



## **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-AUGUST**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- **For the first time, three engineering colleges of Anna University - will offer a three-year Bachelor of Vocation (BVoc) degree programme**
- ✓ These BVoc programmes, introduced as part of Naan Mudhalvan scheme, lay more stress on developing skills in specific field.
- ✓ These programmes aim to impart skill sets to students in footwear manufacturing, garment manufacturing and logistics.
- ✓ University College of Engineering in Arni and Kancheepuram will offer footwear manufacturing and logistics, while the regional campus in Coimbatore will offer garment manufacturing degrees from 2023-24.
- ✓ The courses will have two components - general and skill.
  - ✓ General components include theory courses on communication skills and programme specific courses.
  - ✓ Skill component consists of theory or lab courses conducted either at the college or at the factory.
- ✓ Under these programmes, students will learn skills in the industry during the first two semesters and later study related theories in colleges, whereas, in regular courses, students will first learn the theory and the skills later.
- ✓ The university and sector skill council have prepared the curriculum for these courses.
- ✓ The Confederation of Indian Industry and sector skill council provided the details of skill sets required for students.
- ✓ Further, the sector skill council will arrange for on-the-job training and evaluation of skill components.
- ✓ Graduates of the programme in footwear manufacturing can work as footwear designers, accessory designers, product developers or fashion consultants.
- ✓ Students studying garment manufacturing can get jobs as designers of garment manufacturing industries

- ✓ Besides, the students studying logistics shall get employment as procurement managers, demand planning analysts, logistics operations managers, supply chain consultants.

## INTERNATIONAL

- **On August 13, the death toll from the Maui wildfires in Hawaii - reached 93, making it the deadliest US wildfire in more than a century**



- ✓ The historic coastal town of Lahaina on the island of Maui was almost completely destroyed by the fast-moving wildfire.
- ✓ The fire, which devastated the town of Lahaina, is the deadliest wildfire in modern U.S. history, surpassing the 2018 Camp Fire in California, which killed 85 people
- ✓ The fires, fueled by dry conditions and strong winds from a passing hurricane, is the deadliest in the United States since 1918, when 453 people died in Minnesota and Wisconsin
- ✓ The cost to rebuild Lahaina was estimated at \$5.5 billion, with more than 2,200 structures damaged or destroyed and more than 2,100 acres (850 hectares) burned.
- ✓ The wildfire is already projected to be the second-costliest disaster in Hawaii history, behind only Hurricane Iniki in 1992

## INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **The Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy warship HAI YANG 24 HAO - left the port of Colombo on August 12**
- ✓ The 129 metre-long Chinese naval vessel capable of surveillance arrived in Colombo for a formal visit on August 10 and is manned by a crew of 138 personnel
- ✓ This visit comes a year after a similar visit by China's satellite tracking vessel Yuan Wang 5 to Sri Lanka's Hambantota Port in August 2022, leading to strained Indo-Lanka relations due to diplomatic tensions
- ✓ China is actively engaged in Sri Lanka's ports, such as Hambantota and Colombo.



- ✓ In May 2023, Sri Lanka partnered with the China Merchants Group to construct a logistics complex at Colombo Port with an estimated cost of nearly \$400 million.
- ✓ The island nation was hit by an unprecedented financial crisis in 2022, the worst since its independence from Britain in 1948, due to a severe shortage of foreign exchange reserves.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **On August 12, Senator Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar - was picked as Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister to govern the country and oversee general elections later this year**



- ✓ Outgoing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the Leader of the Opposition Raja Riaz finalised his name after two rounds of deliberations over the matter
- ✓ Kakar, 52, is an ethnic Pushtun leader from Balochistan and a member of the Balochistan Awami Party (BAP), a party set up in 2018.
- ✓ During his tenure, he chaired the Committee of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, and was also a member of several other committees such as Business Advisory, Finance and Revenue, Foreign Affairs, and Science and Technology.
- ✓ He became the 8th interim prime minister of Pakistan.
- ✓ His official swearing-in ceremony will take place on Pakistan's 76th Independence Day, August 14, 2023

- ✓ The President of Pakistan, Arif Alvi, dissolved the National Assembly on August 9 based on the advice of the incumbent Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

