

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS 8TH TO 14TH AUGUST 2020

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

'State of Environmental Emergency'- by Mauritius

- The island nation Mauritius has declared '**State of Environmental Emergency**'.
- It is declared by the island nation because Japanese bulk carrier "MV Wakashio" ran aground on a Mauritius's reef and has begun leaking of oil into the ocean.

NATIONAL NEWS

Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy

- Government of Delhi has launched '**Delhi Electric Vehicle Policy**'.
- This is the progressive policy which will **boost the economy. Reduce pollution and will create employment opportunities.**

Maharashtra partners with Google

- **Government of Maharashtra has partnered with Google** to start virtual educational classes to the students.
- **1.09 lakh government, private, aided and unaided school** will be given online virtual education by google.

Virtual Office Network to Spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development

- The entity of **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India)** has launched Virtual Office Network to Spearhead Tribal Socio-Economic Development.
- The virtual office network was launched on the occasion of **33rd Foundation Day of TRIFED.**

Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands (CANI)

- **Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands (CANI)** has been launched via video conference by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- This **submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC)** will provide a connectivity for Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Island.

Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Policy 2020-23

- The **government of Andhra Pradesh** has launched it's Industrial Development Policy 2020-23 in order to have industrial and corporate sector development in the state.

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- The new industrial policy will led to **regional growth and global investment in the state.**

'Surakhsya' a National Portal on Human Elephant Conflict

- **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has launched a national portal on Human-Elephant conflict. The name of the portal is 'Surakhsya'.
- The portal is launched with an aim **to collect real-time data and to manage the conflicts in real-time basis.**

'Sputnik V'-- World's 1st Coronavirus Vaccine

- Russia has developed and named its **first coronavirus vaccine as 'Sputnik V'.**
- The name 'Sputnik V' is given in **reference and respect to the world's first satellite.**

'nth Rewards'—Launched by NPCI

- **National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI)** has developed and launched a business intelligence and analytics-based omnichannel, multi-branded loyalty platform named as 'nth Rewards'.
- The platform is launched **to grow customer base and become the one-stop-shop for banks.**

'Transparent Taxation-Honoring the Honest' Platform

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a platform called **'Transparent Taxation-Honoring the Honest'.**
- The platform is launched **to carry forward the direct tax reforms and to honour the honest taxpayers.**

India provides Financial Support to Antigua and Barbuda

- India has offered a financial helping hand to the **government of Antigua and Barbuda.**
- The financial assistance of **USD 1 million** is offered by India.

BANKING

RBI sets up Committee to Suggest Financial Parameters to Tackle COVID-19

- The Reserve Bank of India has set up a committee which will work **to tackle the financial parameters which have arisen due to COVID-19 related stressed assets.**
- The **committee is headed by K V Kamath.** The committee will be submitting its solutions and recommendations to RBI in 30 days.

RBI to implement System Based Asset Clarification in Urban Co-operative Banks

- Reserve Bank of India has taken the decision to implement system-based asset clarification in **urban co-operative banks (UCBs).**
- The decision is taken **to improve efficiency, transparency and integrity** on the clarification process of assets in UCBs.

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Federal Bank Credit Card

- **Federal Bank has partnered with Fiserv Inc.** to launch its 'Federal Bank Credit Card', which is their first independent credit card.
- For this credit card, Federal Bank will make use of **FirstVision technology of Fiserv Inc.**

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
P S Ranipse	Inspector General (IG) in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
Pradeep Kumar Joshi	Chairman of UPSC (Union Public Service Commission)
Hardayal Prasad	MD and CEO of PNB Housing Finance Limited
G K Pillai	Head the committee to determine the ceiling rates under remissions of duties and taxes on exported products (RoDTEP) scheme
Mahinda Rajapaksa	Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
Walter Roger Martos Ruiz	Prime Minister of Peru
Alexander Lukashenko	Presidential Election for Belarus
Harsh Kumar Bhanwala	Executive Chairman of Capital India Finance Limited
IRS Patanjali	Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Mumbai
Mohamed Ould Bilal	Prime Minister of Mauritania
Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi	Director General Naval Operations (DGNO)
SS Mundra	Non-Executive Chairman of Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBH)
Soma Mondal	Chairman of SAIL (Steel Authority of India Limited)
Suhail Sameer	Group President of BharatPe

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Award	Awardee
Asian College of Journalism's (ACJ) Award 2019	Nitin Sethi and Shiv Sahay Singh

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
8 th August 2020	78th Anniversary of Quit India Movement or August Kranti Din	--
9 th August 2020	International Day of World's Indigenous People	Theme: 'COVID-19 and Indigenous People Resilience'
10 th August 2020	World Biofuel Day	Theme: 'Biofuels towards Atmanirbhar Bharat'

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12 th August 2020	International Youth Day	Theme: Youth Engagement for Global Action
12 th August 2020	World Elephant Day	--
13 th August 2020	World Organ Donation Day	--
13 th August 2020	International Left Handers Day	--

MOU'S SIGNED

NHAI signs MoU with IIT Delhi

- The **National Highway Authority of India has signed an MoU with IIT Delhi** to make use of Artificial Intelligence in data-driven decision making and to develop ADMS (Advanced Data Management System for Highways) Highways in the country.

BSE signs MoU with Akola based Bullion Trade Association

- **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has signed MoU with two Akola, Maharashtra based Bullion Trade Association** namely, Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sang.
- The MoU is signed **to deepen the commodity derivative market in India.**

PFC Ltd to construct Modular Operation Theatre Rooms

- The **Power Finance Corporation Ltd has entered with an MoU with District Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh** to construct two Modular Operation Theatre Rooms.
- Under this MoU, PFC will provide **financial support of Rs 94,00,000.**

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

'Krishi Megh'—Launched by Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar

- The **Union Minister of Agriculture and Family Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar** launched the National Agriculture Research and Education System- Cloud Infrastructure and Services, named as 'Krishi Megh'.
- This agriculture research and its educational system **Krishi Megh is designed with the features of digital agriculture of New India.**

Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana--Gujarat

- The **government of Gujarat** has launched Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana.
- Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana will replace current insurance scheme (Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana) for this current year only.

'Orunodol Scheme'—Launched by Assam

- The scheme will be available **to the beneficiaries from 17th August 2020.**
- Under this scheme, financial support of **Rs 830 per months** will be credited to the bank account of a female person of the family.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS'

- India's first Pocket Android POS device named as '**Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS**' is launched by Paytm.
- The '**Paytm All-in-One Portable Android Smart POS**' will offer a **digital platform to many SME's in the country**.

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under NEP

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural ceremony of Conclave on **Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under NEP (National Education Policy)**.
- PM Modi stated that upon successful implementation of NEP 2020 will create **major positive reforms in the education sector**.

India Canada IC-IMPACTS Annual Research Conference

- The **India Canada Annual Research Conference** was hosted by IC-IMPACTS (India Canada Centre-Innovative Multidisciplinary Partnership to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability).
- The members in the conference discussed **to make use of Artificial Intelligence in vast applications**.

'India@75 Summit-Mission 2022'

- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has **organized 'India@75 Summit-Mission 2022'**.
- **Union Minister of MSME and Road Transport and Highway, Nitin Gadkari** addressed the India@75 Summit-Mission 2022'.