

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS –aUGUST 2,

2021

### TAMIL NADU

- Information and broadcasting minister M P Saminathan - inaugurated a memorial for Bharatha Matha at Onnappagoundanaalli in Pennagaram taluk in Dharmapuri district on August 1



- ✓ Built at a cost of Rs. 1.5 crore, the memorial was the dream of freedom fighter Subramania Siva for Bharat Mata
- ✓ Subramania Siva had purchased 6.39 acres land for building the memorial on February 15, 1923.
- ✓ He had invited the late freedom fighter Chittaranjan Das from Bangladesh to lay foundation stone for the memorial on June 23, 1923.
- ✓ The foundation for the memorial was laid three years ago
- ✓ During the regime of former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi, a memorial was built for Subramania Siva and it was inaugurated in 2011

### NATIONAL

- On July 30, Rajya Sabha - passes the Coconut Development Board (Amendment) Bill, 2021

- ✓ The bill seeks to amend Section 4 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979 and make the post of Chairman, Coconut Development Board as Non-Executive one
- ✓ The number of members of the board has been raised from four to six after the amendment, with Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat allowed to nominate their representatives in the Board
- ✓ The bill will pave the way to appoint professional persons as a non- Executive Chairman instead of government officials.
- ✓ The objective behind the amendment to the Coconut Development Board Act,1979, is to bring more areas under coconut cultivation and to provide marketing facilities so that farmers are benefitted.
- ✓ The Coconut Development Board (CBD) is a legal body under the Ministry of Agriculture and responsible for the overall development of coconuts and coconut-related products.
- ✓ It was established on January 12, 1981 with its headquarters in Kochi, Kerala, and its regional offices are located in Bengaluru, Chennai and Guwahati.
- ✓ The board has six state centres situated at Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Thane, Patna, Hyderabad and Port Blair.

## **CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

- **On August 1, India – took over the rotating presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) from France for the month of August**
- ✓ During the month, India will be hosting signature events related to maritime security, peacekeeping, and counterterrorism
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be the first Indian PM to preside over a virtual session on maritime security during New Delhi's presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on August 9
- ✓ In over 75 years, this is the first time Indian political leadership will be presiding over an event of the 15-member UN body
- ✓ The last time an Indian PM was engaged in this effort was the then PM PV Narasimha Rao in 1992 when he attended a UNSC meeting
- ✓ India joined the UNSC in January 2021 for a two year term as one of the 10 rotating non permanent members
- ✓ The two-year tenure of India as a non-permanent member of the UNSC began on January 1, 2021.
- ✓ This is India's eighth tenure in the UNSC.
- ✓ India will again chair the Council in December next year, which is the last month of its two-year term

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **The ISRO-NASA joint mission NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) - is proposed to be launched in early 2023**

- ✓ This was announced by Earth Sciences Minister Jitendra Singh in a written response to a question in the Lok Sabha
- ✓ NISAR is a joint Earth-Observation mission between ISRO and US space agency NASA for global observations over all land masses including the Polar cryosphere and the Indian Ocean region.
- ✓ It is a dual-band (L-band and S-band) radar imaging mission with the capability of full polarimetric and interferometric modes of operation to observe minor changes in land, vegetation and cryosphere
- ✓ NASA is developing L-band SAR and associated systems, while ISRO is developing S-band SAR, spacecraft bus, the launch vehicle and associated launch services
- ✓ The major scientific objectives of the mission are to understand the impact of climate change on Earth's changing ecosystems, land and coastal processes, land deformations and cryosphere using advanced radar imaging
- ✓ India and the U.S. had agreed upon this mission during the then-President Barack Obama's visit to India in 2015.

## ECONOMY

- **The Reserve Bank of India – announced the cancellation of license of Madgaum Urban Cooperative Bank Co., Ltd., located in Margao, Goa with effect from July 29, 2021**



- ✓ The decision was taken as the bank doesn't have adequate capital and earning prospects, and was unable to pay its present depositors in full in its present financial position.
- ✓ The Office of Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Goa has also been requested to issue an order for winding up the bank and appoint a liquidator for the bank
- ✓ As per the data submitted by the bank, about 99% of the depositors will receive full amounts of their deposits from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC)
- ✓ On liquidation, every depositor is entitled to receive deposit insurance claim amount of their deposits up to a monetary ceiling of Rs.5 lakh from the DICGC, subject to the provisions of the DICGC Act, 1961.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **Vice Admiral SN Ghormade - has assumed charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff at a formal ceremony in New Delhi**



- ✓ A navigation and direction specialist, Admiral Ghormade commanded frontline warships of the Indian Navy that included guided missile frigate INS Brahmaputra, submarine rescue vessel INS Nireekshak and minesweeper INS Alleppey.
- ✓ He succeeded Vice Admiral G Ashok Kumar who retired after 39 years of service
- ✓ The Flag Officer was holding the tri-service appointment of deputy chief (operations and training) at the headquarters of the Integrated Defence Staff prior to taking over as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff.
- ✓ He also served as assistant chief of personnel (human resources development), principal director of personnel and director of naval plans at naval headquarters.
- ✓ In the rank of Vice Admiral, he has held the challenging and coveted appointments of director-general naval operations, chief of staff Eastern Naval Command and controller personnel services.
- ✓ Admiral Ghormade was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2017 and Nausena Medal in 2007 by the President of India.

## AWARDS

- **Dr Cyrus Poonawalla, chairman of the Pune-based vaccine maker Serum Institute of India (SII) - to be honoured with the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award for 2021**



- ✓ The award ceremony will take place on August 13 and the award comprises cash prize of Rs one lakh and a memento.
- ✓ The award is annually given on August 1, the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak, but due to the Covid-19 situation, the date has been changed this year

- ✓ The award was started in 1983 and its former recipients include socialist leader S M Joshi, former prime ministers Indira Gandhi, Dr Manmohan Singh, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Congress leader late Pranab Mukherjee and Infosys founder N R Narayana Murthy.
- ✓ Poonawalla, who was born in 1941, founded SII in 1966
- ✓ Today, it is the world's largest vaccine manufacturer by the number of doses produced and sold globally (more than 1.5 billion)
- ✓ His son, Adar, is currently the chief executive officer (CEO) of the firm

## SPORTS

- **India's star badminton player PV Sindhu - defeated He Bing Jiao of China to win the women's singles bronze medal at Tokyo Olympics**



- ✓ With this win, Sindhu became the first Indian woman to win two individual Olympic medals
- ✓ She had won silver at Rio Olympics in 2016 after losing to Spain's Carolina Marin in the final.
- ✓ Besides Sindhu, wrestler Sushil Kumar is the only other Indian athlete to win two individual medals at the Olympic Games. (bronze in Beijing in 2008 and silver in London in 2012)
- ✓ On August 1, World No. 7 Sindhu beat World No. 9 China's He Bing Jiao to win the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics
- ✓ Earlier, Sindhu had lost the women's singles semi-final to Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu-Ying
- ✓ Sindhu is also only the 4th women's singles player to win back-to-back badminton medals at the Olympic Games.
- ✓ Indonesian Susi Susanti (1992 and 1996), South Korean Bang Soo Hyun (1992 and 1996) and Chinese Zhang Ning (2004 and 2008) are the other players to win consecutive medal at the Olympics in women's singles badminton category  
She is the reigning world champion, having won the title in 2019, after finishing runner-up in 2017 and 2018.
- ✓ Sindhu was also the first Indian badminton player to win a Silver medal at the Olympics.
- ✓ Saina Nehwal became the first Indian to win a badminton medal at the Olympics when she finished with a bronze in Beijing in 2008.

- ✓ Sindhu won the Commonwealth Games gold in 2018 and followed it up with a historic gold medal at the World Championships in 2019, becoming the first Indian to do so.

## NATIONAL DAY

### ➤ Muslim Women Rights Day - August 1



- ✓ The Union ministry of minority affairs observed the day to celebrate the enactment of the law against triple talaq.
- ✓ The central government enacted the law on August 1, 2019, that has made the practice of instant triple talaq a criminal offence.
- ✓ The Supreme Court in August 2017 declared the practice of triple talaq or a form of divorce based on the husband pronouncing divorce thrice in quick succession as 'unconstitutional'.
- ✓ In December 2017, citing the Supreme Court judgment and cases of triple talaq in India, the government introduced the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill in Parliament
- ✓ The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha but was stalled by the opposition in the Rajya Sabha.
- ✓ The bill was reintroduced and passed by both the Houses of Parliament in July 2019.
- ✓ Consequently, the bill received assent from President Ram Nath Kovind.
- ✓ The legislation, which outlaws instant triple talaq, imposes three years jail for violations and also makes the violator liable to pay a fine.
- ✓ Egypt was the first country to ban triple talaq in 1929 followed by Sudan, Pakistan (in 1956), Malaysia (in 1969), Bangladesh (in 1972), Iraq (in 1959) and Syria (in 1953).