

Daily Current Affairs 12 August 2022



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Important News: International

1. Sweden and Finland approved by the US Senate to join NATO

Why in News:

- The NATO membership of Sweden and Finland was conclusively approved by the US Senate.

key points:

- The proposal for Finland and Sweden's membership in NATO was supported by US President Joe Biden, who sent the proposal to the Senate for consideration in July.
- The application was submitted by Sweden and Finland to join the Western Defense Alliance in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- Earlier, the French National Assembly had also approved the proposal.
- A country requires the support of all 30 NATO member states to become a member of NATO, with Sweden and Finland currently supported by two-thirds of the member states.
- Earlier, Montenegro and North Macedonia were included in NATO in the year 2017 and in the year 2020, with which the number of its member countries has increased to 30.
- NATO, better known as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was established on April 4, 1949, in Washington, USA by the 12 founding members.
- NATO is an intergovernmental military organization headquartered in Brussels, the capital of Belgium.
- NATO works on the principle of collective defense, according to which if one or more members are attacked, then this attack is considered an attack on all member countries.
- The principle of collective defense is enshrined in Article 5 of NATO which was implemented after the terrorist attack on the United States.



Source: Business Standard

2. Langya henipavirus found in China

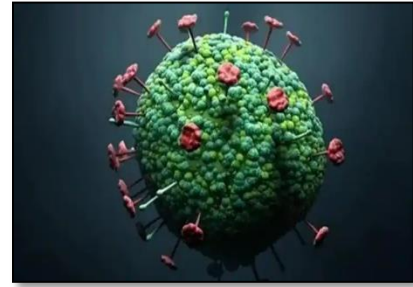


Why in News:

- In some areas of China, 35 new cases of Langya henipavirus have been confirmed.

key points:

- Langya henipavirus was first detected in the northeastern provinces of Shandong and Henan in 2018.
- Langya henipavirus is transmitted from animals to humans, according to The Guardian. Langya henipavirus is easily transmitted to domestic goats and domesticated dogs, from where it is easily transmitted to humans.
- Langya henipavirus is a new type of virus that spreads from animals to humans.
- Langya henipavirus is also known mainly as Langya henipavirus levi.
- According to World Health Organization data, henipavirus can cause severe disease in animals and humans and is classified as a biosafety level 4 virus.
- Symptoms such as fever, fatigue, cough, and nausea are found in a person infected with Langya henipavirus.
- Langya Henipavirus is a member of the 'Contagion' family, whose symptoms are different from the Nipah virus and Hendra virus.



Source: Jansatta

Important News: National

3. New Delhi hosts ITU's Regional Standardization Forum

Why in News:

- ITU's Regional Standardization Forum (RSF) for Asia and Oceania Region is inaugurated by Shri Devusinh Chouhan.

key points:

- The theme of the Forum is "Regulatory and Policy aspects of Telecom/ICT".



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- The four-day meeting (9 August 2022 to 12 August 2022) of the International Telecommunication Union-T Study Group 3 Regional Group Asia and Oceania (ITU-T SG3RG-AO) has also been organized after the Forum meeting.
- The Regional Standardization Forum is a forum for a constructive exchange of ideas, including, inter alia, the role of ITU standards in sustainable digital transformation, harnessing technology for digital and financial inclusion in emerging markets, data value chains, and digital health. Discussions on standardization topics including India's experience in various areas of technology have been included.
- The ITU's Regional Standardization Forum aims to provide insight into the experience of the Asia and Oceania region from policy and regulatory perspectives under various sub-themes.
- This year's meeting of the ITU's Regional Standardization Forum has been attended by over 250 delegates from 20 countries.
- The ITU was established on May 17, 1865, and acts as a specialized agency of the UN.
- It is in charge of information and communication technologies and includes more than 900 professional, international and regional organizations, as well as academic institutions in its 193 member states.

Source: PIB

Important News: State

4. K-DISC signs MoU with LinkedIn to boost employment

Why in News:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by the ICT Academy of Kerala (ICTAK) with LinkedIn under the Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission (KKEM) by the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategy Council.



key points:

- This agreement has been done by the Government of Kerala under the State Government's initiative Career to Campus Campaign (CCC).
- The Career to Campus campaign works in line with the objective of Right Job @ Right Time, promoting youth awareness of changes in global labor markets and skill needs to encourage students.
- The Government of Kerala aims to promote employability skills with this partnership among the youth of Kerala to get relevant jobs using LinkedIn.
- Under this scheme, various products and services will be provided by the Kerala state government to students on LinkedIn, including LinkedIn Insights, Curated LinkedIn Learning Courses, and LinkedIn Jobs.
- The Kerala Development and Innovation Strategy Council is a strategic think-tank and advisory body constituted by the Government of Kerala.
- ICTAK is a social enterprise built in a public partnership model to impart ICT skills to the youth of Kerala, also supported by the Government of India under the partnership of the Government of Kerala and the IT Industry.

Source: Indian Express

5. Maharashtra Governor inaugurates 22nd 'Bharat Rang Mahotsav'

Why in News:

- The 22nd 'Bharat Rang Mahotsav' was inaugurated by the Governor of Maharashtra at the Rabindra Natya Mandir in Mumbai.

key points:

- The 22nd Bharat Rang Mahotsav is being jointly organized by the Union Ministry of Culture and PL Deshpande Maharashtra Kala Akademi in Mumbai.
- The 22nd Bharat Rang Mahotsav is being organized from August 9 to August 13, 2022, a five-day theatrical festival to pay tribute to our freedom fighters.
- Eminent theater personalities of Maharashtra will be honored on the stage of Bharat Theater during the event.
- As part of the 22nd Bharat Rang Mahotsav, 2022, 30 plays are also staged in Delhi, Bhubaneshwar, Varanasi, Amritsar, Bengaluru, and Mumbai from July 16 to August 14, 2022.



- Bharat Rang Mahotsav is an annual theater festival started by the National School of Drama, New Delhi in the year 1999.
- The objective of Bharat Rang Manch was to promote the development and progress of theater across the country.
- Originally the national festival showcasing the work of the most creative theater workers in India, it has grown into the international scene, hosting theater companies from across the globe, and is now the largest theater festival in Asia.
- The National School of Drama, funded by the Government of India, is the leading theater training institute in our country.

Source: PIB

Important News: Defence

6. Indo-US Joint Special Forces Exercise 'Vajra Prahar 2022' begins in Himachal Pradesh

Why in News:

- Indo-US Joint Special Forces Exercise “Purva Vajra Prahar 2022” has been started at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.



key points:

- Purva Vajra Prahar 2022 is the 13th edition of the annual exercise.
- The main objective of the pre-Vajra Prahar joint exercise is to share best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational strategy.
- In the pre-Vajra Prahar exercise, the Indian Army contingent was represented by Special Forces personnel under the aegis of SFTS, while the US contingent is represented by personnel from the 1st Special Forces Group and the US Special Forces Special Tactics Squadron.



- This joint annual exercise is conducted alternately between India and the US with an aim to share best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational strategy.
- During the pre-Vajra Prahar exercise for 21 days, teams of both the armies will jointly train, plan and execute a series of special operations, counter-insurgency operations and aerial operations in simulated conventional and unconventional scenarios in mountainous terrain.
- The former Vajra Prahar Abhyas is an important step towards strengthening the traditional bonds of friendship between the special forces of the two countries as well as improving bilateral defense cooperation between India and the US.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Sports

7. Commonwealth Games 2022

Why in News:

- The 22nd Commonwealth Games concluded in Birmingham.

key points:

- More than five thousand players from 72 countries participated in the 22nd Commonwealth Games held for 11 days.
- In the closing ceremony, players from 72 Commonwealth Games participating nations circled the stadium with their respective national flags.
- The Indian contingent with the national flag was led by boxer Nikhat Zareen and table tennis player Achanta Sharath Kamal.
- After the completion, the flag of the Commonwealth Games Federation was handed over to the Victoria province of Australia, the next Commonwealth Games will be hosted by the Victoria province in the year 2026.
- In the 22nd Commonwealth Games in badminton, PV Sindhu won the women's singles title, while Lakshyasen won the men's singles title.



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- The third gold medal was won by Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy in the men's doubles event at the 22nd Commonwealth Games.
- In the 22nd Commonwealth Games, Achanta Sharath Kamal won the gold medal in table tennis, while G. Sathyan won the bronze medal in men's singles.
- In the 22nd Commonwealth Games this year, the Indian team got a silver medal in men's hockey.
- In the 22nd Commonwealth Games, India finished fourth with a total of 61 medals, including 22 gold.
- Australia topped the medal tally with a total of 178 medals, including 67 gold, 57 silver, and 54 bronze, while hosts England came second with 175 medals.
- The Commonwealth Games is a multisport event, attended by athletes from the Commonwealth of Nations.
- The Commonwealth Games Federation is the organization responsible for the direction and control of the Commonwealth Games and the Commonwealth Youth Games, headquartered in the UK.

Source: News on Air

8. 44th Chess Olympiad: Uzbekistan wins gold in the open category, Ukraine women win

Why in News:

- The team Uzbekistan has won the gold medal in the open section of the 44th Chess Olympiad.

key points:

- Team Armenia won a silver medal in the 44th Chess Olympiad while the India-2 team won a bronze medal in the open category.
- In the 44th Chess Olympiad this year, Ukraine won the gold medal in the women's category, while the silver medal has been won by Team Georgia, and the bronze medal has been won by the India-1 team.
- The 44th Chess Olympiad was organized by the International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation (FIDE) in Chennai from July 28 to August 09, 2022.
- Held since 1927, this prestigious competition has been hosted for the first time in India and after 30 years in Asia.
- The 44th Chess Olympiad included Open and Women's tournaments this year with a total number of 1,737 participants, with 937 in the Open and 800 in the Women's event.



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- The opening and closing ceremony of the 44th Chess Olympiad has been held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Chennai.
- The International Chess Federation (FIDE) is a non-governmental organization that is the governing body of the game of chess and regulates all international chess competitions.
- The International Chess Federation was recognized as a global sporting organization by the International Olympic Committee in the year 1999.
- The International Chess Federation is currently headquartered in Lausanne but was started in Paris in 1924 under the motto of *Jens Una Samus*.

Source: Livemint

