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**ENGLISH  
AUGUST- 2019**

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**Centres :** Chennai - Annanagar & Adyar | Salem | Madurai | Trichy | Coimbatore | Namakkal.

## **AUGUST – 2019**

### **TAMIL NADU**

#### 1) **TAMILNADU CHIEF MINISTER'S INDEPENDENCE DAY AWARDS WINNERS:**

<b>Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Award</b>	K Sivan - ISRO Chairman
<b>Kalpana Chawla Award</b>	P Ramyalakshmi
<b>CM's special award for extraordinary Courage</b>	P Shanmugavelu and Senthamarai (Tirunelveli District)
<b>CM Good Governance Award</b>	Greater Chennai Police Commissionerate – for developing CCTV cum <b>Facetagr application</b> for detection of crimes in Chennai city
<b>Best Town Panchayat</b>	First Prize – T. Kallupatti (Madurai)
	Second Prize – Nannilam (Tiruvarar)
	Third prize – Bhavanisagar (Erode)
<b>Best Municipal Corporation</b>	Salem Municipality
<b>Best Municipalities</b>	First Prize – Dharmapuri
	Second Prize - Vedaranyam
	Third prize - Aranthangi

- 2) On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami announced the split of Vellore district into **Vellore, Ranipet and Tirupattur districts**.
- 3) **Pallavan Village Bank** got the **ASSOCHAM's SKOCH award for being the Best Grama Bank**.
- 4) **M Karthikeyan and M Maharajan a two-member committee** to inspect and report the condition of the 'Anantha Saras' tank from where Athi Varadar's idol is taken out once every 40 years.
- 5) Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurated **Underground fossil museum** at **Varanavasi near Ariyalur**
- 6) On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami launched a new scheme **"Chief Minister Special Grievance Redressal Programme"**

- 7) **Amma Patrol Vehicles** launched distinct pink colour for the safety of women and children in Chennai.
- 8) **Tamil Nadu** is the highest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) in the entire country
- 9) Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami named the 4 new born Tiger cubs in Vandalur Zoo namely, **Mithran, Yuga, Venmathi and Rithwik**

### **NATIONAL**

- 1) **Article 370 and 35 (A) Revoked:** On **5<sup>th</sup> August 2019**, the President of India promulgated the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019.
  - ✓ According to the Order, provisions of the Indian Constitution are now applicable in the State.
  - ✓ This Order comes into force “at once”, and shall “supersede the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954”
  - ✓ **A separate Bill: The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill 2019** was introduced to bifurcate the State into two separate union territories of **Jammu and Kashmir (with legislature), and Ladakh (without legislature).**
  - ✓ **Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019** was also introduced to extend the reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in educational institutions and government jobs in Jammu and Kashmir.
- 2) **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** announced the appointment of a **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)** in his Independence Day speech
- 3) **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** announced the launch of **“Jal Jeevan Mission”** to bring piped water to households
- 4) **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** is all set to appear on the popular show, “Man vs. Wild” at 9 pm on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019. It has been shot in Jim Corbett National park, Uttarakhand
- 5) **“Didi ke bolo” campaign:** West Bengal Chief minister, Mamta Banerjee launched ‘Didi ke bolo’ campaign **to address the public grievances and other social issues in the state**

- 6) **West Bengal** government has launched **“Save Green, Stay Clean”** campaign
- 7) Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel, Dharmendra Pradhan has recently launched **Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC)** in New Delhi *to encourage the spirit of innovation at the community level.*
- 8) **New Delhi** CM announced free electricity for people consuming up to 200 units under a domestic connection
- 9) **Maharashtra** has become the India’s 1<sup>st</sup> state to **adopt a digital fingerprint and iris scanning system in police investigations.**
- 10) India’s 1<sup>st</sup> 3D Smart Traffic Signal **“Intelights”** has launched in Mohali, Punjab.
- 11) **Rajasthan** has launched a new higher education model **“Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE)”** for distribution of faculties and movable assets among the government colleges at the district level to rationalize the availability of resources.
- 12) Union Ministry of Railways launched **CORAS (Commando for Railway Security)** of Indian Railways
- 13) **Delhi** has launched **“Oral History Programme”** that seeks to record oral histories of the city as told by its senior citizens.
- 14) The Manipur government has appointed a 9 – year old girl **Valentina Elangbam** as the **State’s green ambassador** after a video of her crying over felled trees goes viral.
- 15) **Madhya Pradesh** government has announced to waive loans taken by tribals from money lenders.
- 16) **Madhya Pradesh** government has announced **“Chief Minister Madad Yojna”** for providing assistance to tribal families on child birth and death of a family member.
- 17) **Kerala** government to help the Netherlands to address the acute shortage of nurses in the European nation.
- 18) The **Union Government** approved to extend the **10% reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS)** in government jobs and educational institutions to Jammu & Kashmir.



- 19) The Union Government launched **“One Nation One Ration Card”** scheme in four states Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019
- 20) **Mission Shakti:** Maharashtra Government launched **“Mission Shakti”** to train athletes from tribal areas for international sports events.
- 21) **Uttar Pradesh government** banned all prayers and religious gatherings on road which obstruct smooth flow of traffic.
- 22) **Gogabeel** has been declared as Bihar’s first **‘Community Reserve’**
- 23) Punjab Education Dept formed rationalization policy for school teachers in state. It has been introduced to ensure proper pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) as well as optimum utilisation of the available strength of the teaching faculty in the best interest of students.
- 24) The next round of **recording biometric and family-tree details** of Indian citizens under the **National Population Register (NPR)** will be conducted in September 2020.
- 25) Simultaneous elections refer to holding **elections to Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, Panchayats and Urban local bodies** simultaneously, once in five year.
- 26) **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** has published an Indian Standard for identification, marking and labelling of **Pashmina products to certify its purity.**





### **INTERNATIONAL**

- 1) The United States has officially withdrawn from Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty with **Russia**.
- 2) On 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Pakistan suspended the **Lahore – Attari Samjhauta Express train service** following the revocation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir (J & K)
- 3) **Saudi Arabia** allows women to apply for a passport and travel freely without the consent of males
- 4) **World's highest lake:** The **Kajin Sara lake** in Manang district of Nepal is said to be the world's highest lake

### **ECONOMICS**

- 1) The State Bank of India's (SBI) Shanghai branch has become the **1<sup>st</sup> Indian bank** to link up with China's National Advance Payment System (CNAPS).
- 2) **Saudi Aramco** to acquire a **20% stake in Reliance Industries** refining and petrochemical businesses for \$15 billion.
- 3) **Sabka Vishwas (Legacy Dispute Resolution) Scheme, 2019** announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget to be operationalised from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.
- 4) In the Union budget, Finance Minister proposed a **social stock exchange (SSE) under the regulatory ambit of the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** to support social enterprises and non-profits in raising funds.

### **SPORTS**

- 1) P.V. Sindhu became the **1<sup>st</sup> Indian to win badminton World Championships** gold by beating Nozomi Okuhara of Japan
- 2) Former Indian Cricketer **"Kapil Dev"** has been honoured with **Bharat Gaurav Award**
- 3) **Chepauk Super Gillies** won the 4<sup>th</sup> Tamil Nadu Premier League.
- 4) **Deepa Malik** became the **1<sup>st</sup> woman and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Paralympian** to be recommended for the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award**

- 5) **Mary Kom** wins gold in president's cup held in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia.
- 6) **khelo India youth games 2020** to be held in **Guwahati**
- 7) **India** won the **T20 Physical Disability World Cricket Series** 2019 after defeating England
- 8) Prime Minister launches **nation-wide Fit India Movement** on the occasion of National Sports Day.

### SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

SUMMITS / CONFERENCES	PURPOSE / THEME / OUTCOME	PLACE	DATE
<b>52<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting</b>		Bangkok, Thailand	
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on e - Governance</b>	<b>THEME:</b> Digital India: Success to Excellence	Shillong, Meghalaya	8 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2019
<b>18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)</b>	The Indian star tortoise, smooth-coated otters and Asian small-clawed otters was upgraded to CITES Appendix I giving it the highest level of international protection from commercial trade.	Geneva, Switzerland	
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Ministerial meeting on Climate Change</b>		Sao Paulo, Brazil	

### SCHEMES / YOJANAS

SCHEMES / YOJANAS	PURPOSE / Why in News?	MINISTRY / CABINET / STATE
<b>Vhali Dikri Yojna</b>	For the welfare of girl child	Gujarat
<b>Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM Kusum) Scheme</b>	Aims to provide energy security along with financial and water security to farmers	The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)



## INDICES

INDEX	PURPOSE / RELEASED BY	INDIA's RANKING	TOP RANKING
Global GDP ranking	World Bank	7	USA

## COMMITTEES

<b>N Gopalaswami Committee</b>	The University Grants Commission (UGC) has recommended the grant of the Institute of Eminence (IoE) status to 20 institutions.
<b>Mukundakam Sharma Committee</b>	The Centre has constituted a 12-member selection panel for national sports awards to eminent athletes and coaches this year
<b>Inter State Council has been reconstituted</b> (Chairman + 6 Union Ministers + All CM Members)	<b>Members of the reconstituted council are:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Amit Shah,</li> <li>2) Nirmala Sitharaman,</li> <li>3) Rajnath Singh,</li> <li>4) Narendra Singh Tomar</li> </ol> <b>Other Members are:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5) Thaawar Chand Gehlot</li> <li>6) Hardeep Singh Puri</li> </ol>
<b>Kiren Rijiju Committee</b>	To ensure that the performance of the Indian athletes is optimised in Olympics and other multi disciplinary events.

## MILITARY EXERCISES

EXERCISE NAME	HELD BETWEEN	TYPE OF EXERCISE
<b>14<sup>th</sup> KONKAN-19</b>	Indian Navy and Royal Navy of Britain	Bilateral Exercise

## DEFENCE & SPACE

DEFENCE & SPACE	PURPOSE	COUNTRY / STATE / ORGANIZATION
<b>Space Situational</b>	The aim of the control centre is to monitor	ISRO





<b>Awareness Control Centre - Bengaluru</b>	and protect high value space assets from space debris has been laid.	
<b>Hope Probe</b>	Arab's first spacecraft to Mars in July 2020	UAE
<b>3 New Precision Guided Missiles</b>	Yasin, Balaban & Ghaem	Iran
	1 <sup>st</sup> Underwater Military Museum	Jordan
<b>GSAT - 7R</b>	The Navy will get its 2 <sup>nd</sup> dedicated communication-cum-surveillance satellite by 2022	ISRO

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SPECIES / NEW DISCOVERIES	TYPE / PURPOSE	PLACE / BY
<b>HarmonyOS or HongMeng</b>	Launched its own operating system called HarmonyOS or HongMeng in Chinese	Huawei
	Researcher from Mexico have discovered a new method to turn cactus leaves into non toxic and biodegradable material with similar properties to plastic	Mexico
<b>Fedor</b>	launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named "Fedor" to space	Russia

## AWARDS

AWARDS / PRIZES	PERSON / ORGANIZATION
<b>Ramon Magsaysay Award 2019</b>	Ravish Kumar
<b>Miss England 2019</b>	Bhasha Mukherjee
<b>IBC 2019 International Honour for Excellence</b>	Andy Serkis
<b>Highest award of Republic of Guinea "National order of Merit"</b>	Ram Nath Kovind
<b>Karthik Bose Lifetime Achievement award</b>	Arun Lal
<b>Best innovation and initiative leadership award</b>	Rajasthan
<b>Vir Chakra</b>	Wing Commander Abhinandan

	Varthaman
<b>National Project Excellence Award</b>	Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL)
<b>SKOCH Governance Gold Award</b>	National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)

### **GEOGRAPHICAL (GI) TAG**

S.No.	GI Tag	State
1.	Palani Panchamirtham	Tamil Nadu

### **APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS**

PERSONS	POSITION / DESIGNATION
<b>Rakesh Asthana</b>	director general of Narcotics Control Bureau
<b>Akshay Kumar</b>	world's 4 <sup>th</sup> highest paid actor

### **WOMEN IN NEWS**

<b>Sushma Swaraj, former Minister of External Affairs</b>	Passed away on 6 <sup>th</sup> August 2019
<b>P V Sindhu</b>	only athlete from the India to be named among the <b>world's highest paid female athletes by Forbes</b>
<b>Chandrima Shaha</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> woman president of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA)
<b>P T Usha</b>	Appointed as one of the six members of the Asian Athletics Association's (AAA) Athletes Commission
<b>Serena Williams</b>	Serena Williams topped the Forbes annual list of best-paid female athlete



### **BOOKS AND AUTHORS**

BOOKS	AUTHORS
<b>Tools and Weapons: The Promise and The Peril of the Digital Age</b>	Brad Smith
<b>Listening, Learning &amp; Leading</b>	Venkaiah Naidu
<b>IndoPak Relations: Beyond Pulwama and Balakot</b>	Dr. U V Singh
<b>Kashmir's Untold Story: Declassified</b>	Iqbal Chand Malhotra and Maroof Raza
<b>Resurgent India</b>	Bimal Jalan
<b>Chandra Shekhar – The Last Icon of Ideological Politics</b>	Shri Harivansh and Shri Ravi Dutt Bajpai

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
<b>AUGUST 7</b>	National Handloom Day	To honor handloom weavers apart from highlighting the handloom industry in the country
<b>AUGUST 9</b>	World Tribal Day / International Day of the World's Indigenous People	<b>THEME:</b> "Indigenous Languages"
<b>AUGUST 10</b>	World Bio fuel Day	<b>THEME:</b> "Production of Biodiesel from Used Cooking Oil"
<b>AUGUST 12</b>	International Youth Day	<b>THEME:</b> "Transforming education"
<b>AUGUST 13</b>	World Organ Donation Day	
<b>AUGUST 15</b>	World Sanskrit Day	To promote and revive the ancient language of Sanskrit
<b>AUGUST 19</b>	World Humanitarian Day	<b>THEME:</b> "Women Humanitarians"
<b>AUGUST 20</b>	World Mosquito Day	



<b>AUGUST</b> <b>29</b>	National Sports Day	
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- ✓ **1<sup>st</sup> August – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 World Breastfeeding Week is observed every year**
- ✓ **THEME:** “Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding”

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