



Top 10 Current Affairs of Today - August 16, 2023

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Today's blog will be on the current affairs of 16th August 2023. So, check out the current affairs and stay up-to-date. You can download PDF also for current affairs today.

Let's check this news from 'Health' Sector. Then, we will move ahead.

Experts warn against sale and storage of herbicide Glyphosate

Experts warn pesticide sellers against sale and storage of Glyphosate due to its Cancer causing properties. Government has restricted its use and only authorised pest control operations are allowed to use it.

Key Points:

- A) 35 countries have banned or restricted use of Glyphosate.
- B) Health impacts of glyphosate range from cancer, reproductive and developmental toxicity to neurotoxicity and immunotoxicity.
- C) Glyphosate has been approved for use only in tea plantations and non plantation areas accompanying the tea crop.

About Glyphosate:

- A) Widely used herbicide used primarily in agriculture but also in forestry and lawn garden care.
- B) Made of linear carbon chains with weaker bonds.
- C) In India it goes by brand names like Roundup, Glycol and Brake.
- D) Glyphosate is degraded in soil and water by microbes and binds tightly to soil particles which prevents leaching of glyphosate into groundwater.
- E) Does not quickly degrade in plants, thus can occur in four products.



IAF inducted 4 new Heron Mark 2 Drones for Border surveillance

India inducts Four Israeli Heron Mark 2 Drones equipped With Long-Range Missiles & Weapons Systems For Enhanced Surveillance in Jammu and Kashmir and other bordering areas. It can stay in the air for 36 hours and surveillance both Pakistan and China.

Key Points:

- A) The Drones have been deployed at forward air bases in the northern sector.
- B) Squadron operating Heron mark 2 is known as the Warden of the North.
- C) Drones are equipped with satellite communications links and have beyond line of sight capacity.
- D) Multiple missions can be flown and multiple sectors can be addressed in one mission itself.

About Heron Mark 2 drones:

- A) 24 × 7 surveillance of targets.
- B) Can gather intelligence from tens of kilometres away without crossing borders.
- C) Can reach altitude of 35000 feet and speed of 150 knots.
- D) Laser illuminate enemy targets



- E) Can operate in sub zero temperatures and in any weather conditions.
- F) Equipped with air to ground missiles, air to ground anti tank weapons and bombs.



Young Male Tiger recently died of Car accident in the buffer zone of Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra

Struggling to revive the Tiger population at Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve, a young Tiger offspring of NNTRs T-14 tigress died in a road hit. It is the fourth Tiger death in roadkill in the region in less than a year.

Key Points:

- A) NNTR has 11 Tigers as per All India Tiger Estimation (AITE-2022).
- B) To augment Tiger numbers 5 tigresses will be transported in the park of which 2 are already released.
- C) The injured tiger was being shifted to Gorewada in Nagpur and he died on the way.

About Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve:

Location: Gordian district, Maharashtra

Vegetation: Tropical Dry Deciduous forest

Flora: 364 species of plants

Fauna: Tiger, Panther, Small Indian Civet, Palm civet etc.

Extras: Connected with Tiger Reserves like Pench, Kanha, Tadoba, Indravati etc.



President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG) awarded to Shri Loukrakpam Ibomcha Singh of CRPF

954 police personnel have been awarded Police medals on the occasion of Independence day. Out of which one personnel was awarded the President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG), 229 were awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG), 82 received the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (PPM) and 642 received the Police Medal for meritorious service.

Key Points:

- A) 125 personnel were posted in the Left wing Extremism affected areas.
- B) PPMG and PMG is awarded on the ground of conspicuous Gallantry in saving life and property.
- C) PPM is awarded for special distinguished record in Police Service and Police Medal for Meritorious Service is awarded for valuable service characterised by resource and devotion to duty.
- D) A total of 28 personnel from CRPF received Gallantry awards.

About President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG):

- A) Highest honour in police
- B) Established: 1951
- C) Extras: Medal is awarded annually on Republic Day and Independence Day. Originally called The President's Police and Fire Service Medal.



PM Modi congratulates winners of World's Largest Quizzes-Jigyasa

It is one of the world's largest quizzes played more than 10 lakh times in 17 languages about India's ancient civilisations values, evolution of her cultures, rich past and glorious samagam of ethos.

Key Points:

- A) Jigyasa programme is aimed at inculcating the culture of inquisitiveness and scientific temper among school students and teachers.
- B) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and The Ministry of Culture launched JIGYASA: THE AKAM QUIZ.
- C) It is hosted on state of art technology supported by AI and Machine learning.

About JIGYASA:

- A) Quiz is open to everyone across the world with participants in the age group of 13 to 18.
- B) There are 5 rounds namely Pre Qualifier round followed by District round followed by State round followed by regional round and eventually National round.
- C) Winners are eligible for a scholarship of 10 lakhs each.
- D) Available in 17 languages.



PM Modi laid the foundation stone of Sant Ravidas Temple at Badtuma, Madhya Pradesh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of a temple-cum-memorial dedicated to Sant Ravidas in Badtuma village of Sagar district in Madhya Pradesh on Saturday. The temple will be constructed at a cost of over Rs 100 crore and is expected to be completed in 1.5 years. Sant Ravidas was a 16th-century mystic poet and social reformer who is revered by the Dalit community. The temple is being built to commemorate his contributions to society.

Key Points:

- A) The memorial is steeped in the spirit of Samarsata as the soil of more than 20,000 Villages and 300 rivers have been used in it.
- B) Families from Madhya Pradesh have sent grain for Samrast Bhoj and five yatras also concluded here at Sagar.
- C) Temple will be built in Nagara Style in 10,000 square feet and a museum will also be built.

About Sant Ravidas Ji:

- A) Born: 1377, Banaras.
- B) He was a Indian mystic poet Saint of the Bhakti movement during the 15th century.
- C) He was a Poet, Social reformer and spiritual figure.



NGT orders Odisha Government to stop illegal construction along Tampara lake

National Green Tribunal, Eastern zone has directed Odisha Government not to go ahead with illegal construction around Ramsar designated site Tampara lake. It is also alleged that construction being taken up around Tampara Lake is in violation of Wetland Conservation rules 2017.

Key Points:

- A) NGT issued an interim order following a petition that alleged that in the name of promoting tourism huge construction activities had already taken place.
- B) Petition also sought computation of environmental compensation for damage.
- C) The construction projects are being taken up under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
- D) Bench of Justice B Amit and Dr Arun Kumar Verma constituted a 4 member high level committee to visit the site and submit a report.

About Tampara lake:

- A) One of the largest freshwater lakes in Odisha.
- B) Nearby Chilika Lagoon and supports 60 species of birds, 46 species of Fishes etc.
- C) Already placed in the Wetland Atlas prepared by MoefCC in 2010.

Key facts about National Green Tribunal:

- A) Formed in : 2010 under NGT Act.
- B) Type of Body: Statutory
- C) Principle Bench: New Delhi



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- D) Extras: Comprises Chairman, Judicial members and Expert members.
- E) Chairperson appointed by the Central Government in consultation with CJI.



PM Modi announced 14th August to be remembered as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

PM Modi remembered victims who lost their lives in the partition as the nation observed Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas. 75 great personalities who faced the tragedy of partition were honoured by the Ministry of Culture.

About Partition Horrors Remembrance day:

- A) It was observed for the first time on 14th August 2021.
- B) Significance of the day is that it is observed in memory of struggles and sacrifices of people during 1947 partition.
- C) The partition had left 10-20 million people displaced and left 2-3 million dead.
- D) There was large-scale violence and it created an atmosphere of hostility and suspicion between India and Pakistan.
- E) The partition was the division of British India into two independent dominions- India and Pakistan.



NASAs STEREO Spacecraft prepares a rare Earth Flyby 17 years after its launch

NASAs Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory(STEREO-A) Spacecraft launched on October 25,2006 embarked on their mission to chart Earth-like orbits around the Sun.

Key Points:

- A) The event will provide a unique opportunity for the spacecraft to collaborate with other missions near earth.
- B) Mission achieved a significant milestone when STEREO-A and STEREO- B Spacecraft reached 180 degree separation in their orbits allowing humanity to see the Sun as a complete sphere for the first time.
- C) During the flyby STEREO-A will once again combine views to achieve stereoscopic vision.

About STEREO Spacecraft:

- A) Launched: October 25, 2006
- B) Launched from: Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida.
- C) It will synthesise views with those from NASAs and ESAs SOHO and NASAs SDO.



Team India loses the T20I series 3-2 against the West Indies for the first time in History

Hardik Pandya led Indian Team lost 3 matches in a single T20I series.The test Series resulted in a 1-0 win and ODI series resulted in a 2-1 win for Subcontinent giants.

Key Points:



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- A) 5th T20I concluded with a 8 wicket win for the West Indies.
- B) It is for the first time that the Indian Team lost a T20I series in 25 months.
- C) In terms of Bilateral assignments India lost to the West Indies in 17 years.
- D) Before this India never lost three matches in a single T20I series in the team's history.

About Indian Men's Cricket Team:

Under: BCCI

Coach: Rahul Dravid

History: Test status acquired in 1931

Full member of ICC: 1926

Also called "Men in blue"



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