

CURRENT AFFAIRS OF AUGUST 2021

Defence

The indigenously developed Coast Guard ship (built by L&T Ship Building Ltd) which was dedicated to the nation by the President Shri Rajnath Singh – **ICGS Vigraha**

The venue (US territory in Micronesia region) of multilateral maritime exercise Malabar to be conducted by the navies of US, India, Japan and Australia – **Guam**

The bilateral maritime exercise conducted by INS Tabar of Indian Navy and HMS Westminster of UK in the English Channel on 16 August 2021 was named – **Exercise Konkan 2021**

The military exercise conducted by the USA in Singapore with participation of 20 other countries including India – **SEACAT**

The bilateral naval exercise conducted by Indian Navy and Qatar Navy in the Persian Gulf from 09-14 August 2021 was named – **Zair-Al-Bahr**

The first bilateral naval exercise conducted by the Indian Navy and Saudi Arabian Navy is named – **Al-Mohed Al-Hind 2021**

The bilateral naval exercise conducted by Indian Navy and UAE Navy off the coast of Abu Dhabi on 07 August 2021 was named – **Zayed Talwar - 2021**

Places

The city which has been named the world's safest city in the Safe Cities Index 2021 released by Economic Intelligence Unit – **Copenhagen**

The city of Madhya Pradesh which has been declared India's first Water Plus city under Swachh Survekshan 2021 – **Indore**

The city which has become the first city in the country to achieve 100% vaccination against COVID-19 – **Bhubaneswar**

Persons

The new Governor of Manipur to succeed Ms Najma Heptulla who retired recently – **Shri La Ganesan**

The former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh (twice) and Member of Parliament who passed away on 21.08.2021 – **Shri Kalyan Singh**

The Japanese businessman and President of Nikoli company, well-known as the father of Sudoku who passed away on 10 August 2021 – **Maki Kaji**

The Chairman of Serum Institute of India who has been chosen to be honoured with Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2021 – **Mr. Cyrus Poonawala**

Sports

The venue of World U20 Athletic Championships conducted from 17 to 22 August 2021 – **Nairobi, Kenya**

The team which has won the 2021 CONCACAF Gold Cup football tournament defeating Mexico in the finals – **USA**

The Centenarian sprinter and multiple World Masters Games medallist from Patiala, who passed away on 31.08.2021 at the age of 105 years – **Man Kaur**

The Paralympic theme song “Kar De Kamaal Tu” launched by the Union Sports Minister is composed and sung by – **Sanjeev Singh**

Miscellaneous

The 100 days campaign launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to create more and more ODF Plus villages by undertaking waste water management is named – **Sujalam**

The name given to India's complex mission to evacuate its citizens and Afghan partners from Kabul after its swift takeover by the Taliban – **Operation Devi Shakti**

The theme of 26th World Water Week organized from 23 to 27 August 2021 virtually – **Building Resilience Faster**

The number of districts in Chhattisgarh after formation of 4 new districts, Mohla-Manpur, Sakti, Sarangarh-Bilalgarh and Manendragarh, announced on 15 August 2021 – **32**

14th August of every year has been declared by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to be observed as – **Partition Horrors Remembrance Day**

The place at which Border Roads Organisation has constructed the world's highest motorable road (at 19,300 ft) surpassing the record held by road in Bolivia (at 18,953 ft) – **Umingla Pass, Ladakh**

Bharat series registration of vehicles

Salient features

- Purpose: To facilitate seamless transfer of vehicles across states
- Launched by: The Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
- Available on voluntary basis

- Available to: Defense personnel, employees of Central Government/ State Government/ Central/ State Public Sector Undertakings and private sector companies/organizations, which have their offices in four or more States/Union territories.
- The motor vehicle tax will be levied for two years or in multiple of two.

Format of Bharat series (BH-series) Registration Mark –

YY BH #### XX

Legend

YY – Year of first registration

BH- Code for Bharat Series

####- 0000 to 9999 (randomized)

XX- Alphabets (AA to ZZ)

The Constitution (127th) Amendment Bill, 2021

Purpose: To allow the states and union territories to prepare their own list of socially and educationally backward classes. This list may be different from the list notified by the President of India for the Central Govt.

Articles amended: 338B, 342A and 366

e-RUPI

- Launched by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in association with Department of Financial Services (DFS), National Health Authority (NHA), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), and partner banks.
- The users of this seamless one-time payment mechanism will be able to redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app or internet banking access, at the merchants accepting e-RUPI.
- e-RUPI would be shared with the beneficiaries for a specific purpose or activity by organizations or Government via SMS or QR code.

Banks live with e-RUPI

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Axis Bank | 7. Indian Bank |
| 2. Bank of Baroda | 8. Kotak Bank |
| 3. Canara Bank | 9. Punjab National Bank |
| 4. HDFC Bank | 10. State Bank of India |
| 5. ICICI Bank | 11. Union Bank of India |
| 6. Indusind Bank | |

Important Days of August

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples: 09 August 2021 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 1995 Theme: Leaving no one behind - Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract
International Youth Day: 12 August 2021 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2000 Theme: Transforming food systems Youth innovation for human and planetary health
World Elephant Day: 12 August 2021 Designated by: Patricia Sims and Elephant Reintroduction Programme of Thailand First observed: 2012
World Humanitarian Day: 19 August 2021 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2009 Theme: #TheHumanRace: A global challenge for climate action in solidarity with the people who need it most
International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism: 21 August 2021 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2018 Theme: Connections
International Day against Nuclear Tests: 29 August 2021 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2010
International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances: 30 August 2021 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2011

National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a special focus on the North east region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Important Points

- Financial outlay of Rs.11,040 crore has been made for the scheme, out of which Rs.8,844 crore is the Government of India share and Rs.2,196 crore is State share
- It is proposed to cover an additional area of 6.5 lakh hectare (ha.) for oil palm till the year 2025-26 and thereby reaching the target of 10 lakh hectares ultimately.
- At present only 3.70 lakh hectares is under Oil Palm cultivation.
- The production of Crude Palm Oil (CPO) is expected to go upto 11.20 lakh tonnes by 2025-26 and upto 28 lakh tonnes by 2029-30.
- Oil palm produces 10 to 46 times more oil per hectare compared to other oilseed crops and has yield of around 4 tons oil per ha.

- Government of India will give a price assurance to the oil palm farmers for the FFBs. This will be known as the Viability Price (VP).

Fortune 2021 Global 500 Companies

#	Company	#	Company
1.	Walmart	155.	Reliance Industries
2.	State Grid	205.	State Bank of India
3.	Amazon	212.	Indian Oil Corporation
4.	China National Petroleum	243.	ONGC
5.	Sinopec Group	348.	Rajesh Exports

Tokyo Olympics 2020

Medals tally

Held from **23.07.2021** to **08.08.2021**

Declared open by : Japanese **Emperor Naruhito**

Olympic cauldron was lit by: **Naomi Osaka**

Motto: **United by Emotion**

Mascot: **Miraitowa**, a fictional character named after the Japanese words for "future" (mirai) and "eternity" (towa)

Indian flag bearers at the Opening ceremony: **Mary Kom** and **Manpreet Singh**

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	USA	39	41	33	113
2.	China	38	32	18	88
3.	Japan	27	14	17	58
4.	Great Britain	22	21	22	65
5.	ROC *	20	28	23	71
48.	India	1	2	4	7

*ROC Russian Olympic Committee

Indian Medal Winners

#	Athlete	Medal	Event
1.	Neeraj Chopra	Gold	Javelin throw
2.	Mirabai Chanu	Silver	Weightlifting (49 kg)
3.	Ravikumar Dahiya	Silver	Wrestling (57 kg)
4.	PV Sindhu	Bronze	Badminton Womens' Singles

5.	Bajrang Punia	Bronze	Wrestling (65 kg)
6.	Lovlina Borgohain	Bronze	Boxing (Welterweight)
7.	Men's Hockey team	Bronze	Field Hockey

Indian Athletes and their Coaches

#	Athlete	Coach	Nationality
1.	Neeraj Chopra	Uwe Hohn	Germany
2.	Mirabai Chanu	Vijay Sharma	India
3.	Ravi Kumar Dahiya	Murad Gaidarov	Belarus
4.	PV Sindhu	Park Tae-Sang	Korea
5.	Bajrang Punia	1. Shako Bentinidis	Georgia
		2. Jagminder Singh	India
		3. Yogeshwar Dutt	India
6.	Lovlina Borgohain	1. Raffaele Bergamasco	Italy
		2. Sandhya Gurung	India
		3. Padum Boro	India
7.	Men's hockey team	Graham Reid	Australia
8.	Women's hockey team	Sjoerd Marijne	The Netherlands

Abbreviations in News

SEACAT: Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training