



# Current Affairs

15th September 2021

## Today's Important News

India to hold biennial defence dialogue with African nations

### 1. India to hold biennial defence dialogue with African nations

- The Government of India has proposed to institutionalise the India-Africa Defence Dialogue, as a regular event, to be held on the sidelines of the biennial DefExpo military exhibition.
- The first India-Africa Defence Ministers Conclave (IADMC) was held at DefExpo in February 2020 in Lucknow.
- Following this, the second India – Africa Defence Dialogue will be held on the sidelines of the DefExpo, scheduled to be held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat in March 2022.
- The Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses in New Delhi, shall be the knowledge partner of India Africa Defence Dialogue to assist in providing necessary support for enhanced defence cooperation between the two countries.
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh will host the Defence Ministers of African Nations at the upcoming India – Africa Defence Dialogue.



### 2. National Engineer's Day 2021: 15 September

- In India, the Engineer's Day is celebrated on September 15 every year, since 1968, to recognise the contribution of engineers' in the development of the nation.

- The day marks the birth anniversary of the engineering pioneer of India, Sir Mokshagundam Vishweshvaraya, (popularly known as Sir MV).
- Sir MV was regarded as the “Father of Modern Mysore”.
- He was awarded ‘Bharat Ratna’ for his exceptional contribution to the building of India in 1955.



### 3. PM Modi to attend Quad Summit at White House on 24th September

- PM Narendra Modi will attend first-ever in-person QUAD (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) Leaders’ Summit at White House in Washington D.C. on September 24, 2021.
- Quad nation: India, Japan, US and Australia.
- Aim: To deepen ties and increase cooperation in areas such as combatting COVID-19, addressing the climate crisis, partnering on emerging technologies and cyberspace.
- PM Modi will also address UN General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on September 25, 2021.



### 4. India, Singapore announces linking of UPI and PayNow fast payment systems

- RBI and Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) have announced project to link
- their respective fast payment systems viz. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and PayNow.
- It will enable users of each of the two fast payment systems to make fund transfer from India to Singapore and vice versa using UPI and PayNow.
- It will made operational by July 2022.
- It will foster cross-border interoperability of payments using cards and QR codes, between India and Singapore.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Singapore:

**Currency:** Singapore dollar

**President:** Halimah Yacob

### 5. PM Modi lays foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh University

- PM Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University at Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.

- It is being established in the memory and honor of noted figure, Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh, who was a great freedom fighter, educationist and social reformer.
- It will be spread over an area of over 92 acres at Lodha village and Musepur Kareem Jarouli village of Kol tehsil in Aligarh.
- It will provide affiliation to 395 colleges of the Aligarh division.



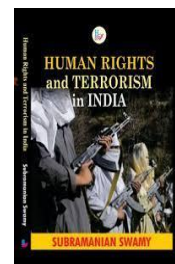
## 6. Sansad TV to be launched on 15<sup>th</sup> September

- VP M. Venkaiah Naidu, PM Modi and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will jointly launch Sansad TV at Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe On 15 September.
- Sansad TV is being formed after merging Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV.
- Sansad TV programming will primarily be in 4 categories: functioning of Parliament and democratic institutions, governance- implementation of schemes/policies, history and culture of India and issues/interests/concerns of contemporary nature.



## 7. Subramanian Swamy comes out with book on Human Rights and Terrorism

- BJP MP Subramanian Swamy has launched his new book titled as 'Human Rights and Terrorism in India'.
- The book has shed light on how the combating of terrorism can be harmonized with human and fundamental rights within reasonable restrictions that are permitted by the Constitution and upheld by the Supreme Court
- It is the thesis of this study that to deter terror, India as a nation must foster a concept of identity.



## 8. Joe Root, Eimear Richardson named ICC Players of the Month for August 2021

- England Test skipper Joe Root has been named as the ICC Men's Player of the Month for August 2021.
- He scored 507 runs in three Tests against India in August.
- He also scored 3 important centuries, including an unbeaten 180\* at Lord's, and MRF Tyres ICC Test Rankings for batters.
- Ireland's Eimear Richardson has bagged the ICC Women's Player of the Month for August 2021.



### 9. DBS Bank partners with SWIFT to launch cross-border payment tracking

- DBS Bank in partnership with SWIFT Global Payments Innovation (GPI) has launched real-time online tracking for cross-border payments for its corporate clients.
- It can be availed using bank's corporate online banking platform 'DBS IDEAL'.
- DBS is the first bank in India and Asia-Pacific to offer this service to corporate clients without any additional cost.
- It will allow corporates customers to see when a payment is on its way and when it is arriving at the beneficiary.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About DBS Bank:

**Headquarters:** Singapore

**CEO:** Piyush Gupta

**Founder:** Government of Singapore

### 10. Brendan Taylor of Zimbabwe Announces Retirement from International Cricket

- Former Zimbabwe skipper and wicket-keeper batsman Brendan Taylor (34 years) has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- He made this announcement while playing third final ODI match against Ireland.
- He made his ODI debut for Zimbabwe against Sri Lanka in 2004.
- He has scored 6677 runs from 204 ODI matches and is just 112 short of former Zimbabwe batsman Andy Flower's national record of 6786.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Zimbabwe:


**Capital:** Harare

**President:** Emmerson Mnangagwa

**Currencies:** United States Dollar

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