

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-AUGUST 27,2023

NATIONAL

- On August 26, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - named two points on the lunar surface during his visit to the Isro Telemetry Tracking and Command Network (Istrac) in Bengaluru



- ✓ The spot where Chandrayaan-3's Vikram touched down the lunar surface was named 'Shiv Shakti', symbolising the fusion of resolution and strength for the betterment of humanity.
- ✓ The PM also named the place where the Chandrayaan-2 lander crash-landed on the Moon's surface in 2019 as "Tiranga Point", signifying inspiration for India's space exploration and a reminder that setbacks don't equate to failure.
- ✓ On November 14, 2008, the site where Chandrayaan-1's lunar probe (MIP) landed was named 'Jawahar Point' or 'Jawahar Sthal', as notified to the International Astronomical Union (IAU).
 - ✓ Chandrayaan-1, India's first mission to the Moon, was launched on October 22, 2008 from Sriharikota spaceport in Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ Further, PM Modi also announced that August 23, the day Vikram landed on the lunar south pole, will be celebrated as National Space Day.
- ✓ He also announced a National Quiz programme on Chandrayaan 3 through MyGov portal.

- On August 24, the government – announced the launch of 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikaar' initiative to encourage the culture of customers asking for invoices or bills for all purchases



- ✓ Under the scheme, two bumper prizes of Rs 1 crore each will be given away every quarter.
- ✓ Besides, every month, there will be 800 lucky draws of Goods and Services Tax (GST) invoices having a prize value of Rs 10,000 each, and 10 draws with a prize of Rs 10 lakh each
- ✓ This scheme will initially be launched as a pilot in the States of Assam, Gujarat & Haryana and UTs of Puducherry, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
- ✓ Under the scheme, bills or invoices can be uploaded on Mobile Application 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikaar' available on IOS and Android as well as on web portal 'web.merabill.gst.gov.in'
- ✓ All B2C invoices issued during the previous month which have been uploaded on the application by 5th of the next month will be eligible for the monthly draw.
- ✓ Minimum value for invoices to be considered for a lucky draw has been kept at Rs. 200.
- ✓ A maximum 25 invoices can be uploaded by an individual on App/web portal in a month to be considered for lucky draw.
- ✓ The Scheme will be launched on 1st September, 2023 and will run for 12 months.

- **The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) - has recommended that licenses to food business operators (FBOs) can be issued for up to five years instead of one year**
- ✓ The decision was taken at the 41st meeting of the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) held on August 24 at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
- ✓ According to the FSSAI, the recommendation was made as part of an ease-of-doing measure requested by the food and beverage industry.
- ✓ During the meeting, the states/UTs were asked to expedite the identification and implementation of 100 Healthy and Hygienic Food Streets across the country, with the assistance of the Government of India.
- ✓ More than 50 officials, including Commissioners of Food Safety (CFS), representatives from states/UTs, senior officials from FSSAI and nodal ministries and members representing the food industry, consumers, agriculture, laboratories and research bodies actively participated in the meeting
- ✓ Recently, the FSSAI has introduced the 'Food Safety and Standards (Alcoholic Beverages) First Amendment Regulations, 2023,' effective from March 1, 2024.
- ✓ According to this amendment, alcoholic beverages will only be permitted to display voluntary energy content declarations in kcal on their labels, with all other nutritional information prohibited.
- ✓ The amendment regulation also defines single malt whiskey and single grain whiskey.
- **Union Minister of State for Science & Technolog, Dr Jitendra Singh - recently launched the CSIR Prima ET11, India's first indigenous e-Tractor**



- ✓ It was developed by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur.
- ✓ On the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh released a book by CSIR-CIMAP and a compendium on 75 technologies developed by CSIR.
- ✓ The CSIR-CMERI will be celebrating the theme-based campaign "One Week One Lab" from 11-15 September 2023, highlighting the laboratory's cutting-edge research, products and technologies, expertise and facilities to various stakeholders.

- **Indian IT major Infosys - announced a three-year partnership with global tennis stars Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek on August 24 and 25 respectively.**
- ✓ The 22-time Grand Slam champion Nadal will serve as the global brand ambassador of the Bengaluru-based Infosys and for its Digital Innovation.
 - ✓ As part of the collaboration, Infosys and Nadal's coaching team are developing an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered match analysis tool.
 - ✓ This personalised tool will be available in real-time to Nadal's coaching team to simultaneously track insights from his live matches when he is back on tour along with data from his earlier matches
 - ✓ This is the Spaniard's first-ever collaboration with a digital services company such as Infosys, which has had a long-standing relationship with tennis, having partnered with various federations.



- ✓ The 22-year old four-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek has been ranked World No. 1 on the WTA tour since April 22, for a record 70 consecutive weeks.
 - ✓ Infosys has been a digital innovation partner for the ATP Tour, French Open, Australian Open, and The International Tennis Hall of Fame, where it leverages AI, cloud, data analytics and digital experiences
 - ✓ Infosys has done video and stats analysis platforms for players and coaches as well.
- **On August 25, Union Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal - launched Tele-Law- 2.0, an initiative of the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice.**



- ✓ Tele-Law-2.0 seeks to integrate Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App, enhancing citizen's access to legal aid and Justice.
- ✓ This will enable the common citizen to access legal advice, legal assistance and legal representation through a single registration and single gateway of Tele-Law.
- ✓ According to the Minister, the number of beneficiaries of the Tele-Law Scheme, operating under DISHA, has reached 50 Lakhs.
- ✓ Further, the Minister announced that Tele-Law services will soon be extended to all 2.65 lakh Gram Panchayats through common service centers
- ✓ The overarching goal of the Tele-Law program is to reach one crore beneficiaries before 2026.
- ✓ During the event, the 4th Edition of the "Voices of Beneficiaries" booklet was released by Minister of State Arjun Ram Meghwal.

INTERNATIONAL

- **The African Union (AU) - suspended Niger from all its institutions and activities after all diplomatic efforts failed over last month's military coup.**
 - ✓ The 55-nation bloc has now said that the suspension will remain "until the effective restoration of constitutional order".
 - ✓ Niger's democratically elected president, Bazoum was ousted by mutinous members of his presidential guard on July 26
 - ✓ He has since been under house arrest with his wife and son in the presidential compound in the capital, Niamey.
 - ✓ The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has been trying to negotiate with the military junta, but the junta has resisted pressure to stand down and proposed a three-year timeline to organise elections
 - ✓ Niger's coup is the seventh in West and Central Africa since 2020.
 - ✓ France and the United States have some 2,500 military personnel in the country.
- **The Islamic Republic of Iran - unveiled a new drone called 'Mohajer-10' recently on August 22**



- ✓ The new drone was unveiled as part of an exhibition and defence industry day celebrations attended by President Ebrahim Raisi and senior commanders in the army and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in Tehran.
- ✓ Mohajer-10 is capable of flying for up to 24 hours at an altitude of 7,000 meters and can travel up to 2000 kilometres non-stop on a single charge.
- ✓ Resembling the American MQ-9 Reaper drone, the new drone can travel at speeds of up to 210 kilometres per hour and is equipped with updated electronic and intelligence systems.
- ✓ The Mohajer-10 has a payload of up to 300 kilograms (660 pounds) of cargo, double that of the previous model, allowing it to carry “all kinds of bombs and ammunitions”.
- ✓ This is twice the weight and flight time of its previous version ‘Mohajer-6’, which can carry 150 kilograms of weapons and fly for 12 hours
- ✓ The previous model had a lower flight altitude of 5,400 metres, and a speed of 200 kilometers per hour.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Four astronauts from four different countries - blasted off from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida towards the International Space Station on August 26**



- ✓ The crew is riding aboard the SpaceX Crew Dragon Endurance capsule on the mission, dubbed Crew-7.
- ✓ The mission brings astronauts from four countries to the ISS — Jasmin Moghbeli of NASA, the European Space Agency's Andreas Mogensen, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Satoshi Furukawa, and Konstantin Borisov, a Russian cosmonaut.
- ✓ Aboard the station, the Crew-7 will conduct more than 200 science experiments and technology demonstrations to prepare for missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

- ✓ The crew should reach the orbiting lab in their SpaceX capsule on August 27, and will replace four astronauts living up there since March.
- ✓ The returning members of Crew 6 consist of Stephen Bowen and Warren Hoburg from the US, the Russian Andrey Fedyaev, and the Emirati Sultan al-Neyadi
- **On August 24, Meta Platforms, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram - has released a new tool called “Code Llama” that uses artificial intelligence to generate code and debug human-written work for programmers.**



- ✓ Code Llama, an AI coding tool based on Meta’s Llama 2 language model, will be offered for free without charge
- ✓ It can generate code strings from text prompts, as well as finish and debug code when directed to a specific code string
- ✓ Code Llama is compatible with several of the most widely used programming languages today, including Python, C++, Java, PHP, Typescript (Javascript), C#, Bash, and others.
- ✓ Furthermore, Code Llama is expected to be available in 7-billion, 14-billion, and 34-billion parameter sizes, each with a different function
- ✓ According to Meta, Code Llama is made to assist software developers working in a range of fields, such as research, business, open-source initiatives, NGOs, and other industries.
- ✓ With the new tool, Meta is aiming to compete with ChatGPT, which has apparently gained a lot of popularity among programmers.

SPORTS

- **India's HS Prannoy - finished with bronze in the Badminton World Championship 2023 after losing the semifinals in Copenhagen on August 26**
- ✓ Prannoy - ranked No. 9 in the world - lost to three-time former world junior champion and World No. 3, Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand in three sets
- ✓ The 31-year-old became the fifth Indian man to win a medal at the Worlds after Kidambi Srikanth (silver), Lakshya Sen (bronze), B Sai Praneeth (bronze) and Prakash Padukone (bronze)



- ✓ PV Sindhu is the only Indian to win the championship (2019) while Saina won a silver and bronze.
 - ✓ Sindhu has five medals — one 1 gold, two silver and two bronze.
 - ✓ Prannoy continued the tradition of an Indian winning at least a medal at the Worlds since 2013.
 - ✓ A day earlier, Prannoy defeated world No. 1 Olympic gold medallist and defending champion Viktor Axelsen in the quarterfinal clash
 - ✓ Prannoy claimed Malaysia Masters Super 500 title and a runner-up finish at Australian Open this season
 - ✓ The BWF World Championships 2023 are being held from August 21 to 27 in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- **SP Sethuraman of Petroleum Sports Promotion Board - emerged champion in the 60th National Chess Championship in Pune on August 26**



- ✓ The third seeded Sethuraman remained unbeaten through the 11 rounds, recording eight wins and three draws.
- ✓ This is Sethuraman's second national title after he won his first in 2014.
- ✓ GM Vishnu Prasanna claimed the second spot with nine points, while five other players finished next with 8.5 points
- ✓ Sethuraman received a cash prize of Rs 6,00,000 while the runner-up received Rs 5,00,000.
- ✓ A total of 352 players including 18 GMs, 17 IMs and a WGM took part in this tournament from various states across the country.

- In a historic first, Indian powerlifters, Honey Dabas and Rahul Jograjiya - clinched gold and silver medals respectively on the opening day of the World Para Powerlifting Championships in Dubai on August 22



- ✓ These are the first ever Gold and Silver for India in any World Championships.
 - ✓ Dabbas clinched the nation's first-ever gold with lifts of 132 kg and then 135 kg, while Jograjiya followed his compatriot to secure the silver medal with a final lift of 132 kg in the fiercely-contested men's 72 kg junior weight category.
 - ✓ Earlier, Delhi-based Dabas has bagged two gold medals from the Dubai 2022 Fazza World Cup.
 - ✓ India's only medal at a World Championships has been claimed by Parmjeet Kumar (men's-49kg) at the Tbilisi 2021 World Championships.
- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur - has announced that the Khelo India Women's League will officially be known as Asmita Women's League.



- ✓ ASMITA refers to Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action.
- ✓ The Asmita Portal serves as a comprehensive resource, offering valuable insights into upcoming leagues among other features.
- ✓ It will enable any school, college, government, or private organization to host the 'Asmita Women's League' and be part of Khelo India's march towards sporting excellence.

MOON LANDING SITES

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Chang'e 3 Dec 2013



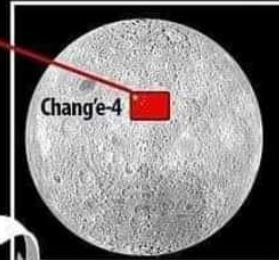
First Chinese moon lander

Chang'e 4 Jan 2019

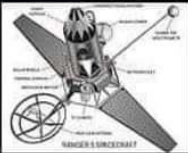


Chinese probe. First successful landing on the far-side of the moon

Chang'e-4



Ranger program



US unmanned lunar impact probes of the 1960s

Ranger 7 July 1964

Ranger 8 Feb 1965

Ranger 9 Mar 1965



Surveyor program

Not all shown on map

Unmanned 'soft landing' moon probes

Surveyor 1 June 1966

Surveyor 2 Sept 1966

Surveyor 3 April 1967

Surveyor 4 July 1967

Surveyor 5 Sept 1967

Surveyor 6 Nov 1967

Surveyor 7 Jan 1968



Apollo program

Manned moon landings

Apollo 11 July 1969

Apollo 12 Nov 1969

Apollo 14 Feb 1971

Apollo 15 Aug 1971

Apollo 16 April 1972

Apollo 17 Dec 1972

Chandrayaan 3

Aug 2023 India becomes the first nation to land a spacecraft on the lunar south pole region. Rover module to be deployed and is expected to discover the presence of ice in the Lunar soil

Apollo 11

July 1969



Neil Armstrong is the first man to walk on the surface of the Moon



Luna program

Soviet unmanned moon landings

Luna 2 Sept 1959

Luna 7 Oct 1965

Luna 8 Dec 1965

Luna 9 Jan 1966

Luna 13 Dec 1966

Luna 15 July 1969

Luna 16 Sept 1970

Luna 17 Nov 1970

Luna 18 Sept 1971

Luna 20 Feb 1972

Luna 21 Jan 1973

Luna 23 Oct 1974

Luna 24 Aug 1976