



CURRENT AFFAIRS

09 August 2020

Today's Important News

Hardayal Prasad appointed as new MD & CEO of PNB Housing Finance.



1. World Tribal Day observed on 09 August

- Every year United Nations and other world organizations celebrate World Tribal Day or International Day of the World Indigenous People on 09 August. The day promotes and protects the rights of the world indigenous population.
- The day marked the first meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations in Geneva, 1982. 2020 Theme: COVID-19 and indigenous people resilience.



Foot Notes:

About UN:

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 24 October 1945

Secretary General: António Guterres

2. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced ban on 101 Defence Items to big Push for "Make In India"

- The Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh on August 9 announced that the Defence Ministry has decided to ban the import of 101



defence items 'beyond the given timeline' in order to boost the indigenous production as per PM Modi's vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

- The list includes high technology weapon systems such as assault rifles, artillery guns, sonar systems, corvettes, light combat helicopters, transport aircraft, radars, and many other items. As per the Defence Ministry, the list also includes wheeled Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVs) with an embargo date of December 2021, of which the Indian Army is expected to contract almost 200 AFVs at an approximate cost of over Rs. 5,000 crores.

Foot Notes:

About Defence Ministry:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 15 August 1947

Officeholders: Rajnath Singh (Minister), Subhash Bhamre (Minister of State)

3. National Statistical Office released the state-wise data in the EnviStats India 2020 report.

- The National Statistical Office recently released the EnviStats India 2020 report. The report says that the number of heat wave days in 2019 increased over 80%. The report was prepared by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The National Statistical Office (NSO) operates under this ministry.
- The average number of heat wave days increased 82.6%. It was 157 in 2019. The highest number of heat wave days was recorded in Rajasthan followed by Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The number of average cold wave days had also increased. It was 45 in 2018 and 29 in 2017. The deaths due to acute respiratory infection in 2018 were 3,740. This was the highest in six years. The highest number of deaths due to respiratory infection were reported in West Bengal.
- The Particulate Matter size was the highest in Delhi among the metropolitan cities. The tube well and hand pump were the primary source of drinking water in rural India with a share of 53.8%. On the other hand, piped water, public tap, stand pipe were the primary source in urban areas with a share of 65%.
- Among Urban Areas, Daman and Diu had the highest share of households in choosing bottled water as drinking water source. Delhi had the highest number of registered motor vehicles in the country followed by Bengaluru. Andhra Pradesh had the highest number of slum population followed by Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.



Foot Notes:

Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation: Rao Inderjit Singh

4. IBBI amends the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of Regulations, 2016

- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy board of India recently amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India Regulations. This is the second amendment. The amendment has made major changes to the voluntary liquidation process.
- The amendment allows the corporate persons to replace the liquidator with another liquidator or insolvency professional to initiate voluntary liquidation process. Earlier, the corporate personnel appoint insolvency professional to conduct voluntary liquidation process but not change the liquidator in due process. However, there can be situations that require appointment of another resolution professional as liquidator. The situations might arise due to conflicts or inadequate expertise.
- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code requires interim professional to provide choice of three insolvency professionals in public announcement. The creditors select one of them as their authorized representative. The amendments now say that these three professionals should be from the State or Union Territory that has highest number of creditors according to the record of corporate debtor. The amendment now makes it necessary for the Committee of Creditors to vote for the resolution. The resolution plan that receives not less than 66% of votes is to be considered as approved.



Foot Notes:

About IBBI:

It is the regulator for overseeing insolvency proceedings and entities like Insolvency Professional Agencies (IPA), Insolvency Professionals (IP) and Information Utilities (IU) in India.

Chairperson: M S Sahoo

Headquarter: New Delhi

5. UNESCO recognises two Odisha villages as Tsunami Ready

- UNESCO recognises Venkataipur and Noliasahi, villages of Odisha as 'Tsunami Ready' for their overall preparedness to face the tsunami. With this recognition,



Odisha became the first state in the India and India became the 1st Country in the Indian Ocean region to achieve the honour from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

- Odisha State Disaster Management Authority(OSDMA) was established following the 1999 super cyclone, implemented the Tsunami Ready Programme in Odisha. Odisha aims to make the 326 coastal villages and urban local bodies as "Tsunami Ready" over a year of time.
- Indian Ocean Tsunami Ready Programme of IOC- UNESCO is a programme based on the community performance to facilitate tsunami preparedness with the collaboration of the Community, leaders, national and local emergency management agencies.

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| Foot Notes: About IOC: Executive Secretary & Assistant Director General of UNESCO for IOC: Vladimir Ryabinin Head Office: Paris, France | About OSDMA: Managing Director: Pradeep Kumar Jena Head Office: Bhubaneswar, Odisha | About UNESCO: Headquarters: Paris, France Head: Audrey Azoulay Founded: 16 November 1945 | About Odisha: Capital: Bhubaneswar Governor: Ganeshi Lal Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik |
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6. PM Modi to launch 2300 km submarine cable connectivity for Andaman & Nicobar on Aug 10

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate and 3.dedicate the submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connecting Chennai and Port Blair to the nation through video conferencing. The submarine cable will also connect Port Blair to Swaraj Dweep, Little Andaman, Car Nicobar, Kamorta, Great Nicobar, Long Island and Rangat.
- This connectivity will enable delivery of faster and more reliable mobile and landline telecom services to Andaman and Nicobar Islands, at par with other parts of India. At present Andaman and Nicobar Islands have very weak telecom systems that hamper communications with the mainland and within the islands.



Foot Notes:

About Andman & Nicobar:

Capital: Port Blair

Lt. Governor: Admiral D K Joshi

7. Hardayal Prasad appointed as new MD & CEO of PNB Housing Finance

- PNB Housing Finance, promoted by Punjab National Bank (PNB) announced the appointment of Former State Bank of India(SBI) Card Head, Hardayal Prasad as its new Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO).
- Prasad will take over from Neeraj Vyas, the current interim CEO of PNB housing finance on 10th August 2020.
- Prasad is experienced in banking, international operations at SBI and SBI Cards and Payment Services (SBI Card).He resigned from the post of MD and CEO of SBI Card pursuant to voluntary retirement from SBI, the promoter of SBI Card on 15th July 2020 which came to effect on 31st July 2020.



Foot Notes:

About PNB Housing Finance:

Head Office: New Delhi

Tag Line: Ghar Ki Baat

MD & CEO: Hardayal Prasad

8. Indian Armed Forces contingent heads to Russia for war games Kavkaz 2020

- India will take part in the multilateral military “Russian Kavkaz 2020” strategic command-post exercise to be held in Astrakhan, Russia.
- The Indian contingent includes 150 Army personnel and a smaller number of personnel from the Navy and Air Force.
- The invitation for participation to Kavkaz 2020, also referred to as Caucasus-2020, has been extended to at least 18 countries including China, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey apart from other Central Asian Republics part of the SCO.



Foot Notes:

About Russia:

President: Vladimir Putin

Capital: Moscow

Prime Minister: Mikhail Mishustin

Currency: Russian Rouble

9. PM Modi launches week-long campaign to free India of garbage

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched "Gandagi Mukt Bharat", a week-long campaign for 'swachhata' in the run-up to Independence Day.
- During this week, each day till August 15 will have special 'swachhata' initiatives in urban and rural India to re-enforce the 'jan andolan' for 'swachhata'.
- He also inaugurated the ‘Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra’ -an interactive experience centre on the Swachh Bharat Mission, at the Gandhi Smriti at Rajghat.



Foot Notes:

About Swachh Bharat Mission:

Swachh Bharat Mission or Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or Clean India Mission was a country-wide campaign from 2014 to 2019, to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management in urban and rural areas in India

Launch year: 2014

Status: Active

Launched by: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Slogan: One step towards cleanliness

Location: New Delhi

10. Senior Congress leader Nandi Yellaiah passes away

- Senior Congress leader and former Vice President of Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) Nandi Yellaiah passed away. Nandi Yellaiah died while taking treatment at the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences in Hyderabad.
- He had tested positive for Coronavirus 10 days ago.
- Yellaiah was a six-time member of Lok Sabha and served as the MP of Nagarkurnool constituency till 2019. He was elected as the Lok Sabha MP from Siddipet five times before he won as the MP from Nagarkurnool in 2014. He was also a member of Rajya Sabha twice.



Foot Notes:

About Telangana:

Capital: Hyderabad

Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan

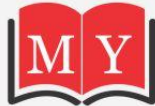
Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao

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