

CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2020

Awards

The Dutch author who has been awarded the 2020 International Booker Prize for her book The Discomfort of Evening – **Marieke Lucas Rijneveld**

Persons

The Japanese Prime Minister who has announced his decision to resign from the post owing to poor health – **Mr. Shinzo Abe**

The new Election Commissioner appointed to replace Shri Ashok Lavasa who has resigned to join Asian Development Bank – **Shri Rajiv Kumar**

The Governor of Goa who has been appointed the Governor of Meghalaya succeeding Shri Tathagata Roy – **Shri Satya Pal Malik**

The expert committee constituted by Central Govt to consider the logistics and ethical aspects of procuring and administering the COVID-19 vaccine is headed by – **Dr. VK Paul**

The former Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir who has been appointed new Comptroller and Auditor General of India succeeding Shri Rajiv Mehrishi – **Shri Girish Chandra Murmu**

The new Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir appointed to replace Shri GC Murmu – **Shri Manoj Sinha**

Obituary

The well-known Indian classical vocalist of Mewati gharana (and recipient of Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award) who passed away on 17 August 2020 in New Jersey, USA – **Pandit Jasraj**

The former Indian cricketer and Minister of Youth and Sports of Uttar Pradesh who passed away on 16 August 2020 – **Chetan Chauhan**

The renowned Urdu poet and lyricist who passed away on 11 August 2020 while being treated for COVID-19 – **Rahat Indori**

The Indian theatre director and former director of National School of Drama (Padma Vibhushan and Sangeet Natak Akademi fellowship) who passed away on 04 August 2020 – **Ebrahim Alkazi**

The former Samajwadi leader and Rajya Sabha member who passed away on 01 August 2020 – **Amar Singh**

Places

The place in West Bengal where the world's largest solar tree developed by CSIR-CMERI has been installed with a capacity of 11.5 kWp – **Durgapur**

The city from which submarine cable connectivity to Andaman and Nicobar Islands was launched by the PM Shri Narendra Modi – **Chennai**

The two villages in Odisha which have been declared as Tsunami Ready by Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO – **Venkatraipur (Ganjam) and Noliasahi (Jagatsinghpur)**

The station in Maharashtra from where India's first Kisan Special Parcel Train or Kisan Rail was flagged off with its destination as Danapur in Bihar – **Devlali**

The place in Kerala where a plane of Air India Express crashed resulting in death of several people – **Kozhikode**

The city of Lebanon in which a blast of 2750 tons of ammonium nitrate killed over a 100 people and rendered 3 lakh homeless – **Beirut**

The place in Himachal Pradesh where the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management was laid by Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' through online mode – **Sirmaur**

Sports

The England cricketer who has become the first fast bowler to take 600 test wickets (and the 4th bowler after Muttiah Muralitharan, Shane Warne and Anil Kumble – **James Anderson**

Space

The new optical remote-sensing satellite launched by China from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre by a Long March-2D carrier rocket is named – **Gaofen-9 05**

The rover launched by NASA on 30 July 2020 to seek signs of ancient life and collect rock and soil samples on Mars from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida as a part of its Mars 2020 Mission is named – **Perseverance**

Miscellaneous

The disease from which Africa has been declared free by WHO since no incidence of it has occurred in the last 4 years – **Polio**

The date upto which the validity of Fitness, Permit, License, Registration or any other concerned documents under Motor Vehicles Act and Central Motor Vehicle rules – **31 Dec 2020**

The mobile app launched by Google for job seekers in India is named – **Kormo Jobs**

The COVID-19 vaccine developed by Gamaleya Research Institute and Russian Defence Ministry and launched by the Russian President Vladimir Putin is named – **Sputnik V**

The nuclear power plant in Abu Dhabi which became operational on 01 August making UAE the first Arab country to use nuclear power – **Barakah Nuclear Power Plant**

The theme of World Breastfeeding Week observed from 01 to 07 August 2020 – **Support Breastfeeding for a Healthier Planet**

National Sports Awards 2020

RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD

#	Name	Disclipine
1.	Shri Rohit Sharma	Cricket
2.	Shri Mariyappan T	Para Athletics
3.	Ms Manika Batra	Table Tennis
4.	Ms Vinesh Phogat	Wrestling
5.	Ms Rani Rampal	Hockey

DRONACHARYA AWARD

LIFETIME CATEGORY			REGULAR CATEGORY		
#	Name	Disclipine	#	Name	Disclipine
1.	Shri Dharmendra Tiwary	Archery	1.	Shri Jude Felix Sebastian	Hockey
2.	Shri Purushotham Rai	Athletics	2.	Shri Yogesh Malviya	Mallakhamb
3.	Shri Shiv Singh	Boxing	3.	Shri Jaspal Rana	Shooting
4.	Shri Romesh Pathania	Hockey	4.	Shri Kuldeep Kumar Handoo	Wushu
5.	Shri Krishan Kumar Hooda	Kabaddi	5.	Shri Gaurav Khanna	Para Badminton
6.	Shri Naresh Kumar	Tennis			
7.	Shri Om Parkash Dahiya	Wrestling			
8.	Shri Vijay Bhalchandra Munishwar	Para Powerlifting			

ARJUNA AWARD

#	Name and Disclipine	#	Name and Disclipine
1.	Shri Atanu Das (Archery)	15.	Shri Deepak (Kabaddi)
2.	Ms Dutee Chand (Athletics)	16.	Shri Kale Sarika Sudhakar(Kho Kho)
3.	Shri Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy (Badminton)	17.	Shri Dattu Baban Bhokanal (Rowing)
4.	Shri Chirag Chandrasekhar Shetty (Badminton)	18.	Ms. Manu Bhaker (Shooting)
5.	Shri Vishesh Bhriguvanshi (Basketball)	19.	Shri Saurabh Chaudhary (Shooting)
6.	Subedar Manish Kaushik (Boxing)	20.	Ms. Madhurika Suhas Patkar (Table Tennis)
7.	Ms Lovlina Borgohain (Boxing)	21.	Shri Divij Sharan (Tennis)

8.	Shri Ishant Sharma (Cricket)	22.	Shri Shiva Keshavan (Winter Sports)
9.	Ms Deepti Sharma (Cricket)	23.	Ms Divya Kakran (Wrestling)
10.	Shri Sawant Ajay Anant (Equestrian)	24.	Shri Rahul Aware (Wrestling)
11.	Shri Sandesh Jhingan (Football)	25.	Shri Suyash Narayan Jadhav (Para Swimming)
12.	Ms Aditi Ashok (Golf)	26.	Shri Sandeep (Para Athletics)
13.	Shri Akashdeep Singh (Hockey)	27.	Shri Manish Narwal (Para Shooting)
14.	Ms. Deepika (Hockey)		

DHYAN CHAND AWARD

#	Name & Disclipine	#	Name & Disclipine
1.	Shri Kuldeep Singh Bhullar (Athletics)	9.	Shri Manpreet Singh (Kabaddi)
2.	Ms Jincy Philips (Athletics)	10.	Shri J. Ranjith Kumar (Para Athletics)
3.	Shri Pradeep Shrikrishna Gandhe (Badminton)	11.	Shri Satya Prakash Tiwari (Para Badminton)
4.	Ms Trupti Murgunde (Badminton)	12.	Shri Manjeet Singh (Rowing)
5.	Ms N. Usha (Boxing)	13.	Late Shri Sachin Nag (Swimming)
6.	Shri Lakha Singh (Boxing)	14.	Shri Nandan P Bal (Tennis)
7.	Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sandhu (Football)	15.	Shri Netarpal Hooda (Wrestling)
8.	Shri Ajit Singh (Hockey)		

TENZING NORGAY NATIONAL ADVENTURE AWARD 2019

#	Name	Disclipine
1.	Ms Anita Devi	Land Adventure
2.	Col Sarfraz Singh	Land Adventure
3.	Shri Taka Tamut	Land Adventure
4.	Shri Narender Singh	Land Adventure
5.	Shri Keval Hiren Kakka	Land Adventure
6.	Shri Satendra Singh	Water Adventure
7.	Shri Gajanand Yadava	Air Adventure
8.	Late Shri Magan Bissa	Life Time Achievement

RASHTRIYA KHEL PROTSAHAN PURUSKAR

#	Category	Entity
1.	Identification and Nurturing of Budding and Young Talent	1. Lakshya Institute 2. Army Sports Institute
2.	Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd.
3.	Employment of sportspersons and sports welfare measures	Air Force Sports Control Board
4.	Sports for Development	International Institute of Sports Management (IISM)

Important Days of August

International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples: 09 August 2020 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 1995 Theme: COVID-19 and indigenous people's resilience
International Youth Day: 12 August 2020 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2000 Theme: Youth Engagement for Global Action
World Elephant Day: 12 August 2020 Designated by: Patricia Sims and Elephant Reintroduction Programme of Thailand First observed: 2012
World Humanitarian Day: 19 August 2020 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2009 Theme: #Real Life Heroes
International Day against Nuclear Tests: 29 August 2020 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2010
International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances: 30 August 2020 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 2011

Shri Pranab Mukherjee

Born **11.12.1935**; Passed away: **31.08.2020**

President from **July 2012** to **July 2017**

Finance Minister

From 1982 to 1984 under Smt Indira Gandhi and

From 2009 to 2012 under Dr. Manmohan Singh;

Defence Minister

From 2004 to 2006 under Dr. Manmohan Singh

External Affairs Minister

From 2006 to 2009 under Dr. Manmohan Singh and

From 1995 to 1996 under Shri PV Narsimha Rao

Awards: Padma Vibhushan (2008) and Bharat Ratna (2019).

Also awarded Bangladesh Muktijuddho Sanmanona in 2013 by Bangladesh

Books written: Thoughts and Reflections; The Dramatic Decade: The Indira Gandhi Years; The Turbulent Years: 1980–1996; The Coalition Years: 1996–2012.

ICC Hall of Fame

International Cricket Council has inducted the following cricketers into its Hall of Fame

1. Jacques Kallis (South Africa)
2. Zaheer Abbas (Pakistan)
3. Lisa Sthalekar (Australia)

Setting up of National Recruitment Agency to conduct CET

Union Cabinet has approved creation of National Recruitment Agency (NRA), a Multi-Agency Body to encompass the first level test by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), the Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and the Institute of Banking Service Personnel (IBPS).

CET: A computer based online Common Eligibility Test (CET) for the Graduate, the Higher Secondary (12th pass) and the Matriculate (10th Pass) candidates.

A common eligibility Test would enable these candidates to appear once and apply to any or all of these recruitment agencies for the higher level of examination. NRA will have representatives of Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Finance/Department of Financial Services, the SSC, RRB & IBPS.

Examination Centres: in every district of the country.

CET Score to be valid for three years, no bar on attempts. Also it would be available in a number of languages.

Financial Outlay: A sum of Rs. 1517.57 crore has been sanctioned for the National Recruitment Agency (NRA). The expenditure will be undertaken over a period of three years.

GI Tag - Products from Goa

1. Harmal Chillies
2. Myndoli banana or Moira banana
3. Khaje, a festive sweet dish

Mahendra Singh Dhoni

Announced retirement on 15 August 2020

Format	Debut country	Year	Matches	Total Runs
Test	Sri Lanka	2005	90	4876
ODI	Bangladesh	2004	350	12303
T20I	South Africa	2006	98	1617

Awards: Padma Shri (2009); Padma Bhushan (2018); Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna (2007-08)

- Dhoni is the most successful Indian Test captain with 27 Test wins, eclipsing Sourav Ganguly's record of 21.
- Fourth Indian to reach 10,000 ODI runs after Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly & Rahul Dravid.
- Under his captaincy, India won the 2007 ICC World Twenty20, the 2010 and 2016 Asia Cups, the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup and the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy.

Swachh Survekshan 2020

Ranking of States

States > 100 ULBs		States < 100 ULBs	
Rank	State	Rank	State
1.	Chhattisgarh	1.	Jharkhand
2.	Maharashtra	2.	Haryana
3.	Madhya Pradesh	3.	Uttarakhand

ULB: Urban Local Bodies

Ranking of Cities

Cities > 10 lakhs		Cities 1 to 10 lakhs	
Rank	City	Rank	City
1.	Indore	1.	Ambikapur
2.	Surat	2.	Mysuru
3.	Navi Mumbai	3.	New Delhi (NDMC)

Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO)

Launched by: Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh through an online webinar.

Role of NIIO: The NIIO puts in place dedicated structures for the end users to interact with academia and industry towards fostering innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence in keeping with the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Structure: The NIO is a three-tiered organisation. Naval Technology Acceleration Council (N-TAC) will bring together the twin aspects of innovation and indigenisation and provide apex level directives. A working group under the N-TAC will implement the projects. A Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC) has also been created for induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame.

Books in News

Swachh Bharat Revolution: Edited by Parameswaran Iyer (Collection of 35 essays by Ratan Tata, Arun Jaitley, Amitabh Bachchan, Bill Gates and others)

Our Only Home: A Climate Appeal to the World: By Dalai Lama

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