



FIVE **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-august**

NATIONAL

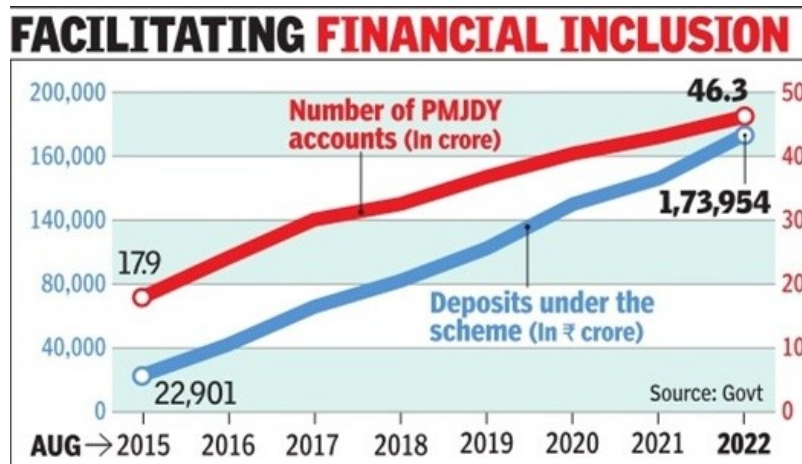
- On August 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed the nation in the 92nd edition of Mann Ki Baat, his monthly radio speech that is broadcast on the last Sunday of every month



- ✓ During the speech, PM Modi spoke about the importance of millets and said that the coming year 2023 will be celebrated as the International Year of Millets
- ✓ The U.N. General Assembly on April 2021 adopted a resolution which was sponsored by India and backed by 70 nations and declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
- ✓ The objective of the resolution is to increase public awareness about the health benefits of millets.
- ✓ PM Modi said that millets or coarse grains have been a part of India's agriculture, culture and civilization since ancient times
- ✓ Millets are mentioned in Vedas, and similarly, they are also mentioned in Purananuru and Tolkappiyam.
- ✓ Regarding the millets, Sridevi Varadhrajan from Chennai sent the prime minister a reminder through the MyGov app.
- ✓ She also sent a "Millet Map" and requested PM Modi to discuss the same on his radio show.

- ✓ Different types of Millets are found in India namely Jowar, Bajra, Ragi, Sawan, Kangni, Cheena, Kodo, Kutki, Kuttu, etc.
- ✓ India is the largest producer of Millets in the world, which are categorised as "superfood" .
- ✓ Millets are beneficial for the farmers and especially the small farmers as these crops get ready in a very short time, and does not require much water either.
- ✓ Being climate-resilient crops, millets are the most secure crops for small farmers as these crops are hardiest and adaptable in harsh, hot and drought conditions
- ✓ Millets are also very beneficial in fighting malnutrition, since they are packed with energy as well as protein
- ✓ PM Modi also asked general public to share the pictures of millet delicacies made in homes on social media and help in increasing awareness among people about Millets
- ✓ Further, the PM said that India has planned 19 events at global venues in countries such as Germany, Belgium, USA, Japan, UAE and others to promote millets and millet-based products
- ✓ As part of multiple activities on promotional front within the country, four metros — Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Bengaluru — will have millet expo
- ✓ A total of 19 districts across 10 states will see multiple activities, including 'millet village tourism' as a larger goal to promote millets both among farmers and consumers
- ✓ Besides, the government has also planned an international conference on millet processing in January and mega food events with special focus on millets in October next year
- ✓ There is also a plan to set up the International School of Millet Processing (ISMP) in Thanjavur.
- ✓ Among other topics, PM Modi spoke about various festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi, Onam, Nuakhai and Samvatsari Parva
- ✓ He also reminded everyone of Major Dhyanchand Jayanti on August 29, celebrated as National Sports Day
- ✓ Further, PM Modi spoke about a fruit called Himalayan Fig, aka Bedu, which contains minerals and vitamins in large quantities.
- ✓ PM Modi later talked about the launch of 4G internet services in the Jorsing village in Arunachal Pradesh
- ✓ PM Modi spoke highly of Project Sampoorna in Bongaigaon, Assam that aimed to fight malnutrition.
 - ✓ Under the project, the mother of a healthy child meets the mother of a malnourished child and discusses nutrition.
- ✓ PM urged people to take part in efforts to eradicate malnutrition during the month of September which is observed as a 'Poshan Maah' every year
- ✓ He also appreciated the Mera Baccha Abhiyan in Datia, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Under this, awareness is raised through Bhajan-Kirtan programmes, where teachers are termed as Poshan Guru.

- ✓ PM Modi recited a shloka from the Rig Veda that spoke about the importance of water preservation
 - ✓ Further, the PM urged people to watch the serial 'Swaraj' in Doordarshan, which highlights the contributions of freedom fighters, especially the unsung heroes.
 - ✓ The first ever Mann ki baat show of the Prime Minister was telecasted on October 3, 2014
- **The University Grants Commission - is planning the launch of a new centralised portal called 'e-Samadhan' to monitor and address the grievances of students and teaching/non-teaching staff of educational institutions.**
- ✓ The platform, which will be operational next week, will act as a new student online grievance registering and monitoring platform
 - ✓ It ensures transparency, prevents unfair practices in Higher Education Institutions and provides a time-bound mechanism for redressal of the grievances
 - ✓ People can file their grievances, including non-refund of fees, irregularities in admissions and withholding of degrees, diplomas and certificates by institutions, on the platform
 - ✓ Under the initiative, UGC has also set definite timelines for addressing the grievances.
 - ✓ For student-related matters, the deadline has been fixed at ten working days.
 - ✓ For teaching and non-teaching issues, the issue needs to be addressed within 15 days.
 - ✓ For any matter related to the university or college, a maximum time limit of 20 days is allowed.
 - ✓ Further, a toll free No. 1800-111-656 will also be available on UGC website 24×7 for lodging complaints by the stake holders on any issue faced by them
- **The total number of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) - accounts stands at 46.3 crore as on August 10**



- ✓ Out of this, 55.6% (25.7 crore) are women account holders and 66.8% (30.9 crore) accounts are in rural and semi-urban areas, according to government data.
- ✓ Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman spoke on the completion of eight years of the landmark scheme - PMJDY
- ✓ According to the government data, PMJDY accounts have grown threefold from 14.7 crore in March 2015 to 46.3 crore as on August 10.
- ✓ In August '22, out of total 46.3 crore PMJDY accounts, 37.6 crore (81.2%) are operative and only 8.2% of PMJDY accounts are zero-balance accounts.
- ✓ The total deposit balances under PMJDY accounts stand at Rs 1,73,954 crore and deposits have increased about 7.6 times with increase in accounts 2.6 times (August 2022 / August 2015).
- ✓ The average deposit per account is Rs 3,761 and it has increased over 2.9 times over August 2015.
- ✓ The total RuPay cards issued to PMJDY account holders were 31.9 crore and the number of cards and their usage has increased over time.
- ✓ About 5.4 crore PMJDY account holders receive direct benefit transfer (DBT) from the government under various schemes.

DEFENCE

- **On August 28, two advanced light helicopters (ALH MK III) stationed in Chennai - took part in the National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise (Sarex 2022) off the Chennai coast**



- ✓ The two-day exercise was conducted under the national maritime search and rescue board and is hosted by the Indian coast guard
- ✓ The 10th edition of the exercise focused on capacity building towards handling emergencies.
- ✓ The Search and Rescue exercise at sea included 16 ICG Ships, 1 Naval Ship, 6 ICG Dornier aircraft, 1 Naval ALH and 1 Indian Air Force Helicopter, Passenger Vessel Swarajdeep, 1 tug from Chennai Port Trust & a boat from customs
- ✓ As many as 24 observers from 16 foreign countries attended the exercise.
- ✓ The Dornier aircraft of the ICG demonstrated ways of rescuing passengers during emergencies in the sea by dropping inflatable rafts in the water.

- ✓ For the first time, Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX) focused on large-scale disasters at sea involving thousands of people.
- ✓ The theme of this year's SAREX edition is 'Capacity Building Towards Marine Passenger Safety'
- **The defence ministry - has approved another list that bans imports of 780 sub-systems which are being manufactured by defence PSUs, from December 2023 to December 2028**
- ✓ The new notification approved by defence minister Rajnath Singh is in continuation of the first two such lists, which contained 458 items, announced in December 2021 and March 2022.
- ✓ The sub-systems include components or 'line replacement units (LRUs)' of weapon systems and platforms
- ✓ Many of the LRUs identified are for Russian-origin hardware like T-90S main-battle tanks, Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jets, AN-32 transport aircraft and Konkurs-M antitank guided missiles, manufactured under licence by defence PSUs.
- ✓ It also includes components of indigenous platforms like Tejas light combat aircraft, Arjun mainbattle tanks and Dhruv advanced light helicopters.

ECONOMY

- **On August 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - laid the foundation stone of Maruti Suzuki Vehicle Manufacturing Facility in Kharkhoda, Haryana and Suzuki EV Battery Plant in Hansalpur, Gujarat at an event in Gandhinagar to mark 40 years of Suzuki Motor Company in India**



- ✓ Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala, Central ministers and MPs attended the event.
- ✓ Suzuki Motor Corporation's President Toshihiro Suzuki was also present during the occasion
- ✓ During his speech, Suzuki said that the Japanese carmaker has set up a new wholly owned subsidiary in India — Suzuki R&D Centre — which will help develop fresh capabilities for India and global markets.
- ✓ The new company will strengthen ties with Indian academic institutes and startups to develop diverse human resources for the group.
- ✓ The vehicle manufacturing plant in Kharkhoda — the largest in the world — will have the potential to make 1 million cars & SUVs a year.
 - ✓ This makes it one of the largest automobile manufacturing facilities at a single location in the world.
 - ✓ The first phase of the project will be set up with an investment of Rs 11,000 crore.
 - ✓ This is the third Maruti Suzuki plant in Haryana after Gurugram and Manesar.
- ✓ At present, about 50% of the cars made in India are manufactured in Haryana.
- ✓ The second project is the Suzuki Motor Gujarat electric vehicle (EV) battery manufacturing facility at Hansalpur, being set up with an investment of around Rs 7,300 crore to make advanced chemistry cell (lithion ion) batteries for EVs.
- ✓ Maruti aims to hit a production of 2 million cars this year on an installed capacity of 2.2 million units.

AWARDS

- **On August 28, Divita Rai - was crowned LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2022 at the Miss Diva Universe pageant held at the Famous Studios, Mahalaxmi, in Mumbai.**
- ✓ With the win, Rai will represent India at the global pageant of Miss Universe



- ✓ The model, who hails from Karnataka, was crowned by Miss Universe 2021 Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu
- ✓ Rai, born in Mangalore, is an architect and model by profession
- ✓ Telangana's Pragnya Ayyagari was crowned LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2022 and she will represent India at Miss Supranational
- ✓ Ojasvi Sharma was adjudged the LIVA Miss Popular Choice 2022.
- ✓ For her remarkable achievement of making India proud globally, Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu was awarded the Pride of India trophy by the Times of India Group ownership.
- ✓ The ceremony, which marked the 10th anniversary of the coveted pageant, also celebrated the achievements of former Miss Universe Lara Dutta as well as personalities such as Meher Castelino, Sangeeta Bijlani and Tanushree Dutta, among others.

SPORTS

- **Denmark's Viktor Axelsen - won his second world badminton championship after beating first-time finalist Kunlavut Vitidsarn on August 28 in Tokyo, Japan**
- ✓ The Tokyo 2020 Olympics Gold medallist, Axelsen stretched his winning streak to 37 matches, not having lost since March.
- ✓ Axelsen now simultaneously holds the Olympic, World Championship, World Tour crowns, and the last three Super 1000 titles on the Badminton World Federation World Tour
- ✓ Kunlavut, a three-time world junior champion, was the first Thai man to reach the final.



- ✓ Akane Yamaguchi won her second straight women's world title after overcoming Olympic champion Chen Yufei in three sets.
- ✓ The world number one became the first Japanese player to win back-to-back women's singles Badminton World Championships
- ✓ Malaysia's Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik won the first gold of the day as they beat Indonesia's Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan in the men's doubles final.

- ✓ Chinese top seeds Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan won the women's doubles tournament in straight games against South Korean duo Kim So-yeong and Kong Hee-yong
- ✓ Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong were the second Chinese champions of the day as they beat Yuta Watanabe and Arisa Higashino of Japan to secure mixed doubles glory.
- **On August 27, James Anderson - became the most successful pace bowler in the history of international cricket.**
- ✓ The 40-year-old pace legend accomplished this feat in the second Test against South Africa in Manchester's Old Trafford.
- ✓ Anderson overtake Glenn McGrath (949 wickets) to become the sport's leading pacer.
- ✓ In 287 matches, Anderson has taken 951 wickets.

MOST INTERNATIONAL WICKETS BY PACERS (800-PLUS)

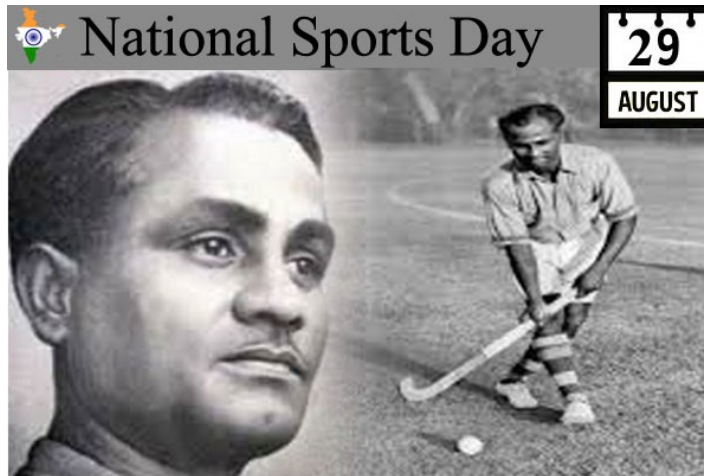
Bowler	For	M	Wkts	Ave
J Anderson	Eng	387	951	27.18
G McGrath	Aus/ICC	376	949	21.76
W Akram	Pak	460	916	23.57
S Pollock	SA/ICC/Afr	423	829	23.73
S Broad	Eng	335	802	28.04



- ✓ He is also the fourth most successful bowler in international cricket.
- ✓ The most successful bowlers are Sri Lankan spin wizard, Muttiah Muralidaran (1,347 wickets), late Aussie spin great Shane Warne (1,001 wickets) and Indian spin great Anil Kumble (956 wickets).

INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL DAY

- **National Sports Day (NSD) – August 29**
- ✓ The NSD is observed annually marking the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, the hockey wizard of India.
- ✓ The main aim behind the observance of NSD is to raise awareness about the benefits of sports and physical activities in our day to life.
- ✓ The day is also dedicated to the nations' sports heroes and champions, honoring their contribution and dedication towards bringing laurels to the country.
- ✓ The day was first observed in 2012 as a tribute to Major Dhyanchand, who scored a record 570 goals in his career.



- ✓ Major Dhyan Chand played a crucial role in India's gold medal victory at the Olympics three consecutive times – 1928, 1932, and 1936.
- ✓ He was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian award in 1956.
- ✓ In 1979, the Indian Postal Department issued special stamps to honour the magician of hockey
- ✓ His autobiography "Goal!" was published by Sport & Pastime (Madras) in 1952.
- ✓ On this day, outstanding sportspersons of the country are honoured with recognitions like Arjuna Award, Dhyan Chand Award, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and Dronacharya Award
- ✓ The awards are presented by the President of India at a ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ✓ This year, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports would be conducting the 'Meet The Champion' initiative in 26 schools across the country on August 29.
- ✓ Athletes including Commonwealth Games (CWG) and World Championships Gold Medalist Nikhat Zareen, Paralympics and CWG medalist Bhavina Patel, Tokyo Olympics and CWG medalist Manpreet Singh would be part of the initiative
- ✓ On this day, Schools/Colleges/Ministries/Govt & Pvt Organisations should encourage their students/employees/staff to take part in sports/fitness activities for at least 1 hour.

➤ **International Day against Nuclear Tests – August 29**



- ✓ The Day aims to raise awareness about the devastating effects of nuclear weapons testing and achieve a nuclear-weapons-free world
- ✓ The day was first declared by the United Nations during the 64th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on December 2, 2009
- ✓ This resolution was initiated by Kazakhstan to celebrate the 18th anniversary of the closing of the USSR-controlled Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site, which took place in Kazakhstan in 1991.
- ✓ The inaugural observance of the International Day against Nuclear Tests was in the year 2010
- ✓ On July 16, 1945, during World War II, the United States detonated the world's first nuclear weapon, codenamed Trinity, over the New Mexico desert.
- ✓ Less than a month later, the US dropped two atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing more than 100,000 people instantly on August 6 and 9 in 1945, respectively
- ✓ In 1970, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons came into force and more than 190 UN member states are active party to it.
- ✓ Further, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) was adopted on 10 September 1996, but not ratified by all UN member states.
- ✓ Nine countries possessed roughly 12,700 warheads as of early 2022, according to the Federation of American Scientists.
- ✓ Out of this, approximately 90% are owned by Russia (5,977 warheads) and the US (5,428 warheads).

