









Top 10 Current Affairs Questions of Today - August 18, 2024

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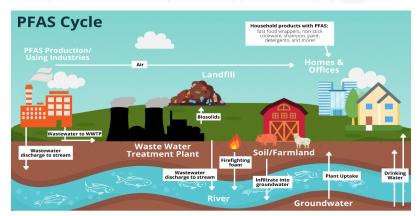
Our daily current affairs are perfect for busy people who want to stay up-to-date on the latest events. They are short, engaging, and easy to understand, and they cover a wide range of topics, from politics and business to sports and entertainment.

Today's blog will be on the current affairs of 18th August 2024. 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 (Forever Chemicals) Then, we will move ahead.

Origin of Forever Chemicals

American researchers from The University of Texas at Austin have developed a groundbreaking technique to trace "forever chemicals" (PFAS) using magnetic fields and radio waves. This method identifies chemical fingerprints by analysing carbon isotopes without breaking the molecules apart. PFAS, known for their persistence in the environment due to strong molecular bonds, are tracked more effectively with this technique. This advancement could aid in regulating these pollutants and has potential applications in diverse fields like drug detection and astrobiology.



[Image Source: Wikipedia]

Gastrodia Indica

Orchids are known for their blooming flowers, but the newly discovered Gastrodia indica in Sikkim's Fambong Lho Wildlife Sanctuary defies this norm. This unique orchid, found during a botanical expedition by Madhusudan Khanal from the G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment, never opens its flower. Described as a new species and the first cleistogamous member of its genus in India, Gastrodia indica is morphologically related to G. exilis and G. dyeriana, with key differences in floral characteristics.



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[Image Source: Wikipedia]

75 years of Geneva Conventions

The Geneva Conventions of 1949 celebrated their 75th anniversary. Their role in humanitarian law was more critical than ever amid global conflicts. Although universally agreed upon, these rules were often violated. Modern technologies and geopolitical tensions posed challenges to their application. Nonetheless, they remained a crucial framework for balancing military needs with humanitarian ideals. Their enduring relevance highlighted the necessity for universal respect and adherence, and the need to adapt their principles as conflicts evolved.



[Image Source: BBC News]

AIM-174B Missile

In response to growing tensions in the Indo-Pacific, the US has unveiled the AIM-174B, the longest-range air-to-air missile ever deployed. Officially acknowledged in July 2024, this advanced missile, an air-launched variant of the SM-6, aims to counter China's sophisticated A2/AD network and enhance US and allied military capabilities. The introduction of the AIM-174B, photographed on an F/A-18E Super Hornet aboard the USS Carl Vinson, highlights a strategic shift towards long-range stand-off attacks amid escalating regional volatility.

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[Image Source: BBC News]

50 gm of Californium seized

In Gopalganj, Bihar, the police confiscated 50 grams of a substance believed to be Californium, with an estimated value of around Rs 850 crore. Subsequent analysis by atomic scientists suggested the substance might not be radioactive. Californium, a synthetic element first created in 1950 at the University of California, Berkeley, is named after California and the university. It doesn't occur naturally and is produced by bombarding curium with helium ions. It's used in metal detectors, oil well exploration, and detecting metal fatigue.



[Image Source: Wikipedia]

3 New Ramsar Sites added

Shri Bhupendra Yadav noted that adding three new Ramsar sites—Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary and Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu, and Tawa Reservoir in Madhya Pradesh—underscores Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dedication to environmental conservation. With the total Ramsar site area now at 1,358,067.757 hectares, Yadav commended Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh and stressed the importance of a "Green Bharat." Since 2014, India has added 59 Ramsar sites, reflecting its strong focus on wetland conservation.

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[Image Source: India Today]

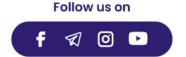
Prokaryotes resilient to Climate Change

Scientists have discovered that prokaryotes, the smallest and oldest organisms in the ocean, are highly resilient to climate change. Comprising 30% of marine life, these microscopic creatures play a crucial role in maintaining oceanic balance. New research indicates that, due to their adaptability, prokaryotes might become more dominant in marine environments as climate change progresses. This resilience underscores their potential to significantly impact ocean ecosystems in the face of global climate shifts.



[Image Source: Wikipedia]

Pradhan interacts with students of PM SHRI Schools, Prerana Programmes



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Union Minister for Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, with Minister of State Shri Jayant Chaudhary and other officials, engaged with PM SHRI Schools' students, teachers, parents, and Prerana Programme alumni during the 78th Independence Day celebrations in New Delhi. He expressed pleasure in learning about their experiences and reaffirmed the government's dedication to youth empowerment. PM SHRI Schools focus on creating a supportive learning environment, while Prerana provides inspiring, technology-driven experiences for students from classes IX to XII.



[Image Source: India Today]

Maharashtra launched Mukhyamantri Ladki Bahin Scheme

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis revealed that the 'Mukhyamantri Ladki Bahin' scheme will officially begin on August 17, just before the Raksha Bandhan festival. The scheme will provide ₹1,500 per month to over one crore eligible women aged 21 to 65 from underprivileged backgrounds, with an annual family income capped at ₹2.5 lakh. Some women have already received ₹3,000 during a trial run. Modeled after Madhya Pradesh's 'Ladli Behna Yojana,' the scheme is expected to cost ₹46,000 crore annually.



[Image Source: India Today]

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Zeeshan Ali resigns as India's Davis Cup Coach

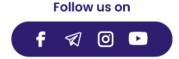
Zeeshan Ali has stepped down as coach of the Indian Davis Cup team after 11 years, with his departure coming before the upcoming tie against Sweden in Stockholm. A former junior world No. 2 and ATP Tour-ranked 126th, Zeeshan enjoyed a notable playing career cut short by injury at 25. Since then, he transitioned to coaching, leading India to World Group I with a 4-0 win over Pakistan in February and captaining the historic tie against them earlier this year.



[Image Source: India Today]

comment below your score, considering each question has 1 mark only. If you scored 8 to 10, congratulations! You are one step closer to selection. If you have scored 5 to 8 marks, then you are doing well, keep it up. If you have scored less than 5 marks then you need to work a little harder on this subject. But don't worry, we are here to help you master the subject.

Keep trying! We will meet again with another set of questions in daily current affairs quiz.



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