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# THIRD WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



## AUGUST 2022

AUGUST 15-21

1. Which Union Ministry launched the 'SMILE-75 Initiative'?

- A. Ministry of Labour and Employment
- B. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment ☒
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



- ✓ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, launched "SMILE-75 Initiative", under 'SMILE: Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise'. The Ministry has identified 75 Municipal Corporations to implement rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of begging. The Ministry has allocated a total budget of Rs.100 crore for the SMILE project for up to 2025-26.

2. Which country hosted the bilateral air exercise named 'Udarashakti'?

- A. Japan
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Malaysia ☒
- D. UAE



- ✓ Malaysia is the host of the bilateral air exercise named 'Udarashakti'. A contingent of the Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in the exercise. The four-day exercise includes various aerial combat drills between the two Air Forces. The first such bilateral Air Force exercise displaying the frontline Sukhoi-30 combat aircraft was conducted in 2018.

3. What is the Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation recorded in July 2022?

- A. 4.71%
- B. 5.71%
- C. 6.71% ☒
- D. 7.71%



- ✓ As per the data released by the National Statistical Office, the Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation eased marginally to 6.71 per cent in July from 7.01 per cent in the previous month. However, the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew 12.3 per cent in June compared to 19.6 per cent in May.

4. Which Union Ministry recently organised the 'DST Startup Utsav'?

- A. Ministry of MSME
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology ☒
- D. Ministry of Labour and Employment



विज्ञान एवं  
प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY

सत्यमेव जयते

- ✓ Union Ministry of Science and Technology organised the DST StartUp Utsav. As per the Union Minister of State of Science and Technology, there are currently 105 unicorns, out of which 49 per cent of the start-ups are from tier-2 and tier-3 cities. The event included the release of exclusive books displaying 75 Impactful incubated StartUps, 75 Impactful StartUps supported by NIDHI-Seed and 75 Impactful Smart Startups supported by NIDHI-EIR.

5. Agasthyamalai elephant reserve, which was notified recently, is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu ☒
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Telangana



- ✓ Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav announced the Central Government accepted the proposal of the Tamil Nadu Forest department to notify 1,197.48 sq km area of land in Agasthyamalai as an elephant reserve. It is the fifth elephant reserve of the state of Tamil Nadu as Nilgiris-Eastern Ghat, Nilambur Silent Valley in Coimbatore, Srivilliputhur and Anamalai are the four existing elephant reserves in the state. In total, India has 31 elephant reserves.

6. Which institution developed the 'Indian Virtual Herbarium' portal?

- A. Anthropological Survey of India
- B. Botanical Survey of India ☒
- C. Forest Survey of India
- D. Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy



भारतीय वनस्पति सर्वेक्षण  
BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

- ✓ Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated India's largest online herbarium database, the 'Indian Virtual Herbarium' web portal. The portal has been developed by the Botanical Survey of India under the framework of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and 'Digital India'. Botanical Survey of India is a subordinate office under the Environment Ministry.

7. Who is the head of SEBI's Market data advisory committee?

- A. Ajay Tyagi
- B. KV Kamath
- C. Ashishkumar Chauhan
- D. MS Sahoo ☒



- ✓ SEBI has restructured its market data advisory committee by reducing one member to 20. It recommends policy for access to securities market data. NSE's former MD and CEO Vikram Limaye has been replaced by newly appointed Ashishkumar Chauhan. MS Sahoo former IBBI Chairperson chairs the advisory committee.

8. Casper Ruud, who recently won the Swiss Open, is from which country?

- A. Switzerland
- B. Norway ☒
- C. France
- D. Italy



- ✓ Norway's Casper Ruud defeated Italy's Matteo Berrettini in the final of the Swiss Open in Gstaad and clinched the title. This is the ninth title of the 23-year-old player's career. He recently became the highest-ranked Norwegian tennis player in history, after attaining his career-high singles ranking of world No. 5.

9. Which city is the host of Conference on Cotton Challenges Ahead 2022?

- A. Tiruppur
- B. Coimbatore ☒
- C. Karur
- D. Salem



- ✓ The Indian Cotton Federation in association with the Indian Cotton Association is organising a two-day Conference on Cotton Challenges Ahead 2022. The conference will be held in city of Coimbatore in state of Tamil Nadu. There will be various panel discussions with all stakeholders from different segments of the cotton sector.

10. Harmeet Desai and Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, who won gold for India, play which sports?

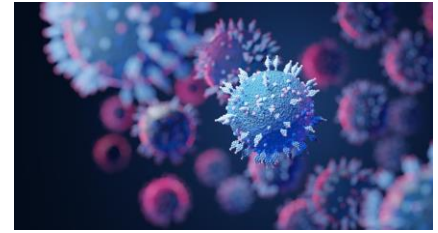
- A. Weightlifting
- B. Table Tennis ☒
- C. Boxing
- D. Badminton



- ✓ India's table tennis team retained its men's team championship title with a win over Singapore in the final match in the Commonwealth Games 2022. The team includes Harmeet Desai Sathiyam Gnanasekaran and Sharat Kamal. The Indian mixed badminton team won a Silver Medal in the Games.

1. Which is the first country to approve a vaccine for COVID Omicron variant?

- A. India
- B. USA
- C. UK ☒
- D. Italy



- ✓ The UK has become the first country to authorise a Covid-19 vaccine to treat the Omicron variant. UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Authority was also the first in the world to approve an original COVID-19 jab. The vaccine is authorised for use in people aged 18 and over. It targets both the original strain of the virus and Omicron BA.1.

2. Which Indian state/UT implements the 'Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana'?

- A. Punjab
- B. Rajasthan ☒
- C. Gujarat
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ The Rajasthan government introduced the 'Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana' in 2021-22. Under the scheme, such students are provided free coaching from reputed coaching institutes. For the current financial year, the state government has allotted Rs 17.15 crore and the number of seats under the scheme has increased to 15,000. It covers students from scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, other backward classes, minority, economically-backward classes and specially-abled.

3. Which pharma company has completed trials for its intranasal COVID vaccine candidate?

- A. Bharat Biotech ☒
- B. Biocon
- C. Dr Reddy's
- D. Serum Institute



- ✓ Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech has submitted data from Phase 3 clinical trials of BBV154, its intranasal Covid vaccine candidate, to the drug regulator. It has sought approval both as a primary two-dose vaccine, and a heterologous booster shot. A heterologous booster means the third or subsequent dose of the vaccine is different from its primary dose.

4. What is the name of the Centre's passenger processing system based on facial recognition technology?

- A. DigiYatra ☒
- B. Bharat Yatra
- C. PM Digital Yatra Abhiyan
- D. Bharat Face RT





- ✓ The Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) announced the launch of the Centre's DigiYatra initiative. It also rolled out the beta version of its app for Android platforms. DigiYatra is the passenger processing system based on facial recognition technology. With this technology, all checkpoints would automatically process the entries of the passengers based on the facial recognition system.

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5. Which is the venue of the 'India International Seafood Show (IISS)'?

- A. Chennai
- B. Mumbai
- C. Kochi
- D. Kolkata ☒



- ✓ The 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of India International Seafood Show (IISS) is set to be held in Kolkata in February next year. The seafood show will be organised by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in collaboration with the Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI).

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6. India won its first ever medal in which sport in the Commonwealth Games 2022?

- A. Netball
- B. Squash
- C. Lawn bowls ☒
- D. Rugby Sevens



- ✓ Indian women lawn bowls team created history at 2022 Commonwealth Games by winning the first-ever gold in the sport. It was also the first ever medal for India in the sport. Lovely Choubey, Pinki Singh, Nayanmoni Saikia and Rupa Rani Tirkey clinched gold, beating South Africa 17-10.

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7. Which major e-commerce company partnered with the Indian Railways to boost its delivery services?

- A. Flipkart
- B. Amazon ☒
- C. Bigbasket
- D. Jiomart



- ✓ Amazon India has partnered with Indian Railways to boost its delivery services in the country. It was also the first online delivery company to engage with the Indian Railways to build an express transportation product through rail networks in 2019. Through this partnership, Amazon will be able to transport packages on more than 110 inter-city routes.

8. Which is the only Indian bank to be listed in the Fortune 500 list in 2022?

- A. ICICI Bank
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. State Bank of India ☒
- D. Canara Bank



- ✓ In the recently released Fortune 500 list, State Bank of India is the only bank to be featured from India in 236<sup>th</sup> rank. US retailer Walmart topped the 2022 list. The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has been named for the first time in the Fortune Global 500 list at rank 98.
- ✓ Reliance Industries jumped 51 places to rank 104 while oil and power PSUs including IOC, ONGC, BPCL were also featured in the list. The list has nine Indian companies – five state-owned, and four from the private sector.

9. Tejaswin Shankar became the first Indian to win a medal in Commonwealth Games in which sports?

- A. Shot Put
- B. High Jump ☒
- C. Triple Jump
- D. Pole Vault



- ✓ Tejaswin Shankar became the first Indian to win men's high jump medal in the Commonwealth Games. The national record holder cleared 2.22m to finish third on the event winning bronze medal. He holds the high jump national record of 2.29 metre.

10. Which country has recently declared a water shortage, following an unusually dry summer?

- A. Egypt
- B. The Netherlands ☒
- C. Namibia
- D. Somalia



- ✓ The Dutch government (Netherlands) has recently declared a water shortage following an unusually dry summer with no rain forecast in the near future. Intense heat-waves hit large parts of Europe and the United States last month, rising calls for more efforts to tackle global warming. As two-thirds of the Dutch population living below sea level, droughts can become an acute problem in the Netherlands. This may lead to silting up of rivers and hampering of water traffic.

1. What is the name of the national campaign launched to focus on development of children in the first two years?

- A. Matritva 1000
- B. Paalan 1000 ☒
- C. Putra 1000
- D. Sukanya 1000



- ✓ **Union Health Ministry launched a new campaign named 'Paalan 1000 National Campaign' and parenting application, focussing on development of children in the first two years. The app was launched at the Early Childhood Development Conclave. It will provide caregivers with practical advice on things to do in their everyday routine and will help solve the doubts of parents.**

2. Which state/UT launched the first flight of drone service – 'Medicine from the sky'?

- A. Punjab
- B. Arunachal Pradesh ☒
- C. Gujarat
- D. Karnataka



- ✓ **Arunachal Pradesh successfully launched the first flight of drone service 'Medicine from the sky' from Seppa to Chayang Tajo. The government of Arunachal Pradesh has decided to conduct a pilot project of using drones in healthcare, agriculture and disaster management in association with the World Economic Forum (WEF).**

3. Manthan platform, which was launched recently, is associated with which field?

- A. Electronics Manufacturing
- B. Vaccination
- C. Research and Innovation ☒
- D. Goods and Services Tax



- ✓ **The Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) office to the Government of India announced the launch of the Manthan platform. The platform aims to promote collaboration between industry and the scientific research and development ecosystem. It aims to implement technology-based social impact innovations and solutions in India.**

4. What is the wholesale inflation of India in July 2022?

- A. 11.93%
- B. 13.93% ☒
- C. 15.93%
- D. 17.93%





- ✓ India's wholesale inflation in July eased to 13.93 per cent from 15.18 per cent last month and a record high inflation of 16.63 per cent in May. The July figure eased as vegetables, milk and fuel became cheaper. However, the inflation remained in double digits for the 16th month. It is contributed by rise in prices of mineral oils, food articles, crude petroleum and natural gas, basic metals, electricity, chemicals and chemical products, food products.

5. Which institution announced performance-based fund allocation to States and UTs to strengthen health facilities?

- A. NITI Aayog  
B. National Health Authority ☒  
C. AIIMS  
D. Indian Council of Medical Research



- ✓ National Health Authority (NHA) has announced performance-based fund allocation to States and UTs for strengthening the registries of healthcare professionals and health facilities. This performance-based fund allocation will help in structured implementation of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. Rs 500 crores was allocated for setting up of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission's offices at State and UTs by the financial year 2025-26.

6. Which city has the highest average level of fine PM 2.5 among the world's most populated cities, as per HEI's recent report?

- A. Dhaka  
B. Varanasi  
C. New Delhi ☒  
D. Colombo



- ✓ The 'Air Quality and Health in Cities' report was released by US-based Health Effects Institute (HEI). It provides analysis of air pollution and global health effects for over 7,000 cities around the world, focusing on fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2).
- ✓ As per the report, India is home to 18 of the 20 cities with the most severe increase in fine particle pollutants (PM2.5) from 2010 to 2019. Delhi has the highest average level of fine PM 2.5 among the world's most populated cities.

7. Which state launched 'Vidya Rath-School on Wheels' project?

- A. Madhya Pradesh  
B. Bihar  
C. Assam ☒  
D. Arunachal Pradesh



- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched Vidya Rath–School on Wheels project. It aims to provide access to underprivileged children to elementary education for 10 months. After 10 months, the children will be integrated into the usual system of education. Students will be offered free mid–day meals, uniforms, and textbooks under the project.

8. An interest subvention of 1.5 per cent per annum has been approved for agriculture loan up to which limit?

- A. Rs 1 lakh  
B. Rs 2 lakh  
C. Rs 3 lakh ☒  
D. Rs 5 lakh



- ✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved an interest subvention of 1.5 per cent per annum on short–term agriculture loan up to Rs 3 lakh. This was approved to ensure adequate credit flow in the agriculture sector.
- ✓ The Interest Subvention of 1.5 per cent will be provided to Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Bank, Small Finance Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Cooperative Banks and Computerized PACS for 2022–23 to 2024–25, for lending short term agri–loans to the farmers.

9. Which is the venue of the ‘National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference 2022’?

- A. Pune  
B. Vishakhapatnam  
C. New Delhi ☒  
D. Mysuru



- ✓ Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a two–day National Security Strategies (NSS) Conference 2022 in New Delhi. He also inaugurated the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System, which will help in quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of centralized finger print database.

10. How many cities have recently declared themselves as ‘Safai Mitra Surakshit Shehar’ (as of August 2022)?

- A. 100  
B. 250  
C. 500 ☒  
D. 750

500

- ✓ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs announce that 500 cities across India have declared themselves as ‘Safai Mitra Surakshit Shehar’. These cities achieved adequacy institutional capacity, manpower and equipment norms as stipulated by the Ministry and provide safe working conditions for sanitation workers. Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban promotes sustainable sanitation practices.

1. Which is the first 'Har Ghar Jal certified' state in India?

- A. Kerala
- B. Goa ☒
- C. Karnataka
- D. Odisha



- ✓ Goa has become the first state in the country, which has been 'Har Ghar Jal' certified. Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu also became Har Ghar Jal certified Union Territory.
- ✓ Jal Jeevan Mission was announced in 2019, which aims to provide potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular and long-term basis to every rural household of the country by 2024. 10 crore rural households of the country have been connected to the facility of clean water through pipes.

2. Where was India's first Double Decker AC electric bus unveiled?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai ☒
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Bengaluru



- ✓ Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari launched India's first Double Decker AC electric bus in Mumbai. Switch, a subsidiary of Ashok Leyland unveiled India's first electric double-decker air-conditioned bus – Switch EiV 22. It is the first electric bus with semi low floor, air conditioned, electric double decker with wider door on rear overhang and a rear staircase.

3. What is the name of the Online Market Place feature of the 'Matsya Setu' mobile app, which was recently launched?

- A. Aqua Bazaar ☒
- B. Matsya Bazaar
- C. Fisheries India
- D. Matsya Bharat



- ✓ Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, launched the Online Market Place feature "Aqua Bazar" in the "MatsyaSetu" mobile app. The app was developed by the ICAR–Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR–CIFA), Bhubaneswar, with the funding support of the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). The online marketplace will help the fish farmers and stakeholders to source the inputs such as fish seeds, feed, medicines, etc., and services required for fish culture as well as farmers can also list their table-size fish for sale. The marketplace aims to connect all stakeholders in the aquaculture sector.

4. Which state government has announced to set up gram in aajeevika parks (rural industrial parks)?

- A. Odisha                      B. Chhattisgarh ☒
- C. West Bengal                D. Karnataka



- ✓ Chhattisgarh government announced to set up rural industrial parks in the state. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel announced that the project will be launched on Gandhi Jayanti. It aims to strengthen the rural economy and make the 'gau-than' (cattle shed) a centre of livelihood. Under the programme, in the first year there will be 300 rural industrial parks. The first such park in Chhattisgarh came up in Kanker district, which has been named Gandhi Gram.

5. When is the 'World Photography Day' celebrated?

- A. August 15
- B. August 19 ☒
- C. August 20
- D. August 22



- ✓ The 'World Photography Day' is celebrated on August 19 every year. Ancient Chinese and Greeks were known the earliest methods to project an image on a screen with a pin-hole setup. The world's first photograph was captured by French scientist Joseph Nicéphore Niépce. It was titled 'View from the Window at Le Gras'.

6. When was the International Day of Indigenous Peoples celebrated every year?

- A. August.09 ☒
- B. August.10
- C. August.11
- D. August.12



- ✓ The International Day of Indigenous Peoples was celebrated on August 9, 2021 with its theme: "The Role of Indigenous Women in the Preservation and Transmission of Traditional Knowledge". There are over 476 million indigenous peoples living in 90 countries across the world, accounting for 6.2% of the global population. Indigenous peoples are the holders of a vast diversity of unique cultures, traditions, languages and knowledge systems.

7. Which date is celebrated as World Lion Day?

- A. August.09
- B. August.10 ☒
- C. August.11
- D. August.12



- ✓ **World Lion Day** is celebrated on August 10 every year in a bid to raise awareness on lions. The day also seeks to mobilise support for protection and conservation of Lion. As per World Wide Fund for animals (WWF), it only lives in grasslands and plains. India is home to majestic Asiatic Lion, who inhabit protected territory of Sasan–Gir National Park.
- ✓ According to WWF, lions were once found throughout Africa, Asia and Europe. But over the years, their numbers have reduced across these continents. Initiative to protect lion started in 2013 so the first World Lion Day was observed in 2013 itself.

8. On which date of August is International Youth Day celebrated?

- A. August.07      B. August.10  
C. August.11      D. August.12 ☒



- ✓ **International Youth Day** is marked on August 12. The theme of the day this year has been decided as “Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages”. The first International Youth Day was celebrated in 1999.

9. Which date is observed as World Elephant Day?

- A. August.07  
B. August.10  
C. August.12 ☒  
D. August.20



- ✓ **12<sup>th</sup> August** is observed as World Elephant Day to draw focus towards protection and conservation of elephants. World Elephant Day aims to accelerate efforts to offer better protection to elephants, prevent the trade of ivory, improving enforcement policies, conserve elephant habitat, illegal poaching, better captive environments for elephants, and reintroduce the captive elephants back in their natural sanctuaries.

10. Which date in August is celebrated as the International Left–Handers' Day?

- A. August.12  
B. August.13 ☒  
C. August.14  
D. August.15



- ✓ **The International Left–Handers' Day 2021** is celebrated every year on August 13. It is a way to acknowledge those who, unlike the majority of the population, are born left-handed. A considerable part of the population, almost 10–12% of the global population, consists of left-handers. There are people who are afraid of the left-side or left-handed people. This condition can take the form of a phobia and is known as Sinistrophobia.