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# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 20 - 08 - 2021





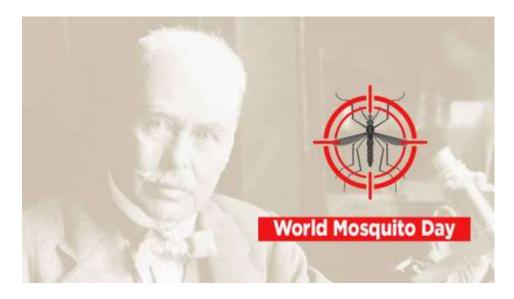
## Important days

#### 1. World Mosquito Day observed on 20th August

**World Humanitarian Day: august 20** 

**BY:** London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

First observed: 1897



Theme: "Reaching the zero-malaria target".

#### **Highlights:**

- •World Mosquito Day is observed on 20 August annually to raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented.
- •This day is observed to highlight the efforts of healthcare officials, NGOs, and others in fighting diseases caused by malaria.
- •The day also commemorates the discovery made by British doctor **Sir Ronald Ross** in **1897** that female mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? World Mosquito Day When? 20 august

#### **LSHTM**

Hq: london UK

director: Professor Liam

Smeeth

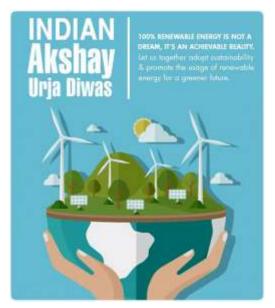
#### **Recent News:**

World Humanitarian Day:19 August

#### 2. Akshay Urja Diwas 2021: 20 August

Akshay Urja Diwas 2021 : august 20

First observed: 2004



#### **Highlights:**

- •Akshay Urja Diwas (Renewable Energy Day) is observed every year on 20 August to raise awareness about the developments and adoption of renewable energy in India.
- •The main motive of Akshya urja Diwas is to make people aware that they have to think about renewable energy (Akshya Urja) apart from traditional energy.
- •The 20th of August wasn't chosen at random to be the date of the observance. This day marks the birthday anniversary of **Rajiv Gandhi**, former Prime Minister of India.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? Akshay Urja Diwas 2021 When? 20 august

#### **Recent News:**

•India observes Sadbhavana Diwas on August 20 to commemorate the birth anniversary of late erstwhile PM, Rajiv Gandhi.

## Appointments

3.UNICEF India and Ayushmann Khurrana join hands to advocate for

**Child Rights** 

appointed: Ayushmann Khurrana

as: Unicef's Celebrity Advocate for

EVAC



#### Highlights:

- •Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana was recently appointed as Unicef's Celebrity Advocate for their global campaign EVAC (Ending Violence Against Children), and he wants to build awareness on a national level about online safety for children in India.
- •The star is flagging off Facebook India and Unicef India's one-year joint initiative to protect children's rights.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? Unicef's Celebrity
Advocate for EVAC
who? Ayushmann Khurrana

#### **UNICEF**

Head: Henrietta H. Fore

HQ: New york,US

#### **Recent News**

 Priyanka Chopra is the new chairperson of Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival

#### 4.N K Singh elected as President of IEG Society

appointed : NK singh

as: president of IEG soceity

replaces: Dr Manmohan Singh



#### Highlights:

- •N K Singh, the Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, has been elected as the President of the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) Society.
- •Singh will be succeeding former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh.
- •Tarun Das, former Director-General, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is the Chairman, Board of Governors, and Professor Ajit Mishra is the Director of IEG.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? president of IEG soceity who? NK singh

#### **Recent News**

 Kamlesh Kumar Pant appointed new NPPA chairman

### **5.Apurva Chandra Appointed Information And Broadcasting Secretary**

**appointed**: Apurva Chandra

as: I&B ministry secretary

replaces: Amit Khare



#### Highlights:

- Apurva Chandra has been appointed the Information and Broadcasting Secretary.
- •Mr Chandra is currently the Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- •The post was being held by Higher Education Secretary Amit Khare as an additional charge for over a year now.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? I&B secretary who? Apurva Chandra

**I&B ministry**Anurag singh thakur
Cons:harimpur,HP

#### **Recent News**

Union home secretary
 Ajay Kumar Bhalla's tenure extended for a year

#### 6.Amrullah Saleh declares himself as Afghan president

appointed : Amrullah Saleh

as: president of afghanistan

replaces: ashraf ghani



#### Highlights:

- The vice-president Amrullah Saleh has declared himself as 'care taker' president of the war-torn afghanistan.
- As per the constitution of Afghanistan in absence, escape, resignation or death of the President, the FVP becomes the caretaker President.
- •Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani left the country reportedly for Tajikistan after The Taliban have seized power in Afghanistan two weeks before the U.S. was set to complete its troop withdrawal after a costly two-decade war.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? president of afghanistan who? Amrullah Saleh

#### afghanistan

cap: kabul

curr: Afghan afghani

#### **Recent News**

 Hakainde Hichilema wins Zambia
 Presidential Election

### MOU

#### 7.USOF inks pact with BSNL for high-speed internet access to northeastern states



#### Highlights:

- •The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) signed an agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to provide support for availability of high-speed internet access to north-eastern states.
- •The availability of high-speed internet access would help the citizens in accessing various e-services such as **e-governance**, **e-education**, **e-health**, **e-commerce**, **e-banking**, amongst others.
- •Under the agreement, USOF would extend financial support to BSNL for a period of three years for hiring the said international bandwidth.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? Agreement with BSNL By? USOF

#### **USOF**

admin: Anshuli Arya

**BSNL** 

**CEO:** Pravin Kumar Purwar

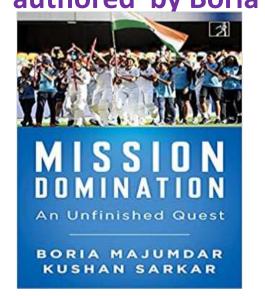
HQ: new delhi

#### **RECENT NEWS**

 Kaziranga becomes India's first national park with satellite phones, BSNL will be the service provider of these phones.

### **Books and authors**

### 8.book 'MISSION DOMINATION: An Unfinished Quest' authored by Boria Majumdar & Kushan Sarkar



**Book Title: 'MISSION DOMINATION** 

author: Boria Majumdar & Kushan

Sarkar

**Publisher: Simon & Schuster India** 

#### **About Book:**

- Bookcomprises of Every Moment Has A Backstory And A Tale To Tell About How indian Team Got Started. Boria Mujumdar And Kusha Sarkar Follow That Path, Bringing Their Life Tale Back To Life.
- The 19th Of December Was A Bad Day For Indian Cricket. After 36 All Out In Adelaide, No One Knew What Hit Them. But Then Something Happened On January 19, And Everything Changed. Brisbane Was Bizarre, But Adelaide Was A Nightmare. Between 36 All Out And 329/7, A Lot Had Changed.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? MISSION DOMINATION

author: Boria Majumdar & Kushan

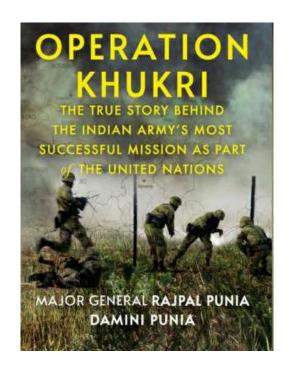
Sarkar

**Publisher: Simon & Schuster India** 

#### **RECENT NEWS**

 The book, "The Dream of Revolution: A Biography of Jayaprakash Narayan" by bimal prasad and sujitha prasad

### 9.A book on "OPERATION KHUKRI" authored by Major General Rajpal Punia & Ms Damini Punia.



**Book Title: 'Operation khukri** 

author: Rajpal Punia & Ms Damini Punia.

**Publisher: Penguin eBury Press** 

#### **About Book:**

• The book highlights the Indian Army's successful rescue mission in **Sierra Leone** as part of the **United Nations.** The year was 2000, Sierra Leone, in West Africa, had been ravaged by years of civil strife. With the intervention of the United Nations, two companies of the Indian Army were deployed in Kailahun as part of a United Nations peacekeeping mission.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? 'Operation khukri

author: Rajpal Punia & Ms Damini Punia.

**Publisher: Penguin eBury Press** 

#### **RECENT NEWS**

 book 'Operation Trojan Horse: A Novel Inspired by True Events' authored by abhishek sharan, D P sinha

### International

10.BRICS signs deal with ISRO on cooperation in remote sensing

satellite data sharing



#### **Highlights:**

- •Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) signed an agreement for cooperation in remote sensing satellite data sharing, according to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- •This will contribute in strengthening multilateral cooperation among BRICS space agencies in meeting the challenges faced by mankind, such as global climate change, major disasters and environmental protection.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? Agreement with ISRO by? BRICS

#### **ISRO**

Chairman: K.sivan

HQ:bengaluru,karnataka

#### **RECENT NEWS**

 ISRO chief K Sivan inaugurates Health Quest study

## Banking

11.ADB to provide \$500 mn loan for expanding Bengaluru metro rail

network



#### Highlights:

- the Asian Development Bank has assured to provide USD 500 million loan for construction of two new metro lines totaling 56 kilometers to expand the metro rail network in Bengaluru.
- •the two new metro lines, mostly elevated, will be constructed along Outer Ring Road and National Highway 44 between Central Silk Board and Kempegowda International Airport with 30 stations.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? \$500 million to bengaluru
by? ADB

#### **ADB**

Hq: Mandaluyong,

Philippines

Pres: Masatsugu Asakawa

#### **Recent news**

 ADB To Finance Water Supply Project In Jharkhand With Rs 831 Cr Loan

### National

#### 12.Delhi-Chandigarh Highway first EV-friendly highway in India



#### Highlights:

- •With a network of solar-based electric vehicle charging stations, the **Delhi-Chandigarh Highway** has become the country's **first EV-friendly highway** in the country.
- •The network of stations was set up by **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited** (BHEL) under the **FAME-1** (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) & **Electric Vehicles**) scheme of the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- •Union Minister of Heavy Industries (MHI) Mahendra Nath Pandey remotely inaugurated the state-of-the-art charging station at Karna Lake Resort.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? first EV-friendly highway by? Ministry of heavy industries

**Union Minister of heavy industries** 

Mahendra Nath Pandey

Cons: Chandauli, UP

#### **Recent News**

 Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal to inaugurate country's first smog tower clean 1,000 cubic metres of air every second and reduce PM 2.5 and PM 10 levels in Delhi

#### 13. Amazon Alexa Gets Amitabh Bachchan's Voice in India



## What? voice of Amitabh Bachchan by? amazon

#### amazon

CEO: andy jassy

HQ:washington DC,US

#### Highlights:

- Amazon has launched the voice of the 78-year-old Bollywood star Amitabh Bachchan as a part of its efforts to amuse existing users and attract new consumers to use its voice assistant over Google Assistant and Apple's Siri.
- With the new launch, the US tech giant has also brought its celebrity voice feature to India.
- The feature initially arrived in the US with the voice of American actor and producer **Samuel L. Jackson in 2019.**

#### **Recent News**

•RBL Bank selects Amazon web services as preferred cloud provider

### 14. Mandaviya launches Arogya Dhara 2.0 to increase reach of Ayushman Bharat



#### Highlights:

- Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated Arogya Dhara 2.0 to increase the reach of Ayushman Bharat Jan Arogya Yojana and create more awareness about the scheme.
- Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY is an ambitious scheme ensuring quality and affordable healthcare for the poor and underprivileged people. The scheme has empowered all eligible beneficiaries with cashless and paperless healthcare services benefits of upto Rs 5 Lakhs per family per year.

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? Arogya Dhara 2.0 by? Health ministry

#### **Health minister**

Manshuk mandaviya Cons:palitana gujarat

#### **Recent News**

Union WCD Minister
 Smt. Smriti Irani
 launches 2nd Phase of
 SAMVAD scheme

## State

15.ASSAM GOVT TO DEVELOP JORHAT CENTRAL JAIL INTO HERITAGE

**SITE** 



#### Highlights:

- •Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma visited the historic Britishera Jorhat Central Jail and announced that the state government will develop the jail into a heritage site.
- •The state government will preserve the Jorhat Central Jail as a heritage site after shifting the present prison to another place in the district

#### **EXPECTED QUESTIONS**

What? Jorhat jail as heritage site In? assam

#### assam

Capital:dispur

CM: himanta biswa sharma

Gov: Jagdish Mukhi

#### **Recent News**

 Assam CM lays the foundation stone of bamboo industrial park

## Defence

#### 16.DRDO develops advanced chaff technology to protect IAF jets



What? advanced chaff technology By ? DRDO

#### **DRDO**

chairman: Dr G Satheesh Reddy.

HQ: new delhi

#### Highlights:

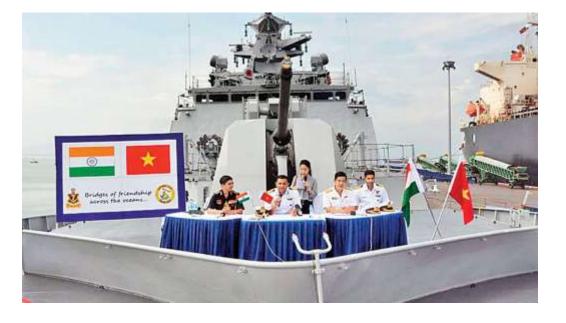
- •Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have jointly developed an advanced chaff technology to safeguard fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) from enemy radar threats.
- •Chaff is primarily an electronic counter-measure technology used by militaries worldwide to protect high-value targets such as fighter jets or naval ships from radars and radio frequency (RF) guiding mechanisms of the enemy missiles.

#### **Recent News**

•Rajnath Singh launches Defence India Startup Challenge- DISC 5.0

17. Indian Navy Conducts Bilateral Maritime Exercise with

**Vietnam** 



#### What? Maritime exercise who? India and vietnam

#### Highlights:

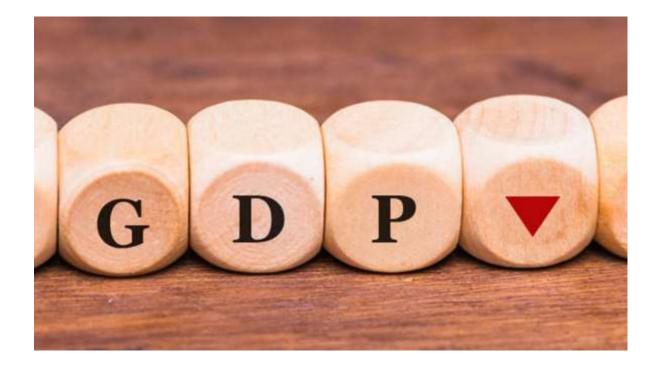
- •The Indian Navy and Vietnam People's Navy (VPN) undertook a bilateral maritime exercise in the South China Sea, to strengthen the defence ties among the two navies.
- •From India, INS Ranvijay and INS Kora took part in the exercise and from the Vietnam People's Navy (VPN), frigate VPNS Ly Thai To(HQ-012) participated in the drill.

#### **Recent News**

INS Tabar Participates in Exercise Konkan 2021 with british royal navy.

## GDP

#### 18.Ind-Ra revises GDP growth projection to 9.4% in FY22



Highlights:

- •India Ratings (Ind-Ra) has projected the GDP growth rate for India for FY22 at 9.4%.
- •Earlier Indi-Ra had projected the rate at between 9.1-9.6%.

What? 9.4% by? Ind ra rating

#### **Recent News**

•IMF Projects India's economic growth forecast for FY22 at 9.5%

#### **Organisation / Bank:**

#### **DRDO**

chairman: Dr G Satheesh Reddy.

HQ: new delhi

#### amazon

CEO: andy jassy

HQ:washington DC, US

#### **ADB**

Hq: Mandaluyong, Philippines

Pres: Masatsugu Asakawa

#### **ISRO**

Chairman: K.sivan

HQ:bengaluru,karnataka

#### **USOF**

admin: Anshuli Arya

**BSNL** 

**CEO:** Pravin Kumar Purwar

HQ: new delhi

#### **LSHTM**

Hq: london UK

director: Professor Liam Smeeth

#### **UNICEF**

Head: Henrietta H. Fore

HQ: New york,US

#### **Country / State:**

#### assam

Capital:dispur

CM: himanta biswa sharma

Gov: Jagdish Mukhi

afghanistan

cap: kabul

curr: Afghan afghani

#### Minis/cons

#### **Health minister**

Manshuk mandaviya Cons:palitana gujarat

#### Union Minister of heavy industries

#### **Mahendra Nath Pandey**

Cons: Chandauli, UP

#### **I&B** ministry

Anurag singh thakur

Cons:harimpur,HP

1. Atal Innovation Mission In Collaboration With \_\_\_\_\_\_Launch Student Entrepreneurship Program 3.0

#### **Dassault Systemes**

2. World Bank's IFC extends over \_\_\_\_\_ cr debt support to IndoSpace logistics fund

#### Rs 550 crore

3. Kotak Mahindra introduces a DIY Digital Repayment platform with\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Creditas Solutions**

4. World Humanitarian Day: 19 August: theme???

### A global challenge for climate action in solidarity with the people who need it most

5. Union WCD Minister \_\_\_\_\_ launches 2nd Phase of SAMVAD

#### **Smt. Smriti Irani**