

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS (AUGUST 02 TO AUGUST 08)

IMPORTANT EVENTS

- **AUGUST 3** - RAKSHA BANDHAN
- **AUGUST 7** - NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY

CURRENT AFFAIRS: INDIA

TN disagrees with centre's Three Language Policy

- Tamil Nadu CM Edappadi K Palaniswami is not seen in agreement with the recently launched centre's three-language policy proposed by the Union government in the National Education Policy 2020.
- In a press release recently, the Chief Minister was found stating that the state will never allow the Centre's three-language policy rather the state will continue with its dual language policy of Tamil and English.

Tamil Nadu	It is a South Indian state, is famed for its Dravidian-style Hindu temples
Chief minister	Edappadi K. Palaniswami
Capital	Chennai

Andhra Pradesh has launched E-Raksha Bandhan

- Andhra Pradesh CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on the eve of Raksha Bandhan launched 'E-Raksha Bandhan', an online training programme on cybersecurity.
- The programme is aimed at creating awareness among the public on cybercrimes across the State.
- The programme has massive support of various dignitaries including, **Crime Investigation Department (CID)**, FM Radio, The Andhra Pradesh Police, Cyber Peace Foundation, Cyber Crime Prevention Against Women and Children (CCPWC), and other organisations for organizing, advertising and creating mass awareness about the month-long online awareness programme.

Andhra Pradesh State of India

Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan
Chief minister Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy

Jal Shakti Ministry has launched new version of India-WRIS

- The **Ministry of Jal Shakti** has launched a new version of the **India Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS)**. The new system provides with new functionalities and features. The advanced version is to address the requirement of a strong data base and a reliable information system.
- The new version of India-WRIS is open to the public, and accessible through the web portal www.indiawris.gov.in.
- The portal contains information related to Water Resources for rainfall, water levels & discharge of rivers, water bodies, groundwater levels, reservoir storages.

Ministry of Jal Shakti Founded May 2019

Predecessor Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation

Subsidiary WAPCOS Limited

Ex-Gujarat cadre IAS officer G.C. Murmu appointed as Comptroller and Auditor General of India

- The Centre on August 6, 2020 appointed ex-Gujarat cadre IAS officer G.C. Murmu as Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) a day after he resigned as the Lieutenant-Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Murmu will take over as the C&AG from Rajiv Mehrishi, whose tenure has ended.

Comptroller and Auditor General of India Deputy Comptrollers and Auditors
Deputy General of India

Founder Constitution of India

Founded 1858

Appointer President of India

CURRENT AFFAIRS: INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan's new political map

- Pakistan recently released a new political map claiming the entire territory of Jammu & Kashmir, and part of Gujarat including the erstwhile state of Junagadh as part of its territory.

- In recent times in the wake of the global pandemic when the whole world is fighting against the deadly virus in unison, our neighbours are in a race to occupy our territory

Pakistan	A country in South Asia
Currency	Pakistani rupee
Prime minister	Imran Khan

United States Impose restrictions on H1B Visa

- US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order that bans federal agencies from hiring foreign workers especially those on H-1B visa on contracting or subcontracting.
- The unprecedented move is followed by a month old announcement by the Trump government on June 23 where the administration announced that the H-1B visas along with other types of foreign work visas will remain suspended until the end of 2020 to protect American workers in a crucial election.

Japan marks 75th anniversary of World's 1st atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima & Nagasaki

- On AUG 6, 2020, Japan marks the 75th anniversary of the world's first atomic bomb attack on the city of Hiroshima.
- In 1945, the United States warplane Enola Gay dropped an atom bomb named "Little Boy" in the city of Hiroshima killing 140,000 people. Three days later, on August 9, the United States dropped another atom bomb "Fat Man" in Nagasaki that killed more than 40,000 people.
- The survivors of the bomb are known as "Hibakushas". The Hibakushas experienced long-term effects and elevated risks of thyroid cancer and leukemia.

<i>Japan Capital</i>	Tokyo
<i>Currency</i>	Japanese yen
<i>National language</i>	Japanese

CURRENT AFFAIRS: DEFENSE

Ministry of Defence(MoD) released draft 2020 Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy

- **MoD** has prepared a draft **Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020 (DPEPP 2020)** to provide impetus to self-reliance in defence manufacturing.
- The main objective of the DPEPP policy is to achieve a turnover of Rs 1,75,000 Crores (US\$ 25 billion). It includes export of Rs.35,000 Crore (US\$ 5 billion) in Aerospace and Defence goods and services by 2025.

<i>DRDO Headquarters location</i>	New Delhi
<i>Founded</i>	1958
<i>Minister responsible</i>	Rajnath Singh, Minister of Defence

CURRENT AFFAIRS: BUSINESS

Apple, Amazon & Google are all bulletproof, nothing in this world can challenge them

- Europe has the motivation, but not the means, to break up Big Tech. For the U.S., the inverse is true. bad news for anyone hoping for a full regulatory reckoning with Silicon Valley's & Seattle's giants over their monopolistic tendencies.

<i>Google</i>	Technology company
<i>CEO</i>	Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–)
<i>Founded</i>	4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States
<i>Founders</i>	Larry Page, Sergey Brin

HDFC Bank surges 5 percent as Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approves appointment of the new CEO

- Shares of HDFC Bank jumped 5 per cent after the search for the new head of the lender came to an end and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) also approved his name.
- HDFC Bank in a regulatory filing said the RBI has approved the appointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan as HDFC Bank CEO for a tenure of three years starting October 27. A board meeting will also be convened in due course to approve his appointment. Jagdishan will succeed fabled banker Aditya Puri.
- Shares of the private sector bank were trading at Rs 1,047.20, up 4.52 per cent on BSE.

<i>HDFC</i>	Financial services company
<i>CEO</i>	Aditya Puri (Sep 1994–)
<i>Headquarters</i>	Mumbai
<i>Parent organization</i>	Housing Development Finance Corporation

CURRENT AFFAIRS: ECONOMY

RBI provides additional liquidity of Rs 5,000 cr each for NABARD, NHB

- The Reserve Bank of India on August 6, 2020 offered an additional special liquidity facility of Rs 5,000 crore each at its policy lending rate to NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) and NHB (National Housing Bank) to boost rural lending and affordable housing.

National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development(NABARD)

It is an apex development finance institution.

Purpose

Development assistance; Poverty Reduction

Headquarters

Mumbai

RBI Monetary Policy: Bank keeps repo rate unchanged

- The six-member **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** of RBI held its meeting in Delhi. The committee was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das.

RBI Governor

Shaktikanta Das

Headquarters

Mumbai

Founder

British Raj

Founded

April 1, 1935, Kolkata

Sugar exported to refineries within SEZ to be eligible for export benefits: Central Government

- The central government has clarified that supply of sugar by mills to refineries in **Special Economic Zones (SEZ)** will be considered to be export for the purpose of certain benefits available to other mills.
- The benefits are under for Maximum Admissible Export Quantity (MAEQ) scheme for the current sugar season 2019-20, which was notified to facilitate exports and improve the liquidity of the sugar mills to help them pay for cane purchased from farmers.

CURRENT AFFAIRS: TECHNOLOGY

Nokia to set up robotics lab at Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru

- Nokia was set up a robotics lab at the IISc, Bengaluru for research on socially-relevant use cases based on 5G Technology & emerging technologies, the company said on Tuesday.

Nokia

Telecommunications company

Founded

May 12, 1865

Headquarters

Espoo, Finland

Founders

Fredrik Idestam, Leo Mechelin

CURRENT AFFAIRS: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft expands TikTok takeover ambitions to entire global business, including India operations

- Microsoft has chasing a deal to buy all of TikTok's all over world business, including the viral video app's operations in India & Europe, the Financial Times reported on Thursday, citing people with knowledge of the matter. One investor pegged the value of Tik-Tok's India business at as much as \$10 billion.
- Microsoft had said on Sunday that it was in negotiations with ByteDance, the Chinese owner of TikTok and the world's largest startup, to explore a purchase of the TikTok service in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Indian apps see surge of new entrants out to replace banned Chinese peers

- The ban on 59 Chinese apps appears to be generating a vigorous response from Indian entrepreneurs — many from smaller towns — keen to fill the void. The Indian Android app ecosystem has witnessed a stream of new entrants after the Chinese apps were banned on June 29 over security concerns in the wake of rising border tensions between the two countries.
- Young developers from places such as Solapur in Maharashtra & Gir Somnath village in Gujarat have launched Indian alternatives to consumer-centric Chinese utility apps.

Indian s/w product companies write to govt requesting reforms the sector

- India's homegrown software product firms have urged the govt to reform the sector, in order to better compete with global rivals.
- About 120 large product companies, including prominent ones such as Zoho, Freshworks, Tally Solutions and Quick Heal Technologies NSE 2.44 %, have written to **Union Minister of Electronics & IT Ravi Shankar Prasad** requesting that the government should do away with tax deducted at source (TDS) on local software products and Softex forms that assess the value of a product each time it is exported.

***Ministry of Electronics & Information
Technology Headquarters***

Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi

Preceding Ministry

Ministry of Communications & Information
Technology

Ministers responsible

Ravi Shankar Prasad, Cabinet Minister, Sanjay
Shamrao Dhotre, Minister of State

Ministry executive

Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary

Jurisdiction

Govt of India

From the China store: Apple purges more than 30,000 applications

- Apple Inc. has removed more than 30,000 apps from its China store Saturday, with games making up 90 percent of the apps, Qimai Research Institute said.

Apple Technology Company
CEO Tim Cook (24 Aug 2011–)
Founded April 1, 1976, Cupertino, California, US
Founders Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, Ronald Wayne

CURRENT AFFAIRS: SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

DCGI finally gave green signal to SII - India to start trial of Oxford COVID-19 vaccine

- India's top drug regulatory body DCGI (The Drugs Controller General of India) finally gave green signal to Serum Institute of India (SII) for conducting phase II and III clinical trials of Astra Zeneca vaccine developed by the Oxford University against coronavirus disease.
- The approval came after scrutiny was done based on the recommendations of the group of a medical expert on COVID-19.

Serum Institute of India (SII) Founder Cyrus S. Poonawalla
Founded 1966
Parent organization Poonawalla Investments & Industries Pvt. Ltd.
Subsidiaries Bilthoven Biologicals BV, Vakzine Projekt Management GmbH

CURRENT AFFAIRS: SPORTS

Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju chaired 1st General Council meeting of Khelo India Scheme

- **Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju** chaired the **first General Council meeting** of the **Khelo India Scheme** on 4th July. The annual competitions like the Khelo India Youth Games and University Games, are being organized at the national level under the Khelo India Scheme. This has helped to identify sporting talent from all states.
- The meeting urged the states to organize State-level Khelo India Games annually with an effort to identify a larger number of grassroots-level talents.

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Government department

Officeholder

Kiren Rijiju (MOS independent charge)

Departments

Department of Children & Youth Affairs,
Department of Youth and Sports Development

Founded

27 May 2000