

CURRENT AFFAIRS

03 August 2020

Today's Important News

SpaceX's Crew Dragon successfully returns NASA astronauts back to Earth.

1. 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' logo design contest to be conducted by MyGov

- Government is looking to have a distinct identity for 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' by developing a logo based on creative and innovative inputs from the citizens of the country.
- MyGov.in platform has started the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Logo Design Contest on its website where Indian Citizens can submit their entries without any hassle through online medium.
- The last date of submission of entries is 5th of August 2020 till 11.45 PM. The winning logo will be awarded a cash prize of 25 thousand rupees. MyGov is a citizen engagement platform which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to promote active participation of Indian citizens in Nation's governance and development. MyGov has crowd sourced many logos of various departments and initiatives including Swachh Bharat, DekhoApnaDesh, Lokpal and several others.



Foot Note:

Atmanirbhar Bharat (transl. self-reliant India) is the vision of the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi of making India a self-reliant nation. The first mention of this came in

the form of the 'Atmanirbhar Bharata Abhiyan' during the announcement of the coronavirus pandemic related economic package on 12 May 2020. This self-reliant India does not mean cutting off from rest of the world".

2. Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harshvardhan launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21'

- Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launched 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan, 2020-21. This initiative is a national programme for popularizing science among school students of Class 6th to 11th.
- It was designed to identify the bright minds with a scientific aptitude among the student community. This is a platform to identify the talent in the field of science and to promote the scientific acumen among the students.
- Students will help in creating New India and this initiative will play a leading role in it.



Foot Notes:

About Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:

Founded: 1976

Headquarters: New Delhi

Jurisdiction: India

Officeholders: Harsh Vardhan (Minister), Faggan Singh Kulaste (Minister of State)

3. SpaceX's Crew Dragon successfully returns NASA astronauts back to Earth

- Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley two US astronauts who were sent to the International Space Station two months ago return to the planet Earth safely following a 21-hour overnight journey. The astronaut were sent by NASA in collaboration with Elon Musk's company Space-X. The Crew Dragon designed and operated by Space-X which is also being used for this flight test can stay in orbit about 110 days,
- On 30th May 2020 at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carrying the company's Crew Dragon spacecraft was launched from Launch Complex 39A at 3:22 PM. This is leap and bound moment in the history of aeronautical science when for the first time in the history, NASA sent their astronauts in a commercially built and operated American crew spacecraft.



- This Demo-2 mission in partnership with Elon Musk's Space-X is the final major test before NASA's Commercial Crew Program approves and certifies Crew Dragon for operational, long-duration missions to the space station.

Foot Notes:

About NASA:

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

Founder: Dwight D. Eisenhower

Chairman: Robert M. Lightfoot Jr

Foot Notes:

About SpaceX:

Founder: Elon Musk

Founded: 6 May 2002

CEO: Elon Musk

Headquarters: Hawthorne, California, United States

4. Tamil Nadu celebrates its monsoon festival 'Aadi Perukku'

- Aadi Perukku, also known as the Aadi monsoon festival, is being celebrated in Tamil Nadu.
- The festival falls on the 18th day of the Tamil month of Adi (mid-July to mid-August) and is celebrated as a tribute to water's life-sustaining properties.
- It takes the form of thanking Cauvery river for flowing in plenty, thus ensuring a good agricultural harvest during the year.
- The festival assumes added significance in the Cauvery Delta region, where farmers also pay homage to Mother nature in the form of the majestic Cauvery river.



Foot Notes:

About Tamil Nadu:

Capital: Chennai

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Chief Minister: Edappadi K. Palanisamy

5. Northern Railway runs first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train

- Northern Railway ran the first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train. This train destined for Jirania in Tripura has 46 wagons. Wheat was loaded in 34 wagons at Guniana station of Firozpur Division by Food Corporation of India and in the remaining Rice and Pulses have been loaded.
- Railways has earned more than 94 lakh rupees from this Vyapar Mala Express train.
- This is an express service where piece-meal stock will reach its destination in a shorter time.
- The train departed from Delhi Kishanganj for Jirania and it will cover a distance of two thousand 673 Kilometres from Punjab to Tripura.
- It will help small traders in moving their cargo through Railways, in a short time, cost effective, convenient and environment-friendly mode of transportation.



Foot Notes:


Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal

Chairman of Railways: Vinod Kumar Yadav

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6. Oscar-winner Matthew McConaughey writes his debut book "GreenLight"

- 'Greenlights' the debut book authored by Oscar-winning actor Matthew McConaughey published by Crown Publishing Group is set to be released on 20th October 2020. The book was described as "not a traditional memoir but a playbook" based



on the adventures and life experiences of McConaughey.

- McConaughey describes 'Greenlights' as an album, a record and the story of his life and he shared his anecdotes, poems and life lessons in this book.

7. World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated annually from 1st of August to 7th of August

- World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated annually in the first week of August (from 1st of August to 7th of August) around 120 countries in the World. The day is celebrated to encourage breastfeeding and improve the babies' health around the world.
- The theme for the year 2020 is, "Support Breast feeding for a healthier planet".
- The day was commenced after signing the Innocenti Declaration in August 1990. The global campaigning was first organized by the WABA (World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action) along with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 1992, to raise awareness about the benefits of breastfeeding for the initial 6 months of a child's life.



Foot Notes:

About WABA:

Headquarters: Penang, Malaysia

Chairperson: Felicity Savage

About UNICEF:

Headquarters: New York, United States

Executive Director: Henrietta H. Fore

8. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates international webinar on 'Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant India'

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a two-day international webinar on the theme of 'Lokmanya Tilak - Swaraj to Self-reliant India' organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.
- It was organised on the 100th death anniversary of the great freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak played a key role in the making of the Indian Independence movement complete in letter and spirit.



- The slogan is "Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it" given by LokmanyaTilak, will always be written in golden letters in the history of the Indian Independence Movement.

Foot Notes:

About ICCR:

Founded: 09 Apr 1950

President: Vinay Sahasrabuddhe

Founder: Abul Kalam Azad

Founded: 9 April 1950, New Delhi

9. Indira Rasoi Yojana to start in Rajasthan from 20th of August

- Rajasthan's Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot recently directed his officials to commence Indira RasoiYojana from 20Th August 2020. The CM said it is another step towards realising the resolve of Rajasthan Government's "No Hunger No Sleep". Under this scheme, the needy and poor will get healthy and nutritious food at 8 Rs per plate. The state government will spend 100 Crores per year on the scheme.
- The Indira Rasoi Yojana named after former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, will run in 358 kitchens in 213 urban local bodies of the state. Under the Yojana a menu of 100 grams of pulses, 100 grams of vegetables, 250 grams of chapati and pickles will be served to 4.87 crore people every year.
- While all the necessary measures will be taken to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus a monitoring committee at the State and District level will be formed to ensure the quality of the food. All the beneficiary under this scheme will get the information about the Yojana on his or her mobile phone as he or she takes the coupon.



Foot Notes:

About Rajasthan:

Capital: Jaipur

Governor: Kalraj Mishra

Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot

10. Kala Narayanasamy conferred with President's Award in Singapore

- Indian-origin nurse, Kala Narayanasamy in Singapore has been conferred with the President's Award for Nurses for serving on the frontline during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Kala Narayanasamy, who is the Deputy Director of Nursing at Woodlands Health Campus, has been conferred with this award for utilising the infection control practices that she had learned during the 2003 severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak, in the current pandemic.
- The President's Award for Nurses in Singapore recognises the efforts of nurses who have shown sustained outstanding performance and contributions to patient care delivery, education, research and administration.



Foot Notes:

About Singapore:

Currency: Singapore dollar

Capital: Singapore

President: Halimah Yacob

Prime Minister: Lee Hsien Loong

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