



CURRENT AFFAIRS 8th July 2022

National News

1. Akasa Air Airlines gets Air Operator Certificate from DGCA; to commence operations this month



- The country's newest airline Akasa Air has received the Air Operator Certificate (AOC) from aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation to start its commercial operations.
- The airline in a tweet said that this is a significant milestone, enabling it to open its flights for sale and leading to the start of commercial operations.
- The grant of the AOC is the final step of a comprehensive and rigorous process laid down by the DGCA and marks the satisfactory completion of all regulatory and compliance requirements for the airline's operational readiness.
- The airline will commence commercial operations later this month.

2. Former Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant to be new Sherpa of G-20



- **Former Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant will be the new Sherpa of G-20. Commerce minister Piyush Goel will give up the position as Sherpa of G-20.**
- **With the G-20 presidency coming to India, a full-time Sherpa is required who would be needed to devote a lot of time to meetings that will be held in different parts of the country.**

3. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches SVANidhi Mahotsav



- Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri today launched 'SVANidhi Mahotsav' which is a cultural festival for celebrating the success of PM SVANidhi Scheme.
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs is organising 'SVANidhi Mahotsav' from 9th to 31st of this month.
- It is being held in 75 cities across 33 States and Union Territories.
- The Mahotsav will showcase a series of activities like Cultural activities, Digital transaction training, Loan mela,
- Felicitation ceremony for distinguished street vendors,
- Experience Sharing Nukkad natak to propagate the features and benefits of the Scheme.
- Addressing media in New Delhi, Puri said that SVANidhi Mahotsav is a festival for celebrating and recognizing

beneficiary street vendor's growth story and their contribution towards Indian economy.

- He said, the festival aims at celebrating 75 years of India's independence with these nano-entrepreneurs, honoring their journey under PM SVANidhi scheme for demonstrating credit discipline, digital behavior and displaying their astute business acumen.

4. British PM Boris Johnson announces his resignation; to continue till party chooses his successor



- Boris Johnson announced today that he would quit as British prime minister.
- The scandal hit leader was left isolated as more than 40 ministers and aides, including three cabinet members, have quit the government since late Tuesday demanding his resignation.
- The Conservative leader was confronted at various points by members of his cabinet telling him it was time to go.
- Bowing to the pressure, Mr Johnson announced outside Downing Street to quit as Conservative leader but said he will continue to serve as Prime Minister until the party chooses his successor.
- Mr Johnson said, it is clearly now the will of Conservative MPs that there should be a new leader.
- He said the process of choosing new leader should begin now. In a tweet, deputy chairman of the Conservative Party

Justin Tomlinson said that Johnson's resignation was inevitable.

5. OPEC secretary-general Mohammad Barkindo dies, just weeks shy of departure



- **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Secretary-General, Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo, passed away.**
- **He was born in April 1959 in northeast Nigeria's Adamawa state, Barkindo assumed the office of the OPEC Secretary-General in 2016. His tenure was scheduled to expire in July.**
- **OPEC is a permanent, intergovernmental organization, created at the Baghdad Conference in 1960, by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.**
- **It aims to manage the supply of oil in an effort to set the price of oil in the world market, in order to avoid fluctuations that might affect the economies of both producing and purchasing countries.**

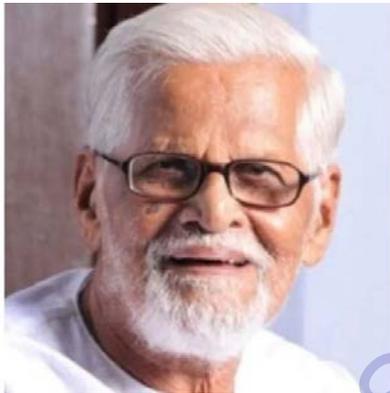
- It is headquartered in Vienna, Austria. OPEC membership is open to any country that is a substantial exporter of oil and which shares the ideals of the organization.

6. Indian Navy commissions the first ALH Squadron INAS 324 in Visakhapatnam



- Indian Naval Air Squadron 324 was commissioned into the Indian Navy in the presence of Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command at INS Dega, Visakhapatnam
- The unit is the first Naval Squadron on the Eastern Seaboard operating the indigenously designed and built Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) MK III (MR) helicopters
- INAS 324 squadron has been named as 'Kestrels', after a bird species that has good sensory capabilities, symbolising the role envisaged of the aircraft and the air squadron.
- The insignia of the squadron depicts a 'Kestrel' searching over vast blue waters and white sea waves, which signifies the role of Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) and Search and Rescue (SAR) role of the squadron.

7. Freedom fighter Gandhian P Gopinathan Nair dies at 100 in Kerala



- **Freedom fighter P. Gopinathan Nair has passed away at the age of 100. He was known for following Gandhian ideology in his life and was honoured with the Padma award.**
- **He had participated in the freedom struggle.**
- **He had taken part in the Quit India Movement of 1942 and had worked alongside Vinoba Bhave to promote Bhoodan and Gramdan movements.**
- **The Government of India awarded him the fourth highest civilian honour of Padma Shri in 2016 for his contributions to society.**

8. Jadavpur University VC appointed president of AIU Kolkata



- The Jadavpur University Vice-Chancellor Suranjan Das was appointed as the president of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).
- Das said he will take up the issue of executing the new education policy's (NEP) salient features, raising central funding for state varsities involved in important research activities, and work on taking the standards of Indian universities to global levels.
- Das, an eminent historian, was appointed the vice-president of AIU a year ago.
- Association of Indian Universities is an organisation and association of major universities in India.
- It is based in Delhi. It evaluates the courses, syllabi, standards, and credits of foreign Universities pursued abroad and equates them in relation to various courses offered by Indian Universities.

9. Gita Gopinath becomes first woman to feature on IMF's 'wall of former chief economists'



- India-born Gita Gopinath became the first woman and second Indian to feature on the 'wall of former chief economists' of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- The first Indian to achieve the honour was Raghuram Rajan who was Chief Economist and Director of Research of IMF between 2003 and 2006.
- Gopinath was appointed as IMF Chief Economist in October 2018 and was later promoted as the IMF's First Deputy Managing Director in December last year.
- "Breaking the trend I joined the wall of former Chief Economists of the IMF," she said in a tweet, which also displayed the wall of former chief economists with her photograph.
- Gopinath had served as the first female chief economist of the Washington-based global lender for three years.

By Sameer Singhal

PLUTUS ACADEMY