

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS 8TH TO 14TH JULY 2020

NATIONAL NEWS

MasterCard Ties Up with SBM Bank India

- MasterCard has partnered with **SBM Bank India** in order to provide its customers with an **online real-time domestic** and cross border payments facility.
- The online **real-time payment facility** will be done through 'MasterCard Send'.

Rajnath Singh e-inaugurated 6 Bridges in J&K

- **Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** e-inaugurated 6 bridges in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The bridges are developed under the **Project Sampark by Border Road Organisation**.

Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS)

- **Chief Minister of Odisha** has launched **Bhubaneswar Land Use Intelligence System (BLUIS)** which is the web and mobile based solution to monitor the unauthorized change of land use.
- This system will help to **prevent the encroachment of government lands**.

World Bank Financially Supports Namami Gange Programme

- **World Bank and Government of India** has signed a loan agreement to financially support Namami Gange Programme.
- The **loan amount of \$400 million** has been sanctioned by **World Bank** to make Ganga a clean and healthy river.

Bharat Dynamics Ltd signs LAToT with DRDO-DRDL

- **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)** has signed a **License Agreement and Transfer of Technology (LAToT)** with Defence Research and Development Organisation- Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDO-DRDL).

Flipkart to Promote Art, Craft and Handloom Sector of Karnataka

- **E-commerce industry Flipkart** has entered into an agreement with the government of Karnataka to promote arts, crafts and handloom sector of the state.
- For this purpose, the **E-Commerce giant Flipkart** has signed **MoU with Department of MSME** and Mines of the government of Karnataka.

India's First E-Lok Adalat at Chhattisgarh

- The **decision and development of e-Lok Adalat in Chhattisgarh** has taken place because of the Chhattisgarh State Legal Service Authority and the High Court.
- The E-Lok Adalat is launched with an **aim to carry out court cases via the virtual platform in the pandemic situation of COVID-19 and to maintain social distancing**.

'ATL App Development Module'-- NITI Aayog

- **NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission** has launched the ATL App Development Module for school children across the country.
- The **ATL App Development Module** is an online course, which is completely Free.

BANKING

'Bhavishya' Saving Account—By Fino Payments Bank Ltd

- Fino Payments Bank Limited has **launched 'Bhavishya' Saving Account**.
- The 'Bhavishya' Saving Account is launched for the minors who are in **between the age group of 10-18 years**.

India's GDP to Contract by 3% in FY21

- BofA Securities, which is a foreign brokerage, has stated that **India's GDP will contract by 3% for financial year 2021**.
- BofA Securities has also predicted that **India's GDP will contract this fiscal with estimates ranging upto 7% negative growth**.

Tamil Nadu Tops in Market Borrowings—By RBI

- As per the data by **Reserve Bank of India**, **Tamil Nadu state has topped in market borrowings** among all the states in India.
- **Tamil Nadu has raised Rs 30,500 crores in fiscal year 2020-21** which is accounted for 17% of the borrowings done through the issue of the bonds.

7th SBI Banking & Economics Conclave

- **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das addressed** the 7th SBI Banking & Economics Conclave.
- In the conclave, the governor delivered various policy measures taken in order to deal with the **economic crisis being faced by the country amidst COVID-19 lockdown**.

Panel Formed for 'Indian Pandemic Risk Pool'-- By IRDAI

- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**, being the regulatory provider has formed a panel which will examine the degree of convenience of 'Pandemic Risk Pool'.
- The panel will be headed by **Suresh Mathur, Executive Director of IRDAI**.

India: Second Largest Foreign Direct Investor in the UK

- UK Government has released new data in the **Department for International Trade (DIT)** inward investment statistics for 2019-2020.
- As per the statistical analysis, India has become the second-largest **Foreign Direct Investor in the United Kingdom (UK)**.

INDEX AND RANKING

11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020

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- **United States Property Consultant Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL)**, India has released 11th Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2020.
- As per the report, **India ranks at 34th position** with a total score of 2.69 under semi-transparent zone.

REPORTS

Voluntary National Review 2020 Report-- NITI Aayog

- **National Institution for Transforming India Aayog(NITI Aayog)** has released India's 2nd Voluntary National Review (VNR) report at the United Nations High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, 2020.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Sijo Kuruvila George	Member of the Central Government's Expert Committee on Science and Technology policy
Jayant Krishna	First India based CEO of UKIBC (UK India Business Council)
Lee Hsien Loong	Prime Minister of Singapore
Gyanendro Ningombam	President of Hockey India
Hemang Amin	Interim CEO of BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India)
Andrzej Duda	President of Poland

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Award	Awardee
EU Green Building Award 2020	International Olympic Committee
CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019	NTPC Ltd
2020 Dada Saheb Phalke Award	Kezang D Thongdok
'Development Marketplace Award 2020:Innovations to Address Gender-Based Violence'	Institute for Human Development (IHD)
Von Karman Award 2020 by International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)	K Sivan
Mohun Bagan Ratna Award	Hockey Player Gurubux Singh and Cricketer Palash Nandi
Elites Excellence Award 2020	Chhattisgarh CM Darpan website and mobile app

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
7th July 2020	World Chocolate Day/ International Chocolate day	--
10 th July 2020	National Fish Farmers Day	--
11 th July 2020	World Population Day	Theme: Putting the brakes on COVID 19: Safeguarding the health

		and rights of women and girls
12 th July 2020	World Malala Day	--

MOUS SIGNED

NMPB signs MoU with ICAR NBPGR

- The MoU between two entities is signed with an **aim to conserve Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Genetic Resources (MAPGRs)**.
- The **preservation and conservation of MAPGRs** will take place at ICAR- NBPGR.

CBDT signs MoU with SEBI

- **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed MoU with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for the purpose of data exchange between two organisations.
- Upon **signing the MoU, both organisations will now be able to transfer** and share the information on an automatic and regular basis.

ADB Renews MoU with IEA

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has renewed **MOU** with International Energy Agency (IEA).
- The MoU is renewed with the aim **to further increase the collaboration on sustainability with a focus on energy sector resilience in Asia**.

NATGRID signs MoU with NCRB

- The **National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)** has signed a MoU with National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- Upon signing the agreement, NATGRID will be able **to access the complaints on First Information Reports (FIR) and stolen vehicles**.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

'Nekara Samman Yojana' -- Karnataka

- **Government of Karnataka has launched a scheme called 'Nekara Samman Yojana'** for the weaver's community.
- To build this scheme, the **state government has allotted Rs 10.96 crore**.

DEFENCE

Boeing Completed Deliveries of 37 Helicopters to IAF

- **Boeing which is a United States defence equipment manufacturing company** has completed its delivery of AH-64E Apache and CH-47F(I) Chinook military helicopters to the Indian Air Force (IAF) unit.
- Along with this, Boeing has delivered last five of the **15 numbers of CH-47F(I) Chinook heavy-lift helicopters to IAF**.

Acquisition of Raven and Spike Firefly by Indian Army

- **Indian Army is set to increase its weapon and ammunition inventory** by acquiring unmanned aerial vehicle 'Raven' from the United States and a variant of Rafael 'Spike Firefly' from Israel.
- Thus, the '**Raven**' and '**Spike Fly**' are soon to become part of the Indian army's weapon inventory.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IIT-Hyderabad partners with NVIDIA

- **Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad has partnered with NVIDIA** which is a multinational company to establish research AI centre.
- The centre will be named as '**NVIDIA Artificial Intelligence(AI) Technology Centre**'(NVAITC).

Rewa Solar Project in Madhya Pradesh

- **PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Asia's Largest Solar Power Project** in Madhya Pradesh via video conference. The project is named as Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Power Project.
- It is the **750 MW ultra solar power plant which is comprised of 3 solar generating units of 250 MW each.**

'SHUDH' UV Sanitizing Device— IIT Kanpur

- IIT Kanpur has developed and launched an **Ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing device** named as 'SHUDH'.
- The acronym for **SHUDH is- Smartphone operated Handy Ultraviolet Disinfection Helper.**

'Visa Secure' Technology—By Visa and Federal Bank

- The payment technology global holder **Visa has come up with partnership with Federal Bank** to launch a modernized technology to the bank account holders to carry out safe banking transactions.

Google Announces Digitization Fund for India

- The global tech giant Google has announced to invest **\$10 billion in India with an aim to digitize the Indian Economy.** The funds are allotted under 'Google for India Digitisation Fund'.
- The announcement of this investment was made during the **virtual meeting between PM Narendra Modi and Google CEO Sundar Pichai.**

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

4th Virtual Ministerial Meet on Climate Action

- The 4th edition of '**Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA)**' was held virtually.
- The meeting from India was participated by **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar.**

India Global Week 2020

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the inaugural session of **3-day virtual India Global week 2020.**
- India Global week 2020 session is based on the theme '**Be The Revival: India and a Better New World**'.