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GURRENT AFFAIRS

08 AUGUST, 2023

NATIONAL

1. Rahul Gandhi's MP status

Why in news - The Supreme Court stayed Rahul Gandhi's conviction in the Modi surname case.

Key Points -

- He is MP from Wayanad.
- Lok Sabha Secretariat cleared his return to Parliament.
- The sentence awarded by Chief Judicial Magistrate HH Verma in Surat on March 23, 2023.

2. Havana Syndrome

Why in news – Centre has told the Karnataka High Court that it will look into the matter of the 'Havana Syndrome' in India.

Key Points -

- Havana Syndrome refers to a set of mental health symptoms.
- It is said to be experienced by United States intelligence and embassy officials in various countries.
- Symptoms hearing certain sounds without any outside noise, nausea, vertigo and headaches, memory loss and balance issues.
- It traces its roots to Cuba (Cuban capital -Havana) in late 2016.
- It is said to be high-powered microwaves that either damaged or interfered with the nervous system.

INTERNATIONAL

1. Ukraine terms peace talks

Why in news - Saudi Arabia hosted a summit in Jeddahon August 5 and 6 in an effort to end Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Key Points –

- It did not have any representation from Russia.
- Ukraine presented its10-point peace formula (rejected by Russia in the past).
- Representatives from more than 40 countries including China, India, and the US were present.
- From India NSA Ajit Doval.

 Jeddah meet followed earlier informal talks in Copenhagen (June 2023).

ECONOMY

1. Anti-dumping duty

Why in news - India imposed anti-dumping duty on optical fibre imports from China, Korea and Indonesia.

Key Points -

- Aim to secure the domestic industry from artificially cheap rates that are capturing the market
- Validity 5 years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier).

Value Addition -

- While the Department of Commerce (M/o Commerce and Industry) recommends the Anti-dumping duty, it is the Ministry of Finance, which levies such duty.
- Dumping is said to occur when the goods are exported by a country to another country at a price lower than its normal value.
- It is not a measure of protection per se for the domestic industry. It provides relief to the domestic industry against the injury caused by dumping.

SCIENCE - TECH

1. Einstein cross

Why in news - Astronomers have captured a rare example of an Einstein cross.

Key Points –

- It is a group 12 rare quasars, each offering four distinct quadruple images, commonly called Einstein's cross.
- Einstein cross A galaxy is not just lensing but also quadrisecting the light coming from another galaxy billions of light years away from Earth.
- It can help refine the existing understanding about our universe's rate of expansion and unravel mysteries surrounding dark matter.

PATNA CENTRE: NEW BATCHES FOR BPSC ENGLISH MEDIUM STARTING FROM 23RD AUGUST 2023.

NEW BATCHES FOR UPSC ENGLISH & HINDI MEDIUM IS STARTING FROM 13TH SEPTEMBER 2023.

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- Quasars are distant galaxies with extremely luminous nuclei.
- Hubble-Lemaître constant It is used to measurethe rate of expansion of universe.



2. Chandrayaan-3

Why in news - ISRO announced that Chandrayaan-3 has successfully entered the moon's orbiton August 5.

Key Points –

- Lunar Orbit Injection (LOI) A long-duration firing of its engines that pushed it out of Earth's gravitational influence and towards Lunar gravitational influence.
- It is expected to make a soft landing near the Lunar south pole at around 70 degrees latitude.

ENVIRONMENT

1. "75 Endemic Birds of India" report

Why in news - The publication, titled "75 Endemic Birds of India," was released by the Survey of India (ZSI).

Key Points -

- Findings
 - a) India is home to 1,353 bird species (12.40% of global bird diversity).
 - b) 78 (5%)are endemic to India and do not exist in any other regions globally.
- 3 species have not been recorded in the last few decades –
 - a) Manipur Bush Quail Last seen 1907. IUCN – Endangered.
 - b) Himalayan Quail Last seen 1876. IUCN –Critically Endangered.

- c) Jerdon's Courser Last seen -2009.IUCN Critically Endangered.
- Highest endemic birds Western Ghats(28), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (25).

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. Rabindranath Tagore's 82nddeath anniversary

Why in news - Rabindranath Tagore died at the age of 80 on August 7 in 1941.

Key Points –

- He is also popular as "Gurudev" and the "Bard of Bengal."
- He served as the inspiration for the "Sri Lanka Matha" national anthem of Sri Lanka.
- Tagore establishedthe "Visva-Bharati" University at Shantiniketan in 1921.
- The first time Gandhi Ji was referred to as "Mahatma" is credited to Rabindranath Tagore in 1917.
- Tagore remained deeply critical of nationalism, a position that pitted him against Mahatma Gandhi.
- Tagore wrote a novel "The Home and the World" in 1916.

Who is Rabindranath Tagore?

Rabindranath Tagore was a poet, writer, playwright, composer, philosopher, social reformer and painter.

Early Years

Tagore was born in 1861 in a traditional Bengali family. His father was Debendranath Tagore, a famous Brahmo Samaj leader.

Honours and Awards

- He was the first non-European as well as the first lyricist to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.
- Tagore was awarded a knighthood by King George V, but he renounced it after the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre.
- The title of Gurudev was bestowed upon Rabindranath Tagore by Mahatma Gandhi.

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Contributions

- Gitanjali, Gora and Ghare-Baire are his best-known literary works.
- Tagore's famous plays include Raja, Achalayatan, Dakghar, Muktadhara and Raktakaravi.
- India's "Jana Gana Mana" and Bangladesh's "Amar Shonar Bangla" national anthems were written by him. The Sri Lankan national anthem was inspired by his work.
 - He established the Visava Bharati
- University in Shantiniketan, which was a blend of the best in the Indian and Western traditions.

2. National Handloom Day 2023

Why in news – It is observed across India on August 7.

Key Points –

- Theme Handlooms for Sustainable Fashion.
- It recognises India's rich handloom legacy and the efforts of the community of weavers engaged in the sector.
- On August 7, 1905, a historic call to encourage indigenous products during the Swadeshi movement was given.

BIHAR

1. 2ndBihar museumbiennale

Why in news – CM Nitish Kumar attended the inauguration of the 2ndedition of Bihar Museum Biennale in Patna on August 7.

Key Points -

- Artists from over 20 countries under G20 initiative were also part of the event.
- The exhibition, 'Together We Art', showcased the artworks of 19 artists from G20 countries.





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➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS ◄

- > In which country will Prime Minister Modi participate in the BRICS summit South Africa.
- Which will be honored with the Golden Eye Award at the 'Zurich Film Festival' Diane Kruger.
- ➤ The Prime Minister of which neighbouring country has announced the dissolution of the National Assembly Pakistan.
- **▶** Which state's cabinet has approved the formation of 19 new districts and 3 new divisions in the state − Rajasthan.
- India has given financial assistance of Rs 45 crore to which country for a unique digital identity project Sri Lanka.
- Who has recently launched 'Jaldost Airboat' National Aerospace Laboratories.
- Devari village in which district of Uttar Pradesh to be developed as a village tourism hub Prayagraj.
- Which union minister has launched the Port Health Organization (PHO) under Sagar Setu Sarbananda Sonowal.
- Who has jointly launched the 'Study in India' portal S. Jaishankar and Dharmendra Pradhan.
- To whom has the Geneva School of Diplomacy conferred an honorary doctorate Shashi Tharoor.