



CURRENT AFFAIRS

16 AUGUST, 2022

NATIONAL

1. 76th Independence Day

Why in news - India celebrated its 76th Independence Day from on Aug 15, 2022.

Key points –

- PM Modi addressed the nation for the 9th time from the red fort on Independence Day.
- He identified corruption and nepotism as two key challenges for the next 25 years.
- He said the pride of women (naari shakti) will be a huge asset.
- He laid out 5 key resolutions (Panch Pran) –

'PANCH PRAN': 5 RESOLUTIONS

1 A developed India
by 2047

2 Removing colonial
mindset

3 Taking pride in
roots

4 Unity, with gender
equality as a key
parameter

5 Duties and
responsibilities
of citizens

- He added “Jai Anusandhaan” to the slogan “Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan” to inspire innovation in energy sector.

2. Appointment of High Court judges

Why in news - Collegium led by CJI N V Ramana made more than 250 recommendations for HC judge appointments.

Key points –

- It brought vacancies to 380 against the sanctioned strength of 1,108 judges in 25 high courts.
- For the first time, the list included 3 women — Justices Hima Kohli, B V Nagarathna and Bela Trivedi.
- Justice Nagarathna is in line to be the first woman CJI in 2027.
- Average vacancy in HC since January 2016 - 418 judges.

3. Salman Rushdie Stabbed

Why in news - Author Salman Rushdie was stabbed in the neck on Aug 12, 2022.

Key points –

- Location - Chautauqua, New York.
- Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini called for his execution in 1989 because of his novel The Satanic Verses.
- The book was banned in India and Rushdie was barred for more than a decade.
- Rushdie has published a memoir, Joseph Anton, about the fatwa.
- Salman Rushdie pseudonym - Joseph Anton.

4. Paonam Brajabasi

Why in news - Amar Chitra Katha Executive

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Editor issued an apology for including Paonam Brajabasi in their collection.

Key points –

- He was included in “Tribal Leaders of the Freedom Struggle” collection as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration.
- He was a military officer in the Manipuri kingdom of Kangleipak.
- He fought against the British in the Anglo-Manipur war of 1891.

5. World's highest railway bridge

Why in news - The 'golden joint' connecting two ends of the overarch deck of the world's highest railway bridge over Chenab river was inaugurated.

Key points –

- The bridge is located in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district.
- Cost - Rs 1,250 crore
- Length - 1.3-km-long.
- Height - 359 meters above the Chenab riverbed.
- It is 30 meters higher than Eiffel Tower in Paris.

INTERNATIONAL

1. India gifts aircraft to Sri Lanka

Why in news - India gifted a Dornier maritime reconnaissance aircraft to Sri Lanka.

Key points –

- Vice Admiral S N Ghormade handed over the aircraft to the Sri Lanka Navy.
- It is in line with the vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).

2. American citizenship for Afghans

Why in news – A bill has been introduced in both houses of US Congress to provide American citizenship for Afghan evacuees.

Key points –

- About 76,000 Afghans flown out in the 2021 evacuation operation and entered USA on humanitarian parole.
- Eligibility – Afghans who fought alongside US forces and Afghan women who served in special counter terrorism teams.

3. Universal access to sanitary products

Why in news – Scotland became the first country in the world to ensure universal access to free period products.

Key points –

- The landmark legislation was passed in 2020.

SECURITY

1. ATAGS

Why in news – Indigenously developed howitzer gun, ATAGS, became part of the 21-gun salute on Aug 15, 2022.

Key points –

- ATAGS (artillery) - Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System.
- It is developed by the DRDO.
- Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) is the nodal agency.
- In Aug and Sept 2017, a record target range of around 48 km was achieved at Pokhran Field Firing Range.

2. Army dog gets gallantry award

Why in news – Army dog named Axel has been posthumously awarded the gallantry award.

Key points –

- In recent years this would be the highest gallantry award to an Army Dog.
- Axel was serving in the 26 Army Dog Unit in the Kashmir valley.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Partition Horrors Remembrance Day : 14 August

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Why in news : PM has declared that August 14 will be observed as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' to acknowledge the pain undergone by Indians due to the partition of India in 1947.

ENVIRONMENT

1. 11 more Ramsar sites

Why in news – The Union Ministry of Environment Ministry added 11 Indian sites to the Ramsar list.

Key Points –

- Total Ramsar sites in the country – 75.
- New addition – TN (4), OD (3), J&K (2), MP (1), MH (1).
- 28 Indian sites have been declared wetlands of international importance in 2022.
- The 75 Ramsar sites in the country cover an area of 13,26,677 hectares.
- New Delhi signed Ramsar Convention on February 1, 1982.

AWARDS & HONOURS

1. Lisbon Triennale Lifetime Achievement Award

Why in news – Marina Tabassum became the first person from the global south and first south Asian to win the award.

Key points –

- She is a renowned Bangladeshi architect, researcher and educator.
- “The Bait Ur Rouf mosque” in Dhaka is one of her many celebrated works.

APPOINTMENTS

1. William Ruto

Why in news – William Ruto has emerged the winner in the tight Kenyan presidential election.

Key points –

- He becomes Kenya's fifth president.
- Ruto heads the Kenya Kwanza (Kenya First) Alliance.

Persons in News

1. Rakesh Jhunjhunwala

Why in news – Billionaire stock investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala passed away on Aug 14, 2022.

Key points –

- He is founder of the country's newest airline Akasa Air.
- Akasa had its inaugural flight from Mumbai to Ahmedabad just a week ago on August 7.
- He is also known as 'India's Warren Buffett'.
- His investment since the mid-1980s have grown to \$5.8 billion or Rs 46,000 crore as of August 2022.

PLACES IN NEWS

1. Lake Garda

Why in news – Italy's Lake Garda shrinks close to record low due to drought.

Key points –

- It is the largest lake in Italy.
- Sirmione peninsula is located on the southern coast of Lake Garda.



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STATES/UTs

1. One MLA, One Pension scheme

Why in news – Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit approved the state government's 'One MLA, One Pension' Bill.

Key points –

- It is expected to save the state exchequer around Rs 19.53 crore.
- Every MLA will get only one pension of Rs 75,150 per month irrespective of the terms for which he is elected.

BIHAR

1. Sale of tricolor

Why in news – “Tiranga karyakram” is being run in every house on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Key points –

- In Bihar, from August 1 to 14, Tricolor worth about 7 crores was sold by KVIC, Khadi Board and various organizations.

2. Central Medals

Why in news – Bihar Police has received 27 medals from Centre on the occasion of Independence Day.

Key points –

- It includes –
 - A. Gallantry Medals (7)
 - B. President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service (2)
 - C. Police Medals for Meritorious Service (17).
- ADGP of Economic Offenses Unit, Nayyar Hasnain Khan has received the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service.

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- “Unnati” housing loan is related to which bank – **Punjab National Bank.**
- Which state government has recently implemented the expansion of “Panchayat rights” in the scheduled areas - **Chhattisgarh.**
- Which country's satellite “Khayyam” has been launched by Russian rocket Soyuz – **Iran.**
- Recently, the central government has approved a booster dose of a vaccine named CorbeVax, who has manufactured it - **Biological E Ltd.**
- Who has become the new brand ambassador of “JK Tire & Industries” - **Narayan Karthikeyan.**
- Which state has recently passed the Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Bill 2022 – **Himachal Pradesh.**
- Where has the 'Agnostic Web 3.0' conference been organized recently – **Goa.**
- Which city will host the 2nd edition of North East Olympics 2022 Games – **Shillong.**
- Who has unveiled India's first 'Saline Water Lantern' – **Dr. Jitendra Singh.**
- Pulitzer Prize winner 'Gaub McCullough' has passed away, he belonged to which country – **USA.**

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