



CURRENT AFFAIRS 10th August 2022

National News

1. Serena Williams announces retirement from professional tennis



- American tennis legend Serena Williams, the winner of 23 Grand Slam titles, has announced that she will retire from professional tennis.
- In an article for the Vogue Magazine, the 40-year-old star described her intention to finish her playing career as an evolution away from tennis.
- She explained that one of her biggest reasons for retirement is her intention to further expand her family.
- Serena has now set her eyes on the US Open which starts on the 29th of this month. It would be her last tournament.
- In her reaction to the tennis great's decision to retire, Britain's US Open champion Emma Raducanu said she definitely changed the game.
- She added that there has not really been someone who dominated like her in the women's game. Paying tribute to the tennis star, former world number one Billie Jean King

said when Serena steps away from tennis, she will leave as the sport's greatest player.

- **Serena Williams first major title was the 1999 US Open, when she was 17.**
- **She won her last Slam title at the 2017 Australian Open when she was eight weeks' pregnant with daughter Olympia.**
- **Serena and older sister Venus have been widely regarded as changing the face of tennis and inspiring future players, as well as pushing for gender equality.**

2. 44th Chess Olympiad ends; India's men & women team win bronze medal



- **The 44th Chess Olympiad inaugurated by Prime minister Narendra Modi in Chennai on the 28th of July ended today.**
- **India competed in the tournament with three teams in the Men's Section and three teams in the Women's section.**
- **India 'B' team comprising D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Raunak Sadhwani and Adhiban won the bronze medal beating Germany.**
- **In the women's section, India 'A' team won the bronze medal. The team comprising Vaishali and Koneru Humpy, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkari were headed for a gold**

medal on the final day but a defeat to USA by 1-3 dented their chances as they eventually finished third.

- The Uzbekistan team, which was seeded 14th in the tournament, won the gold medal in the men's section. Armenia clinched the silver medal.
- It was the first time that the Chess Olympiad was held in India, the place where the game began.
- The 2022 edition was historic as the tournament was contested between 188 teams from about 187 nations.

3. Today is World Biofuel Day



- Today is World Biofuel Day. It is observed to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels.
- This year, the theme is "Biofuels Towards a Carbon Neutral World".
- This day also honors the research experiments by Sir Rudolf Diesel who ran an engine with peanut oil in the year 1893.
- His research experiment had predicted that vegetable oil is going to replace fossil fuels in the next century to fuel different mechanical engines.
- Biofuels have the benefits of reducing import dependency on crude oil, cleaner environment, and additional income to farmers and employment generation in rural areas.
- The Government approved the National Policy on Biofuels-2018 in June 2018.

- The policy has the objective of reaching 20 per cent ethanol-blending and 5 per cent biodiesel-blending by the year 2030.
- Among other things, the policy expands the scope of feedstock for ethanol production and has provided for incentives for production of advanced biofuels.
- The biofuels programme is also in synergy with the Government of India initiatives for Make in India, Swachh Bharat and enhancing farmers' income.

4. World Lion Day being observed globally



- World Lion Day is being observed globally today. The day aims to spread awareness about lions and the urgent need to strive for their conservation.
- In a tweet today, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav said that Asiatic Lions population has shown a steady increase with an increased rate of nearly twenty nine per cent.
- He highlighted that the distribution of the lions has increased from an area of 22 thousand square kilometers in 2015 to 30 thousand square kilometers in 2020.
- The Minister stressed that there has been a consistent increase in the population and distribution area of Asiatic Lions.

- He described that several strategies and interventions have been implemented by the Ministry to continue the upward trend of conservation .
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, launched the “Asiatic Lion Conservation Project” with an aim to protect and conserve the world’s last ranging free population of Asiatic Lion and its associated ecosystem.
- Asiatic lions that once ranged from Iran to Palamau district of Jharkhand were almost driven to extinction by indiscriminate hunting and habitat loss.
- According to the United Nations, lion populations have dropped by more than 40 per cent in the last two decades

5. Indian Army launches Him Drone-a-thon programme in collaboration with DFI



- The Indian Army launched the Him Drone-a-thon programme today in collaboration with the Drone Federation of India.
- The initiative is in line with self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- It is aimed at catalysing and providing focused opportunities to the Indian drone ecosystem to develop path-breaking drone capabilities for meeting the requirements of frontline troops.
- The Defence Ministry said, the programme is a pan-India sustained connection between all stakeholders, including

industry, academia, software developers and drone product manufacturers.

6. CM Yogi to launch 'Radio Jaighosh' to mark Kakori Train Action anniversary



- As part of the celebrations for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath debuted “Radio Jaighosh” to commemorate the anniversary of the Kakori Train Action.
- To promote performing arts, regional specialties from Uttar Pradesh, folk art, and gallantry award recipients, the state’s Department of Culture is developing a community radio station and also the “Radio Jaighosh” is a part of it.
- From the recently restored studio of the Sangeet Natak Akademi in Lucknow, “Radio Jaighosh” will be audible at

107.8 MHz and will air programmes from 6 am to 10 pm every day.

- The Radio Jaighosh's mobile application and social media pages will also have access to the programmes.
- The daily radio programmes "Parakram" and "Shaurya Nagar" will feature folktales from all 75 of the state's districts and feature valiant troops from both the pre- and post-Independence eras as well as unsung heroes on the "Radio Jaighosh".
- Kala Yatra will focus on performing arts, Rajya ki Rasoi on Uttar Pradesh's delicacies, Rang Shala on theatre performers, Rajya ki Raftaar on government initiatives, and Rang Yatra on visual arts on the "Radio Jaighosh".

7. Prabath Jayasuriya and Emma Lamb win ICC Player of the Month Awards



- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced Sri Lankan spin sensation Prabath Jayasuriya and England batting all-rounder Emma Lamb as the winners of its Player of the Month awards for July 2022.
- Prabath Jayasuriya claims the ICC Men's Player of the Month award on the back of an outstanding series of displays with the ball, where his remarkable haul of wickets sees him crowned ahead of rival contenders England's Jonny Bairstow.

- Emma Lamb was voted the ICC Women's Player of the Month for July following her thrilling start to life opening the batting in England's victorious ODI series victory over South Africa.
- Lamb consistently laid the foundations for her side to claim victory in each of the three matches, with her most notable contribution coming in the first match in Northampton.

8. Rudi Koertzen, former ICC Elite umpire, dies in car crash



- Rudi Koertzen, the former international cricket umpire, has passed away in a car crash.
- He was 73. Koertzen, who took up umpiring in the year 1981 and stood in his first international match back in 1992 between India and South Africa at Port Elizabeth, went on to officiate in 331 international matches, a record that stood tall until he retired in the year 2010.
- Rudi became just the second umpire in history to officiate more than 150 ODIs after the legendary David Shepherd, and was also the second to stand in 200 Tests after Steve Bucknor.

- One of the original members of the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires in 2022.
- The last official match in which Koertzen served as during IPL 2011 between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Chennai Super Kings at the Chinnaswamy.

By Sameer Singhal

PLUTUS ACADEMY