

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 9, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- On August 8, Chief Minister M K Stalin - launched the Tamil Nadu Forest and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau at the state secretariat and released the logo for the Bureau



- ✓ The bureau will be headquartered at Panagal Building, Saidapet in Chennai and function under a director and four additional directors for Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Ramanathapuram zones
- ✓ The objective of the bureau is to check illegal wildlife crime across the state and protect them from getting endangered.
- ✓ The bureau will collect intelligence on organized crime on wildlife poaching, curb illegal wildlife trade, and will work in coordination with national agencies in curbing illegal activity.
- ✓ The bureau will also develop guidelines to curb illegal wildlife trade, improve awareness and educate people living closer to wildlife areas, gather information on wildlife crime, and map wildlife crime-prone areas in the state.

- ✓ A total of 118 forest staff will be working in this wing of the state forest department.
 - ✓ The move fulfills an announcement made by forest department in the state Assembly in 2021-22 to establish the Bureau to prevent forest and related crimes
 - ✓ Forest Minister M Mathivendan, Chief Secretary Shiv Das Meena, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Climate Change and Forests Supriya Sahu and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden Srinivas R Reddy were present during the event.
- **On August 8, Retailers Association of India (RAI) - signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MSME support and promotion agency 'Facilitating MSMEs Tamil Nadu' (FaMe TN).**



- ✓ FaMe TN (erstwhile MSME Trade and Investment Promotion Bureau) was established in 2019 to promote trade and investments among MSMEs.
- ✓ As per the agreement, RAI will help the state develop a retail policy, collaborate with FaMe TN to support the retail industry especially MSMEs.
- ✓ Accordingly, RAI will help improve market access of MSMEs and facilitate training and capacity building for retail MSMEs, and promote communication on the initiatives of FaMe TN among its member retail MSMEs.
- ✓ Besides, FaMe TN will coordinate staff participation, and facilitate interactions with key local stakeholders.

STATES

- **On August 8, the Kerala state assembly - passed unanimously a resolution against Uniform Civil Code (UCC), making it the first legislature in the country to pass such a resolution.**
- ✓ The resolution said that the Centre's unilateral and hasty move to impose UCC goes against the Constitution's secular character.
 - ✓ The assembly expressed its concern over Centre's move to impose UCC.
 - ✓ The resolution said the Constitution refers to a general civil code only in its directive principles, whose implementation is not mandatory.
 - ✓ It is essential to note that UCC was limited to directive principles.

- ✓ The resolution further said that the nation ensures secularism via the preamble of the Constitution.
- ✓ The right to believe in any religion or the right to live according to any religion is ensured as part of fundamental rights.
- ✓ The court may order to enforce fundamental rights but it can't enforce directive principles under Article 44 of the Constitution.
- ✓ Since religious freedom ensured by Article 25 of the Constitution comprises the right to follow and observe religious personal laws as well, any move to enact a legislation to ban spiritual practices will amount to violation of fundamental rights.
- ✓ While the right to live according to religious principles is a fundamental right, such a legislation (UCC), if enacted, would amount to the denial of fundamental rights, said the resolution.

➤ **On August 8, the Karnataka government - announced it will ban illegal banners and flexes across Bengaluru**

- ✓ Deputy CM and Bengaluru development minister D K Shivakumar announced the decision
- ✓ Further, the government said it will register FIRs against violators and impose a fine of Rs.50,000 per violation
- ✓ The ban will be applicable to all political parties and organisations
- ✓ Earlier, on August 2, the Karnataka high court criticized the government over failure to rein in illegal banners and flexes across Bengaluru
- ✓ It had set three week deadline to submit an action plan to contain the menace, besides detailing action against offenders and officials who fail to prevent it.

NATIONAL

➤ **On August 8, the Rajya Sabha - unanimously passed four bills by voice vote**

- ✓ The four bills are the Inter Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, National Dental Commission Bill and the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill
- ✓ The Inter Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill seeks to equip military commanders of all tri-service organisations with full administrative and disciplinary powers
- ✓ The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023 entrusts the management accountability of the institutes with the President of India giving more powers to the Centre
- ✓ The Bill also classifies the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai as IIM, Mumbai
- ✓ The National Dental Commission Bill seeks to repeal the Dentists Act, 1948 and constitute the National Dental Commission, Dental Advisory Council and three autonomous boards for regulating dental education and standards of dentistry.

- ✓ The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill seeks to regulate and maintain the standards of education and services for nursing and midwifery professionals.
- ✓ All four bills were passed by the Lok Sabha earlier and are set to become Act after they receive Presidential assent.
- **The CBI - joined the Interpol's Global Academy Network, becoming its 10th member**
 - ✓ In this regard, the CBI academy brass signed a letter of acceptance with the Glenn Martindale, director (capacity building and training directorate) of Interpol in Singapore on August 8
 - ✓ This will pave the way for advance research project collaborations and delivery of joint training programmes
 - ✓ This aims to help CBI in developing a global approach to law enforcement training in association with international law enforcement institutions
 - ✓ Launched in 2019, the Interpol Global Academy Network encourages cooperation between Law Enforcement Training Institutions worldwide
- **On August 8, Union Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan - launched the first 'State of Elementary Education in Rural India - 2023' report**
 - ✓ This report was launched at the India Rural Colloquy 2023 in Delhi, an event that features over 100 leaders – in development, culture, business, and beyond – in over two dozen conversations held across four Indian cities.



- ✓ In this study, it was revealed that a total of 78% of parents of girls and 82% of parents of boys in rural India wanted to educate their children to graduation and above.
- ✓ The survey revealed, out of the total dropped-out children, around one-fourth of male children discontinued their education during primary schooling.
- ✓ A higher proportion of both boys and girls dropped out of school after completing the primary school education (75% for boys and 65% for girls).

- ✓ The survey found that a majority of children (62.5%) are under the supervision of their mothers when it comes to their studies, while 49% are supervised by their fathers.
- ✓ The survey revealed that 49.3% of students in rural India have access to smartphones and nearly 73% of children utilize smartphones for less than two hours daily
- ✓ The study was focused on 6 to 16-year-old children in rural communities across 20 states in India.
- ✓ The survey included responses from 6,229 parents, among whom 6,135 had school-going students, 56 had students who dropped out of school, and 38 had children who had never enrolled in school.
- ✓ This pan-India study was conducted by the Development Intelligence Unit (DIU), an initiative of Transforming Rural India Foundation (TRIF) and Sambodhi
- ✓ It highlights progress in gender-neutral education among rural communities.

SPORTS

- **On August 8, India - ended its World University Games (WUG) campaign with its best-ever performance, winning a record haul of 26 medals**
- ✓ India won 26 medals - 11 gold, five silver and 10 bronze - and finished seventh in the medals table
- ✓ The 21-member shooting team performed the best with 8 gold, 4 silver and 2 bronze while archers won 3 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze.
- ✓ Rifle shooter Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, a Tokyo Olympian, was the most successful Indian athlete at World University Games with four medals.



- ✓ India's track and field athletes, however, won just four bronze medals from 82 participants, the largest in the contingent.
- ✓ A strong contingent of 230 Indian athletes participated at the 2023 World University Games.
- ✓ The 31st edition of the World University Games was held in Chengdu, the People's Republic of China, from July 28 to August 8.

- ✓ Hosts China topped the FISU World University Games medals tally with 178 medals, including 103 gold.
 - ✓ Japan came second with 21 gold medals from a tally of 93, while The Republic of Korea finished third with 17 gold medals from a total of 58.
 - ✓ India's previous best performance at the World University Games came at Gwangju in 2015, where Indian athletes won five medals – one gold, one silver and three bronze.
 - ✓ At the 2019 edition in Naples, India won four medals – one gold, one silver and two bronze.
 - ✓ India have been part of the World University Games since the inaugural edition at Turin in 1959
 - ✓ The next edition of the World University Games is slated to take place in 2025 in Germany.
- **Indian Left-arm spinner Kuldeep Yadav - became fastest Indian to take 50 wickets in T20 Internationals**



- ✓ He achieved the feat during the third T20I against the West Indies in Guyana
 - ✓ Kuldeep achieved the record in his 30th T20I match for India, surpassing teammate Yuzvendra Chahal, who had 50 T20I wickets in 34 games.
 - ✓ Among ICC Full-Member nations, Sri Lanka's Ajantha Mendis holds the record for picking 50 wickets in 26 T20Is.
 - ✓ Overall, Dhruvkumar Maisuria of Botswana is the quickest to reach the milestone of 50 T20I wickets, in 22 matches
- **India's Shoan Ganguly - became only the third Indian swimmer to win a medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.**
- ✓ The 18-year-old Bengaluru based swimmer claimed silver in the 400m individual medley event on August 7.
 - ✓ Others to have won medals at the Commonwealth Youth Games are Virdhawal Khade and Suriyo Mondol.



- ✓ Ganguly, who trains at the Basavanagudi Aquatic Centre, registered the best Indian timing, surpassing Aryan Nehra's record set at the Hyderabad Nationals last month.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **World Breastfeeding Week – August 1 to 7**



- ✓ It is a global campaign that is celebrated every year during the first week of August in several countries across the world.
- ✓ The campaign seeks to raise awareness and educate people about the importance of breastfeeding
- ✓ Mother's milk is not only vital for baby's health, but also saves the mother from many diseases
- ✓ It is not only rich in nutrients but also acts as shield to the child against the diseases.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - 'Let's make breastfeeding and work, work!'
- ✓ World Breastfeeding Week was observed for the first time in 1992.
- **International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples – August 9**
- ✓ The day is observed every year to spread awareness about the indigenous communities of the world, recognise their contributions and achievements along with the need to preserve them
- ✓ Theme 2022 – 'Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination'



- ✓ On August 9, 1982, the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations had convened its first meeting
- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly on December 23, 1994, decided to observe August 9 as the International day of the world's indigenous peoples
- ✓ The year 1993 was also celebrated as “International Year of the World's Indigenous People”

➤ **Nagasaki Day – August 9**



- ✓ The Nagasaki Day is observed to commemorate the day when the US military dropped an atomic bomb named 'Fat Man' from US B-29 bomber on the city of Nagasaki
- ✓ It was the second city that was bombed in Japan after Hiroshima, leading to the mass killing of around 74,000 people
- ✓ Hiroshima was bombed on August 6, followed by the bombing in Nagasaki on August 9
- ✓ The bombing which took place led to the surrender of Japan during World War II on August 15, 1945
- ✓ The aftermath of the bomb resulted in several diseases like cancer risks, birth defects, severe mental retardation etc.

➤ **National Handloom Day – August 7**

- ✓ The National Handloom Day is observed annually to honour the handloom-weaving community and to recognise the contribution of the handloom sector to the socio-economic development of the country



- ✓ In 2015, the first National Handloom Day was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted the first handloom day in Chennai's Centenary Corridor of the College of Madras to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Swadeshi Movement
- ✓ The day is observed on August 7 to commemorate the launch of the Swadeshi Movement in 1905
- ✓ The Swadeshi movement was established in Kolkata, then known as Calcutta, as a revolt against the British Government's division of Bengal
- ✓ It was aimed to inspire people to take up local Indian-made goods and boycott the imported goods.
- ✓ The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi started the movement by using 'khadi' with the objective of promoting self-sustainability among the rural villages
- ✓ The National Handloom Day is also aimed to empower the handloom weavers and workers financially and to instil pride in their exquisite craftsmanship.
- ✓ To promote the handloom sector, the government has launched several initiatives which include the Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS), and Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's famous Kanchipuram sarees, the Paithani weaves of Maharashtra, Muga Silk from Assam, and Mysore Silk from Karnataka among others are the most sought-after handloom segments in the country
- ✓ The handloom sector is rural India's second-largest employer after agriculture, with more than 4.3 million individuals are either directly or indirectly involved with it.
- ✓ The handloom sector accounts for over 15% of the nation's total textile production.
- **Friendship Day – August 6, 2023**
 - ✓ Friendship Day is celebrated every year as a dedication to the friends in our life and to portray how they form one of the most important parts of our existence
 - ✓ While July 30 is designated as International Friendship Day, in India it is celebrated on the first Sunday of August.



- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly recognised International Friendship Day in 2011.
- ✓ The purpose of the day is to promote goodwill between nations, people, cultures, and individuals as a means of bridging cultural divides and igniting peace initiatives.
- ✓ The history of Friendship day can be traced back to the year 1930 when the founder of Hallmark cards, Joyce Hall, proposed the idea of friendship day in Paraguay on August 2
- ✓ The first ever Friendship's Day was celebrated by an international civil organization - World Friendship Crusade - in the year 1958.

