

## Top 10 Current Affairs of Today - August 29, 2023

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Today's blog will be on the current affairs of 29th 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 about dialogue on Trade and Investment. Then, we will move ahead.

# 3rd India-EU High level dialogue on Trade and Investment

The Third High Level Dialogue Co-chaired by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles Piyush Goyal held on 26th August, 2023. The HLD is an outcome of a decision taken at 15th India-EU Leaders Summit held in July 2020.

### Key Points:

- A) Objective was to have Ministerial Level guidance towards Bilateral trade and investment relations.
- B) Market access issue of both sides and progress made under India-EU Trade and Technology council was discussed.
- C) The upcoming MC-13 matters were also briefly discussed.

### About EU:

- A) Stands for European Union.
- B) It was founded on November 1, 1993.
- C) Its founders were Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.
- D) It is a supranational political and economic union of 27 member states located primarily in Europe.



## 6th Census report on Minor Irrigation released

The Ministry of Jal Shakti released the 6th census report on Minor Irrigation Schemes. As per report 23.14 million Minor Irrigation schemes have been reported in the country out of which 95 percent are Groundwater and 5 percent Surface water schemes.

### Key Points:

- A) Uttar Pradesh possesses the largest number of MI schemes followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- B) Ground water schemes comprises dugwells, shallow tube wells, medium tube wells and deep tube wells.
- C) The Surface Water schemes comprises Surface flow and surface lift schemes.

### About Ministry of Jal Shakti:

- A) It was formed in May 2019.
- B) It was formed by merging two Ministries, the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- C) It is being held under Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.



## REC to provide loan to DVC for Thermal Power Project

The Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise REC Limited under the Ministry of Power entered into a pact with Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for setting up a 1320 MW Thermal Power Project in Raghunathpur, West Bengal. With a combined capacity of 1320 MW, the project marks a key milestone in the energy landscape of the region.

### Key Points:

- A) Strategic partnership between REC and DVC underlines collective commitment to foster sustainable development and strengthen the power sector.
- B) REC Limited is an NBFC focusing on Power sector financing and Development across India.
- C) RECs funding illuminates every fourth bulb in India.

### About DVC:

- A) Stands for Damodar Valley Corporation.
- B) It is a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Power.
- C) It was founded on 7th July 1948 with its headquarters at Kolkata.
- D) It is engaged in power generation and transmission catering to energy needs of the Eastern region of the country.



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## 5th edition of AUSINDEX-23 at Sydney

The 5th edition of AUSINDEX maritime exercise between Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) was conducted from 22-25 August at Sydney, Australia. INS Kolkata and INS Sahyadri participated in the exercise along with HMAS Choules and HMAS Brisbane from RAN.

### Key Points:

- A) The exercise also witnessed participation of fighter aircraft and Maritime patrol aircraft.
- B) It is a biennial maritime exercise held between Indian Navy and RAN.
- C) AUSINDEX included a series of complex exercises in all three domains of maritime operations.

### About INS Sahyadri:

- A) It is a Shivalik class stealth multi role frigate built for the Indian Navy.
- B) It was Commissioned on 27th May 2005.
- C) It was built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders.



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## IAF pledges to support 765 TB patients

Indian Air Force pledges to support 765 TB patients as part of 'NI-KSHAY MITRA'. It is a part of the Indian Air Forces endeavour to contribute towards social causes that foster nation building. Air Marshal Rajesh Vaidya acknowledged the stellar role played by the National TB Elimination (NTEP) for application efforts towards elimination of TB by 2025.

### Key Points:

- A) At the event organised by Central TB Division, IAF team contributed 46 lakhs collected through voluntary contributions.
- B) Through this contribution IAF has committed to support 765 patients undergoing treatment in Delhi for a duration of 6 months.
- C) Support will be in the form of food baskets and will be implemented through government approved NGO.

### About NI-KSHAY MITRA:

- A) Initiative under Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan.
- B) It is implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- C) It seeks to eliminate TB by 2025 five years ahead of the global goal of 2030.



## Indian Women's Blind Cricket Team won Gold at IBSA World Games

The visually challenged Indian Women's cricket team scripted history winning a gold Medal beating Australia by nine wickets at the IBSA World Games. India restricted Australia for 114/8 in the allotted 20 overs and then chased down the revised target of 42 in 3.3 overs.

### Key Points:

- A) Cricket for visually challenged made its debut in International Blind Sports Federation World Games this year.
- B) It was the first final in the World Games and India won the ultimate showdown beating Australia by 9 wickets.
- C) International Blind Sports Federation World Games are being held in Birmingham in 2023.

### About IBSA:

- A) Stands for International Blind Sports Federation.
- B) It was founded in 1981.
- C) Its first congress was held at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France.



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(Image Courtesy: CABI)

## India and Iran drop foreign arbitration clause in Chabahar Port issue

India and Iran have agreed to drop foreign arbitration clause in the Chabahar Port issue and agreed to pursue arbitration under rules framed by the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). Thus both the countries would not go for commercial arbitration in foreign courts.

### Key Points:

- A) Chabahar Port is a seaport in the Sistan-Baluchistan province of Iran on the Gulf of Oman at the mouth of Strait of Hormuz.
- B) New move to pursue arbitration under rules framed by UNCITRAL will help firm up longer term agreements and boost Investor confidence in Chabahar.
- C) This major development also coincided with the BRICS grouping to admit Iran along with five other countries.

### About UNCITRAL:

- A) Stands for United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.
- B) It was established in 1966 as a subsidiary body of UNGA.
- C) It is composed of 60 members. India is a Founding member.
- D) Its objective is to further the progressive harmonisation and unification of the law of international trade.



(Image Courtesy: Tehran Times)

## Centre imposes 20 percent export duty on Parboiled Rice

The Central Government recently imposed a 20 percent export duty on Parboiled Rice. The Government of India initiated fresh measures to ensure that rice prices remain under control and overall inflation comes down. Government is also expected to notify a Minimum Export Price (MEP) for Basmati Rice pegged at Dollar 1200 a tonne.

### Key Points:

- A) All these measures are meant to slow down shipments and allay any fear of short supply in the domestic market.
- B) The move comes amid fears of reduction in domestic production due to the monsoon trend and risk of El Nino.
- C) The export duty on Parboiled Rice will be in force till October 15.

### About Parboiled Rice:

- A) Also called Converted Rice is partially precooked in its inedible husk before being processed for eating.
- B) It changes the colour of rice to a light yellow or amber.
- C) It is less nutritious than brown rice.





## Chinese Navy testing Coil Gun

The Chinese Navy is reportedly testing the Planet's most powerful Coil Gun. Coil guns also known as Magnetic accelerators could bring massive changes to the way wars are fought, paving the way for more devastating attacks on enemy targets.

### Key Points:

- A) It is a type of Electromagnetic weapon capable of launching projectiles with extremely high speed in the blink of an eye.
- B) The Coil gun accelerated 124 kg projectile in a firing test to a speed of 700 kmph in less than 0.05 seconds.
- C) It was the heaviest known projectile to be used in a Coil gun experiment.

### About Coil Guns:

- A) Also known as Gauss Guns or Magnetic Accelerators.
- B) Operates on the principle of electromagnetic induction.
- C) It has a much lower recoil.



## Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary declared as Tiger Reserve

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) cleared the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)'s in principle approval to declare Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve. It promises a significant step towards a brighter future for Tigers and biodiversity in Rajasthan.

### Key Points:

- A) The move will boost employment opportunities for the people of the region through ecotourism.
- B) The proposed Kumbhalgarh Reserve will be spread over 2800 sq kms.
- C) State government has been asked to submit proposals indicating core buffer and eco sensitive zones along with land use.

### About Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary:

- A) It is located in Rajsamand district of Rajasthan.
- B) It was declared a Wildlife sanctuary in 1971.
- C) The Wildlife Sanctuary encompasses historic Kumbhalgarh fort and divides Mewar and Marwar.



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