



## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-AUGUST 30,2021

### NATIONAL

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi - addressed the nation through his Mann Ki Baat monthly radio programme on August 29.



- ✓ This is the 80th episode of the monthly broadcast, which is held on the last Sunday of every month
- ✓ It was broadcasted on the Bharatiya Janta Party's (BJP) YouTube channel, the website of the Prime Minister's Office, in the network of All India Radio, Doordarshan, the AIR News website [www.newsonair.com](http://www.newsonair.com) and News-on-air mobile app.
- ✓ PM Modi began his address with tribute to Major Dhyhan Chand.
- ✓ He spoke about the startup culture which is expanding even to smaller cities, on the ways to popularize Sanskrit language, on MP's Indore city which is the country's first 'Water Plus City', on Swachhata Abhiyaan, on Paralympics contingent, on space sector reforms and about the ongoing vaccination drive against Covid-19
- ✓ The efforts by Kanjirangal panchayat in Sivaganga district to recycle daily waste to generate electricity has earned praise from the Prime Minister during the programme.
- ✓ The project has helped to deal with the garbage generated by the panchayat and also help reduce its electricity bill.

- ✓ The biogas plant was set up at a cost of Rs.65 lakh under National Rurban Mission following Sivaganga district collector P Madhusudhan Reddy's idea.
  - ✓ The plant was inaugurated by minister for rural development K R Periyakaruppan on August 10.
  - ✓ The plant grinds the perishable wastes and converts it into biogas, which is subsequently used to generate electricity.
  - ✓ Most of the waste were generated from local sources, including markets, rotten fruits, vegetables and leftovers from marriage halls
  - ✓ The project has resulted in a saving of about 12 lakh rupees a year as the street lights are being operated using the power generated from the project.
  - ✓ The project has been designed based on the process known as 'anaerobic digestion'
- **On August 29, Bharat Biotech - announced the rollout of the first commercial batch of the vaccine from its Chiron Behring Vaccines facility at Ankleshwar in Gujarat**
- ✓ The commercial Covaxin batches were launched by union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya at the facility.



- ✓ Supplies from the Ankleshwar facility will start from September 2021.
- ✓ The Chiron Behring Vaccines plant has a production capacity of at least 10 million doses per month
- ✓ The production of Covaxin is projected to increase from the current 25 million doses per month to at least 58 million doses around the last quarter of this year, as per the government estimates
- ✓ Bharat Biotech has already deployed multiple production lines at its Hyderabad, Malur, Bengaluru and Pune campuses
- ✓ Bharat Biotech co-developed Covaxin along with the Indian Council of Medical Research.
- ✓ It is one of the six vaccines being used in India's Covid-19 immunisation programme, the others being Serum Institute of India's Covishield, Russian-made

Sputnik V, Zydus Cadila's ZyCov-D, and the American vaccines— Moderna and Johnson and Johnson (J&J)

- **On August 29, Union sports minister Anurag Thakur - launched the Fit India Mobile Application at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium on National Sports Day.**



- ✓ The National Sports Day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand.
- ✓ Fit India mobile app, a personal trainer-cum-fitness guide, was unveiled on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Fit India Movement in New Delhi
- ✓ During the event, the sports minister and minister of state for sports, Nisith Pramanik interacted virtually with the captain of the bronze medal-winning Tokyo Olympics Indian hockey team, Manpreet Singh.
- ✓ The apps allow individuals to check their fitness score based on a set of age-specific fitness tests
- ✓ It also provides specific recommendations on how to improve the fitness levels through physical activities including yoga protocols.
- ✓ The app also has animated videos to take individuals through the fitness tests.
- ✓ It also recommends Indian food plan, number of glasses of water and number of hours of sleep required.
- ✓ The Fit India App is free and available in English & Hindi on both the Android and the iOS platforms
- ✓ The Fit India Movement was launched on 29th August 2019 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the vision of making India a 'Fit and Healthy' Nation
- ✓ On the occasion of first Anniversary of Fit India movement, Prime Minister launched 'The Age appropriate fitness protocols for three age groups (1) 5-18 years (2) 18-65 Years and (3) 65+ Years' developed by an expert committee and endorsed by World Health Organization (WHO).
- ✓ During the event, the PM had unveiled a fit mantra— Fitness Ki Dose, Aadha Ghanta Roz – for the people of the country

- **India's first batch of sea-going solar fishing boats - will be ready by December 2021 at Vypeen and Munambam in Kerala.**



- ✓ Funded by Shell Foundation, the charity arm of British-Dutch petroleum company, five boats are in various stages of development and the works are done by a startup, NavAlt Solar and Electric Boats.
- ✓ There are over 2.5 lakh small fishing boats in India and 1.13 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> is released for every tonne of marine fish netted.
- ✓ Shell Foundation is supporting the project with Rs.5 crore, which includes the cost of developing the boats as well as financing the buyers to cover the extra cost compared to a traditional boat.
- ✓ NavAlt had earlier launched a solar water taxi and the country's first solar ferry 'Aditya' in Kerala.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

- **On August 29, Israel - has expanded its coronavirus booster shot programme to include anyone over 12 years of age.**
- ✓ The decision is the latest phase of a booster programme that began last month with Israelis over 60.
- ✓ It was expanded in phases over several weeks to people in their 50s, 40s and 30s.
- ✓ Already, around 2 million people, which is more than 20% of the country's roughly 9 million people, have received a third dose.
- ✓ Israel was one of the first countries to vaccinate its population early this year
- ✓ It has approved the booster programme after experts concluded the vaccine's effectiveness reduces over time

## **PERSONALITIES**

- **A six-year-old boy from Tirupati - has become the youngest Indian to bag the 'Microsoft Office Specialist' certification**
- ✓ The honour has fetched him a place in the India Book of Records for the second time.



- ✓ Raja Anirudh Sriram, a student of second grade, passed Microsoft's toughest exam on August 21.
- ✓ Though Anirudh Sriram took his first attempt about a week ago but could not pass, he was successful in his second attempt scoring 950 out of 1000.
- ✓ Microsoft Office Specialist certification exams, which have multiple choice questions, drag and drop questions, hotspot questions and scenario-based questions, are considered one of the toughest.
- ✓ Anirudh first made it to the India Book of Records at the age of four in 2019 for exhibiting exceptional memory power by identifying 100 cars in 160 seconds.

## SPORTS

- **On August 29, India's Nishad Kumar – won the high jump (T47) silver at the Tokyo Paralympics**
- ✓ 34-year-old Bhavinaben Patel settled for silver after losing to world no. 1 paddler Ying Zhou in the women's singles class 4 final



- ✓ Zhou had also won gold in 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Paralympics.
- ✓ Further, 41-year-old Vinod Kumar finished third in men's discus (F52) but the results were under review and "the victory ceremony has been postponed" to August 30, as a protest was lodged
- ✓ Meanwhile, 21-year-old Nishad from Himachal, son of a farmer, clinched silver with an Asian record of 2.06m.

- ✓ Roderick Townsend of the US bagged the gold, bettering his own world record with a jump of 2.15m.
  - ✓ Dalla Wise, who also had a best jump of 2.06m, shared the silver with the Indian with no one getting the bronze.
  - ✓ Nishad, who lost his right hand in a grass-cutter machine accident in his village, looked set for a medal as he cleared his jumps comfortably.
  - ✓ Discus thrower Vinod finished third with an Asian record when he came up with an effort of 19.91m.
  - ✓ Piotr Kosewicz of Poland took the gold with a throw of 20.02m while Velimir Santor took the silver at 19.98m.
  - ✓ Bhavina, however, became only the second Indian female athlete to win a medal in the Paralympics after Deepa Malik, who bagged silver in shot put F43 in 2016.
- **Four Indian boxers – won gold medals at the Asian Junior boxing championships held in Dubai on August 29**



- ✓ Rohit Chamoli (48kg), Bharat Joon (+81kg), Vishu Rathee (girls 48kg), and Tanu (girls 52kg) secured victories in their summit clashes to bag the top prize.
- ✓ While Chamoli defeated Mongolia's Otgonbayar Tuvshinzaya in an intense final, Joon prevailed over Kazakhstan's Yerdos Sharipbek to finish on top.
- ✓ In another final, Gaurav Saini (70kg) bagged a silver medal after losing to Boltaev Shavkatjon of Uzbekistan.
- ✓ In the girls' competition, Rathee picked up the gold medal defeating Uzbekistan's Bakhtiyorova Robiyakhon.
- ✓ Tanu defeated Tomiris Myrzakul of Kazakhstan in a split 3-2 verdict.
- ✓ However, Muskan (46kg) had to be content with a silver medal after being defeated by another Uzbek Ganieva Gulsevar in a closely-fought bout.
- ✓ India have already won six bronze medals in the junior event after Devika Ghorpade (50kg), Aarzo (54kg) and Supriya Rawat (66kg) lost in the girls' semifinals while Ashish (54kg), Anshul (57kg) and Ankush (66kg) also claimed bronze in the boys' event.