



FIVE RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-august

TAMIL NADU

- On August 11, Chief minister M K Stalin - announced creation of a new wing of Police 'Enforcement Bureau - Crime Investigation Department' to strengthen the fight against drugs.



- ✓ The new department is formed after merging the prohibition enforcement wing and the narcotics intelligence bureau CID to attain the target of "Drug Free Tamil Nadu"
- ✓ During the day, the Chief Minister inaugurated the programme, "Tamil Nadu Without Drugs," at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai
- ✓ Under the initiative, several awareness programme have been planned to be conducted to eradicate narcotic substances in the State.
- ✓ Later, the CM also launched a programme of creating 30 hours of continuous awareness against drugs by volunteers of NCC and NSS
- ✓ Further, the Chief Minister administered the pledge against usage and addiction of drugs.

- ✓ More than 30 lakh school and college students took pledge through video conference and this created new record for most number of students taking pledge at a single occasion.
 - ✓ The Chief Minister was presented with record certificates by the World Records Union and Asia Book of Records.
 - ✓ Ministers P K Sekar Babu and Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi were among those who participated in the event, along with chief secretary Irai Anbu, additional chief secretary K Phanindra Reddy, DGP C Sylendra Babu and Chennai police commissioner Shankar Jiwai.
- **Tamil Nadu based Karur Vysya Bank (KVB) - has been authorised as one of the banks that can accept GST remittances.**



- ✓ Accordingly, customers of KVB can remit their GST payments through the bank.
- ✓ The GST payments can be made through the internet banking facility of the bank as well as over the counter modes.
- ✓ Already KVB is an authorised bank for collection of taxes and receive customs duty payments online through ICEGATE
- ✓ Karur Vysya Bank was started in the year 1916 and performs wide range of financial services, all under one roof, and service millions of customers across the country

NATIONAL

- **Union minister of railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw - will flag off the new prototype of Vande Bharat train at Integral Coach Factory (ICF) on August 12.**
- ✓ The newly designed 16-car trainset is a lighter and modern version of the high speed train
 - ✓ During his speech, the Union Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi set a target to the Ministry of Railways to manufacture 75 trains by August 2023

- ✓ The trains can run at 180kmph under testing and will have an operational speed of 160kmph, while the subsequent versions will be designed to achieve 200kmph speed.



- ✓ The trial of the train will be conducted from Kota in Rajasthan to Nagda section of Madhya Pradesh
- ✓ The new Vande Bharat trains will get 'First-in-India' 180-degree rotating seats made by Tata Steel.
- ✓ This will be the first time India-made seats will be installed in semi-high speed trains.
- ✓ The biggest safety addition to these trains will be the provision of the Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) or Kavach to prevent signal passing at danger (SPAD) cases and unsafe situations arising due to overspeeding and train collisions in station areas
- ✓ Apart from ICF, the Vande Bharat trains will also be manufactured at the Rail Coach Factory in Kapurthala and the Modern Coach Factory in Rae Bareli.
- ✓ The Vande Bharat train now runs between Delhi and Katra, as well as Delhi and Varanasi.
- ✓ These Vande Bharat trains are being prepared to replace Shatabdi express trains

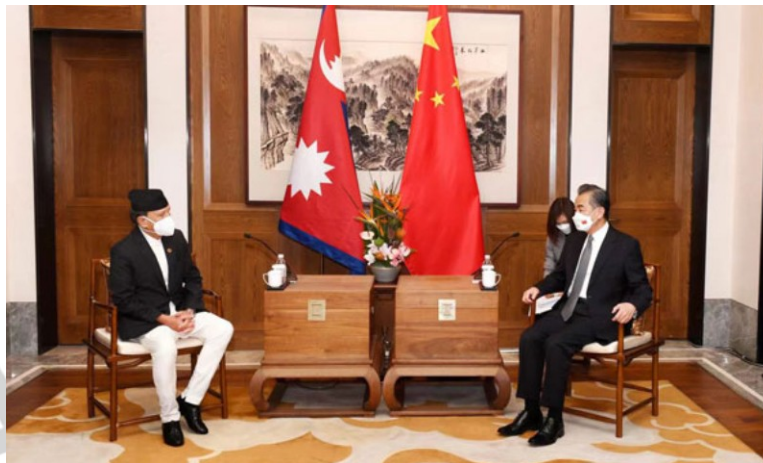
HIGH COURT VERDICT

- **In a path-breaking judgment, the Karnataka high court - ordered abolition of the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) and strengthening of the institution of Lokayukta to fight corruption in the state.**
- ✓ All investigations and inquiries conducted by ACB have been saved, and ACB's pending investigations and inquiries have been transferred to Lokayukta police.
- ✓ A two-judge division bench of justice B Veerappa and justice HS Hemalekha, in their order on August 10, came down heavily on the creation of the ACB
- ✓ On March 14, 2016, the Congress government headed by Siddaramaiah had issued a notification constituting ACB, following allegations of deep corruption in Lokayukta, in exercise of powers under Article 162 of the Constitution of India

- ✓ On March 19, 2016, another notification was issued superseding earlier notifications that gave Lokayukta police the powers of investigation under Prevention of Corruption Act.
- ✓ The Karnataka Lokayukta was established in 1985 and the state's first Lokayukta, Justice A D Koushal, was appointed in January 1986.

INTERNATIONAL

- **China and Nepal - have agreed to build the so-called Trans-Himalayan Multi-Dimensional Connectivity Network**
- ✓ The decision was taken following a high-level meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries.
- ✓ China has also pledged \$118 million in grant assistance to Nepal to invest in various projects this year



- ✓ Nepal foreign minister Narayan Khadka, who is on an official visit to China, held talks with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in the Chinese city of Qingdao to further cement the bilateral ties.
- ✓ As part of the agreement, Wang said China would finance the feasibility study of a China-Nepal cross-border railway and send experts to Nepal to conduct surveys this year.
- ✓ The network, under China's Belt and Road Initiative, will involve the building of railways and communication networks.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **On August 11, India and Bangladesh - agreed to further step up their bilateral defence ties, with greater military-to-military engagements, capacity-building and defence-industrial cooperation.**
- ✓ This was decided during the 4th India-Bangladesh annual defence dialogue (ADD) held in New Delhi
- ✓ The meeting was co-chaired by defence secretary Ajay Kumar and the principal staff officer of Bangladesh's armed forces division Lt-General Waker-Uz-Zaman.



- ✓ Both sides emphasised the need to work closely to implement the \$500 million line of credit extended from India for defence items.
- ✓ The Defence Secretary invited the Bangladeshi delegation for the upcoming Def-Expo 2022 and commended the Bangladeshi side for their efforts in UN peace keeping

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **On August 10, the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) – said it had successfully test-fired the Low Altitude Escape Motor (LEM) of the crew escape system, from Sriharikota.**
- ✓ The Crew Escape System (CES) takes away the Crew module of Gaganyaan mission in case of any eventuality and rescues the astronauts.
- ✓ In case of mission-abort during the initial phase of flight, LEM provides required thrust to CES, to take away Crew Module from the launch vehicle.
- ✓ The testing of LEM is another important milestone in the Gaganyaan project.
- ✓ LEM is a distinctive special purpose solid rocket motor with four reverse flow nozzles.

DEFENCE

- **India - has hosted a French Air and Space Force contingent for a two-day technical stopover at the IAF airbase at Sulur in Tamil Nadu.**
- ✓ The French contingent is on a long-distance deployment mission named Pégase-22 to New Caledonia in the Pacific Ocean from August 10 to 18.
- ✓ The French contingent includes three Rafale fighter jets and support aircraft
- ✓ The operation demonstrated a high level of mutual trust and interoperability between the French and Indian Air Forces
- ✓ It also signified the implementation of the reciprocal logistics support agreement signed by France and India in 2018

- ✓ Apart from France, India has such reciprocal military logistics pact with the US, Australia, Japan, South Korea and Singapore.
- ✓ The French contingent will also take part in the multinational “Pitch Black” air combat exercise in Australia from August 17 to September 10.
- ✓ India is also dispatching four Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jets, a C-17 Globemaster-III strategic airlifter and an IL-78 mid-air refueling aircraft for the Australian exercise
- ✓ The exercise will see around 100 aircraft and 2,500 military personnel from 17 nations

APPOINTMENTS

- **The government - has reappointed four independent directors on the board of the RBI for another four years**
- ✓ This includes RSS ideologue S Gurumurthy and cooperative movement veteran Satish K Marathe, who have been re-nominated for a further period of four years with effect from August 11, 2022
- ✓ Besides, the Centre also re-nominated Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi as part-time, non-official directors on the central board of the RBI
 - ✓ Their appointment will be for a further period of four years after completion of the present tenure on September 18, 2022
- ✓ Further, Iyer and Chaturvedi have been re-appointed as a Member of the Northern Local Board and on the Eastern Local Board of the RBI for a further period of four years after completion of their present tenure on September 18, 2022
- ✓ In June, the government nominated Mahindra and Mahindra group Chairman Anand Mahindra, TVS Motors Chairperson Venu Srinivasan, Zydus Lifesciences’ Chairman Pankaj Patel, and Ravindra Dholakia, a former member of the Monetary Policy Committee, as part-time non-official directors on the central board of the RBI
- ✓ As per RBI’s website, the role of board members is to advise the central Board on local matters and represent the territorial and economic interests of local cooperative and indigenous banks
- ✓ They are also mandated to perform such other functions as delegated by the central board from time to time
- ✓ RBI board members do not engage themselves in monetary policy matters, but provide a broader vision for the central bank.

