



## **FIVE RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-august**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- **Chief minister M K Stalin - is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on August 17**
  - ✓ During the meeting, the CM will hand over a memorandum seeking the Centre's support for Tamil Nadu's welfare.
  - ✓ According to the CM, his visit to Delhi is aimed at getting requisite projects for the state.
  - ✓ He will thank PM Modi for gracing the inaugural event of 44th Chess Olympiad in Chennai, which was held from July 28 to August 10.
  - ✓ Further, the CM is expected to meet President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, who was sworn in as the 14th Vice President of India on August 11
  - ✓ The meeting comes four months after the CM called on PM and submitted 14-point charter of demands
  
- **The department of humanities and social sciences in IIT Madras - has launched a Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems recently.**
  - ✓ The centre will focus on mathematics and astronomy in India, architectural engineering, Vastu and Silpa-sastra, Indian political and economic thought, Indian aesthetics and grammatical traditions.
  - ✓ The centre will publish research related to Indian knowledge systems
  - ✓ It will also design and offer courses to IIT Madras students and familiarise various aspects of Indian knowledge systems.
  - ✓ The key outcomes envisaged from this centre include research output, teaching output and public outreach.
  - ✓ It is funded by the Indian Knowledge Systems division of the ministry of education, government of India.

- ✓ The centre was inaugurated by Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi and Kumar Tuhin, Director General, Indian Council of Cultural Relations, New Delhi.

## INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **China's high-tech 'dual use spy' vessel Yuan Wang 5 - docked at Sri Lanka's Hambantota port on August 16 despite objections raised by India.**
- ✓ The tracking and satellite support vessel will stay in Sri Lankan waters from August 16-22.



- ✓ On July 12, Sri Lanka's foreign ministry had first cleared the arrival of Yuan Wang 5 at Hambantota Port.
- ✓ However, the Chinese vessel's visit to Hambantota Port, initially scheduled for August 11 and 17, was deferred after India raised objections with the Sri Lanka government
- ✓ Hambantota Port in China is located around 250 km from Colombo and was built with the help of high-interest Chinese loans.
- ✓ China has taken Hambantota Port for a 99-year lease as a debt swap with Sri Lanka.
- ✓ Yuan Want 5, designated as a research and survey vessel, was built in 2007 and has a capacity of 11,000 tones.
- ✓ The vessel has state-of-the-art technology, making it one of the newest generations of tracking ships in the Chinese Navy
- ✓ It can track the launch of satellites, rocket launchers, and also intercontinental ballistic missiles.
- ✓ Using this vessel, China can collect information about India's military bases in the peninsula, the navy, and nuclear submarine bases in South India, including Kalpakkam and Kudankulam.
- ✓ It has the capability and the range to keep tabs on strategic military establishments, including nuclear ones, in the peninsular region.

- ✓ Ports in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra alongwith Isro's launch centre in Chandipur lies within the snooping radar of this Chinese vessel.
- ✓ China already has the world's largest Navy with 355 warships and submarines
- ✓ It has been searching for logistical bases in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) after establishing its first overseas base at Djibouti on the Horn of Africa in August 2017.
- ✓ China, of course, also has readily available access to Karachi and Gwadar ports in Pakistan.

## DEFENCE

- **On August 16, defence Minister Rajnath Singh - symbolically handed over around a dozen indigenously developed equipment and systems to the Army in the presence of Army Chief General Manoj Pande in New Delhi**



- ✓ The list of equipment includes the long delayed 'future infantry soldier as a system' (F-INSAS) to robust assault boats called 'landing craft assault' (LCA) for Pangong Tso (lake)
- ✓ These equipment were developed by DRDO, defence PSUs and private companies in conjunction with the Army
- ✓ Under the F-INSAS project, the soldiers will get modern fighting equipment that are cost-effective, lightweight, needs low maintenance cost and suitable for all weather and terrain conditions
  - ✓ Apart from AK-203 assault rifle, F-INSAS system also include ballistic helmet, goggles and bulletproof jackets
  - ✓ F-INSAS system was created in year 2005, under Infantry Vision 2020.
- ✓ The systems also included mini remotely-piloted aerial systems (RPAS), quick-reaction fighting vehicles, commander thermal imaging sights for T-90 main-battle tanks, 'Nipun' anti-personnel mines, advanced hand-held thermal imagers and rugged communication systems.
  - ✓ Nipun Anti-Personnel Mines have been developed by collaboration of Armament Research and Development Establishment

- ✓ The Army already has boats for patrolling the Pangong Tso, the 134-km long lake at an altitude of 13,900-feet, where troop disengagement with China took place on the two banks in February 2021.
- ✓ The new infantry-protected mobility vehicles and quick-reaction fighting vehicles, will ensure quicker deployment and mobility of Indian troops in eastern Ladakh.

## SPORTS

- **Chennai-based badminton star Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian - became the new World No. 1 in the boys singles category on August 16, according to the latest rankings released by the Badminton World Federation (BWF).**
- ✓ The 18-year old Sankar is the first shuttler from Tamil Nadu to achieve this feat and fourth Indian after Aditya Joshi (Madhya Pradesh) in 2014, Siril Verma of Telangana in 2016 and Lakshya Sen of Uttarakhand in 2017.



- ✓ Among them, only Lakshya went on to make it big on the senior circuit.
- ✓ Sankar benefited from BWF's decision to defreeze the ranking points this August after the All England Championships in March 2020 due to the pandemic situation.
- ✓ With Tasnim Mir of Gujarat the No.1 in the junior girls category, there are two No.1s from India at the junior level.
- ✓ Only Saina Nehwal in 2015 and Kidambi Srikanth in 2018 achieved this feat in the senior category.
- ✓ Despite her splendid achievements, where she had won almost everything in the world except the Olympic gold, P V Sindhu could reach only the No. 2 spot.
- ✓ Sankar trains at the Fireball Badminton Academy in Chennai under Aravindan Samiappan.
- ✓ He won the Junior White Nights tournament in Russia in 2021 and triumphed at the Iran Junior International Series the same year.
- ✓ He finished runner-up to Varun Kapur, another promising shuttler, at the Uganda International Tournament.

- **On August 16, Fifa, the governing body for world football - suspended the All India Football Federation for “undue interference by a third party”**
- ✓ This is the first instance of its suspension, since the federation was formed in 1937.
- ✓ Since May 18, 2022, the AIFF is being run by a three-member committee of administrators (CoA), appointed by the Supreme Court
- ✓ The CoA was appointed after removing Praful Patel and his executive committee, whose term ended in December 2020.
- ✓ The appointment of CoA is considered third-party interference and goes against Fifa statutes that asks all countries to “manage its affairs independently.”
- ✓ The suspension means no Indian team, club or country, can play international matches.
- ✓ Crucially, India will lose hosting rights of the FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup, scheduled to kick off on October 11 later this year.
- ✓ CoA has agreed to conduct elections with an electoral college of just state association representatives, have a bigger executive committee of 23 members and, crucially, include six ‘eminent’ players in the executive committee as co-opted members, rather than give 36 of them voting rights.
- ✓ Former India captains Bhaichung Bhutia, IM Vijayan, Shabbir Ali and Climax Lawrence (men), besides Bembem Devi, and Pinky Bompal Magar (women) will be co-opted into the AIFF executive committee.
- ✓ On August 3, the Supreme Court in its order asked AIFF to conduct elections expeditiously with 36 eminent players – 24 men and 12 women -getting voting rights for the first time, a violation of FIFA statutes.
- ✓ Instead, after the Supreme Court order on August 3, CoA launched the electoral process by having a 72-member electoral college which included 36 state association representatives and 36 players.

