

PLUTUS  
Academy

CURRENT AFFAIRS



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## CURRENT AFFAIRS 31 AUGUST 2021

### National News

#### 1. Ministry of Home Affairs issues Guidelines for “Unlock 4”



- The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued “Unlock 4” guidelines for the phased re-opening of activities in areas outside the Containment Zones.
- The “Unlock 4” guidelines will be effective from September 1, 2020.
- These guidelines have been framed on the basis of feedback obtained from States and Union Territories, and extensive consultations held with related Central Ministries and Departments.

Key features of the “Unlock 4” guidelines are as follows:

- According to the new guidelines, Metro rail will be permitted to operate with effect from 7th September 2020 in a graded manner.
- New guidelines permits the Social/ academic/ sports/ entertainment/ cultural/ religious/ political functions and other congregations with a ceiling of 100 persons, with effect from 21st September 2020. All the above gatherings will have to follow mandatory wearing of face

masks, social distancing, provision for thermal scanning and hand wash or sanitizer.

- It also allows the opening of Open air theatres with effect from 21st September 2020.
- No restrictions will be there on Inter-State and intra-State movement.
- The Schools, colleges, educational and coaching institutions will continue to remain closed for students and regular class activity up to 30th September 2020. Although, Students of classes 9 to 12 may be permitted to visit their schools, in areas outside the Containment Zones only, on voluntary basis, with effect from 21st September 2020.
- Cinema halls, swimming pools, entertainment parks, theatres (excluding open air theatre) and similar places will continue to remain closed.
- Lockdown shall is stated to be implemented strictly in the Containment Zones till 30th September, 2020.
- Department of Higher Education (DHE) will permit the Higher Education Institutions only for research scholars (Ph.D.) and post-graduate students of technical and professional programmes requiring laboratory/ experimental works, in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Union Minister of Home Affairs: Amit Shah.

## 2. UAE's DMCC launches "Agriota E-Marketplace"



- Government of Dubai Authority on commodities trade and enterprise, Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC) has rolled out a technology-driven agri-commodity trading and sourcing platform "Agriota E-Marketplace".
- The platform which uses blockchain will help in bridging the gap between millions of rural farmers in India and the UAE's food industry.

- The Agriota platform will connect Indian farmers directly with the entire food industry in the UAE, including food processing companies, traders as well as wholesalers.
- The E-Marketplace will enable them to bypass intermediaries and optimise the supply chain.
- It will also ensure end-to-end traceability and transparency in order to create value for all stakeholders.
- Chief Executive Officer of Dubai Multi Commodities Centre: Ahmed Bin Sulayem.
- President of UAE: Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan.
- Capital of UAE: Abu Dhabi; Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham.

### States in News

#### 3. India's 1st International Women's Trade Centre to be set up in Kerala



- Kerala will establish the first international women's trade centre (IWTC) of India at Angamaly.
- The IWTC would be set by Kerala in consonance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The IWTC seeks to accelerate the women entrepreneurship and secure gender parity. It will also offer a safe place away from home to women to start new businesses, set up or expand, and get their products marketed globally.
- IWTC will also enable women entrepreneurs to participate in international trade, and enhance their competitiveness to tap market opportunities. Hence, it will enable women to enjoy greater economic benefits.
- Chief Minister of Kerala: Pinarayi Vijayan; Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan.

#### 4. UP Government launches “Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana”



- “Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana” has been launched by the Uttar Pradesh government.
- Under this scheme, 19 international players from the state of Uttar Pradesh will get road connectivity to their houses.
- The 19 international players who will be benefited from the scheme includes Indian pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar, former pacer Praveen Kumar, Piyush Chawla and Mohammad Kaif. The initial list of the beneficiaries includes 19 players, and more players will be added to the scheme in the coming future.
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Aditya Nath; Governor: Anandiben Patel.

#### 5. Gujarat to commence Seaplane service from 31 October 2020



- The first-ever “seaplane services in Gujarat” will be commenced from 31 October 2020.

- The seaplane service will offer seamless and affordable air connectivity from Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad to Statue of Unity in Kevadia in Gujarat.
- Spicejet Airline will operate the seaplane service to be commenced on the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- To start Seaplane services in the state, the Gujarat government has signed a tripartite agreement with the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), and Airports Authority of India.
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Aditya Nath; Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- Chief Minister of Gujarat: Vijaybhai R. Rupani; Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat.
- Minister of State (I/C) for Civil Aviation: Hardeep Singh Puri.

### Sports News

#### 6. India & Russia jointly wins FIDE Online Chess Olympiad



- India and Russia have become the joint winners of FIDE online Chess Olympiad. World chess governing body FIDE declared both the finalists as joint winners after at least two games in the second match were affected by internet connectivity issues.
- The FIDE Online Chess Olympiad was held for the first time due to the coronavirus pandemic. This is the biggest team championship in chess as around 163 countries took part in the online tournament.

### Important Days

#### 7. International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances: 30 August





- United Nations observes International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances globally on 30th of August every year.
- The day is being observed to express deep concern about the rise in enforced or involuntary disappearances in different regions of the world including the incidents of arrest, detention and abduction.
- All of the above incidents results in increasing number of reports pertaining to harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared.
- UN General Assembly declared 30th of August as International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances and the day was observed for the first time in year 2011.
- Secretary-General of United Nations: António Guterres.

## **Obituaries News**

### **8. Veteran Athletic coach Purushotham Rai passes away**



- India's former athletic coach Purushotham Rai passed away.
- The former coach passed away a few hours before receiving the Dronacharya Award, the highest sporting award for a coach in India.
- He became the third person from the state of Karnataka to win Dronacharya award in Athletics.
- He coached number of top athletes namely Olympian quarter-miler Vandana Rao, heptathlete Pramila Aiyappa, Ashwini Nachappa, Murali Kuttan, MK Asha, EB Shyla, Rosa Kutty and GG Pramila.

- Purushotham Rai's name was announced for the Dronacharya award for year 2020 among the other winners of National Sports Awards 2020.
- He trained the Indian team for the 1987 World Athletics Championship, 1988 Asian Track and Field Championships, and 1999 SAF Games.

### **Miscellaneous News**

#### **9. CISF develops in-house mobile app "Pensioners Corner"**



- The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has made an in-house mobile app "Pensioners Corner".
- The mobile app has been created by CISF to reach to the pensioners and to bring them on to the digital platform as a one stop solution.
- Through the mobile app "Pensioners Corner", CISF will reach out to the Ex-Force personnel, who devoted their life for the country, in order to increase their self esteem.
- The mobile app comprises of inbuilt grievance redressal mechanism and will also contain information about all important circulars such as job opportunities and benefits pertaining to pensioners.

**BY SOHIL SINGH**