

Weekly Current Affairs Magazine 8th - 14th August 2023



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Dear MBA Aspirants,

BYJU'S Exam Prep experts have curated a Weekly Current Affairs Magazine which is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the 2nd week of August (8th – 14th) of August 2023. This file is important for the upcoming MBA exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which payment company has launched a US dollar stablecoin, becoming the first major financial technology firm _____ **PayPal**.

Note:

- Aim: To embrace digital currencies for payments and transfers.
- Stablecoins are a type of cryptocurrency that typically track the value of a major currency such as the dollar one-for-one.
- They play a key role in connecting traditional and crypto markets, as traders use the coins like cash in order to move in and out of trades without paying high fees.

2. Which life insurance organization has introduced the 'Direct Incentive Disbursement' program in the Delhi and Uttarakhand circles _____ **Postal Life Insurance**.

Note:

- Aim: To ensure that it receives its hard-earned commissions from the previous month directly to their Post Office Savings Bank accounts.
- Swift and Secure Transactions: Salesforce receives incentives directly in their POSB accounts.
- Convenience and Motivation: Salesforce can conveniently manage their funds, and immediate rewards drive optimal performance.

3. According to the SEBI report, Domestic companies raised how much amount from capital markets in the fiscal 2022-23, which was 4.6 per cent higher than the amount raised in the fiscal 2022 _____ **Rs 9.8 lakh crore**.

Note:

- The capital market regulator said that the funds were raised for the financing needs of the companies through various instruments such as equity, debt, AIFs, REITs, and InvITs.
- According to the SEBI its recovery from erring market participants for the year stood at Rs 6,031 crore

4. Banks have written off bad loans worth _____ in the last nine financial years starting 2014-15 in Aug 2023 _____ **Rs 14.56 lakh crore**.

Note:

- Out of the total Rs 14,56,226 crore, written off loans of large industries and services stood at Rs 7,40,968 crore.
- According to Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad Scheduled Commercial Banks have recovered an aggregate amount of Rs 2,04,668 crore in written-off loans, including corporate loans, since April, 2014 2022 and up to March, 2023.

5. Star Health and Allied Insurance jointly partnered with which bank in August 2023 to enhance Star Health's distribution network _____ **Standard Chartered Bank**.

Note:

- Objective: To serve as a convenient one-stop destination for its customers seeking comprehensive health insurance coverage.
- Bancassurance is an insurance distribution model where insurance companies partner with banks to sell policies.
- SCB currently has 100 branches spread across 42 cities.

6. Which bank partnered with the state government for Odisha Tourism Development Corporation to help them strengthen payment solutions for Odisha Tourism Development Corporation Ltd _____ **Bandhan Bank**.

Note:

- The bank has provided Point of Sale machines to facilitate card payments by tourists.
- Prime locations include Puri, and Bhubaneswar, will be covered under this tie-up

- The PoS machines will hasten tourist payment collections, bringing convenience to both the tourists and OTDC officials.
7. ICICI Lombard General Insurance and which organization have joined forces to offer car and two-wheeler insurance plans _____ **Bajaj Finance**.
- Note:**
- Customers can easily purchase these policies on the platform, enjoying a fully digital and smooth customer experience.
 - The ICICI Lombard Car and Two-wheeler Insurance policies offer comprehensive damage coverage, including third-party cover and various add-on benefits to vehicle owners.
8. As per the information shared by the FM in the Rajya Sabha, Public Sector Banks and 5 major private sector banks collected over what amount in charges since 2018 on account of non-maintenance of minimum balance, additional ATM transactions, and SMS Services _____ **₹35,000 crore**.
- Note:**
- Breakdown of Charges:
 - ₹21,000 crore on account of non-maintenance of minimum balance.
 - Over ₹8,000 crore was collected for transactions through ATM beyond free numbers and SMS charges gave over ₹6,000 crore.
9. According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Monetary Policy, released in August 2023, the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at what percent _____ **6.5 percent**.
- Note:**
- Other Highlights:
 - The standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains at 6.25%.
 - The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75%.
 - RBI has revised the CPI inflation target for the current fiscal to 5.4%.
 - Projected real GDP growth for 2023-24: 6.5%
10. RBI has imposed ₹1.50 lakh penalty on which co-operative bank for contravention of provisions of Maintenance of Deposit Accounts _____ **Shri Vinayak Sahakari Bank**.
- Note:**
- Mizoram Urban Cooperative Development Bank was also penalized of ₹20,000 for non-compliance with specific directions under Supervisory Action Framework and KYC directions
 - Further, imposed a monetary penalty of ₹1.00 lakh on Shreeji Bhatia Cooperative Bank Ltd and ₹1.50 lakh on Shri Vinayak Sahakari Bank Ltd, Ahmedabad.
11. Which payment bank has become the first Indian bank to launch an eco-friendly debit card for its new and existing customers with a savings bank account in Aug 2023 _____ **Airtel Payments Bank**.
- Note:**
- The debit cards will be made from certified eco-friendly r-PVC (recycled polyvinyl chloride) material, which is environmentally safe.
 - Producing the r-PVC cards will lead to a 43 percent reduction in hydrocarbon usage, effectively decreasing petroleum consumption during the manufacturing process.
12. Which bank has become the first financial services provider in India to launch a 24x7 live video banking service in August 2023 _____ **AU Small Finance Bank Limited**.
- Note:**
- Aims: To provide a virtual platform where customers can communicate with a video banker in real time via video calls, like video conferencing.
 - Objectives: To extend the reach of banking services to areas with limited infrastructure and resources, offering a convenient and personalized banking experience.
13. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced Artificial Intelligence-powered conversational features on which interface in August 2023 _____ **UPI**.
- Note:**
- Aims: To enable digital payments through voice commands
 - The concept, known as "Conversational Payments," introduces a dynamic and user-friendly approach to transactions
 - Objectives: To allow users to initiate payments seamlessly within chat or messaging conversations, transforming routine interactions into instant financial exchanges
14. The gross direct tax collection has registered a growth of around what percent to RS 653,000 crore compared to the same period in 2022 in Aug 2023 _____ **16%**.

Note:

- Net direct tax collection, after adjusting refunds, stands at RS 584,000 crore, which is over 17 % higher than the net collections for the same period 2022.
- The collection is over 32% of the total Budget estimates of Direct Taxes for 2023-24.
- Refunds amounting to Rs 69,000 crore has issued, which is 3.73% more compared to year 2022

15. Which organization launched the 3rd edition of the UPI Safety Awareness Campaign, "UPI Chalega" in August 2023 _____ **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).**

Note:

- Aim: To promote UPI's brand awareness, amplify understanding of its features, and encourage wider adoption among new users
- It also educates users about various features such as UPI LITE, which enables swift low-value transactions; UPI AUTOPAY, which allows secure and convenient recurring payments using any UPI application

16. Who introduced the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC), a small savings scheme for women and girls in August 2023 _____ **Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman.**

Note:

- MSSC is a 2-year deposit scheme, which offers an interest rate of 7.5% per annum.
- Objective: To promote financial inclusion and empower women, including girls.
- It is a one-time program that runs from April 2023 to March 2025.
- Banks Include: Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, Canara Bank and Bank of India

17. The wholesale price-based inflation remained in the negative territory for the fourth straight month in July 2023 at what percent on easing prices of fuel, even though food articles turned costlier _____ **(-)1.36 percent.**

Note:

- The wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation rate has been in the negative since April and was (-)4.12 percent in June. In July last year, it was 14.07 percent.
- Inflation in food articles skyrocketed 14.25 percent in July against 1.32 percent in June 2023

18. RBI has selected global consultancy firms McKinsey and Company India LLP and which organization to develop systems using artificial intelligence and machine learning for its supervisory functions _____ **Accenture Solutions Pvt Ltd India.**

Note:

- RBI is looking to AI and machine learning to analyze its huge database and improve regulatory supervision over banks, NBFCs to ensure that the benefits of advanced analytics can accrue to the Department of Supervision in the central bank.

Obituaries

1. William Friedkin, who passed away, was a veteran _____ **Filmmaker.**

Note:

- He directed movies like "The Exorcist" and "The French Connection".
- Friedkin exploded onto the Hollywood scene in 1971 with the gritty cop drama "The French Connection."
- It won five Oscars, including for best director and best picture.
- Friedkin followed that up with "The Exorcist," in 1973. It was a huge commercial and critical hit, as well as being deeply controversial.

2. Siddique, who passed away at the age of 63, was a prominent _____ **Filmmaker.**

Note:

- His journey in the world of Malayalam cinema began with his directorial debut, "Ramji Rao Speaking" along with his friend Lal.
- The duo created some of the Malayalam film industry's biggest comedy blockbusters, including "In Harihar Nagar," "Godfather," "Vietnam Colony," "Ramji Rao Speaking," and "Friends," among others. He also directed films in Tamil, Telugu, and Hindi.

3. Hari Narke, passed away in Mumbai due to a heart attack at the age of 70, was a famous _____ **Author.**

Note:

- He was the professor of Mahatma Phule chair at Savitribai Phule Pune University and a former member of the Maharashtra Backward Class Commission.
- He was also a member of the Rangnath Pathare committee which was formed to collect evidence to prove Marathi as a classical language.

Important Days

1. The world observed the International Day for Biological Diversity on which date to increase understanding and encourage the preservation of the Earth's diverse ecosystems _____ **May 22.**

Note:

- The world observes World Tribal Day or World Indigenous Day on which date, dedicated to advocating for and safeguarding the rights of indigenous populations _____ August 9.
 - Aim: To offer a prime opportunity to actively work towards safeguarding the fundamental rights of tribal communities worldwide
 - Goal: To safeguard the rights of these populations and ensure their voices received global recognition.
 - Theme for 2023: "Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination."
2. World Lion Day is observed every year on which date to highlight the importance of these majestic creatures and to garner support for their conservation _____ **August 10.**

Note:

- This day is also an opportunity to learn about the importance of lions in the natural world and the potential impacts of their extinction on humanity.
 - The IUCN has designated the Asiatic Lion as an endangered species because of its limited population and constrained habitat.
3. International Youth Day is commemorated every year on which date _____ **12 August.**

Note:

- The theme of International Youth Day 2023 is Green Skills For Youth: Towards A Sustainable WorldT
 - Aims: To encourage youth around the world to organize activities to raise awareness about the situation of youth in their country.
 - Objective: Bringing youth issues to the attention of the international community and celebrating the potential of youth as partners in today's global society.
4. World Organ Donation Day is observed every year on which date _____ **August 13.**

Note:

- Aim: To spread awareness around the importance of organ donation and bust myths around it.
 - Theme for 2023: "Step up to volunteer; need more organ donors to fill the lacunae".
 - Organ donation means when a person allows to surgically remove their organ and transplant it to another person.
 - This is done with the content of the donor when they are alive or that of their kin when they are no more.
5. International Left-Handers Day is celebrated every year on which date _____ **August 13.**

Note:

- Aims: To raise awareness about the challenges and of left-handers, understanding in a predominantly right-handed world.
 - Goal: To work on the challenges left-handers face and cater to their unique needs.
 - Theme for 2023: "Left-Handers in Sports."
 - Objective: To recognize and appreciate the diversity of skills, talents, and perspectives that left-handers bring to various fields and activities.
6. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had declared that August 14, will be remembered as which day _____ **'Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas' or Partition Horrors Remembrance Day.**

Note:

- Reason: In memory of the struggles and sacrifices during the partition in 1947.
- Aim: To keep reminding us of the need to remove the poison of social divisions, and disharmony and further strengthen the spirit of oneness, social harmony and human empowerment.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the event on this date in 2021.

New Appointments

1. Tesla appointed Indian-origin whom as Chief Financial Officer of the company replacing Kirkhorn _____ **Vaibhav Taneja.**

Note:

- He initially assumed the role of Corporate Controller in May 2018, and his commitment and competence led to his elevation to the position of CAO in March 2019.

- His portfolio encompassed the critical domains of financial reporting, tax compliance, and internal controls, underscoring his pivotal role in upholding Tesla's fiscal integrity.
2. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the proposal of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for re-employment on a contract basis of whom as the Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Limited for a period of one year _____ **Shrikant Madhav Vaidya**.

Note:

- This is one of the very rare occasions when a director on the board of a PSU has been given an extension of service beyond his retirement age.
 - No chairman of a Maharatna PSU has been given an extension beyond 60 years.
3. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has given its official approval and appointed whom as the managing director & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company in Aug 2023 _____ **Amit Jhingran**.
- Note:**
- He had a successful career with the State Bank of India spanning over 30 years.
 - Currently, he serves as the chief general manager of the Hyderabad Circle.
 - He started as a probationary officer in August 1991 and has held various positions in international banking.
4. International Gemological Institute (IGI), a Blackstone portfolio company, has appointed whom as Global CEO of IGI, effective October 1, 2023 _____ **Tehmasp Printer**.

Note:

- He would replace current CEO Roland Lorie, who will step down after spending nearly five decades.
- Tehmasp Printer has more than 30 years of experience in managing and leading businesses.
- He has been with IGI for 24 years, most recently as Managing Director of IGI India.

Important News – India

1. Name the nationwide campaign has been launched to pay tribute to the 'Veers' who laid down their lives for the country _____ **Meri Mati Mera Desh**.

Note:

- AIM: It will include programs at the village, and block levels, by local urban bodies, as well as state and national level.
 - During the campaign of "Meri Mati Mera Desh", an Amrit Kalash Yatra will also be taken out.
 - It will start on 9th August, with scheduled programs until Independence Day 2023.
2. According to the World Trade Statistical Review 2023, the annual flagship publication of the World Trade Organization (WTO), what is the rank of India among the Leading exporters in world merchandise trade (2022) _____ **18th**.

Note:

- On a global scale, India holds the 9th spot in merchandise importing and ranks 7th in merchandise exporting (2022).
 - The leading exporters in world merchandise trade for the year 2022 are China, the USA, and Germany, occupying the top three positions.
3. India will contribute what percent from the India-UN Development Partnership Fund to the Tuvalu project in August 2023 _____ **700,000 USD**.

Note:

- Aim: To store and supply clean water to students, teachers, and school staff, fostering good hygiene and lowering the incidence of water-borne illnesses.
 - In May 2023, PM Narendra Modi announced the "Sagar Amrut Scholarship" scheme for the Pacific Island countries, at the Summit of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation.
4. After passing the IIM (Amendment) Bill 2023 in the ongoing Monsoon Session, in the Parliament, the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) would be officially renamed as _____ **Indian Institute of Management, Mumbai (IIM Mumbai)**.

Note:

- With this, NITIE becomes the 21st IIM of India and second in Maharashtra, after IIM Nagpur.
 - Presently, NITIE ranked 7th in the Management Category by National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) in 2023.
5. The Minister of Coal, Pralhad Joshi informed in Lok Sabha, Coal/Lignite PSUs have established _____ Eco-parks during the last 5 years _____ **15**.

Note:

- No fund has been allocated by the Government for Eco-parks.

- It was developed by Coal/Lignite PSUs for recreational purposes of nearby localities and no revenue earned from these Eco-parks is spent on the development of the mining areas.
 - Kenapara Eco-Park, SECL, Chhattisgarh is run and maintained by local SHGs to promote mine tourism.
6. Which airlines unveiled its mega brand makeover and new logo, which signifies “limitless possibilities” in August 2023 _____ **Air India.**

Note:

- AI's new logo 'The Vista' includes a modern design with golden, red and purple colours.
 - It is inspired by the peak of the gold window frame, signifying limitless possibilities, progressiveness, and the airline's bold, confident outlook for the future.
 - It represents the spirit of a bold new India, marking a significant turning point in its Vihaan.
7. SEBI reduced the timeline for listing of securities after the closing of IPO to three days from the present requirement of six working days. What is the fulform of IPO _____ **Initial Public Offering.**

Note:

- The reduction in timelines will benefit both issuers as well as investors
 - Issuers will have faster access to the capital raised thereby enhancing the ease of doing business, and the investors will have opportunity for having early credit and liquidity of their investments
8. Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma launched the _____ (amount) Chief Minister's Solar Mission for minimizing the power deficit in this northeastern hill state in August 2023 _____ **Rs 500 crore.**

Note:

- The mission will be a flagship Renewable Energy intervention committed to fostering green and clean energy transformation across the state.
 - The mission will begin a new era of resilience, independence, and green progress for Meghalaya.
9. Which body approved the merger scheme of India's homegrown entertainment company Zee Entertainment Enterprises with Culver Max Entertainment in Aug 2023 _____ **National Company Law Tribunal.**

Note:

- Aim: To create a \$10-billion Indian media giant.
 - ZEE will have 30 days to file with the registrar of companies, following which, the shares of the company will be de-listed from the stock exchanges and the merged company will get re-listed in another six weeks
10. What is the name of Investor Awareness Vans, which was launched by Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) CEO Anita Shah Akella _____ **Niveshak Sarathi**

Note:

- Theme: From Unawareness to Financial Independence.
 - Aims: To disseminate crucial financial education and raise awareness against fraudulent schemes across the Delhi NCR region.
 - These vans are equipped with a TV screen running “Hisab Ki Kitab,” developed by IEPFA.
11. Who laid the foundation stone for the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited Nano Urea Plant at Gandhidham in Kutch in August 2023 _____ **Union Minister Amit Shah.**

Note:

- Aims: To fulfill 3 primary goals which include achieving self-sufficiency in food production and bringing prosperity to the farmers.
 - This will reduce imports of fertilizers and make India self-reliant in the field of fertilizers and conserve the nutrients of the soil and ensure judicious use of fertilizers.
12. Who launched the Direct Benefit Transfer in National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme in New Delhi in August 2023 _____ **Union Minister for Education, Dharmendra Pradhan.**

Note:

- The Scheme marks a stride towards transparency and efficiency as the skilled workforce is paramount, to encompass policy evolution
 - Objective: To focus on the vision of making skilling an apprenticeship aspirational as well as encouraging earning while learning as envisioned in the National Education Policy.
13. The Indian School of Business (ISB's) Bharti Institute of Public Policy signed an MoU with which state government to begin a knowledge partnership with a focus on evidence-based policy formulation and its impact in the State _____ **Goa.**

Note:

- Objectives: To improve the social and economic prosperity indicators through evidence-based public policy interventions, capacity-building workshops, and citizen-centric governance-based initiatives as a knowledge partner.

14. Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIITD-IC) signed a MoU with which bank to enable IIITD-IC to strengthen its mentoring initiatives for startups _____ **YES BANK.**

Note:

- It will also identify newer investment and funding opportunities that can benefit startups.
- Under the partnership, YES BANK will offer banking facilities to Startups that are in a developmental phase at IIITD-IC under the Bank's YES Head Startup program.

Important News – State

1. Which state Cabinet approved the proposal of a high-level committee to form 19 new districts and 3 new divisions in the State _____ **Rajasthan.**

Note:

- Rajasthan will now have a total of 50 districts and 10 divisional headquarters.
- According to CM Ashok Gehlot formation of new districts will improve governance and bring relief to people who have to cover long distances to go to the district headquarters.
- The new districts are like, Jaipur has been divided into Jaipur and Jaipur Rural

2. Central Railway has inaugurated which station as the 1st "Pink Station" on the Bhusaval Division and the 3rd station on Central Railway to be fully managed by an all-women staff _____ **New Amravati station.**

Note:

- The examples are set by Matunga station in the Mumbai division and Ajni station in the Nagpur division.
- Railway has a staff strength of 12 women employees including 4 Deputy Station Superintendents, 4 Pointswomen, 3 Railway Protection Personnel and 1 Ticket Booking Agent

3. Which IT and Industries Minister launched India's first Agricultural Data Exchange (ADeX) and Agriculture Data Management Framework (ADMF) _____ **Telangana.**

Note:

- The ADeX has been developed as a digital public infrastructure (DPI) for the agriculture sector
- Aims: To ensure fair and efficient usage of agricultural data by the industry and startups and provide a big boost to the data economy specifically in the agriculture sector.

4. Who laid the foundation stone for a temple-cum-memorial for Sant Ravidas and along with that also inaugurated developmental works which are worth Rs 4,000 crore in Madhya Pradesh in Aug 2023 _____ **PM Narendra Modi.**

Note:

- The memorial is steeped in the spirit of 'Samrasta' as the soil of more than 20,000 villages and 300 rivers have been used in it
- Sant Ravidas was an Indian mystic poet-saint of the bhakti movement and founder of the Ravidassia religion during the 15th to 16th century CE

Important News- World

1. According to two official's privy to the latest assessment made for submission to the United Nations, India's greenhouse emissions rate dropped by a faster-than-expected what percent in 14 years _____ **33%.**

Note:

- Reason: Renewable energy generation rose and forest cover increased
- India is well on the way to meeting a commitment to the UNFCCC, to reduce emissions intensity by 45% from the 2005 level by 2030.
- India's average rate of reduction in emissions increased to 3% annually during 2016-2019.

2. Which online travel company has joined hands with the Ministry of Tourism to launch a microsite, 'Traveller's Map of India' _____ **MakeMyTrip(MMT).**

Note:

- Aim: To showcases 600-plus destinations beyond the popular travel spots in the country
- Objective: To discover lesser-known tourism gems that lie within the country's borders based on their preferences
- According to MMT "This microsite has been designed in line with the Government of India's visionary 'DekhoApnaDesh' program,"

Honor & Awards

1. Which State Road Transport Corporation has won Asia's Best Brand Employer Award 2023 under the category 'Organisation with Innovative HR Practices' _____ **Karnataka.**

Note:

- It was announced at the 14th edition of the 18th Brand Congress and would be presented on August 17 in Singapore.
 - KSRTC:
 - It was inaugurated by the Mysore Road Transport Department on 12 September 1948.
 - Later it was converted to an independent corporation and renamed Karnataka Road Transport Corporation.
2. Who was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award 2023 at the first-ever RICS South Asia Awards _____

Chairman Subhash Runwal.

Note:

- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is a global industry body representing professionals across the country.
 - Aim: To acknowledge outstanding accomplishments in both global and Indian industries, showcasing the commitment to the highest levels of professionalism and ethics by individuals and teams working within built and natural environments.
3. Who was named as the recipient of the 'Union Home Minister's Medal of Excellence in Investigation' for the year 2023 _____ **Kanwardeep Kaur.**

Note:

- She was given the award for her outstanding investigative work in a minor's rape case, which resulted in the accused being sentenced to death within 11 months of committing the crime.
 - She worked the case when she was the SSP of Kapurthala district.
4. How many police personnel have been awarded Police Medals on the occasion of the 76th Independence Day _____ **954.**

Note:

- The President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG) has been awarded to the Central Reserve Police Force's Assistant Commandant Loukrakpam Ibomcha Singh
 - The Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG) has been awarded to 229 police personnel
 - President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (PPM) to 82 and Police Medal for Meritorious Service (PM) has been awarded to 642.
5. Which district has been conferred with the award for the "Best Performer District 2023 in UT of J&K under PMAY-G" by Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor J&K UT, held at Srinagar _____ **District Kupwara.**

Note:

- Kupwara has received the award in recognition of the construction of 4723 PMAY houses out of a target of 4902 houses for FY 2022-23
 - PMAY-G is successfully fulfilled the dream of several poor and vulnerable families having their own Pucca house in frontier Kupwara district.
6. Which team won Gold Award under Excellence in Government Process Reengineering for Digital Transformation Category-1 by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Complaints in Aug 2023 _____ **National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) Team.**

Note:

- ABOUT NAFIS
- NAFIS helps in the quick and easy disposal of cases with the help of a centralized fingerprint database.
- It assigns a unique 10-digit National Fingerprint Number (NFN) to each person arrested for a crime.

Sports News

1. In the Four Nations Para-Badminton International 2023 held in England, which men's doubles duo clinched a gold medal in the SL3-SL4 category _____ **Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam.**

Note:

- They achieved this victory by defeating Ranjan Bisoyee and Manoj Sarkar.
 - Bhagat secured a silver medal in the singles SL3 category, and he also teamed up with Manisha Ramdass to claim a silver medal in the mixed doubles SL3-SU5 category.
 - Kadam won a bronze in the singles SL4 category.
2. Which Indian shuttler won silver at the Australian Open Badminton 2023 final in Sydney _____ **HS Prannoy.**

Note:

- He went down fighting against World No. 24 Weng Hong Yang of China.
- He also bagged the silver medal in Boys' singles at the 2010 Summer Youth Olympics.
- He followed it up with another silver, this time at the Bahrain International Challenge, in 2011.

3. Which Indian wrestler entered the event as the defending champion, won the only gold medal for India in the women's 61kg weight division in World aCadet Wrestling Championships 2023 in Turkey _____ **Savita**.

Note:

- India bagged a total of 11 medals, including 1 gold, 7 silver and 3 bronze at the World Cadet Wrestling Championship 2023 at Istanbul.
 - It was the women's freestyle where India showed best by finishing third, only behind Japan and USA.
4. Which edition of the famed Nehru Trophy Boat Race 2023 would be held at the picturesque Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha district in Kerala _____ **69th**.

Note:

- 72 boats, including 19 Chundan Valloms or Snake Boats vying for the coveted trophy, will be participating in the boat race, held every year on the second Saturday of August.
 - Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan would inaugurate the event.
 - The current champion, Pallathuruthy Boat Club from Alappuzha, has bagged the Trophy thrice
5. Which country appointed veteran all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan as its ODI captain for both the Asia Cup and the 2023 ODI World Cup _____ **Bangladesh**.

Note:

- He had also led Bangladesh in 49 ODIs between 2009 and 2011, when he first became captain, and won 22 of those.
 - He later captained Bangladesh in three more ODIs in 2015 and 2017, each time standing in for Mashrafe.
 - Shakib has so far led Bangladesh in 19 Tests and 39 T20Is, and the last of his 50 ODIs as captain was in 2017.
6. Which country's hockey team defeated Malaysia and won for the fourth time at the Asian Champions Trophy 2023 final at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai _____ **India**.

Note:

- With four Asian Champions Trophy titles, India is in the first spot in the history of the tournament.
 - Pakistan, with three titles, is in the second spot now.
 - Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin lauded Team India on their Asian Champions Trophy win and announced a cash prize of ₹1.1 crore for the winning team
7. Who won the Women's British Open to claim her second major title of 2023 by defeating Charley Hull _____

American golfer Lilia Vu.

Note:

- She also won the Chevron Championship in April 2023, became the first female player to win two majors in the same year since Jin Young Ko in 2019, and the first American woman since Juli Inkster in 1999.
- Three of the five women's majors have been won by American this year 2023 Allisen Corpuz won the Women's U.S. Open title at Pebble Beach

Books and Authors

1. Who authored the new book, titled How Prime Ministers Decide _____ **Veteran journalist Neerja Chowdhury**.

Note:

- A new book also claimed that former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had good relations with several RSS leaders but carefully kept a distance between the organisation and herself.

Science and Defence

1. Indian Army inducted the lighter and more compact version of the developed Weapon Locating Radar (WLR-M). What is the name of WLR-M _____ **Swathi Mountains**.

Note:

- Aim: To enhance the Army's battlefield surveillance capabilities, enabling it to effectively monitor and respond to threats in mountainous regions.
 - Developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) in Bengaluru, and designed for operations in mountainous and high-altitude areas, catering to the unique challenges posed by such terrains.
2. Which INS was Deployed in the Red Sea Undertook Passage Exercise (Passex) with Royal Saudi Naval Ship HMS Al Jubail _____ **INS Chennai**.

Note:

- The Indian Navy's indigenously designed and constructed guided missile destroyer INS Chennai is Mission Deployed in the Red Sea.

- Aim: To reinforcing mutual trust, cementing operational understanding and enhancing Interoperability between navies, to boost defence co-operation between India and Saudi Arabia, INS Chennai's visit to Jeddah
3. Government has approved the setting up of research parks at how many Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institute of Science Bangalore in August 2023 _____ **Eight**.

Note:

- Aim: To strengthen the research ecosystem in the country
- Objectives: To enable entrepreneurship and incubation of students and building strong academic linkages for the same, to increase outreach of academic content to industry and enabling industry to add value to academic programme through close collaborations.
4. Which country launched its first lunar landing mission on August 11 2023 after almost 5 decades _____ **Russia**.

Note:

- A Soyuz 2.1v rocket carrying the Luna-25 craft will blast off from the Vostochny cosmodrome targeted to the south polar region of the Moon.
- Aims: To study the composition of the polar regolith, and to study the plasma and dust components of the lunar polar exosphere.
- According to Russia's space chief Yuri Borisov the spacecraft is expected to reach the lunar world on Aug 21 2023.
5. Minister of State Science & Technology Jitendra Singh has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, which is located in which Indian state _____ **Tamil Nadu**.

Note:

- Aims: To carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles developed by ISRO.
- The Indian Space Policy 2023 has the provision for utilisation of a spaceport for carrying out launch activities by Non-Government Entities, subject to technical feasibility and range safety constraints.
6. The first space-based Indian observatory Aditya-L1 is getting ready for its launch in September 2023, this space programme would study which star _____ **Sun**.

Note:

- The spacecraft is expected to be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrange point - L1 of the Sun-Earth system, which is about 1.5 million Km from the Earth and has advantage of continuously viewing the Sun without any eclipses.
- This will provide a greater advantage of observing the solar activities and its effect on space weather in real-time.
7. Health Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya, declared the goal of suppressing Lymphatic Filariasis by which year during the inauguration of the second phase of the Annual Nationwide Mass Drug Administration initiative _____ **2027**.

Note:

- The second phase, targeting 81 districts across nine endemic states, including Assam and Uttar Pradesh.
- He highlighted the "Whole of Government" and "Whole of Society" approach as pivotal to successfully eliminating the disease.
8. The Union Ministry of Defense has informed that the ministry would install a secure operating system (OS), indigenously developed. what is the name of this OS _____ **Maya OS**.

Note:

- This OS would replace the existing OS, 'Microsoft Windows'.
- About Maya OS:
- It is based on open-source Ubuntu software.
- It would shield against cyber threats, offering a familiar interface while boosting security.
- It uses Chakravayuh, a protective feature inspired by ancient Indian defence tactics.
9. Two Indian Navy ships named INS Visakhapatnam and which INS have arrived at Port Rashid in Dubai, United Arab Emirates _____ **INS Trikand**.

Note:

- Reason: For a bilateral exercise 'Zayed Talwar 2023' with the UAE Navy
- The exercise is being organized from August 8 to 11, 2023.
- Aim: To share best practices and increase synergies between the two navies
- Led by Captains Ashok Rao and Pramod G Thomas, INS Visakhapatnam, and INS Trikand showcase advanced maritime capabilities.

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