

# RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-august

## **TAMIL NADU**

- ➤ The third edition of the Kalaignar Memorial International Marathon was held at Marina beach on August 7
- ✓ The marathon was held on the eve of fourth death anniversary of former chief minister M Karunanidhi
- ✓ It witnessed the participation of more than 43,000 people, making it the biggest memorial marathon, as certified by the Asia Book of Records
- ✓ A total of 86 participants from nine countries, including Australia, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Seychelles, Singapore, South Korea, and the U.K. participated in the race
- ✓ The Kalaignar Memorial International Marathon is the brainchild of the Health Minister, Ma Subramanian, who is a popular marathon runner
- ✓ The purpose of the marathon is to create awareness on health, the importance of physical activity and fitness
- ✓ The marathon was organised in four categories ranging from 42.2 km to 5 km.



- Chepauk MLA Udhayanidhi Stalin flagged off the five kilometre marathon and minister for municipal administration, urban and water supply K N Nehru flagged off the 10km marathon.
- ✓ The 21km and 42km were flagged off by minister for PWD E V Velu and minister for sports M V Meyyanathan.
- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin handed over the registration fees of Rs.1.2 crore to a trust at the government Institute of Child Health and Hospital, Egmore.
- ✓ Manicharan won the first prize in the 5km category and received Rs.25,000.
- ✓ Sathishkumar from Coimbatore bagged the first prize in the 10km category.
- ✓ Army personnel from Pudukottai, Lakshman Govind bagged the Rs.1 lakh first prize in the 21km category, and police personnel from Jaipur, Sher Singh bagged the first prize in the 42km category.
- ➤ On August 7, US navy ship Charles Drew arrived at the Larsen and Toubro shipyard at Kattupalli for undergoing repairs and allied services.
- The US Navy had awarded a contract to the L&T Shipyard for undertaking maintenance of the ship.



- ✓ This is the first time a US navy ship is coming to India for repairs
- ✓ The event signifies the capabilities of Indian shipyards in the global ship repairing market.
- ✓ Indian shipyards offer wide-ranging and cost-effective ship repair and maintenance services, using advanced maritime technology platforms
- ✓ United States' Military Sealift Command's Lewis and Clark-class dry cargo ship USNS Charles Drew provides critical support to the U.S. Navy fleet operating in the Indo-Pacific Region
- ✓ The ship conducts "replenishments-at-sea" where it delivers critical supplies (food, fuel, spare parts -- and mail) to U.S. Navy ships
- ✓ The 41,000-tonne USNS Charles Drew will be at Kattupalli shipyard from August 7 to 17 and all repairs would be completed by this time.
- ✓ India has six major shipyards with turnover of nearly \$2 billion
- ✓ During the US-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, defence minister Rajnath Singh met his US counterpart and offered Indian shipyards to repair US ships in the Pacific.

- ✓ The repair of US Navy vessels in Indian shipyards was enabled as a part of Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA).
- ✓ The agreement, signed in August 2016, provides for basic terms, conditions and procedures for Logistic supplies, support, and services.

#### **CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

➤ Prime Minister Narendra Modi - chaired the seventh Governing Council meeting of Niti Aayog at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre in New Delhi on August 7



- ✓ The meeting was the first in-person meeting of the Governing Council after July 2019
- ✓ The agenda of the meeting included achieving self-sufficiency in oilseeds and pulses and agri-communities, National Education Policy, urban governance and crop diversification, among other things.
- ✓ Further, issues related to Minimum Support Price (MSP) of crops, support to states in dealing with natural disasters, crop insurance and Kisan credit cards, irrigation facilities, revision of royalty rates for minerals, the National Education Policy, etc were also raised by the chief ministers at the meeting
- ✓ The Niti Aayog's Governing Council comprises all chief ministers, lieutenant governors of Union Territories and several Union ministers.
- ✓ The Prime Minister is the Chairman of NITI Aayog

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- On August 7, Isro's maiden Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) mission ended up as a failure
- ✓ The 34-metre tall, 120 ton SSLV-D1 was launched from the first launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota
- ✓ It was carrying a 153kg payload of earth observation satellite EOS-02 and copassenger students satellite AzaadiSAT

- ✓ The mission completed all its stages but data loss was reported at the terminal stage
- ✓ Despite successful lift off into space, the SSLV-D1 was unable to complete its mission
- ✓ SSLV-D1 placed the satellites into 356 km x 76 km elliptical orbit instead of 356 km circular orbit with 76 km is the lowest point close to the surface of the earth
- ✓ Hours later, Isro said the satellites are no longer usable as the rocket failed to inject them into the right orbit.



- > The three stages performed normally but the rocket placed the two satellites — EOS-02 and Azaadisat — into a 356km X 76km elliptical orbit instead of its intended circular orbit of 356km
- Isro said the satellites are no longer usable as they have come down from the orbit due to atmospheric drag
- A team of experts will conduct a detailed evaluation and give a set of recommendations to be implemented before the next SSLV flight
- ✓ This marks the loss of two big satellites, the Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-02) and the AzadiSAT, a CubeSat developed by 750 rural girl students to mark the 75th year of India's Independence.
  - ✓ The EOS-02 is an experimental optical remote sensing satellite with a high spatial resolution.
  - ✓ The AzaadiSAT is a 8U Cubesat weighing around 8kgs and carries 75
    different payloads each weighing around 50grams, which are integrated by
    the student team of 'Space Kidz India'.
- ✓ The Velocity Trimming Module (VTM), which inserts the satellite into their desired orbits, is being cited as the cause of failure as it did not fire in the terminal stage
- ✓ The satellites are likely to end up over the Pacific between Australia and New Zealand
- ✓ Developed at Rs 169 crore, the launch vehicle can be made ready for flight in just 72 hours and could carry satellites up to 500 kilograms into the 500 km planar orbit.
- ✓ SSLV is a new generation rocket built for launching small satellites
- ✓ It can be made so quickly within a week with just 5-6 people due to many innovative features, while it takes more than 600 people and 45-60 days to make a PSLV
- ✓ In comparison, PSLV and GSLV take much longer time to get ready.

THE SPECIFICS	SSLV	PSLV	GSLV MK-II	GSLV MK-
Height	34m	44m	49.13m	43.43m
Diameter	2m	2.8m	2.8m	4m
Number of stages	three	four	three	three
2500kg to	sun-sy 1,42 trai	ynchrono 25kg to sunsfer orb		chronous
geosynchronous transfer orbit and 5000kg to low earth orbit	geosy	nchrono	Four tonne ous transfe nes to low	r orbit or

- ✓ This is because PSLV contains two liquid stages while GSLV has liquid stages, liquid strap-on boosters and a cryogenic stage, which take longer to prepare
- ✓ This is the second loss for Isro in the span of just one year
- ✓ Earlier, Isro had faced another loss in 2021 when its GSLV-F10 mission was lost minutes after liftoff.

# **APPOINTMENTS**

➤ Electrochemical scientist N Kalaiselvi - has become the first woman director general of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)



- ✓ CSIR is India's premier public sector R&D organisation that controls multiple state-run institutions across the country
- ✓ Kalaiselvi, hailing from Ambasamudram in Tirunelveli district, is currently heading CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI) at Karaikudi in Tamil Nadu as its director.
- ✓ She has been appointed as DG, CSIR, for two years with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post.
- ✓ Kalaiselvi rose through the ranks in the CSIR and also became the first woman scientist to head the CSIR-CECRI in February 2019.

- ✓ She will also hold charge as secretary, department of scientific and industrial research (DSIR) of the science & technology ministry
- ✓ Kalaiselvi's research interests include lithium and beyond lithium batteries, supercapacitors and waste-to-wealth driven electrodes and electrolytes for energy storage and electrocatalytic applications.
- ✓ She is currently involved in the development of practically viable Sodium-ion/Lithium-sulfur batteries and supercapacitors.
- ✓ Kalaiselvi also made key contributions to the National Mission for Electric Mobility.
- ✓ She has more than 125 research papers and six patents to her credit.
- ✓ With the appointment, Kalaiselvi joins a list of women scientists who have occupied key positions in other organisations including space agency Isro and the department of biotechnology (DBT).
- ✓ Earlier, woman scientist Renu Swarup served as secretary, DBT in the Ministry of science.
- ✓ Besides, there are a number of women scientists who handled major missions in Isro.
- ✓ Muthayya Vanitha and Ritu Karidhal headed India's Chandrayaan-2 mission as its project director and mission director, respectively.
- ✓ Another scientist, V R Lalithambika, a control systems engineer who specialised in advanced launcher technologies, was in 2018 picked as the director of the directorate of human space programme to oversee the Gaganyaan project, India's maiden human spaceflight mission.
- ✓ Besides, Mangala Mani, known as the 'Polar woman of Isro', was the space agency's first woman scientist to spend more than a year in Antarctica in 2016.

### **SPORTS**

➤ India – won 15 medals, including 5 gold, on the penultimate day of the Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham on August 7, 2022



- ✓ India achieved a historic one-two in the men's triple jump with Eldhose Paul and Abdulla Aboobacker winning the gold and silver medals with a jump of 17.03 meters and 17.02 metres respectively
- ✓ Three boxers Nikhat Zareen (women's light flyweight), Amit Panghal (men's flyweight) and Nitu Ganghas (women's minimumweight) won their respective finals to bag the gold medals
- ✓ Achanta Sharath Kamal and Sreeja Akula won the gold medal in the table tennis mixed doubles category.
- ✓ Indian boxer, Sagar Ahlawat lost his super heavyweight final in Men's over 92 kg gold medal match against England's Delicious Orie and settled for silver medal.
- ✓ The Indian women's cricket team secured silver medal after losing to Australia in the final.
- ✓ Earlier, Sharath Kamal and Sathiyan lost their table men's doubles final against England's Paul Drinkhall/Liam Pitchford and settled for silver
- ✓ Meanwhile, Annu Rani and Sandeep Kumar bagged bronze medals for India in the women's javelin throw and men's 10km race walk, respectively
- ✓ Annu Rani's bronze medal is the first ever medal for India in women's javelin throw.
- ✓ In badminton, Kidambi Srikanth finished with a bronze medal in men's singles while Treesa Jolly/Gayatri Gopichand won bronze in women's doubles semi-final
- ✓ In Squash, Saurav Ghosal and Dipika Pallikal won bronze in mixed doubles.
- ✓ India also won the bronze medal in women's hockey after beating New Zealand in a shootout.
- ✓ India has won 55 medals so far, which includes 18 gold, 15 silver and 22 bronze medals and moved to 5<sup>th</sup> spot in the medal tally
- ➤ Viswanathan Anand, the legendary Indian chess player and five-time world champion has been elected as the deputy president of International Chess Federation (FIDE).
- ✓ The elections to the world chess body, FIDE were held during the FIDE Congress, which is being conducted in Chennai alongside the 44th Chess Olympiad



- ✓ Anand was nominated by incumbent president Arkady Vladimirovich Dvorkovich as part of his team to contest the elections
- ✓ Russia's Dvorkovich was re-elected as the FIDE president after beating his opponent, the Ukrainian GM Andrii Baryshpolets, by a big margin of 157-16 votes
- ✓ A third candidate, French Bachar Kouatly, withdrew his candidature after giving his speech, before voting began.
- ✓ Ukraine's Bolshyarets, who lives in the US, started a petition for the removal of Dvorkovich from FIDE
- ✓ Born in Moscow, Dvorkovich was first elected as FIDE President in October 2018, succeeding Kirsan Ilyumzhinov
- ✓ The International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation commonly referred to by acronym FIDE is an international organization based in Switzerland
- ✓ It connects the various national chess federations and acts as the governing body of international chess competition
- ➤ On August 7, Pranav Venkatesh became India's 75th GM after winning the Limpedia Open in Romania



- ✓ Pranav, who is the 27th GM from Tamil Nadu, got his maiden GM norm at the Serbia Open in 2021
- ✓ The 15-year-old from Velammal School bagged his second GM norm at the Vezerkepzo GM round-robin tournament in Budapest in June this year.
- ✓ Pranav clinched his third and final norm on August 7 by scoring seven points in the Limpedia Open in Romania
- ✓ In 2014, Pranav became the under-9 National Inter-School Chess Champion
- ✓ In 2019, he had won the state championships and repeated the feat last year as well.
- ✓ In 2021, Pranav was part of the Velammal Nexus team that bagged the World School team chess championship in Dubai.

