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Academy

CURRENT AFFAIRS



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## CURRENT AFFAIRS 11 AUGUST 2021

### State News

#### 1. Gujarat CM launches eNagar mobile application and portal



- Gujarat Chief Minister, Vijay Rupani has launched eNagar mobile application and portal. The eNagar covers 10 modules with 52 services including property tax, professional tax, water & drainage, Complaints and grievance redressal, building permission, fire and emergency services.
- Gujarat Urban Development Mission has been appointed as a nodal agency for eNagar project. Total 170 locations including 162 municipalities and 8 Municipal Corporations are covered under the eNagar project.
- Gujarat Chief Minister: Vijay Rupani;
- Gujarat Governor: Acharya Devvrat.

### Appointments News

#### 2. Gol Approves 3-year extension for Rekha Sharma as Chairperson of NCW



- The Government of India has given a three-year extension to Rekha Sharma as Chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW). She will serve for another three years term with effect from August 07, 2021, or till the age of 65 years or until further orders whichever is the earliest.
- The 57-year-old Sharma first assumed the charge as Chairperson of NCW on August 7, 2018.
- Rekha Sharma has been associated with the Commission as a member since August 2015 and held the additional charge as the chairperson from September 29, 2017, before becoming its regular chief. She has been a vocal advocate of gender sensitisation of police personnel since they are the first point of contact for victims.
- National Commission for Women Formed: 1992;
- National Commission for Women Headquarters: New Delhi.

### **Business News**

#### **3. ADB approves USD 300 million additional loan for Maharashtra**



- The Manila-based Asian Development Bank has approved a USD 300 million loans as additional financing for the ongoing Maharashtra Rural Connectivity Improvement Project for upgrading rural roads and connecting remote areas with markets.
- The additional financing will be used for improving an additional 1,100 rural roads and 230 bridges for a total length of 2,900 km in 34 districts of the state.

- The project was approved in August 2019, for improving and maintaining the condition and safety of 2,100 kilometres (km) of rural roads across Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari.
- Maharashtra Capital: Mumbai.

## **Defence News**

### **4. Indian Army contingent to participate in International Army Games 2021 in Russia**



- The 7th edition of the International Army Games, 2021, will be held from 22 August to 04 September 2021 in Russia. The competition will be hosted in eleven countries in the 2021 Games. Over 280 teams from 42 countries will compete in the game to show their combat skills, professionalism and determination to win.
- The International Army Games also referred to as 'War Olympics', is an international military sports event, which aims to strengthen military-to-military cooperation between countries and trust between the participating nations.
- From India, 101 members of the Indian Army will participate in the International Army Games, which is organised each year by the Russian Ministry of Defence, since 2015.

### **5. ITBP inducts its first women officers in combat**



- For the first time, India-China LAC guarding the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force has commissioned its first two women officers in combat.
- The two women officers, Prakriti and Diksha will be posted as company commanders in ITBP battalions. Heretofore, women officers in the ITBP were serving in the medical branch or were on deputation from the Indian Police Service at top echelons.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Deswal put the ranks of Assistant Commandant, the entry-level officer rank in the paramilitary, on the shoulders of Prakriti and Diksha after the passing out parade and attestation ceremony where they took an oath to serve the country.
- The ITBP started recruiting women combat officers in its cadre in 2016 through an all-India examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- ITBP Founded: 24 October 1962.
- ITBP Headquarters: New Delhi, India.
- ITBP DG: S S Deswal.

### **Summits and Conferences News**

#### **6. PM Modi becomes first Indian PM to Chair a UNSC Debate**



- Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi has chaired the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) open debate, via video conferencing. With this, PM Modi has become the first Prime Minister of India to chair a UNSC open debate.
- It must be remembered that India has assumed the Presidency of the UNSC for August 2021, taking over from France.
- The theme of the high-level open debate was 'Enhancing Maritime Security – A Case for International Cooperation'. India will organize two more meetings during its presidency, on peacekeeping and counterterrorism.

### 7. Kiren Rijju attends 8th SCO Meeting of Ministers of Justice



- The Union Law Minister Kiren Rijju has virtually attended the eighth meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
- The Minister of State for Law & Justice, Prof SP Singh Baghel also attended the meeting. During the virtual event, Rijju highlighted the initiatives taken by the Government of India for providing affordable and easy access to justice for all.
- The three days' meeting was hosted by Tajikistan, and chaired by Tajikistan's Justice Minister, MK Ashuriyon. The Ministers of (Law and) Justice and senior officials and experts from the Ministries of Law & Justice of 'India, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan' participated in the meeting.

### Science and Technology News

#### 8. India to launch advanced geo imaging satellite "Gisat-1"



- India will finally launch its most advanced geo-imaging satellite (GiSAT-1), which will allow better monitoring of the subcontinent, including its borders with Pakistan and China, by imaging the country 4-5 times a day.
- The satellite will be launched on August 12 from Sriharikota. Isro's GSLV-F10 rocket will finally put the 2,268-kg Gisat-1, codenamed EOS-3, into the geo-orbit. This will be India's first launch of a primary satellite this year.
- Once placed 36,000 km above the earth in the geostationary orbit after space manoeuvres, the advanced 'eye in the sky' can constantly monitor areas of interest (the satellite will move in sync with the rotation of the Earth and hence would look stationary) and will give real-time information about a large area unlike other remote sensing satellites placed in lower orbits that come to a spot only at regular intervals.
- ISRO Chairman: K.Sivan.
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ISRO established: 15 August 1969.

## **Sports News**

**9. 7th August to be named “Javelin Throw Day” to honour Neeraj Chopra**



- The Athletics Federation of India has decided that javelin throw day will be on 7th August every year in honour of Olympic gold medalist

Neeraj Chopra. The 23-year-old Neeraj is India's second individual Olympic gold medallist after Abhinav Bindra.

- Neeraj bagged the gold medal in men's javelin throw at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics on 7th August 2021.
- Neeraj has scripted the history at the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo when he threw the javelin to a distance of 87.58m to end India's medal drought in athletics at the Olympics. This is India's first-ever gold medal in athletics in the history of the Olympics. AFI's bid to name August 7 as Javelin Throw Day is an attempt to attract more youth towards the sport.
- Athletics Federation of India President: Adille J Sumariwalla;
- Athletics Federation of India Founded: 1946;
- Athletics Federation of India Headquarters location: New Delhi.

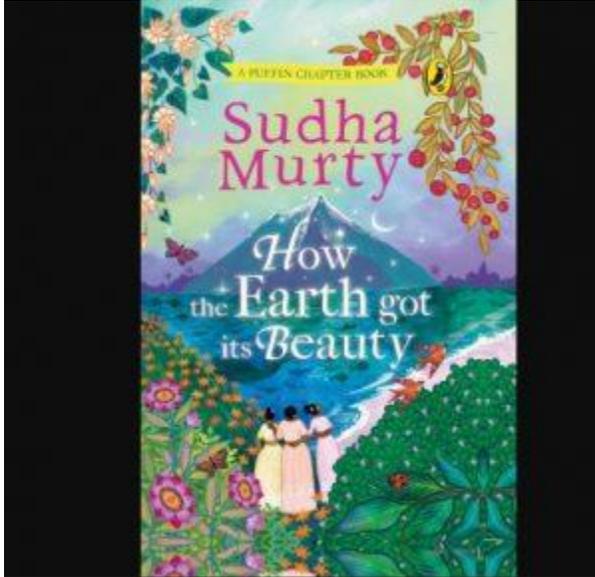
### **Books and Authors News**

#### **10. A book title "The Earthspinner" authored by Anuradha Roy**



- A book titled "The Earthspinner" authored by award-winning novelist Anuradha Roy. In the book, Roy delves into the "life and mind of Elango the potter, who must navigate complicated and impossible love, the dedication of a beloved pet, his own passion for creativity and a world turned upside down by the petty violence that characterises the present day".
- This novel is about two people struggling to free themselves of such shackles to create a happier world. Roy's earlier works include "An Atlas of Impossible Longing" and "The Folded Earth".

#### **11. A book title "How the Earth Got Its Beauty" authored by Sudha Murty**



- A book titled “How the Earth Got Its Beauty” authored by Sudha Murty. The book was published by Penguin Random House imprint Puffin, has illustrations by Priyanka Pachpande.
- Sudha Murty is a prolific writer in English and Kannada, she has written novels, technical books, travelogues, collections of short stories and non-fictional pieces, and four books for children. Her books have been translated into all the major Indian languages.
- Sudha Murty was the recipient of the R.K. Narayan Award for Literature and the Padma Shri in 2006, and the Attimabbe Award from the government of Karnataka for excellence in Kannada literature in 2011.

### **Important Days**

#### **12. World Lion Day observed on 10th August**



- World Lion Day is observed globally on August 10 every year. World Lion Day is marked to raise awareness about the king of beasts and the efforts undertaken for their conservation.
- Owing to their courage, intelligence, strength, and magnificence, lions often feature on national flags, and royal symbols and emblems to represent command, power or authority across cultures. World Lion Day was launched in 2013.
- There is only one species of the lion in the world whose scientific name is Panthera leo. As per the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN)'s Red List of Threatened Species (2016), the Panthera leo has two subspecies: Panthera Leo and Panthera leo persica, found in Africa and Asia.
- International Union for Conservation of Nature Headquarters: Gland, Switzerland;
- International Union for Conservation of Nature CEO: Bruno Oberle;
- International Union for Conservation of Nature Founder: Julian Huxley;
- International Union for Conservation of Nature Founded: 5 October 1948.

### 13. World Biofuel Day celebrated on 10th August



- World Biofuel Day is observed on August 10 every year. The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels and highlight the various efforts made by Government in the biofuel sector.
- The development of biofuels is in sync with schemes such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. World Biofuel Day was first observed by the Ministry of Petroleum and Gas in August 2015.

### Obituaries News

#### 14. War hero Commodore Kasargod Patnashetti Gopal Rao passes away



- Commodore Kasargod Patnashetti Gopal Rao, a 1971 war hero and recipient of the Mahavir Chakra, passed away. Rao was a recipient of the Veer Seva Medal also. He played a key role in the war with Pakistan to liberate East Pakistan that is now Bangladesh.
- Rao led a small task group of the Western Fleet and launched an offensive off the coast of Karachi as part of Operation Cactus Lily.
- Notwithstanding the threat of air, surface and submarine attack, he led the group into enemy waters on the night of December 4, 1971.

**BY SOHIL SINGH**