

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 4, 2019

STATES

- ◆ **Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal - has announced free electricity to all Delhi households consuming 200 units of power or less in every month.**



- ✓ However, existing electricity rates will apply if a household is using more than 200 units
- ✓ The existing 'Half Bill' scheme announced in 2015 for electricity consumed in between 201-400 units will continue as it is
- ✓ Under the half bill scheme, the Delhi Government had promised to reduce electricity bills by half for all the households that consume power between 201-400 units.
- ✓ According to the Delhi Government, the decision will encourage people to consume less power and conserve more energy
- ◆ **West Bengal Chief minister, Mamta Banerjee – launches 'Didi ke bolo' campaign - to address the public grievances and other social issues in the state**



- ✓ In this initiative every citizen of West Bengal can directly contact chief minister.
- ✓ For the purpose, a new phone number – 9137091370 and a website – www.didikebolo.com were also launched

- ✓ By this campaign every citizen can share suggestion and problems for required actions
- ✓ As part of the campaign, more than 1,000 party workers will go to the different villages in next 100 days to learn about local issues
- ✓ This is the first campaign by TMC after getting political strategist Prashant Kishore on board
- ✓ Trinamool Congress has signed up Prashant Kishore after results of 2019 Lok Sabha Elections

NATIONAL

- ◆ **The government – to set up KABIL, Khanij Bidesh India Ltd, a joint venture company - to ensure a consistent supply of critical and strategic minerals to the Indian domestic market**



- ✓ It will be a joint venture between three Central Public Sector Enterprises including National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO), Hindustan Copper Ltd.(HCL) and Mineral Exploration Company Ltd (MECL)
- ✓ The equity participation between NALCO, HCL and MECL in the company is in the ratio of 40:30:30.
- ✓ KABIL will carry out exploration, identification, acquisition, development, mining and processing of strategic minerals abroad for commercial use in India
- ✓ KABIL will help in building partnerships with other mineral-rich countries such as Australia and those in Africa and South America
- ✓ The Government has identified twelve minerals as strategic minerals that have a small resource base
- ✓ It includes minerals such as Lithium and Cobalt

- ◆ **The Government – launches ‘One Nation One Ration Card’ scheme on pilot basis in four states - Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh from August 1**



- ✓ Under the scheme, families having food security cards in any of these states can buy foodgrains at subsidized prices within any ration shop in these states
- ✓ The ration cards will need to be linked with the Aadhaar Number to avail the service
- ✓ The white Ration Card holders in Telangana have been getting the portability facility, within the state as well as in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh
- ✓ The Centre plans to extend the One nation one ration card scheme to all the states by August 2020 to enable the portability of the food security card

◆ **The Government – to prepare ‘National Population Register’ by September 2020**

- ✓ The NPR will be a list of usual residents of the country
- ✓ It will be collected using bio-metric recording to prepare the family-tree details of Indian citizens

NPR DATA UPDATE IN CENSUS 2021	
<p>➤ NPR data was collected alongside census houselisting exercise in 2011 and updated in 2015. Now, NPR data will be updated in census 2021, alongside houselisting drive scheduled between April and September 2020</p> <p>➤ Sources told TOI it was not clear if NPR would lead to National Register of Indian Citizens as no call taken on how to proceed with NPR data</p>	<p>➤ For the purpose of NPR, a usual resident is defined as a person who has resided in a local area for past six months or more or a person who intends to reside in that area for next six months</p> <p>➤ Additional features of NPR are family linkage, where a person is identified with the household enumerated and geo-tagging or record of the place of residence</p>

- ✓ Once the NPR is completed and published, it is expected to be the basis for preparing the National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC), a pan-India version of Assam's National Register of Citizens (NRC)
- ✓ The exercise is different from the decennial Census and is not linked to the National Register of Citizens (NRC)
- ✓ The objective of the NPR is to create a comprehensive identity database of every usual resident in the country
- ✓ The NPR is being prepared at the local or village sub-town, sub-district, district, state and national level under provisions of the Citizenship Act 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003

◆ **The Government – kicked off the 7th Economic Census from Tripura on July 29, 2019**



- ✓ It was also launched in the Union territory of Puducherry on August 2, 2019
- ✓ Census in other states and union territories will also begin in August and September
- ✓ The census is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- ✓ The CSC e-Governance Services India Limited has been entrusted with data collection.
- ✓ Under the provisions of Collection of Statistics Act, 2008, data will be collected through door to door survey of each household and commercial establishment
- ✓ The fieldwork is expected to be completed by December 2019
- ✓ The final findings of the survey will be released by March 2020
- ✓ According to the previous Economic Census held in 2013, 58.5 million establishments in India were employing around 131 million workers.
- ✓ The Economic Census counts all entrepreneurial and commercial units in India that involved in any economic activities
- ✓ It can be agricultural or non-agricultural sector involved in producing or distributing goods or providing services, but not for the sole purpose of its own consumption.
- ✓ The first economic census was taken in the year 1977, followed by the second in 1980, third in 1990, fourth in 1998, fifth in 2005 and the sixth in 2013.

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **Netherlands - banned wearing of face-covering clothing including burqa and niqab worn by conservative Muslim women from August 1**



- ✓ The new law bans the wearing of burqa and niqab in public places such as public transport, government buildings and at health and education institutions
- ✓ However, it is not applicable in public streets
- ✓ The country had also announced a fine upto 150 euros for non-compliance

- ✓ A similar burqa ban was imposed previously by other European nations including Germany, France, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland and Denmark.
- ✓ The United Nations Human Rights Committee had condemned the burqa ban in October 2018, saying that it violated the human rights of Muslim women
- ✓ While a niqab covers the head and the face with just the eyes being visible, a burqa comes in different styles, with some covering till the head and others have a mesh covering over the eyes.

PERSONALITIES

- ◆ **Wing commander Tarun Chaudhary - became the first pilot of Indian Armed Forces (IAF) to do a wing suit jump**



- ✓ Tarun Chaudhary jumped from a Mi-17 helicopter from an altitude of 8500 feet on his very first attempt
- ✓ This is the first flying wingsuit jump demonstration conducted during an official gathering by Indian Air Force.
- ✓ Commander Tarun attempted the jump during Kargil Diwas celebrations in Jodhpur on July 21.

DEFENCE

- ◆ **The Indian Army - launched e-cars for use of its officials in New Delhi on August 1**



- ✓ It has been launched in partnership with Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) in a joint venture of the Central PSU's under the Ministry of Power.
- ✓ The Indian Army plans to operate 10 e-cars in the first lot as a pilot project and develop further such e-cars in Delhi to ensure minimal emissions
- ✓ Air pollution has been a major challenge in Delhi, with it crossing the danger mark on several occasions.

◆ **IN LCU L-56, the indigenous Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK IV class ship - was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 29, 2019**



- ✓ It was commissioned by Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval Command at a ceremony in Visakhapatnam.
- ✓ IN LCU L-56 is the sixth of the eight indigenously built LCU MK IV class amphibious ships.
- ✓ It will be primarily used for the transportation and deployment of armoured vehicles, main battle tanks, troops and equipment from ship to shore and vice-versa
- ✓ The LCU L56 would be based in Port Blair under the NAVCC in Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC).
- ✓ The ship was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE), Kolkata.
- ✓ With LCU L-56, GRSE has become the first shipyard in India to have built the 100th warship
- ✓ The ship can be deployed for search and rescue missions, disaster relief operations, beaching operations, surveillance operations and coastal patrol along the Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands

ECONOMY

◆ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) - allowed 'Bank of China' to offer regular banking services in the country**

- ✓ It has included 'Bank of China Limited' in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- ✓ Banks falling under this schedule have to adhere to the norms of the RBI.
- ✓ All commercial banks, like SBI, HDFC Bank, Punjab National Bank and ICICI Bank, are in the Second Schedule
- ✓ In another notification, the RBI said 'Jana Small Finance Bank Limited' too has been included in the Second Schedule.
- ✓ Further, the name of 'The Royal Bank of Scotland plc' has been changed to 'NatWest Markets Plc' in the Second Schedule.
- ✓ Meanwhile, 'National Australia Bank' has been removed from second schedule and ceases to be a banking company within the meaning of the Banking Regulation Act

◆ **The State Bank of India – becomes the first Indian bank to get connected with China's National Advance Payment System (CNAPS)**

- ✓ The SBI's Shanghai branch is connected with CNAPS since July 8, becoming the first Indian Bank to operationalise it
- ✓ The CNAPS, launched in 2008 by People's Bank of China (PBOC) provides real-time settlement services for all payments cleared in mainland China, as well as in all clearing banks in offshore centers, such as Hong Kong.
- ✓ The international equivalent of CNAPS, the CIPS (China International Payments System or Cross-Border Inter-Bank Payment System), was launched in 2015 with the aim of boosting international use of the Chinese currency, yuan
- ✓ The SBI is the only Indian bank to have obtained the license to do business in RMB, the local currency as well as in foreign currency and also inducted to the CNAPS by the PBOC
- ✓ Being a member of the CNAPS, SBI Shanghai can also offer real time transfer of local funds within China by routing them through the PBOC.
- ✓ It eliminates the need of tie up and maintenance of accounts with multiple Banks for fund transfer
- ✓ The SBI has started its representative office in 1997 and began its commercial operation in 2006.

SPORTS

◆ **Lovlina Borgohain (69 kg) and Neeraj - clinched gold medals at the Magomed Salam Umakhanov Memorial International Boxing Tournament in Kaspiysk, Russia**

- ✓ The Indian boxers fetched six medals at the tournament, including two golds, one silver and three bronze.
- ✓ Gaurav Solanki bagged silver medal in the event



- ✓ World Championships bronze medallist, Lovlina (69kg) defeated Assunta Canfora of Italy
- ✓ India Open gold medallist champion Neeraj (57kg) defeated Russia's Malika Shakhidova
- ✓ The Assamese boxer, Lovlina, had earlier won the India Open silver and a bronze from the Strandja Cup
- ✓ Neeraj had earlier finished with the bronze in the Strandja Cup

◆ **Arjun Kadhe and Saketh Myneni - captured the doubles title in the \$135,000 ATP Challenger event in Chengdu, China**



- ✓ For the Pune born Arjun, it was his maiden Challenger success in any format
- ✓ For Saketh, it is his first victory since his Futures singles title in Uzbekistan in April last year and his first Challenger doubles crown in two years.

◆ **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty - became the first Indian men's doubles team to reach the finals of a BWF Super 500 tournament in the Thailand Open at Bangkok**



- ✓ In all likelihood, Satwik and Chirag will also become the first Indian men's doubles pair to break into the top-10 of the world rankings
- ✓ In the semi finals, the World No. 16 Indian team prevailed over the 19th-ranked Koreans, Ko Sung Hyun and Shin Baek Cheolin after battling for 63 minutes
- ✓ Satwik and Chirag are scheduled to play Chinese third seeds Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen in the final on August 4
- ✓ It is the first final of the 2019 season for Satwiksairaj and Chirag, men's doubles silver medallists at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

◆ **India's Sonam Malik – won her second successive gold medal at the World Cadet Wrestling Championship**



- ✓ Hailing from a small village Madina in Haryana's Sonapat, Sonam won the Gold in 65 kg final, adding to the gold she won last year
- ✓ In the 40kg final, India's Komal will fight it with American Sterling Blayke, and assured of a medal
- ✓ In men's free style, gold eluded the Indian team but as many as four bronze medals (Udit, Aman, Manish Goswamy and Anirudh Kumar) were won by the wrestlers

◆ **The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) – had recently pulled out of the Commonwealth Games Federation general assembly meeting to be held in Kigali, Rwanda in September**

- ✓ The move is attributed to the dropping of shooting from the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games roster.
- ✓ The IOA also withdrew its nomination of secretary-general Rajeev Mehta for the election of regional vice-president (Asia) during the General Assembly as well as that of Namdev Shirgaonkar for a sports committee member
- ✓ The 2022 Birmingham games will instead feature three new sports- beach volleyball (men and women), women's T20 cricket and para-table tennis (men and women)
- ✓ The decision to drop shooting has come as a big blow to India, which had won 16 medals in shooting out of the total 66 during the 2018 Gold Coast CWG
- ✓ Since 1966, Shooting has been part of CWG, except in Edinburgh CWG of 1970

◆ **The inaugural ICC World Test Championship - has begun with the first Ashes test between Australia and England at Birmingham on August 1, 2019.**

- ✓ The World Test Championship will be like the World Cup of Test cricket, similar to the ODI and T20 World Cups

POINTS SYSTEM FOR ICC WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP

The World Test Championship, beginning August 1, will see the top nine Test teams — Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies — compete in 71 Test matches across 27 series, played over two years; with the top two teams contesting the final in June 2021 to be played in the UK.

With points available for every single game, each team will play three home and three away series. Each series counts for 120 points, distributed over the number of matches in a series.

HERE'S THE POINTS SYSTEM FOR WTC

POINTS PER TEST MATCH

Length of series	Win	Draw	Tie	Loss
2	60	20	30	0
3	40	13.3	20	0
4	30	10	15	0
5	24	8	12	0

TOTAL POINTS PER SERIES: 120

IAN'S GRAPHICS

WHAT IS THE LEAGUE FORMAT OF THE WTC?

The ICC World Test Championship (WTC) gets underway on August 1, 2019

2 YEARS | 9 TEAMS | 27 SERIES | 72 MATCHES

2- TEST SERIES

SL v NZ (2019)

PAK v SL (2019)

AUS v PAK (2019)

NZ v IND (2020)

BAN v AUS (2020)

BAN v NZ (2020)

NZ v PAK (2020)

PAK v SA (2021)

WI v IND (2019)

IND v BAN (2019)

PAK v BAN (2020)

SL v ENG (2020)

WI v SA (2020)

NZ v WI (2020)

SA v SL (2021)

WI v SL (2021)

3- TEST SERIES

IND v SA (2019)

AUS v NZ (2019-20)

ENG v WI (2020)

SL v BAN (2020)

ENG v PAK (2020)

BAN v WI (2021)

SA v AUS (2021)

4- TEST SERIES

SA v ENG (2019-20)

AUS v IND (2020-21)

5- TEST SERIES

ENG v AUS (2019)

IND v ENG (2021)

Source: ICC

IAN'S GRAPHICS

- ✓ Besides Zimbabwe, which was recently suspended by ICC, new entrants in test cricket, Afghanistan and Ireland will not participate in the tournament
- ✓ Players will be wearing the jersey number in the tournament
- ✓ India will not be playing Pakistan in the championship

STARTS ON

AUGUST 1 with the ASHES

DURATION

2 YEARS

TOTAL MATCHES

72 (9 TEAMS)

INDIA'S SCHEDULE

			No. of Tests
AUG 2019	WI	AWAY	2
OCT 2019	SA	HOME	3
NOV 2019	BAN	HOME	2
FEB 2020	NZ	AWAY	2
DEC 2020	AUS	AWAY	4
FEB 2021	ENG	HOME	5

INTERNATIONAL DAY

◆ World Breastfeeding Week - August 1 to 7



- ✓ The week is observed by UNICEF, WHO and their partners among the global fraternity - to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies across the world
- ✓ As per the UNICEF report, about 60% of the world's total infants are missing out of recommended six months of exclusive breastfeeding, which is beneficial to both the infant and mother
- ✓ Theme 2019 - Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding
- ✓ Breastfeeding reduces the risk of developing breast cancer, ovarian cancer, type 2 diabetes and heart disease in the mother
- ✓ In infants, it prevents infections like early-stage diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections apart from reducing the infant mortality rate
- ✓ The week was first observed in 1992 by World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA)

