previously estimated India's GDP growth for 2023 at 5.5 percent.
- Revised Projection: The agency has raised its forecast to 6.7 percent for 2023 due to strong services expansion and capital expenditures, driving a 7.8 percent real GDP growth in the second quarter of the year.

### Centre, states collect ₹1.59 trillion in GST in August

- In August, India witnessed a notable surge in Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection, amounting to ₹1.59 trillion, signifying an 11% increase compared to the same period last year. This impressive growth can be attributed to enhanced compliance and anti-evasion measures put in place.

- August 2023's collection marked a significant rise from the ₹1.43 trillion collected in August 2022.
- However, it's important to note that GST collection moderated compared to the previous month, which recorded ₹1.65 trillion in July.
- The moderation in collection is primarily attributed to subdued growth in integrated GST (IGST) and the cess on imports, which increased by only 3% in August.
- Importantly, both imports and IGST collections have experienced fluctuations in recent months.

## Current Affairs PDF- September 01, 2023

### INTERNATIONAL

#### Gabon officers declare military coup, President Ali Bongo detained

- Gabon, an oil-producing country in Central Africa, has experienced a coup led by military officers. President Ali Bongo was placed under house arrest after being declared the winner of a disputed election. This marks the eighth coup in West and Central Africa since 2020, reflecting a trend of democratic setbacks in the region. Other countries like Mali, Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Chad have also witnessed military takeovers, raising concerns for regional stability and foreign interests.
- Military officers announced the seizure of power, canceling election results and dissolving state institutions.
- The officers declared President Bongo's victory invalid and placed him under house arrest.
- General Brice Oligui Nguema was appointed as the new leader through a unanimous vote by generals.

#### Russia Launches Islamic Banking Pilot Program in Bid for Economic Diversification

- Russia is set to embark on a historic journey by launching its first Islamic banking pilot program on September 1. With a considerable Muslim population of approximately 25 million, the move aims to tap into the potential of Islamic finance, which has already had a presence through institutions but lacked official recognition. President Vladimir Putin's recent endorsement of the initiative signifies a significant step towards embracing Islamic banking principles in the country.

##### Features of Islamic Banking-

1. **Shariah Compliance and Ethical Framework:** Islamic banking operates on the principles of Shariah, the Islamic legal system that prohibits usurious transactions and interest charges due to their perceived injustice. This fundamental difference sets it apart from conventional banking practices.
2. **Asset-based Model and Partnership Structure:** Conventional finance relies on debt-based transactions, where clients bear the entire risk and liability. In contrast, Islamic banking is grounded in an asset-based approach, emphasizing shared profits and risks between financial institutions and clients through partnership arrangements.
3. **Socially Responsible Investments:** One of the significant distinctions is Islamic banking's avoidance of sectors deemed harmful to society, such as alcohol, tobacco, and gambling. This ethical stance aligns with the principles of Shariah, promoting responsible financial practices.
4. **Prohibition of Speculation and Risky Transactions:** Unlike conventional finance, Islamic banking disallows financing speculation, financial derivatives, and deals lacking tangible assets. This



prohibition aims to mitigate risks and prevent financial crises akin to the global economic downturn.

### **NATIONAL**

#### **Piyush Goyal unveils statue of First Finance Minister of Independent India RK Shanmugam Chetty in Coimbatore**

- In an event organized by the South Indian Panchayat Association in Coimbatore, Piyush Goyal, the Union Minister of Textiles, inaugurated the statue of RK Shanmugam Chetty, who served as the first Finance Minister of independent India.
- Commencing the event, a statue paying homage to RK Shanmugam Chetty, a pivotal figure in India's historical narrative and a significant administrator within the South Indian Panchayat Association, was unveiled.
- This statue now resides within the esteemed confines of the South Indian Panchayat Sangha complex, situated in the Racecourse area of Coimbatore. This act not only served as a tribute to Chetty's remarkable contributions but also as a lasting homage to his enduring legacy, which remains a source of inspiration and guidance to this day.
- Ramasamy Chetty Kandasamy Shanmukham Chetty, known as R.K. Shanmukham Chetty, was a prominent Indian lawyer, economist, and politician who played a pivotal role in the early years of independent India. He held significant positions in both government and academia during his distinguished career.

#### **Cabinet okays Rs 5k cr PRIP scheme to boost research and innovation**

- The Union Health Ministry has announced an ambitious plan to boost research and innovation in the pharmaceutical and medtech sectors. To achieve this goal, they have introduced the Promotion of Research & Innovation in Pharma-MedTech sector (PRIP) scheme, which has been approved by the Union Cabinet. The scheme was rolled out earlier this month by the government with the belief that the Indian pharmaceutical industry has the potential to increase its current 3.4 per cent share of the global market to 5 per cent by the year 2030.
- The Union Health Ministry has announced a plan to invest ₹700 crore in creating seven Centres of Excellence at various National Institutes of Pharmaceutical, Education & Research (NIPER) to boost research and innovation in the pharma and medtech sector.
- The scheme, called Promotion of Research & Innovation in Pharma-MedTech sector (PRIP), will be launched in September and will have a duration of five years, from 2023-24 to 2027-28.
- The Centre will also provide ₹4,250 crore to support research in the private sector through milestone-based funding. The Centre may also acquire equity stakes of 5-10% in these private entities in exchange for the funding.
- The scheme aims to enhance the capacity of PSUs and encourage private sector participation in research.

#### **Government To Celebrate Sixth Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2023 throughout September**

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development is celebrating the 6th Rashtriya Poshan Maah throughout September 2023. This year, the objective is to comprehensively tackle malnutrition through a life-cycle approach.

- The focal point of Poshan Maah 2023 is to cultivate widespread awareness concerning critical human life stages: pregnancy, infancy, childhood, and adolescence. The aim is to foster nutritional understanding across India through a theme centered on “Suposhit Bharat, Sakshar Bharat, Sashakt Bharat” (Nutrition-rich India, Educated India, Empowered India).
- The Government of India’s flagship initiative, POSHAN Abhiyaan, has been instrumental in advancing nutritional outcomes for pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescent girls, and children under 6 years of age in a comprehensive manner.
- Launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister, POSHAN (Prime Minister’s Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition) Abhiyaan operates in mission mode to combat the challenge of malnutrition.
- During the 15th Financial Commission period, Poshan Abhiyaan, the Anganwadi Services Scheme, and the Scheme for Adolescent Girls were aligned under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 to launch an integrated nutrition support programme aimed at strengthening content, delivery, outreach, and outcomes.

#### **Bhaderwah rajmash, Ramban Sulai honey get GI tag**

- In a significant development for the region, Bhaderwah Rajmash and Sulai honey, both hailing from the picturesque districts of Doda and Ramban in Jammu and Kashmir, have been granted coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tags. These tags serve as a testament to the unique qualities and characteristics of these local specialties and open up doors for their promotion and recognition on an international scale.
- Bhaderwah Rajmash, often referred to as red beans holds a special place in the hearts and palates of those in the Chenab Valley. With its distinct flavor and texture, this legume is not only a staple food item but also a cultural symbol of the region.

#### **India's largest home-built Kakrapar Nuclear Plant in Gujarat starts operations at full capacity, says PM Modi**

- In a significant development for India’s energy sector, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the 700 MW nuclear power plant located in Kakrapar, Gujarat, has commenced its operations at maximum capacity. This milestone marks a pivotal moment in India’s quest for energy self-sufficiency and underscores the nation’s commitment to harnessing indigenous nuclear technology.
- The Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) had initiated its commercial operations on June 30, 2023, but initially operated at only 90 percent of its capacity. On August 31, 2023, the plant finally achieved its full operational potential.
- The Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant is a testament to India’s capability in developing and operating nuclear power facilities entirely on its own. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) has been at the forefront of this endeavor.

#### **APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS**

#### **MS Dhoni becomes endorser of Rs 10.50 lakh worth tractor, Anand Mahindra welcomes**

- Industrialist Anand Mahindra has welcomed Mahindra Singh Dhoni as the cricketer became a brand ambassador of his Swaraj Tractors. There have been times when Mahendra Singh Dhoni has expressed his passion for farming. And now, he has become a brand ambassador of Swaraj Tractors.

- Dhoni's rise from Ranchi to being one of the most well known cricketers on the planet is a stuff of legends. He has one of the most inspiring journeys in sports history. He is the most successful Indian cricket team captain who has won the Cricket World Cup twice, in the ODI and the T20I formats. Dhoni continues to inspire the young generation with his intact dedication and seriousness towards his goal. This is the reason the fans continue to show their love and respect towards the player despite he retiring from international cricket three years back.
- From working as a ticket collector at a railway station, Dhoni transformed into India's biggest trophy collector, leading the team to ICC T20 World Cup 2007, ICC ODI World Cup 2011 and ICC Champions Trophy 2013 as skipper. MS Dhoni is undoubtedly one of the greatest captains cricket ever witnessed.

## BANKING AND ECONOMY

### In 5-year deal, Viacom 18 bags BCCI TV and digital media rights for Rs 5,963 crore

- Viacom 18, a Reliance-owned media outlet, has emerged victorious in the auction for media rights, encompassing both digital and TV broadcasting, of India's domestic matches and BCCI-hosted domestic tournaments for the next five years. The auction took place on August 31, 2023. This significant acquisition complements Viacom 18's existing digital rights for the Indian Premier League (IPL) and the FIFA World Cup rights for India. Let's delve deeper into the details.
- Viacom 18 faced fierce competition from Sony Sports Network and Star Sports in the bidding process. Star Sports already held TV rights for ICC events and the IPL, leaving Sony to vie for these coveted rights.
- For the 88 matches scheduled between 2023 and 2028, the BCCI set a base price of Rs 20 crore per match for TV rights and Rs 25 crore per match for digital rights, totaling Rs 3,960 crore.

## Current Affairs PDF- August 31, 2023

### NATIONAL

#### Maharashtra tops in attracting FDI in Q1 of this fiscal: Fadnavis

- In the first quarter of the fiscal year 2023-24, Maharashtra has emerged as the front-runner in attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis proudly announced that the state secured the top position by attracting FDI amounting to Rs 36,634 crore.
- This noteworthy achievement places Maharashtra ahead of other prominent states like Delhi, Karnataka, and Telangana, whose cumulative FDI values trail behind.

#### Tata Power arm to set up 4.4 MW solar project for ANAND Group

- In a significant partnership, ACME Group, a prominent renewable energy company, has joined forces with Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Ltd. (TSSEZL) to establish an expansive green hydrogen and green ammonia project within Odisha's Gopalpur Industrial Park.
- This venture is poised to become the largest facility of its kind in India, marking a significant stride towards sustainable energy production.

### APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

#### Geetika Srivastava becomes first woman to lead Indian mission in Pakistan

- Geetika Srivastava, currently serving as joint secretary at the headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), will be India's new chargé d'affaires at its high commission in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- She will succeed Suresh Kumar, who is likely to return to New Delhi. After 77 years of Independence, India has appointed a female head of mission in Pakistan.

#### Ex-CJI Ramana appointed member of Singapore's International Mediator Panel

- Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana has been appointed as member of the International Mediator Panel of Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC). Chairman of SIMC George Lim presented Justice Ramana the letter of appointment on Tuesday in Singapore. The former CJI is in Singapore to take part in the "Singapore Convention Week", the annual convention organised by Singapore's Ministry of Law, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and over 20 partner organisations.
- Justice Ramana met representatives of SIMC and four top Indian corporate majors Tata, Reliance, Mahindra and Aditya Birla groups, who came forward to sign 'Declaration of Intent' to support mediation at the initiative of Justice Ramana.

### SUMMIT'S & MOU's

#### India plans to host first edition of 'Global IndiaAI 2023' in October

- India, as the current chair of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) and the G20, is set to host the first-ever Global IndiaAI 2023 Summit on October 14 and 15.
- This momentous event will bring together prominent figures in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI), including researchers, startups, investors, and leading AI players, from around the world. The summit aims to bolster local innovation, showcase AI-enabled public infrastructure tools, and foster international collaboration.
- Assuming the chairmanship of GPAI in November, India has gained an unprecedented chance to take the lead in emerging technology. This summit marks a pivotal moment for India to showcase its capabilities in AI and contribute significantly to shaping the global technology landscape.

#### NITI Aayog and UNDP sign Memorandum of Understanding on fast tracking SDGs

- The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), the central think tank responsible for monitoring India's progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at expediting India's journey towards achieving its SDGs.
- This collaboration underscores the commitment to drive sustainable and inclusive development in the country.



### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

#### Miss World 2023 to be held in Indian-administered Kashmir

- In an exciting announcement, Julia Eric Morely, the CEO of Miss World, held a press conference in the picturesque region of Kashmir, India. The occasion marked the anticipation and preparation for the 71st edition of the prestigious Miss World beauty pageant, which is scheduled to be hosted in India.
- Morely's words echoed the sentiment of excitement and emotion surrounding the event, saying, "Truthfully, I am so happy. It is emotional for us, to see such beauty."

#### Rajasthan's Priyan Sain Clinches Miss Earth India 2023 Crown, Embarks on a Green Mission

- Priyan Sain clinched the title of Miss Earth India 2023 during the Miss Divine Beauty 2023 national final held on August 26 in New Delhi. The 20-year-old student, dancer, and taekwondo player from Jaipur, Rajasthan succeeds last year's winner Vanshika Parmar, and will now prepare to represent India at the Miss Earth 2023 pageant in Vietnam this December.
- She received her crown from reigning Miss Earth from Korea Mina Sue Choi who was invited as a special guest along with Miss Earth Air from Australia Sheridan Mortlock.

### BANKING AND ECONOMY

#### Axis Bank Launched 'Infinity Savings Account' with Zero Domestic Transaction Fees

- Axis Bank, a prominent player in India's private banking sector, has taken a groundbreaking step by launching the 'Infinity Savings Account.' This innovative savings account variant is designed to cater to the needs of digitally savvy customers who are avid users of subscription-based services.
- With the 'Infinity Savings Account,' Axis Bank is set to redefine the banking experience, offering exclusive privileges and removing barriers that traditionally accompanied banking services.

#### RBI appoints Bandhan Bank to disburse civil pension

- In a significant development, Bandhan Bank has been granted authorization by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to serve as an authorized pension disbursement bank.
- This authorization is in association with the Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO), a part of the Ministry of Finance. The bank is set to collaborate closely with the CPAO to initiate and streamline the process of disbursing civil pensions.

## Current Affairs PDF- August 30, 2023

### NATIONAL

#### Finance Minister Launched HSBC India's Green Hydrogen Partnerships

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in partnership with the IIT Bombay, and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation launched HSBC India's strategic partnerships to enable innovation in green hydrogen.

- Green hydrogen has a pivotal role to play as we counter climate change and work towards enabling a low-carbon and self-reliant economy

#### **MP announced Ladli Behna Yojana aid hike, 35% job reservation for women**

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan raised the financial aid given to women in the Ladli Behna scheme from Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,250 per month
- He also announced 35 percent reservation for them in government jobs and provided gas cylinders for Rs 450.
- Under the programme, women between the ages of 23 and 60, who do not pay income taxes and whose families make less than Rs 2.5 lakh annually, receive Rs 1,000 every month.

#### **Maharashtra signs MoU with Germany's professional association football**

- The Maharashtra Government has signed an MoU with Germany's professional association football league, 'Bundesliga', to build a football team for players under the age of 14.
- The Bundesliga is Germany's premier professional football league.
- It is one of the leading football leagues in Europe and the best football players and teams belong to the league.

### **BANKING AND ECONOMY**

#### **DBS partners with Maptrusco to complete the first eBL transaction**

- Development Bank of Singapore (DBS) partnered with commodities trader Maptrusco, announced the completion of the first "live" transaction of electronic Bills of Lading for shipments between Singapore and India .
- Transaction was implemented under the TradeTrust framework, an initiative by the Infocomm Media Development Authority and supported by Enterprise Singapore.

### **DAYS**

#### **National Small Industry Day**

- On August 30th every year, India observes National Small Industry Day, a day dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the invaluable contribution of small industries to the nation's economic development.
- This occasion serves as a platform for both central and state governments to showcase their commitment to nurturing and supporting these enterprises that form the bedrock of the Indian economy.

#### **International Day for People of African Descent**

- On August 31, 2021, a significant milestone was reached as the United Nations marked the first-ever International Day for People of African Origin.
- This day serves as a global recognition of the cultural, social, and historical contributions made by individuals with African heritage.

### International Whale Shark Day

- International Whale Shark Day is celebrated every year on August 30 to raise awareness about the plight of whale sharks, the largest fish in the world.
- Whale sharks are filter feeders and do not pose a threat to humans. However, they are vulnerable to overfishing, habitat loss, and boat strikes.

### INTERNATIONAL

### ORON Aircraft: Israel's Advanced Intelligence-Gathering Asset

- The ORON aircraft, a result of Israel's Defense Ministry's groundbreaking progress, signifies a remarkable advancement in the nation's military capabilities.
- This intelligence-gathering aircraft is poised to revolutionize Israel's defense strategy with its cutting-edge technology and capabilities.

### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

### FIDC Announces Appointment of Umesh Revankar as Chairman

- In a meeting convened in Mumbai, the managing committee of the Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC) has appointed Mr. Umesh Revankar, who presently serves as the Executive Vice Chairman for Shriram Finance Limited, as the new Chairman of FIDC.
- This decision comes in recognition of Revankar's extensive experience and profound expertise in the financial services sector.

## Current Affairs PDF- August 29, 2023

### NATIONAL

### India, Asian Development Bank to set up climate change and health hub in Delhi

- India is now all set to open a climate change and health hub in the national capital Delhi in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Earlier, India had bagged the first WHO Centre for Global Traditional Medicine. WHO Centre for Global Traditional Medicine was set up in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- The new hub for climate change and health will facilitate knowledge sharing, promote partnerships and innovations, and also help countries beyond the G-20, especially developing countries.

### Ministry of education unveils smart India hackathon 2023

- The Ministry of Education and the All India Council of Technical Education have launched the sixth edition of the Smart India Hackathon 2023.
- Aim: To showcase the growing culture of innovation in India's education sector.
- Objective: To bring together the creativity of India's young minds with real-world challenges faced by various government departments.
- It has become a global model for hackathons and innovation frameworks, reflecting its dynamic evolution over time.

### **BANKING AND ECONOMY**

#### **RBI approves merger of Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the merger of The Jalgaon Peoples Co-operative Bank and Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank.
- The Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank branches would operate as branches of The Jalgaon Peoples Co-operative Bank.
- The merger of Twin Cities Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd and Kranti Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd was also given the go-ahead by the central bank.

#### **RBI enhances transactions limits for small value digital payments to ₹500**

- RBI has announced to enhance transaction limits for small value digital payments in offline mode to ₹500 from the earlier cap of ₹200.
- Aim: To enable faster, more reliable, and contactless payments for everyday small value purchases, transit payments, and so on by eliminating the need for two-factor verification for small value transactions.
- This effectively means that transacting parties can carry out digital transactions amounting to ₹500 each in the offline mode.

### **DAYS**

#### **National Sports Day is observed on 29th August 2023**

- The National Sports Day in India is celebrated on 29 August every year. It is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand Singh.
- The day also serves as a reminder for all of us to recall the contributions, determination and extraordinary achievements of the athletes and their influence in shaping societies.
- The theme for this year's National Sports Day celebration is "Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society".

### **SPORTS**

#### **Kunlavut and An Se-young make history at Badminton World Championships**

- Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn became the first Thai to win the men's singles title at the World Championships 2023 and became the badminton world champion after a victory over Japan's Kodai Naraoka in Copenhagen.
- Earlier, world No. 1 An Se-young also became the first South Korean to win the women's singles gold at the World Championships 2023 after defeating Carolina Marin.
- She had knocked out Tokyo 2020 gold medallist Chen Yufei in straight games in the semi-finals

#### **FIFA lifts ban on Sri Lanka Football Federation**

- World governing body FIFA has lifted the ban on the Sri Lanka Football Federation (FFSL).



- The ban was imposed in January 2023 due to government interference in the federation's affairs.
- In a letter dated August 28 by Fatma Samoura, the FIFA secretary General, it said that the FIFA bureau had decided on 27 August "to lift the suspension of the FFSL with immediate effect".
- The FFSL has also agreed to hold fresh elections for its executive committee.

## Current Affairs PDF- August 28, 2023

### NATIONAL

#### SVAMITVA Scheme Of Ministry Of Panchayati Raj Won National Award For E-Governance 2023

- The SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme, initiated by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, has been honored with the prestigious National Award for e-Governance 2023 (Gold) in recognition of its groundbreaking application of emerging technologies to deliver citizen-centric services.
- The accolade was presented during the 26th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India.

#### Kolkata becomes the third Indian city to adopt an Air Quality Early Warning System

- Kolkata became the third Indian city to adopt the Air Quality Early Warning System to combat rising air pollution.
- The system, developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune, aims to address rising air pollution levels in urban areas.
- AQEWS in Kolkata uses an advanced sensor network to provide real-time monitoring of the Air Quality Index ).
- AQI is a standardized measure of the level of air pollution, with a value ranging from 0 to 500.

#### Indian Navy participates in 5th 'AUSINDEX-23' held in Australia

- From August 22 to 25, 2023, the 5th edition of the biennial AUSINDEX maritime exercise occurred in Sydney, Australia, conducted collaboratively by the Indian Navy and the Royal Australian Navy.
- Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) jointly organized the exercise.
- The participating ships included INS Sahyadri, INS Kolkata from the Indian Navy, and HMAS Choules and HMAS Brisbane from RAN

### SPORTS

#### Neeraj Chopra won the first gold medal for India at the World Athletics Championships

- Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won the first gold medal for India at the World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary.

- In the men's javelin final, Neeraj Chopra won the Gold medal with a throw of 88.17 meters.
- Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem won the silver medal in the men's javelin throw event with a throw of 87.82 metres.
- Jakub Vadlejch of the Czech Republic won the bronze medal in the same event.

### Max Verstappen Clinches Third Consecutive Victory at Dutch Grand Prix 2023

- On August 27, 2023, Max Verstappen took his third consecutive win at the Dutch Grand Prix at Circuit Zandvoort in the Netherlands.
- Max Verstappen's victory equaled Sebastian Vettel's record of nine consecutive F1 victories.
- Fernando Alonso secured a podium position by coming in second and Sergio Pérez, driving for Red Bull, initially finished third, but a five-second penalty resulted in Pierre Gasly taking third place on the podium.

### BWF World Championships 2023 Results

- The 2023 BWF World Championships was a badminton tournament which took place from 21 to 27 August 2023 in Royal Arena, Copenhagen, Denmark.

#### BWF World Championships 2023 Results

##### Men's doubles

- Kang Min-hyuk and Seo Seung-jae (Gold)
- Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen (Silver)
- Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik (Bronze)
- Liang Weikeng and Wang Chang (Bronze)

##### Men's singles

- Kunlavut Vitidsarn (Gold)
- Kodai Naraoka (Silver)
- HS Prannoy (Bronze)
- Anders Antonsen (Bronze)

##### Women's singles

- An Se-young (Gold)
- Carolina Marín (Silver)
- Chen Yufei (Bronze)
- Akane Yamaguchi (Bronze)

##### Women's doubles

- Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (Gold)
- Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ramadhanti (Silver)
- Zhang Shuxian and Zheng Yu (Bronze)
- Kim So-yeong and Kong Hee-yong (Bronze)

##### Mixed doubles

- Seo Seung-jae and Chae Yoo-jung (Gold)
- Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (Silver)
- Jiang Zhenbang and Wei Yaxin (Bronze)
- Yuta Watanabe and Arisa Higashino (Bronze)

### BOOKS AND AUTHORS

#### Amrit Mathur's autobiography Pitchside: My Life in Indian Cricket'

- The book "Pitchside: My Life in Indian Cricket" is written by Amrit Mathur, a cricket administrator with vast experience.
- In the book, Mathur presents a first-person perspective on notable moments in Indian cricket history.
- Mathur managed the Indian cricket team during the historic 1992 tour of South Africa.

## Current Affairs PDF- August 27, 2023

### NATIONAL

#### India hand over B20 presidency to Brazil to host G20 in 2024

- India has handed over the B20 presidency to Brazil to host G20 in 2024.
- According to B20 India Chair N Chandrasekaran India's B20 Presidency under the its G20 Presidency worked under the theme of Vasaudeva Katumbakam (One Earth, One Family, One Future).
- Worked on 9 themes which included the empowerment of women and youth, the transition towards an Artificial Intelligence world, building a global resilient supply chain, and financing for the global economic recovery.

#### Second G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable meeting began in Gujarat

- The second G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable meeting officially began in Gandhinagar in August 2023.
- Science advisors, Scientists, researchers from G20 countries, and invited countries will participate.

#### Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal launches Tele-Law- 2.0

- Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal launched Tele-Law- 2.0 which Integrates Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App to ensure access to Justice in New Delhi.
- Aim: To enable the common citizen to access legal advice, legal assistance, and legal representation through a single registration and single gateway of Tele-Law.
- The Minister called upon legal professionals to contribute pro bono services to ensure that no citizen is deprived of essential legal assistance.

### SPORTS

#### In badminton, HS Prannoy won bronze medal at BWF World Championships

- HS Prannoy bagged a bronze medal in badminton at BWF World Championships 2023 in Denmark.
- He registered a loss to Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the semifinals at the Championships and went down to world number three position.
- This is India's 14th medal at the World Championships.
- This includes one gold, four silvers and nine bronze medals.

- China is the most successful team in the tournament's history, with 196 medals, including 69 gold, 48 silver and 79 silvers.

### **India shines in blind cricket at IBSA World Games: Women's team wins gold, men's team secures silver**

- India's blind women's cricket team emerged victorious in the T20 final of the IBSA World Games held in Birmingham. They won the title by defeating Australia in the championship match.
- The Indian women's cricket team won the gold medal on the same day by defeating Australia by nine wickets using the DLS method.
- The Indian men's blind cricket team earned a silver medal at the IBSA World Games 2023 after losing to Pakistan in the men's T20 cricket final held at Edgbaston, Birmingham.

### **INTERNATIONAL**

#### **Zimbabwean President Mnangagwa re-elected for 2nd and final five-year term**

- Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa was re-elected for a second and final five-year term in August 2023.
- His victory over his closest competitor, Nelson Chamisa after his first full term in office, strengthened ZANU-PF 's grip on power.
- Zimbabwe has over the past two decades suffered under disastrous economic policies that have led to soaring prices, high unemployment, and a medical system lacking basic drugs and equipment.

### **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

#### **Infosys Signs Women's Tennis Champ Iga Swiatek As Brand Ambassador**

- Infosys Enters Partnership with Women's Tennis Champion Iga Swiatek as Global Brand Ambassador Focused on Advancing Digital Innovation and Empowering Women Globally.
- In a groundbreaking move that further bridges the worlds of sports and technology, Infosys, a global leader in consulting and digital services, has announced a multi-year partnership with women's tennis World No. 1, Iga Swiatek. The collaboration establishes Swiatek as the global brand ambassador for Infosys, with a key focus on promoting Digital Innovation and inspiring women worldwide.
- This announcement comes on the heels of Infosys signing tennis legend Rafael Nadal for the same prestigious role, solidifying the company's commitment to both tennis excellence and technological advancement.

### **OBITUARY**

#### **Marathi actress Seema Deo passed away at the age of 81**

- Veteran Marathi actress Seema Dev passed away on 24 August 2023 at the age of 81 in Mumbai.
- Seema Deo had an illustrious career spanning over six decades, during which she acted in around 90 Hindi and Marathi movies.