



CURRENT AFFAIRS

25 July 2020

Today's Important News

After demise of Lalji Tandon, President Kovind appoints Anandiben Patel as MP Governor.

1. India-UK affirm shared commitment towards Free Trade Agreement

- India and the United Kingdom affirmed their shared commitment towards a Free Trade Agreement during the 14th Joint Economic and Trade Committee meeting on July 24, 2020.
- The virtual meeting was co-chaired by Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and UK Secretary of State for International Trade Elizabeth Truss. The Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Hardeep Singh Puri and UK's Minister of State for International Trade Ranil Jayawardena had also attended the meeting.
- At the conclusion of the meeting, it was decided that a deliberation led by Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and UK Trade Minister Elizabeth Truss will be held in August in New Delhi to carry forward the dialogue.



Foot Notes:

About UK:

Capital: London

Prime Minister: Boris Johnson

Currency: Pound sterling

2. Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan tests positive for COVID-19

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has tested positive for COVID-19. The Chief Minister announced the same through a tweet on July 25, 2020.
- In a series of tweets, the MP Chief Minister revealed that he had developed symptoms of COVID-19 and underwent a COVID test, the report of which came positive. He has now appealed to all his colleagues who came in contact with him recently to get their COVID test done. The close contacts of the Chief Minister have been suggested to move to quarantine.
- The Chief Minister further informed that he has quarantined himself as per the advice of the doctors and is following all COVID-19 guidelines. He will be participating in the daily coronavirus review meeting through video conferencing.



Foot Notes:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Capital: Bhopal

Governor: Anandiben Patel

3. Indonesian Defence Minister General Prabowo Subianto to pay three-day India visit

- Indonesian Defence Minister General Prabowo Subianto will pay a three-day visit to India.
- During the visit he will hold talks with the leadership to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation.
- General Prabowo will be visiting India from July 26 to 28 and will lay a wreath at the National War Memorial. He will be also presented with a Guard of Honour at South Block Lawns.



Foot Notes:

About Indonesia:

Capital: Jakarta

President: Joko Widodo

Currency: Indonesian rupiah

4. PM Modi to inaugurate three new high throughput labs of ICMR

- PM Narendra Modi will inaugurate three new high-throughput labs of the Indian Council of Medical Research at 4.30 pm on July 27, 2020. The Prime Minister will be inaugurating the labs through video conferencing.
- The three new high-throughput ICMR labs have been constructed in Mumbai, Noida and Kolkata. The labs will majorly boost the nation's COVID-19 testing capacities.
- The Union Government has adopted the test-track-treat strategy for early detection and containment of the COVID-19 pandemic. Under this, the ICMR has ramped up its testing capabilities to effectively deal with Coronavirus crisis.



Foot Notes:

About ICMR:

Founded: 1911

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

Leader: Balram Bhargava

5. French refinery leaks toxic chemical into marine life area

- On July 25, 2020, an orange brown chemical spread over 6 hectares of nationally recognised marine life area in the French Mediterranean Sea. The chemical spread was mainly due to the leak at a petrochemical plant in the southern France. The leak at the American-owned chemical company Kem-One spilled 200 gallons of iron chloride into the sea.
- The Sea is connected to Atlantic Ocean and is completely enclosed by land. The countries with coastlines of Mediterranean Sea are Albania, Bosnia, Algeria, Croatia, Herzegovnia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Monaco, Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.



Foot Notes:

About France:

President: Emmanuel Macron

Capital: Paris

Currency: Euro

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An illustration depicting an online learning environment. A man in a suit is shown on a computer monitor. To the left, a woman is sitting at a desk with a laptop. To the right, a woman is sitting on a stack of books, with a lightbulb above her head, symbolizing an idea or knowledge. The background is a light purple color with some abstract shapes.

6. Mr.Partha Pratim Sengupta appointed as MD and CEO of IOB

- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has appointed Mr.Partha Pratim Sengupta as its new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and his tenure ends by December 31, 2022 or until further orders. Mr.Partha Pratim Sengupta succeeds Shri. Karnam Sekar who was retired on June 30, 2020.
- Sengupta, 57, prior to his elevation of deputy managing director of SBI, was the Chief General Manager at the country's largest lender's Kolkata circle..
- He has more than three decades of experience in the Banking sector, in various domains.



Foot Notes:

About IOB:

Founded: 10 February 1937

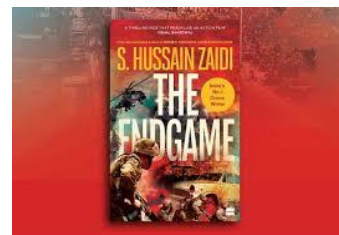
Founder: Mr.M.Ct.M Chidambaram Chettyar

Headquaders: Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Chairman: Mr. T. C. A Ranganathan

7. A book titled “The Endgame” authored by Hussain Zaidi released

- S Hussain Zaidi, a well known crime writer has recently written a novel named “The Endgame”. It was published by the HarperCollins India. The book speaks about the politics, betrayal, and unimaginable terror.
- “Black Friday”, “Mafia Queens of Mumbai”, “Dongri to Dubai” and “Byculla to Bangkok” are other notable books written by him. He was the associate producer of “Terror in Mumbai”, a famous HBO documentary based on 26/11 terror attacks.



Foot Notes:

About HarperCollins:

CEO: Brian Murray

Headquarters: New York, United States

Founded: 1989

8. Centre appoints senior IAS officer Rajesh Bhushan as new health secretary

- Rajesh Bhushan, IAS officer of 1987 Batch, Bihar Cadre has been appointed as the new Health Secretary in the Union Health Ministry.
- He was earlier holding the post of OSD in the Health Ministry and will succeed Preeti Sudan upon completion of her tenure on 31st of this month.
- Ms. Sudan was granted an extension for three months as Health Secretary in April this year.
- In another major reshuffle Ajay Tirkey has been appointed as Secretary, Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development.
- Ram Mohan Mishra will take over as Secretary in the Ministry of Women and Child Development.



Foot Notes:

About Health Ministry:

Founded: 1976

Headquarters: New Delhi

Jurisdiction: India

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

9. After demise of Lalji Tandon, President Kovind appoints Anandiben Patel as MP Governor

- President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Smt. Anandiben Patel the Governor of Madhya Pradesh.
- Presently, she is the Governor of Uttar Pradesh.
- She has been given the additional charge of the Governor of Madhya Pradesh after the demise of Lalji Tandon.



Foot Notes:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Capital: Bhopal

Governor: Anandiben Patel

10. Sri Lanka's Sripali Weerakkody announces retirement from international cricket

- Sri Lankan bowling all rounder, Sripali Weerakkody has announced her retirement from International Cricket with immediate effect.
- She made her international debut in 2006 and played 89 ODIs (One Day International) and 58 T20Is (Twenty20 International) for Sri Lanka.
- Sripali Weerakkody played her last international game in 2018 and scored 722 runs and 58 wickets in ODIs, and 209 runs and 31 wickets in T20Is.



Foot Notes:

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Colombo

President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Prime Minister: Mahinda Rajapaksa

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