

# APPLO STUDY CENTRE

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-AUGUST 20,2023

### TAMIL NADU

- **India's first drone common testing centre – to come up in Tamil Nadu**
- ✓ The facility, costing Rs 45 crore, will be established on 2.3 acres of land at the SIPCOT Industrial Park, Vallam Vadagal near Sriperumbudur.
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) had floated a request for a proposal to identify industrial partners for establishing this testing centre as a joint venture under the Defence Testing Infrastructure (DTI) scheme
- ✓ A consortium of companies comprising Keltron, Sense Image Technologies, Standards Testing and Compliance, and Avishka Retailers was selected to partner with TIDCO in establishing the facility.
- ✓ TIDCO is the nodal agency responsible for the implementation of the Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor (TNDIC)
- ✓ At present, an integrated facility for drone testing is only available with DRDO at Chitradurga, Karnataka, and is reserved for its own use
- **StartupTN, the state's nodal agency for startups and innovation - is hosting "Tamil Nadu Startup Thiruvizha 2023" on August 19 and 20 at the CODISSIA Trade Fair Complex in Coimbatore**



Our sincere Thanks to



Thiru M. K. Stalin  
Hon'ble Chief Minister  
of Tamil Nadu



Thiru T. M. Anbarasan  
Hon'ble MSME Minister  
of Tamil Nadu

Register



50+ Speakers 450+ Stalls  
10,000+ Visitors

Expo & Convention

- Fireside Chat
- Pitching Session
- B2B Meeting
- Cultural Events

19 & 20 August 2023 CODISSIA, Coimbatore [www.tnstartupfest.com](http://www.tnstartupfest.com)



- ✓ The objective of the event is to celebrate entrepreneurship and showcase the government's support to startups and aspiring entrepreneurs at various stages of development
- ✓ The event began with a video address by Chief Minister MK Stalin, and featured speeches by Housing and Urban Development Minister S Muthusamy, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Minister TM Anbarasan and Industries Minister TRB Raja
- ✓ More than 1,500 delegates from Tamil Nadu and the global ecosystem are expected to participate in the various sessions, which include keynote talks, fireside chats, panel discussions and plenary discussions covering a wide range of topics
- ✓ The event will include a conference with over 50 key speakers, including startup ecosystem leaders, subject matter experts, heads of leading state startup missions in India, and government officials.
- ✓ There will also be an expo with over 450 stalls showcasing startups and a pitching session.

## STATES

- **Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot - has launched the state government's 'Annapurna Food Packet Scheme' on the occasion of Independence Day**
- ✓ The scheme seeks to distribute food packets to more than 10.4 million families for free every month.



- ✓ Under the scheme, each food packet will contain one kilogram each of chana dal, sugar, salt, one litre soybean refined edible oil, 100 gm each of chilli powder and coriander powder, and 50 gm of turmeric.
- ✓ It is part of the Rs.19,000 crore 'Inflation Relief Package', which was announced by the chief minister in February during the state budget for 2023-24 to provide relief to the public from rising prices.
- **Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren - announced the launch of 'Abua Awas Yojna' in his Independence Day speech on August 15**



- ✓ The scheme aims to build homes for the needy in the next two years at a cost of Rs 15,000 crore
- ✓ Under the scheme, the state is planning to develop and provide three-room houses free of cost to the poor and needy.
- ✓ The scheme is an electoral promise of the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in the 2019 assembly elections.
- ✓ Under the scheme, the state government is estimated to provide housing to around 7.5 lakh people in the rural areas
- ✓ The scheme would run separately from the ongoing central government 'PM Awas Yojana', aiming to provide housing for all.
- ✓ The PM Awas Yojana is set to end by March 2024

## NATIONAL

- **On August 19, the government – has announced a 40% export duty on onions**
  - ✓ The move is aimed at improving domestic supplies and avoiding any price rise during the upcoming festive season.
  - ✓ The export duty will be valid till December 31.
  - ✓ The Centre has imposed the duty for the first time amid the trend of “exceptionally high export” during this year.
  - ✓ Earlier, it had banned onion exports from September to December in 2020 and fixed a minimum export price in 2019.
  - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his Independence Day speech, promised to control inflation and minimise the burden on citizens.
  - ✓ The exports of onions this year have been exceptionally high in the January-March period at around 8.2 lakh tonnes, compared with 3.8 lakh tonnes in the previous corresponding period.
- **Union minister for health and family welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya, launched the 'Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH) - a World Health Organisation (WHO) Managed Network'**
  - ✓ The initiative has been launched in Gujarat's Gandhinagar during the second and final day of the G20 health ministers' meeting on August 19



- ✓ The launch took place in the presence of Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general, WHO.
- ✓ The GIDH will be a WHO Managed Network ('Network of Networks') that will promote equitable access to digital health by addressing challenges such as duplication of efforts and "product-focused" digital health transformation.
- ✓ The ultimate goal of GIDH is to align efforts to support the Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020-2025
- ✓ During the session, Mandaviya also launched the World Bank's flagship report on 'Digital in Health: Unlocking Value for Everyone'.

## INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **Indian Navy submarine INS Vagir - will arrive in Australia on August 20 on an extended-range deployment**



- ✓ This is the first time an Indian submarine will be reaching Australia
- ✓ The submarine will participate in various naval exercises with Royal Australian Navy units on the West Coast of Australia
- ✓ During the ongoing deployment, basic, intermediate and advanced-level Anti-Submarine exercises are scheduled.
- ✓ In addition, the Royal Australian Navy submarine and Indian Naval P8i aircraft are scheduled to exercise with INS Vagir

- ✓ However, the submarine will not be involved in the 10-day Malabar drills that began on August 11 involving the navies of India, US, Japan and Australia
  - ✓ Two Indian warships, the indigenously built INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata, and a P-8I submarine hunter plane are taking part in the Malabar exercise.
- ✓ The Vagir, which is the navy's fifth Scorpene or Kalvari-class diesel-electric submarine, was commissioned into the Indian Navy in January 2023
- ✓ On its way to Australia, INS Vagir visited Colombo as part of the International Day of Yoga celebrations on June 21.

## **CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

- **Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath - jointly inaugurated the Youth 20 Summit -2023 at Varanasi on August 18**
- ✓ The Youth 20 (Y20) Summit has been organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports under the framework of India's G20 Presidency.
- ✓ The Y20 summit provides a platform for youth to express their voices and ideas on G20 priorities.
- ✓ The Y20 Summit is the culmination of various meetings including the Inception Meeting at Guwahati, Pre Summit at Leh, Ladakh, and various Jan Bhagidari events conducted across the country in the run-up to the main Summit
- ✓ Around 125 delegates from G20 countries, Guest countries and International Organizations are participating in the four-day Summit.

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) - has confirmed the existence of one of the earliest galaxies ever discovered.**
- ✓ The galaxy, named Maisie's Galaxy, is now confirmed to have formed about 390 million years after the Big Bang, when the universe was still developing.
- ✓ The discovery was made by a team led by Steven Finkelstein, an astronomer at the University of Texas at Austin
- ✓ Finkelstein named the galaxy after his daughter as it was discovered on her birthday.
- ✓ The galaxy was discovered in June 2022 during observations undertaken by the Cosmic Evolution Early Release Science Survey (CEERS).
- ✓ To determine the age of these celestial bodies, astronomers measure their redshift - the amount that their color has been shifted due to their motion away from us

## **AWARDS**

- **On August 19, Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde - presented the state's first 'Udyog Ratna' award to veteran industrialist Padma Vibhushan Ratan Tata for his outstanding work in the industry sector**



- ✓ The CM presented the award to the 85-year-old chairman emeritus of Tata Sons at his residence in South Mumbai along with a cheque of Rs.25 lakh
  - ✓ The honour comprised a shawl, a citation and a memento from the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC).
  - ✓ Deputy Chief Ministers Ajit Pawar and Devendra Fadnavis were present during the occasion
- ✓ The Maharashtra government introduced the prestigious Udyog Ratna award this year and Tata was the first person to receive the award.
- ✓ The Tata Group, spanning from steel to salt, operates in over 100 countries across six continents.
- ✓ In the fiscal year 2021-22, the combined revenue of Tata companies amounted to \$128 billion.
- ✓ On the lines of 'Maharashtra Bhushan' award, the state government has decided to award 'Maharashtra Udyog Puraskar' to eminent entrepreneurs who have contributed substantially to the industrial sector of Maharashtra from this year.
  - ✓ As part of this, the Udyog Ratna Award has been announced to veteran businessman Padma Vibhushan Ratan Tata, Udyog Mitra Award to Adar Punawala of Serum Institute, Udyogini Award to Gauri Kirloskar of Kirloskar Group, Best Marathi Entrepreneur Award to Vilas Shinde.
  - ✓ These awards will be presented by Governor Ramesh Bais in a ceremony to be held on August 20.

## SPORTS

- **India's Mehuli Ghosh - won the 10m air rifle bronze at the ISSF World Shooting Championships in Baku, Azerbaijan on August 19**



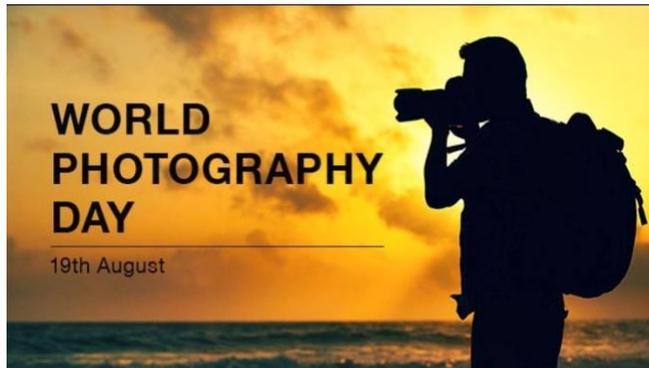
- ✓ In the process, Mehuli Ghosh earned a quota spot and booked a ticket to the Paris Olympics.
  - ✓ China's Han Jiayu won gold with compatriot and Cairo Worlds champion Wang Zhilin finished second
  - ✓ It is Ghosh's first individual World Championships medal, having won the team bronze in Cairo last year.
  - ✓ In the Air Rifle event, the top three shooters are guaranteed Olympic quota places.
  - ✓ The 22-year-old from Kolkata also teamed up with Tilottama Sen and Ramita Jindal to win the gold medal in 10m Air Rifle team competition
  - ✓ However provision for Olympic quota is only restricted to individual events.
  - ✓ India have won three Paris quota places till now through Rudrankksh Patil (10m Air Rifle Men), Swapnil Kusale (50m Rifle 3 Positions Men) and Bhowneesh Mendiratta (Trap Men).
  - ✓ India finished the day with two gold and two bronze medals each and in the third place on the medal tally, behind leaders China and USA, who have two gold and one silver.
- **India's compound archers - won both the men's and women's team gold medals in the World Cup Stage 4 in Paris on August 19.**
- ✓ A day earlier, the recurve archers too claimed a double picking up bronze in both men's and women's team events.
  - ✓ India thus ended campaign with five medals that included two gold and three bronze
  - ✓ Besides, five archers (four compound, one recurve) have secured the slot for World Cup Finals, to be held at Hermosillo in Mexico next month.



- ✓ The fourth-seeded men's compound team of Abhishek Verma, Ojas Deota le and Prathamesh Jawkar and the women's trio of Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur have bagged gold medals
- ✓ Later, Jyothi returned to win bronze in the individual category beating five-time World Cup gold medal winner Sara Lopez of Spain in a tie-breaker.

# INTERNATIONAL DAY

## ➤ World Photography Day - August 19



- ✓ The day is observed every year to pay tribute to the art of photography and encourage people to pursue photography as a hobby or career.
- ✓ The day is also celebrated to honour photographers who have the talent of capturing moments and producing amazing pictures.
- ✓ World Photography Day originated after the invention of a photographic process called 'daguerreotype', by Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicéphore Niépce in 1837
- ✓ Two years later, on January 9, 1839, the French Academy of Sciences officially endorsed the daguerreotype.
- ✓ On August 19, 1839, the French government bought the patent for this device
- ✓ The first durable colour photograph was captured in 1861 and the first digital photograph was created in 1957
- ✓ However, the celebration of World Photography Day began in 1991 with the efforts of an Indian photographer, OP Sharma, who managed to bring the renowned photographers across the globe on a single platform.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "LANDSCAPES"

## ➤ World Humanitarian Day – August 19



- ✓ The day is observed annually to pay tribute to aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service, and to provide support for people affected by crises around the world.
- ✓ The history of World Humanitarian Day (WHD) dates back to 2003, when 22 humanitarian aid workers were killed on 19 August 2003 in a bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq.
- ✓ The lives taken away included the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello.
- ✓ Ironically, Sergio Vieira de Mello laid the groundwork for designing the Draft for the official designation of World Humanitarian Day
- ✓ In 2009, the United Nations General Assembly announced the day as World Humanitarian Day.
- ✓ WHD is a campaign by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- ✓ Theme 2023 – 'No matter what'

