

Daily Current Affairs 08.08.2022

Important News: International

China: launch of reusable spacecraft

Why in News:

- A pilot reusable spacecraft was successfully launched by China with a Long March-2F carrier rocket.



key points:

- The spacecraft, which was launched from China's Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, will return to a planned landing site after being operated in orbit for some time with the aim of providing technical verification for reuse.
- China's Long March 2F Launch Vehicle primarily launches China's Shenzhou Crew Mission with a payload capacity of about 8 metric tons in low Earth orbit.
- The new spacecraft, similar in size to the US Air Force's X-37B space plane, has been modified to assist in the launch of the Long March 2F and its payload as a 'reusable test spacecraft'.
- Prior to this, China conducted an orbital test of a reusable experimental spacecraft in September 2020 which spent just 2 days in orbit.
- This mission is produced by the Chinese main space agency, CASC.

Source: Global Times

Important News: National

Culture Ministry 'Badhe Chalo' campaign

Why in News:

- 'Badhe Chalo Camping' has been started by the Ministry of Culture with the aim of connecting with the youth of India and inculcating in them a deep sense of patriotism.



key points:

- Badhe Chalo Camping aims to create a 'Youth Centric Activation' for mass outreach of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Badhe Chalo campaign is designed to engage the youth of India by encouraging them to come forward to celebrate 75 years of India's independence.
- Badhe Chalo Camping Campaign aims to bring youth and people from all parts of India on one platform, Badhe Chalo campaign also includes Flash Dance which is written and composed on the theme of 'Badhe Chalo'.
- The Ministry also aims to spread the message and spirit of Amrit Mahotsav through these flash dances.
- Badhe Chalo campaign will be conducted daily in 10 cities from 5th August to 10th August 2022 and the grand finale of the campaign will conclude on 12th August 2022 at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi.
- Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative was launched by the central government to celebrate 75 years of progressive India as well as the glorious history of Indian culture, achievements, and its people.

Source: PIB

India: Target to eliminate Kala-azar by 2023

Why in News:

- The Government of India has set a target to eliminate Kala-azar from the country by the year 2023, which is ahead of the World Health Organization (WHO) target of eliminating the disease by 2030.



key points:

- Kala Azar also known as Leishmaniasis is a neglected tropical disease affecting more than 100 countries including India.
- Symptoms of leishmaniasis include fever, weight loss, and swelling of the spleen and liver.
- Kala Azar disease is caused by a parasite called Leishmania which is spread by the bites of sand flies.
- There are mainly three types of Leishmaniasis or Kala Azar in which
 - Visceral leishmaniasis, which is considered the most severe form of the disease, affects all parts of the body.
 - Cutaneous leishmaniasis affects skin lesions and severely affects the skin.
 - Mucocutaneous leishmaniasis causes skin and mucosal lesions.
- India's National Health Policy, 2002 had set a target of eliminating Kala-azar by the year 2010, which was revised in the year 2015 due to non-fulfillment.

Source: Times of India

Important News: State

Uttarakhand government decided to develop one Sanskrit-speaking village in each district

Why in News:

- The Uttarakhand government has decided to develop one Sanskrit-speaking village in each of the 13 districts of the state.



key points:

- Under this mission, the Sanskrit Education Minister of Uttarakhand and the citizens of these villages will be trained by experts to use the ancient Indian language as a medium of daily communication.
- Under this scheme, a provision has been included by the government to send Sanskrit teachers to selected villages to teach the local people how to communicate in the language.
- Reading of Vedas and Puranas will also be done under this scheme to help citizens to acquire proficiency in Sanskrit.
- To be called a "Sanskrit Village" under this scheme, each of these villages would be designated as a center of ancient Indian culture.

- Sanskrit is the second official language of the state of Uttarakhand while Hindi is the first official language of the state.
- Uttarakhand is the first state in the country that has started such an initiative to promote Sanskrit.
- Prior to the state of Uttarakhand, there is only one Sanskrit-speaking village in the state of Karnataka, Mattur village.

Source: Livemint

Important Personality

Jagdeep Dhankhar elected as the 14th Vice President of India

Why in News:

- Jagdeep Dhankhar was elected as the 14th Vice President of India.



key points:

- Jagdeep Dhankhar was made a candidate from BJP by NDA.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar will assume his office on August 11 after the tenure of the current Vice President Venkaiah Naidu ends.
- A total of 725 MPs registered their votes for the Vice-Presidential election and 63 MPs did not participate in the Vice-Presidential Election 2022.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar got a total of 528 votes in the Vice-Presidential election, while the opposition candidate Margaret Alva could get 208 MPs votes.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar was born on 18 May 1951 in an agricultural household in a remote village in the Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar completed his schooling at Sainik School Chittorgarh and obtained a law degree from Rajasthan University.
- Jagdeep Dhankhar was working as a Lok Sabha MP from Jhunjhunu from 1989 to 1991 before becoming the Vice President and after that, he took over as the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs from 1990 to 1991.

- After this Jagdeep Dhankhar worked as a member of the Legislative Assembly from Krishnagar, Rajasthan from the year 1993 to the year 1998, and from the year 2019 to the present Jagdeep Dhankhar is working as the Governor of West Bengal.
- According to Article 68 of the Indian Constitution, an election to fill a vacancy caused by the termination of the office of the Vice-President must be held before the expiration of the term of the outgoing Vice-President.
- The Election Commission of India superintends, directs, and controls the conduct of the election of the Vice-President under the President and Vice-President's Election Act, 1952 and the President and Vice-President's Election Rules, 1974 as well as Article 324 of the Constitution.
- The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college consisting of elected members of the Rajya Sabha, nominated members of the Rajya Sabha, and elected members of the Lok Sabha.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Science & Tech

SpaceX Launches South Korea's First Moon Mission, Danuri

Why in News:

- South Korea launched its first lunar mission, which can also be called its first mission away from low Earth orbit.



key points:

- The mission, formerly known as Korea Pathfinder Lunar Orbiter, launched by South Korea, is currently known as Danuri.
- Danuri is prevalent as a play on the Korean words for "moon" and "bliss".
- The Danuri mission, launched by South Korea, is operated by the Korean Aerospace Research Institute (KARI).
- Danuri was launched from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket by the Korean Aerospace Research Institute.

- Before returning to its destination, Danuri will fly toward the Sun and enter lunar orbit in mid-December using gravity generated by the Sun.
- After reaching the Moon in a 62-mile-high orbit, Danuri will carry out research with six of its science instruments (a magnetometer, a gamma-ray spectrometer, an experimental communication system, and three cameras).
- If South Korea successfully completes this lunar mission, South Korea will become the eighth political body to complete a Moon mission after the United States, the former Soviet Union, China, Japan, India, Luxembourg, and the European Union.

Source: Indian Express

ISRO launches the smallest rocket to display the tricolor in space

Why in News:

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched its first Small Satellite Launch Vehicle, SSLV-D1/EOS-02 from the Sriharikota Satish Dhawan Space Center.



key points:

- This is the first time that the Indian space agency ISRO has demonstrated its capabilities in launching an SSLV to place small satellites in low Earth orbit.
- The SSLV-D1/EOS-02, launched by ISRO, has been developed by a team of students from Earth Observation Satellite and Space Kids India named AzadiSat.
- On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence, girls from government schools across the country participated in the making of this eight-kg CubeSat that will encourage girls to pursue "Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)" by ISRO.
- The SSLV developed by ISRO uses solid fuel in the first three stages and a liquid propulsion-based velocity trimming module in the fourth stage.
- The newly built AzadiSat requires minimal launch infrastructure as compared to PSLV and GSLV launch vehicles of ISRO.
- AzadiSat also includes a long-range transponder and a solid-state PIN diode-based radiation counter that will be helpful in measuring ionizing radiation in its orbit.

- A ground system built by ISRO Space Kids India has also been employed to engage and interact with AzadiSat in orbit.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Defence

Indian Navy's all-women crew completes the first solo maritime mission

Why in News:

- The first independent maritime surveillance mission in the North Arabian Sea was completed by a team of women officers of the Navy on a Dornier 228 aircraft.



key points:

- The first independent maritime surveillance mission was accomplished by five women officers of Naval Air Squadron-INAS-314 at Naval Air Enclave at Porbandar, Gujarat.
- The mission was captained by Lieutenant Commander Aanchal Sharma and his team consisted of Pilots Lieutenant Shivangi and Lieutenant Apoorva Geete. The mission was assisted in completion of the mission by Lieutenant Pooja Panda and Sub Lieutenant Pooja Shekhawat as Tactical and Censor Officers.
- For this campaign, women officers were trained for several months, and before this historic visit they were given detailed information about the mission.
- INAS-314 is the flagship squadron of the Navy based at Porbandar, Gujarat.

Source: News on Air