

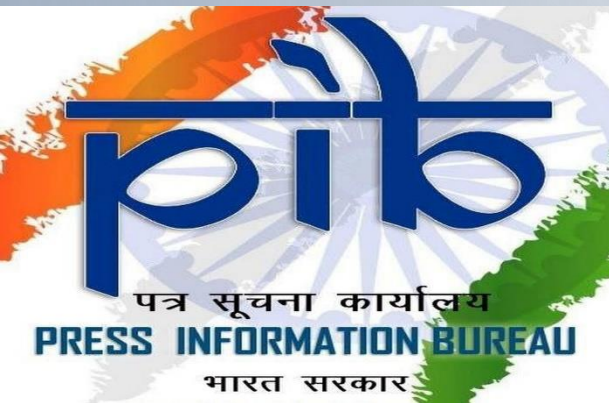


CURRENT AFFAIRS



WEEKLY ROUND-UP

- ✓ PIB IN DETAIL
- ✓ AIR/RS/LSTV SUMMARIES
- ✓ NEWSPAPERS DAILY



13th August 2018 TO 19th August, 2018

Jan Arogya Abhiyaan

1. Ayushman Bharat is the world's largest government-funded healthcare programme.
2. It aims to provide coverage of Rs. 5 lakh per family annually, benefiting more than 10 crore poor families.
3. The Ayushman Bharat scheme will target poor, deprived rural families and identified occupational category of urban workers' families.
4. Under Ayushman Bharat first 'health and wellness centre' has been inaugurated in Bijapur district in Chhattisgarh.
5. The scheme will initially be launched on a pilot basis in some states.

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) 2.0

1. Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) 2.0 is a flagship program of Ministry of Human Resources and Development.
2. Under the scheme 688 institutions are selected on a Challenge Mode (426 technical and 262 non-technical) which are reputed Higher Educational Institutes (both public and private) of the country.
3. These institutions have adopted total no. of 3555 villages for their development through UBA.
4. Also, scope for providing Subject Expert Groups assistance and Regional Coordinating Institutes to handhold and guide the participating institutions have been strengthened.

UPI 2.0

1. Unified Payment Interface is a platform created by the National Payments Corporation (NPCI) to facilitate faster and smoother digital payments.
2. It allows a customer to pay directly from a bank account to another bank account & different merchants, both online and offline, without the hassle of typing credit card details, IFSC code, or net banking/wallet passwords.
UPI 2.0 is an upgraded version with several new features added to UPI.
3. It allows scheduling payment transfers at a later date with pre-authorisation.
4. It allows customers to link their overdraft (OD) account with UPI. In the Earlier version, only current and savings account can linked.
5. It will also let users verify UPI credentials using a QR code.
6. Customers can now receive invoices from merchants directly in the inbox to verify the authenticity of credentials.

Fall Armyworm

1. It is an invasive agricultural pest discovered in the Maize field in the State of Telangana.
2. It was first reported in Karnataka by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research.
3. It is a major maize pest in North America and it arrived in Africa in 2016.
4. It has spread to Central and Western Africa in 2016 and has proved very hard to control.
5. It prefers Maize, but can feed on 80 species of plants, including rice, sorghum, millet, sugarcane and cotton.
6. It can be controlled with insecticides, through natural enemies or by inter-cropping.

Global Liveability Index

1. The index is released by Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), research and analysis wing of "The Economist" group, headquartered in London.
2. It ranks 140 global cities based on their living conditions.
3. It quantifies the challenges that might be presented to an individual's lifestyle in the cities worldwide.
4. The index assigns cities scores on five broad parameters such as stability, healthcare, culture/environment, education, and infrastructure using 30 indicators.
5. In this year's Global Liveability Index 2018, Vienna displaces Melbourne as the most liveable city in the world.
6. It is the first time that a European city has topped the rankings of the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) annual survey.
7. The other top 10 cities are Melbourne, Osaka, Calgary, Sydney, Vancouver, Tokyo, Toronto, Copenhagen and Adelaide.
8. Syrian capital of Damascus continues to be ranked at the bottom, Dhaka in Bangladesh is the second worst and Karachi in Pakistan is the fourth worst.
9. Indian cities Delhi and Mumbai ranked at 112 and 117 respectively.

International Nitrogen Initiative

1. International Nitrogen Initiative was established in 2003 under sponsorship of the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) and International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP).
2. The key aims of the INI are,
 - A. To optimize nitrogen's beneficial role in sustainable food production,
 - B. To minimize nitrogen's negative effects on human health and the environment resulting from food and energy production.
3. The INI holds a conference every three years to discuss ideas and exchange knowledge on nitrogen issues.
4. The last INI conference was held in Melbourne, in December 2016, adopting Melbourne declaration.
5. The next INI conference will be held in Berlin, Germany, in 2020.
6. The 5th International Nitrogen Conference in 2010 (N2010) was organized by INI and its South Asia regional centre in New Delhi.
7. N2010 enabled INI to bring together its contributions to the Global Nitrogen Assessment.
8. Under this, Indian Nitrogen Group has released "**The Indian Nitrogen Assessment**", India's first-ever such attempt to study nitrogen pollution.
9. INI is coordinated by a Steering Committee, led by a chair and six regional centre directors representing, Africa, Europe, Latin America, North America, South Asia and East Asia.
10. Recently, Indian scientist-academician, N Raghuram, has been elected Chair of the Steering Committee of INI.

"Pitch to MOVE"

1. *NITI Aayog has launched "Pitch to MOVE"* – a mobility pitch competition that aims to provide budding entrepreneurs of India a unique opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a distinguished jury.
2. "Pitch to MOVE" is organised by NITI Aayog *in collaboration with Invest India and Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)*.
3. The competition aims to identify and reward the start-ups offering innovative solutions for shared, connected, and environment friendly mobility. It also aims to incentivise the startups, which will help the Government realize its vision of Shared, Connected, Intermodal and Environment Friendly Mobility for India. The objective is to harness the latest disruption for generating employment and growth in our country.
4. *The Startups can be from* the domain of Public Mobility, Electric Vehicles, Shared Transport, Last Mile Connectivity, Passenger Transportation, Battery Technology, Automotive IoT, Freight & Logistics, Powertrain/Drivetrain, Experiential, Travel, Mobility Infrastructure and Automotive Electronics etc.

TV channel By ISRO

1. ISRO to launch its dedicated TV channel
2. Channel will showcase space applications, developments and science issues, targeting young viewers and people in remote areas in their language.
3. The move is to commemorate **Vikram Sarabhai** centenary celebration.
4. ISRO's tributes to Sarabhai start with naming the first Indian moon landing spacecraft of the **Chandrayaan-2 mission 'Vikram'**. The mission is planned for early 2019.
5. Sarabhai, the architect of the Indian space programme, the first ISRO chief and renowned cosmic ray scientist, was born on August 12, 1919.

Hubble Space Telescope

1. NASA's Hubble have recently captured one of the largest panoramic views of star birth in the distant universe, featuring about 15,000 galaxies.
2. It is the world's first large, space-based optical telescope, named in honor of astronomer Edwin Hubble.
3. The Hubble is a joint project between NASA and the European Space Agency.
4. Sun is the energy source of this space based telescope.
5. It captured the image of the star birth in the Ultraviolet, Infrared and visible light range.

Indian Army Mountaineering Expedition to MT Kamet and MT Makalu

Indian Army is planning to attempt Mt Makalu (8485M), the fifth highest mountain peak in the world in 2019. As a precursor to it, an expedition to Mount Kamet (7756M), Uttarakhand is being conducted under the aegis of Army Adventure Wing in August-September 2018.

Mt Makalu: Among the eight mountains in Nepal above 8000m, Mt. Makalu is the fourth tallest in Nepal and fifth highest Peak on the Earth with its height 8,463m. Mt. Makalu lies in the eastern Himalayas range just 19Km southeast of the giant Mt. Everest in the border of Nepal and China. At the base of Mt. Makalu, lies a valley called The Barun Valley.

MOUNT KAMET: Mount Kamet is the second most elevated top in Uttarakhand after Nanda Devi. Kamet Peak is the third most astounding mountain crest in India and the twenty-ninth most noteworthy crest on the planet. Kamet is considered as the piece of the Zaskar Range, which lies to the north of the Himalayas between the Suru River and the upper Karnali River. There is a Mukut Parbat in the northwest of Kamet, Abi Gamin and Mana, which is in the south-southeast of Kamet.

Humboldt penguin

1. Mumbai's Byculla zoo gives India its first baby penguin (Humboldt penguin).
2. Humboldt penguin is a South American penguin that breeds in coastal Chile and Peru.
3. The penguin is named after the cold water current (Humboldt current) it swims in.
4. IUCN status: Vulnerable