

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 9, 2021

STATES

- **Delhi - has become the first city in the country to implement a 'Graded Response Action Plan' for effective management of the Covid-19 pandemic**
- ✓ Under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), there would be four types of alert levels, depending on the seriousness of the situation.
- ✓ The four levels of color-coded alerts include Level-1 (Yellow), Level-2 (Amber), Level-3 (Orange) and Level-4 (Red).
- ✓ Based on these levels, different types of restrictions would be imposed to control the spread of Covid-19 cases in Delhi
- ✓ The GRAP, devised by a State-Level Expert Committee, was approved in July 2021 during a DDMA meeting chaired by the Lieutenant Governor
- ✓ The GRAP has been designed based on three parameters - positivity rate, cumulative new positive cases and average oxygenated bed occupancy - for lockdown or unlock the Capital.
- ✓ Level 1 or yellow alert - will come into force when positivity rate is above 0.5% for two consecutive days, 1500 new cases are registered in one week and 500 patients require oxygen beds.
- ✓ Level 2 or amber alert - will be issued when the positivity rate remains more than 1% for two consecutive days, 3500 new Covid-19 cases come within a week and 700 oxygen beds get filled.
- ✓ Level 3 or orange alert - will be in force when positivity rate is more than 2% for two days, more than 9000 new positive cases for seven days is reported or when the average occupancy of oxygenated beds is 1000 for seven days.
- ✓ Level 4 or red alert - will come into force when positivity rate more than 5% for two days or when cumulative new positive cases for 7 days is more than 16,000 or when average occupancy of oxygenated beds is 3000 for seven days.

- **The Uttar Pradesh government - expects to set a new record in paddy production for the second year in a row this year**

- ✓ This year, the area under cultivation of paddy has increased from 58.92 to 60 lakh hectares under favourable weather conditions, better rains and the measures taken by the state government.
- ✓ The government expects the paddy yield to increase by 1 million tonnes in the current Kharif season.
- ✓ Last year, the production of paddy had crossed 257.04 lakh tonnes.
- ✓ This year, the agriculture department had set a target of cultivating paddy on 60 lakh hectares of land out of 96.03 lakh hectares this Kharif season.
- ✓ UP is also likely to set a new record in the production of coarse cereals like millet and maize as well this year.

NATIONAL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - to release Rs 19,500 crore to over 9.75 crore farmers as part of the 9th instalment under PM-Kisan income support scheme on August 9**
 - ✓ Under the scheme, a financial benefit of Rs.6,000 per year is provided to the eligible beneficiary farmer families in three equal instalments of Rs.2,000 each.
 - ✓ The fund is transferred directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.
 - ✓ So far, Rs.1.38 lakh crore has been transferred to farmer families under the scheme
 - ✓ Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme was launched in February 2019.
 - ✓ The 100% centrally sponsored scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - to launch Ujjwala 2.0 that provides free cooking gas connections to poor families through domestic LPG cylinder connections at Mahoba in Uttar Pradesh on August 10, 2021**
 - ✓ In the Union budget for FY 21-22, provision for an additional one crore LPG connection under the PMUY (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana) scheme was announced.
 - ✓ These one crore additional PMUY connections (under Ujjwala 2.0) aim to provide deposit-free LPG connections to those low-income families who could not be covered under the earlier phase of PMUY
 - ✓ Along with a deposit free LPG connection, Ujjwala 2.0 will provide first refill and hotplate free of cost to the beneficiaries
 - ✓ Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is a government programme that aims to provide free cooking gas connections to poor families
 - ✓ The scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 1, 2016 from Ballia in Uttar Pradesh
 - ✓ India has 28.74 crore LPG consumers as on January 1, 2021
 - ✓ As on January 1, 2021, India' LPG coverage stands at 99.5% as against 61.9 % as on April 1, 2016.

- ✓ During Ujjwala 1.0, a target of 5 crore women members of BPL households was set to provide LPG connections
- ✓ Subsequently, the scheme was expanded in April 2018 to include women beneficiaries from seven more categories (SC/ST, PMAY, AAY, Most backward classes, tea garden, forest dwellers, Islands) with a revised target of 8 crore LPG connections.
- ✓ This revised target was achieved in August 2019, seven months ahead of the target date

- **The first report of mixed immunization with Covishield and Covaxin – indicated better immune response and safety, as per ICMR**
- ✓ The study examined 18 individuals in Uttar Pradesh who inadvertently received Covishield as the first jab and Covaxin as the second
- ✓ Researchers compared the safety and immunogenicity profile of this group with two groups of individuals who received either Covishield or Covaxin
- ✓ As per the findings, immunogenicity profile in people who received both the different vaccines was superior against Alpha, Beta and Delta variants
- ✓ Further, IgG antibody and neutralising antibody response was significantly higher in those who received both different vaccines compared as in the case of homologous groups.
- ✓ The findings indicated that immunisation with a combination of an adenovirus vector platformbased vaccine followed by an inactivated whole virus vaccine was not only safe but also elicited better immunogenicity

- **Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka - have started uploading real time data of 90,500 road crashes this year in a central database, named IRAD**
- ✓ The data in IRAD also include 30,114 road fatalities in crashes
- ✓ Chhattisgarh is the latest to feed live data in the Integrated Road Accident Database (IRAD).
- ✓ The move is aimed at eliminating the discrepancies in road death data
- ✓ The data are uploaded as and when any road crash is recorded in these states.
- ✓ The government agencies can now analyse the daily, month and yearly trends.
- ✓ Moreover, the causes of such crashes are also recorded from the spot
- ✓ The central database also maintains records of the FIRs filed in crashes and the details of how many of the injured actually needed hospitalisation.
- ✓ It also classifies the crashes according to weather conditions, time, type of road and junction, traffic violation and pedestrian infrastructure.
- ✓ The road transport ministry has stepped up the plan to cover 24 more states soon.

- **Urban areas in India - generate around 1.41 lakh tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) per day, while 68% of the MSW is processed scientifically**
- ✓ This was announced by the urban affairs ministry in the Lok Sabha

- ✓ In Goa and Himachal, 98% of the MSW is processed scientifically, whereas in West Bengal it's only 9%.
 - ✓ In Delhi, 53% of its 10,650 tonnes of MSW is processed daily and in neighbouring Haryana it's around 53%.
 - ✓ The sewage generation from urban centres is estimated at 72,368 million litres per day (MLD).
 - ✓ This was revealed in the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report on 'National Inventory of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)' published this March
 - ✓ Till date, the scientific processing of MSW has increased to 68% from 18% in 2014, as per the ministry
 - ✓ Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), Rs.7,366 crore have been allocated for solid waste management, of which Rs.6,221 crore have been released to states and UTs so far.
 - ✓ Similarly, under the AMRUT scheme, states and UTs have taken up Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) projects worth Rs.18,176 crore and spent Rs.10,351 crore so far.
 - ✓ States and UTs have, till now, taken up 872 sewerage and septage management projects worth Rs.33,322 crore.
- **The Covid vaccination certificate - can now be obtained via WhatsApp within seconds, as per the Union Health Ministry's latest announcement**
- ✓ At present, people have to download their vaccination certificate by logging into the CoWin portal.
 - ✓ Henceforth, Covid-19 vaccination certificate can be obtained through MyGov Corona Helpdesk in 3 easy steps –
 - ✓ Save contact number: +91 9013151515.
 - ✓ Type & send 'covid certificate' on WhatsApp.
 - ✓ Enter OTP and Get your certificate in seconds
 - ✓ Cumulatively, 50,68,10,492 Covid vaccine doses have been administered in the country through 58,51,292 sessions, as on August 8
 - ✓ The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16 with healthcare workers getting inoculated.

DEFENCE

- **On August 8, the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) – announced two women officers for combat roles, for the very first time**
- ✓ Prakriti and Diksha became the first women officers to be deployed in combatised roles by the mountain warfare force.
 - ✓ Both the women officers graduated as part of a batch of 53 officers to pass out from the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) academy
 - ✓ They were commissioned into the force as assistant commandants (general duty) after completing a 52-week course at the academy.

- ✓ Prakriti hails from Bihar, while Diksha hails from Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The ITBP started recruiting women combat officers in its cadre from 2016 through an all-India examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- ✓ Before this, the ITBP only had women in combat roles in the constabulary ranks.
- ✓ Earlier, the women officers who passed out were deputed in non-combat roles like the medical service.

OBITUARY

- **Veteran Congress leader and former TNCC president Tindivanam K Ramamurthy (87 years) – passed away on August 8 due to age-related complications.**



- ✓ Attracted to the Congress at a young age by the clarion call of former chief minister K Kamaraj, Ramamurthy became a youth leader in the party.
- ✓ He went on to become a member of the state assembly, state legislative council during which term he served as the leader of the opposition
- ✓ He also served a term in the Rajya Sabha as a nominated member and a term in the Lok Sabha in 1991.
- ✓ A staunch loyalist of veteran Congress leader G K Mooppanar, Ramamurthy was made the TNCC president in 1998
- ✓ After his removal from the post in 2000, Ramamurthy later went on to launch his own party and allied with the AIADMK, then led by J Jayalalithaa.
- ✓ He wound up the party soon after and joined hands with veteran Maratha leader Sharad Pawar and became the state president of NCP.

SPORTS

- **Haryana government – announced a cash reward of Rs 6 crore for Neeraj Chopra, after he won India’s second individual gold medal at Olympics on August 7**
- ✓ Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh announced a cash reward of Rs 2 crore, while the Manipur government has decided to award Chopra Rs 1 crore.
- ✓ Among Private organisations, Edtech major Byju’s announced a cash award of Rs 2 crore for Neeraj Chopra and Rs 1 crore each for other individual medal winners,

Mirabai Chanu, Ravi Kumar Dahiya, Lovlina Borgohain, PV Sindhu and Bajrang Punia

- ✓ Anand Mahindra, chairman of Mahindra and Mahindra, has announced to give a brand new XUV 700 to Chopra.
- ✓ IndiGo, a national airliner, has announced unlimited free travel for a year for Chopra
- ✓ GoFirst Airways has offered free travel for five years to all medal winners.
- ✓ Realty firm Elan Group has also promised a Rs 25 lakh cash award for Chopra.
- ✓ BCCI has also announced a cash award of Rs 1 crore for Neeraj Chopra and also set aside an award of Rs 1.25 crore for the hockey team which won bronze.
- ✓ The BCCI also announced cash awards of Rs 50 lakh to silver medallists and Rs 25 lakh for individual bronze medallists.
- ✓ Chennai Super Kings too declared a cash reward of Rs 1 crore for Chopra.

TOKYO OLYMPICS – REPORT

- **The 32nd Tokyo Olympics - came to an end with the closing ceremony for the Games on August 8 after 17 days of sporting extravaganza**
- ✓ The Olympic flag was passed to Paris mayor Anne Hidalgo for the 2024 Paris Olympics by Thomas Bach, the President of IOC
- ✓ Bajrang Punia, who finished with a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics in men's freestyle 65kg wrestling event, was the flag-bearer for India at the closing ceremony in Tokyo.
- ✓ On the final day, Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge won the men's marathon again after his 2016 win and the USA edged China at the top of the medals table.
- ✓ Traditionally, the men's marathon victory ceremony has taken place during the Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Games.
- ✓ The United States topped the tally with 39 gold medals, just one ahead of China
- ✓ Japan's record haul of 27 golds to finish third on the table has won hearts.
- ✓ Britain finished fourth with 22 and the Russian Olympic Committee, the team for Russian athletes after their country was banned for systematic doping, were fifth with 20.
- ✓ Four new sports, skateboarding, surfing, sport climbing and karate brought young new stars to the limelight.
- ✓ Weightlifter Laurel Hubbard of New Zealand became the first openly transgender woman to compete at the Games
- ✓ Canada's Quinn became the first openly transgender Olympic medallist, with gold in the women's football.
- ✓ US swimmer Caeleb Dressel matched the record of Michael Phelps with five gold medals and Jamaica's Elaine Thompson-Herah achieved a sprint double on the track.
- ✓ Gianmarco Tamberi of Italy and Mutaz Essa Barshim of Qatar shared the gold medal in the men's High Jump after both having a jump of 2.37 metres

- ✓ Hidilyn Diaz, a weightlifter who claimed the first-ever gold medal for the Philippines, and Tamyra Mensah-Stock, became the second U.S. woman to win gold in wrestling.
- ✓ On the final day, Jason Kenny claimed the men's keirin to become the first Briton to win seven Olympic titles
- ✓ There were 339 events in 33 sports disciplines contested by more than 11,000 athletes in Tokyo
- ✓ Tokyo will host the Paralympics from August 24
- ✓ India finished off the Games with its best ever medal tally – 1 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze, surpassing its previous best haul of six medals achieved in the 2012 London Games
- ✓ India's medal winners at the 32nd Summer Olympics –
 - ✓ Medal 1: Silver for Mirabai Chanu in the 40kgs weightlifting category
 - ✓ Medal 2: Bronze for boxer Lovlina Borgohain in the 69kg welterweight category
 - ✓ Medal 3: Bronze for shuttler P V Sindhu in the Badminton women's singles
 - ✓ Medal 4: Silver for wrestler Ravi Kumar Dahiya in the 57kg freestyle
 - ✓ Medal 5: Bronze for the men's hockey team after they beat Germany 5-4 to win first hockey medal in 41 years
 - ✓ Medal 6: Bronze for Bajrang Punia in men's freestyle wrestling 45kg
 - ✓ Medal 7: Gold for javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra after a brilliant 87.58 meter throw

Star performers of Tokyo Olympics

➤ **CAELEB DRESSEL, SWIMMING, USA**

- ✓ He became the first swimmer in history to win gold in the 50-metre freestyle, the 100-metre freestyle and the 100-metre butterfly at the same Olympic Games.
- ✓ The American smashed his own world record to win the 100m butterfly title. He created new Olympic records en route his 50m freestyle and 100m freestyle win.
- ✓ The 24-year-old also topped the men's 4x100m freestyle relay and men's 4x100m medley relay.
- ✓ By winning gold in five events at the Olympics, Dressel becomes the fourth male in history to achieve this feat, joining Mark Spitz, Matt Biondi and Michael Phelps.
- ✓ In 2016 Rio, he had won two gold medals.

➤ **EMMA MCKEON, SWIMMING, AUSTRALIA**

- ✓ With four gold and three bronze medals, McKeon was the most-decorated athlete at the Tokyo Olympics.
- ✓ She also tied the record for the most medals won in a single Olympic Games by a woman.
- ✓ McKeon bagged gold medals in women's 100m freestyle, women's 50m freestyle, women's 4x100m freestyle relay and women's 4x100m medley relay.

- ✓ The 27-year-old's bronze medals came in women's 100m butterfly, mixed 4x100m medley relay and women's 4x200m freestyle relay.
 - ✓ With her total career haul of 11 medals, she is Australia's most successful Olympian ever.
 - ✓ She had clinched 1 gold, 2 silver and a bronze in Rio 2016.
- **ELAINE THOMPSON-HERAH, ATHLETICS, JAMAICA**
- ✓ This is the first time a woman won three gold medals at the same Olympic Games, since Florence Griffith Joyner won three golds in the 1988 Olympics
 - ✓ Thompson led the field in the 100m and 200m sprint double and then took her third gold of the Games in the 4x100m relay.
 - ✓ She now has five gold medals across the last three Games.
- **LAMONT MARCELL JACOBS, ATHLETICS, ITALY**
- ✓ Jacobs won the 100m gold in 9.80 secs, a European record.
 - ✓ He also helped Italy win the 4x100m relay gold.
 - ✓ Jacobs became the first Italian to ever qualify for the men's 100m Olympic final.
- **SIFAN HASSAN, ATHLETICS, THE NETHERLANDS**
- ✓ The Dutch middle and long-distance runner secured a hat-trick of medals over the 1500m, 5000m and the 10,000m
 - ✓ He became the first athlete to win three medals in these events at the same Olympics.
- **VITALINA BATSARASHKINA, SHOOTING, ROC**
- ✓ The Russian shooter won double gold at the Tokyo Olympics, in the women's 10m and 25m air pistol.
 - ✓ She also won a silver in the 10m air pistol mixed team event.
- **TOM DALEY, DIVING, GREAT BRITAIN**
- ✓ The 27-year-old celebrity gay athlete became the first Briton to win four Olympic medals in diving
 - ✓ Tom won gold in the men's synchronized 10m platform and bronze in men's 10m platform
- **DAIKI HASHIMOTO, GYMNASTICS, JAPAN**
- ✓ He became the first Japanese man to win two individual gold medals at the same Olympics since 1984.
 - ✓ He won gold in men's all-round and horizontal bar events in artistic gymnastics.
 - ✓ The 19-year-old also helped Japan bag a silver in the men's team event.
- **MA LONG, TABLE TENNIS, CHINA**
- ✓ He became the first athlete to boast two gold medals in the singles.

✓ The 32-year-old also helped China bag the men's team gold.

17 World records in Tokyo 2020.

Disruptions to training caused by the pandemic did not dampen the intensity with so many world records.

- In rowing, five new world bests were recorded.
- Three world records fell in athletics with Norway's Karsten Warholm in the men's 400m hurdles, American Sydney McLaughlin in the women's event and Venezuela's Yulimar Rojas in the women's triple jump.
- Three more fell at the velodrome, while six world-record times came in the pool.
- Shooting and Olympic debutant climbing saw one record apiece fall.
- Georgian weightlifter Lasha Talakhadze earned three world records in one event (men's 109kg snatch, clean & jerk and total lift).



	Country	G	S	B	T
1	USA	39	41	33	113
2	CHN	38	32	18	88
3	JPN	27	14	17	58
4	GBR	22	21	22	65
5	ROC	20	28	23	71
6	AUS	17	7	22	46
7	NED	10	12	14	36
8	FRA	10	12	11	33
9	GER	10	11	16	37
10	ITA	10	10	20	40
11	CAN	7	6	11	24
12	BRA	7	6	8	21
48	India	1	2	4	7

11000

Around 11,000 athletes have competed in the Tokyo Games at 42 venues around Japan, including the northern island of Hokkaido.



The curtains fell on the Tokyo Olympics, the biggest sports event since the pandemic, on Sunday with India ending 48th in the medals table, its highest ranking in over 40 years. In Moscow 1980, we finished 23rd, but with just a solitary medal, the hockey gold. In Rio 2016, the medal tally crashed to just two and so did the ranking, to 67th



Wrestlers (L to R) Deepak Punia, Ravi Dahiya and Bajrang Punia along with other Indian sportspeople at the close of the Tokyo Olympics on Sunday

NEERAJ WANTED NADEEM ON PODIUM

India's golden boy Neeraj Chopra (R) says it would have been good to have Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem, who finished fifth in the javelin final, on the podium too. "Asia ka naam ho jata," Neeraj told News 18



VANDANA NAMED BRAND AMBASSADOR

The Uttarakhand sports minister visited Olympic hockey star Vandana Katariya's home in Haridwar and named her as the state's brand ambassador for the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao programme

US PIPS CHINA TO TOP MEDALS TALLY

China headed into the last day as the table-topper. But the US won three golds in volleyball, track cycling and basketball to ultimately top the table with 39 golds to China's 38. In all, the US won 113 medals to China's 88

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As many as 180 athletes picked up more than one medal at the Tokyo Games, with swimmers dominating the list. Not surprisingly, countries like the US and Australia have a larger presence on this list than most others. Between them, these 180 athletes picked up a total of 405 medals, including team medals. In terms of unique medals, there were 107 gold, 82 silver & 76 bronze, for a total of 265 medals. Here are those who won three or more medals, or two golds

Athlete	Country	Sport	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
 Caeleb Dressel	 USA	Swimming	5 ●●●●●	0	0	5
 Emma McKeon	 Australia	Swimming	4 ●●●●	0	3 ●●●	7
 Kaylee McKeown	 Australia	Swimming	3 ●●●	0	1 ●	4
 An San	 South Korea	Archery	3 ●●●	0	0	3
 Lisa Carrington	 New Zealand	Canoe Sprint	3 ●●●	0	0	3
 Elaine Thompson-Herah	 Jamaica	Athletics	3 ●●●	0	0	3
 Kathleen Ledecy	 USA	Swimming	2 ●●	2 ●●	0	4
 Zhang Yufei	 China	Swimming	2 ●●	2 ●●	0	4
 Ariarne Titmus	 Australia	Swimming	2 ●●	1 ●	1 ●	4
 Vitalina Batsarashkina	 Russia	Shooting	2 ●●	1 ●	0	3
 James Guy	 Great Britain	Swimming	2 ●●	1 ●	0	3
 Daiki Hashimoto	 Japan	Artistic Gymnastics	2 ●●	1 ●	0	3
 Adam Peaty	 Great Britain	Swimming	2 ●●	1 ●	0	3
 Evgeny Rylov	 Russia	Swimming	2 ●●	1 ●	0	3
 Cate Campbell	 Australia	Swimming	2 ●●	0	1 ●	3
 Sifan Hassan	 Netherlands	Athletics	2 ●●	0	1 ●	3
 Harrie Lavreysen	 Netherlands	Cycling Track	2 ●●	0	1 ●	3
Mollie O'Callaghan	Australia	Swimming	2 ●●	0	1 ●	3
Clarisse Agbegnenou	France	Judo	2 ●●	0	0	2
Zach Apple	USA	Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Chen Meng	China	Table Tennis	2 ●●	0	0	2
Tom Dean	Great Britain	Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Robert Finke	USA	Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Lamont Marcell Jacobs	Italy	Athletics	2 ●●	0	0	2
Kim Je Deok	South Korea	Archery	2 ●●	0	0	2
Svetlana Kolesnichenko	Russia	Artistic Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Ma Long	China	Table Tennis	2 ●●	0	0	2
Sydney Mc Laughlin	USA	Athletics	2 ●●	0	0	2
Athing Mu	USA	Athletics	2 ●●	0	0	2
Yiu Ohashi	Japan	Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Blake Pieroni	USA	Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Sofia Pozdniakova	Russia	Fencing	2 ●●	0	0	2
Svetlana Romashina	Russia	Artistic Swimming	2 ●●	0	0	2
Shi Tingmao	China	Diving	2 ●●	0	0	2
Jessica von Bredow-Werndl	Germany	Equestrian	2 ●●	0	0	2
Xie Siyi	China	Diving	2 ●●	0	0	2
Yang Qian	China	Shooting	2 ●●	0	0	2
Duncan Scott	Great Britain	Swimming	1 ●	3 ●●●	0	4
Mima Ito	Japan	Table Tennis	1 ●	1 ●	1 ●	3
Sunisa Lee	USA	Artistic Gymnastics	1 ●	1 ●	1 ●	3
Margaret Macneil	Canada	Swimming	1 ●	1 ●	1 ●	3