



CURRENT AFFAIRS

11 August 2020

Today's Important News

Russia registers World's first Covid-19 vaccine, Putin's daughter among those inoculated.



1. Finance Minister Sitharaman launches online dashboard for National Infrastructure Pipeline

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on August 10 launched an online dashboard of National Infrastructure Pipeline. The Dashboard will showcase over 6,800 projects online.
- The Online dashboard of NIP is to be hosted on the India Investment Grid (IIG), which is a dynamic and interactive online platform that showcases real-time and updated investment opportunities in India.
- As per the Ministry of Finance, the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) project database will help in providing real-time updates for domestic and foreign investors in the infrastructure projects.



Foot Notes:

About Finance Ministry:

Minister responsible: Nirmala Sitharaman

Founded: 29 October 1946

Headquarters: New Delhi

Officeholders: P. Radhakrishnan (Minister of State), Shiv Pratap Shukla (Minister of State)

2. PCA's new international stadium to be named after Patiala's last ruler

- Punjab Cricket Association (PCA) is set to name its new stadium in Mullanpur, New Chandigarh, Punjab after the late Maharaja Yadavindra Singh.
- PCA President Rajinder Gupta proposed the idea to name the stadium and it had been approved.
- Maharaja Yadavindra Singh played a test match for India against England in 1934. Maharaja Yadavindra Singh was the father of Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh. He was the 9th and the last Maharaja of Patiala.



Foot notes:

About Punjab:

Capital: Chandigarh

Chief Minister: Amarinder Singh

Governor: V. P. Singh Badnore

3. Capital India Finance appoints ex-NABARD Chief Harsh Bhanwala as executive Chairman

- Financial Services Platform, Capital India Finance Limited (CIFL) has appointed Ex-NABARD Chief Harsh Kumar Bhanwala as its Executive Chairman. Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala took charge as Executive Chairman.
- Dr. Bhanwala is a PhD holder and did his Post Graduation degree in Management from Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad. He was Chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) from December 2013 till May 2020. He was the Managing Director of Delhi State Cooperative Bank Ltd (DSCB) during its turnaround period from 1999 to 2005.



Foot Notes:

About Capital India Finance Limited:

Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer: Vineet Saxena.

Managing Director: Keshav Porwal

HeadOffice: Mumbai, Maharashtra

About NABARD:

Founded: 12 July 1982

Headquarters: Mumbai

4. GoI launched National Portal "SURAKHSYA" on Human Elephant conflict

- The Union Environment Minister launched National Portal on Human Elephant conflict called "SURAKHSYA".
- The portal aims to collect real time information and will also manage conflicts on real time basis.
- The portal will help to set data collection protocols, data visualization tools and data transmission pipelines.
- The National Portal was launched during the celebration of international annual event World Elephant Day.
- The World Elephant Day is celebrated every year on August 12 to create elephant conservation and share knowledge for better protection of wild captive elephants.



Foot Notes:

Union Environment Minister: Prakash Javadekar

5. Public Enterprises Selection Board selects Soma Mondal as the next chairman of SAIL

- Soma Mondal has been selected by the Public Enterprises Selection Board as the next chairman of public sector steel major Steel Authority of India Limited.
- Her appointment is subject to approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- If the ACC gives its approval, she will make history with the rare distinction of being the first woman chairperson of SAIL.
- She will also be the first woman to head a major steel company not only in India but also elsewhere in the world. The current chairman of SAIL Anil Chaudhary assumed charge in September 2018 and is due to retire at the end of this year.



Foot Notes:

About SAIL:

Headquarters: New Delhi


CEO: Anil Kumar Chaudhary

Founded: 19 January 1954

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6. Book Chronicling 3rd Year Of Vice President Naidu In Office Released

- A book chronicling the third year in office of Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu titled 'Connecting, Communicating, Changing' was released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. The electronic version of the book (e-book) will be launched by Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar.
- The book which runs into more than 250 pages has been brought out by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- The book captures through words and pictures the variegated activities of the Vice President, including his travels in India and abroad. It provides a glimpse of his interactions with farmers, scientists, doctors, youth, administrators, industry leaders and artists, among others.



Foot Notes:

About M. Venkaiah Naidu:

Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu is an Indian politician and the current Vice President of India and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, in office since 11 August 2017. Previously, he served as the Minister of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Urban Development and Information and Broadcasting in the Modi Cabinet.

7. Lebanese PM resigns after protests erupt following Beirut Blast

- Lebanon's Prime Minister Hassan Diab has resigned from his post in the wake of a major blast in Beirut that has triggered public outrage. The Prime Minister's resignation follows a weekend of anti-government protests after the August 4 explosion in Beirut's port that decimated the facility and caused widespread destruction, killing more than 160 people and injuring about six thousands.
- Diab's government was formed in January this year after his predecessor, Saad Hariri, stepped down in October last year in response to the demonstrations.
- President Michel Aoun has accepted the resignation of the Diab government and asked it to stay on in a caretaker capacity until a new cabinet is formed.



Foot Notes:

About Lebanon:

Capital: Beirut

Currency: Lebanese Pound

8. Russia registers World's first Covid-19 vaccine, Putin's daughter among those inoculated

- Russia is all set to launch the world's first COVID-19 vaccine on August 12, 2020. The news of Russia registering its first vaccine against the virus was announced earlier on August 8 by Oleg Gridnev, Deputy Health Minister.
- In the efforts of finding the cure for coronavirus, six candidates of vaccines around the world have entered phase three of human trials and as per the reports, one of Russia's candidates has completed all the three phases of human clinical trials.
- The vaccine to be launched by Russia has been developed jointly by the Russian Defence Ministry and the Gamaleya Research Institute. Reportedly, Russia will also begin producing the vaccine soon and has plans for a massive, country-wide vaccine drive.



Foot Notes:

About Russia:

President: Vladimir Putin

Capital: Moscow

Prime Minister: Mikhail Mishustin

Currency: Russian Rouble

9. Daughters become equal coparceners at birth even if born prior to 2005 amendment to Hindu Succession Act

- The Supreme Court on August 11, 2020 ruled that daughters are entitled to equal property rights even if they were not born at the time of the 2005 amendment to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 or irrespective.
- The apex court ruled that daughters would have equal coparcenary rights in Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) properties. This would hold irrespective of whether the father was alive or not at the time of the amendment.
- The judgement was delivered by a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court comprising Justices Arun Mishra, S Abdul Nazeer and MR Shah. They were hearing appeals that raised the issue of whether the amendment to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 granting equal rights to daughters to inherit ancestral property would have retrospective effect.



10. Former India and Mohun Bagan football player Manitombi passes away

- Former India defender and Mohun Bagan captain Manitombi Singh passed away. He played for Mohun Bagan and was part of the Hindustan FC team that won the Delhi Soccer Association league title in 2010.
- He was part of the team that won the LG Cup in Vietnam under the captaincy of Bhaichung Bhutia. He also donned the Indian colours at the Busan Asian Games later in the year.



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